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New free-to-use ATM goes live in Caldwell

Caldwell in Nuneaton has a free to use cash machine thanks to an initiative aiming to restore free cash access across the UK.

Working with the local MP, Marcus Jones and The Big Local Partnership, LINK, the UK's main ATM cash machine network, has today supported the switch of an existing charging machine to a free to use in the local convenience store, Edward News & Caldwell Stores.

The initiative forms part of LINK's community request scheme that allows people to contact LINK directly if they believe their community has poor access to cash. Prior to the switch, the machine within the shop charged customers £1.99. For many elderly residents within the neighbourhood, the nearest free to use ATM was far away.

For requests for a free-to-use cash machine, if it meets the criteria which includes distance to nearest free ATM, availability of a Post Office, site security and that there is a suitable location, LINK will fund the new ATM directly. The website can be found at https://www.link.co.uk/consumers/request-access-to-cash/.

LINK, Head of Financial Inclusion, Nick Quin: "Free cash access remains vital for communities and high streets across the country. Caldwell was one of the first communities we visited, and it was clear to see that it was difficult to walk to the nearest free ATM. It was a pleasure to work with the Big Local Partnership to resolve the issue.

"We're determined to ensure communities can still access cash for free, so I am delighted the ATM is now free. We'd like to hear from more communities where free cash access is a problem."

Marcus Jones, MP for Nuneaton: "I'm delighted, this is great news for people in this area. Getting free to access cash is really important, particularly for those on low incomes and I thank LINK and the Big Local Group for working together to ensure that the people of the Caldwell area can access their cash without paying expensive charges."

The ATM is located at Edward News & Caldwell Stores, Bradestone Rd, Nuneaton CV11 4QR.