

5 October 2015

HSBC Sudbury rises from the ashes

A temporary HSBC branch in Sudbury is open for business less than a month after its original premises were devastated by fire.

The unit, which is normally seen at HSBC-sponsored events such as The Open golf tournament, was opened on 2 October by customer of over 50 years David Layte MBE, local Chairman of seafarers UK, the maritime charity, accompanied by Sudbury Branch Manager Lesley Wilson and Area Manager Paul Richardson.

Located opposite the old town-centre premises, which was gutted when the fire broke out in a neighbouring shop, the temporary branch has three till positions and interview room, enabling privacy for customer discussions and appointments for mortgage applications and financial planning.

Sudbury branch manager, Lesley Wilson, said: "It has been a fantastic joint effort from within HSBC and the local council to make arrangements for a temporary branch so quickly.

"The majority of my team and I have lived and worked in Sudbury for over 20 years, and the branch is like a second home to us all so it has been a very emotional time for everyone involved. I am very grateful for all of the support the community, other banks and other retailers have given us since the fire. It is great to be back serving our loyal Sudbury customers again, and we thank them for their support and patience."

Andy Mielczarek, HSBC's Head of Distribution, which includes responsibility for the branch network, said: "We are pleased to be open for business again so quickly. The branch staff and the team behind the scenes have gone the extra mile and done a great job getting up and running so quickly for our customers. The fire has hit Sudbury hard, but with the temporary branch opening we hope to help to bring a bit of normality back to the town."

The temporary branch will keep the same 9.30am to 4.30pm, Monday-to-Friday opening hours.

Engineers are currently assessing the structure of the old building in preparation for its renovation/reconstruction.



Left-right: Paul Richardson, Area manager; David Layte MBE; Lesley Wilson, branch manager.