

### **3 ATM MACHINES (AN142-2005)**

A recent early day motion in the House of Commons condemned the policy of high street banks to sell off their non-branch based ATM machines. The motion noted that many have been replaced by machines charging an average of £1.50 per withdrawal, that such machines are disproportionately located in poorer areas where people are less able to afford to travel to free alternatives, and that this is particular problem for people whose benefits are paid into their bank accounts. The motion called on banks to guarantee the future of free withdrawal facilities at ATMs in disadvantaged areas.

It is recommended that Committee consider whether it wishes to support the early day motion, copies of which have been made available to Group secretaries and in the Councillors' Lounge.