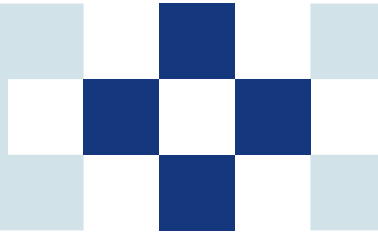


with
you



for
you

work with us to create a positive force in your community.



West Lothian Civic Centre



Lothian and Borders Police regional headquarters has moved to its new West Lothian Civic Centre location, with the previous Almondvale South location now closed to the public.

The police are only one of the organisations based at what's been called 'the UK's most ambitious public sector partnership.'

The Civic Centre also accommodates:

- Sheriff and Justice of the Peace Court
- West Lothian Council Headquarters
- The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service
- The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration Service
- Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service
- West Lothian Community Health and Care Partnership

Created to pool resources in the most efficient manner for the citizens of West Lothian, the Centre will comprise around 1,000 staff when fully operational.

Flashlight Initiative

West Lothian police officers are launching an intelligent property marking campaign this September. The Flashlight Initiative uses a marking solution, which is applied like nail varnish, and glows under ultra violet light. However, each separate bottle of solution also has a unique forensic tag. Anyone using the forensic marking system will be listed on a

database, so if property is stolen and retrieved, its rightful owner can easily be identified. The marking system will soon be available for purchase, along with a range of property safety information, advice and guidance.

For more information call Livingston Safer Communities department, on 0131 311 3131.



Bogus caller initiative



From bogus callers to rogue traders, doorstep criminals are cunning, creative, and often very convincing.

Anyone can be taken in, as these people can often be very credible – however, older residents are often specifically targeted. Police in Broxburn are carrying out an initiative to alert householders to the problem, distributing leaflets recommending personal safety measures householders can take to protect themselves. Police are also targeting legitimate tradesmen, displaying posters in hardware stores reminding them bogus workmen undermine confidence in their profession, and take away work that would otherwise be theirs.

If you have any information about bogus workmen, call 999 in an emergency and ask for the Police. If not urgent, call:

Lothian and Borders Police	0131 311 3131
West Lothian Council's Trading Standards	01506 776 410
Department of Work and Pensions	0800 854 440

Paul Dickson

Community Beat Officer, Dedridge

A lot of my work consists of dealing with neighbourhood disputes, usually about property and gardens – you'd be surprised by how often this comes up. Jobs come in by email from response officers who have been called out initially, and been unable to follow up the issue as fully as they'd like. Then it's my job to go and find out if the problem has been solved, and if not, what we can do to help. I also work closely with James Young High School, Dedridge, giving talks and presentations to pupils, particularly about anti-social behaviour. Before the holidays I must have spoken to nearly 1000 kids in the



area. I also work with nursery school children, teaching them about road safety and how to keep themselves safe. That must be my favourite part of the job – you feel like you're really making a difference.



News in brief

Surgery

An older people’s drop-in surgery, organised by West Lothian’s Safer Communities Department, will be held at Brucefield Church, from 9am-1pm on Wednesday 30 September. This is a chance for community members to meet their local police officers, and find out what the police and other local agencies – such as the council and the procurator fiscal – can do for them. Entrance is free and food will be available.

School link officers

Bathgate Academy and Deans Community High School will be seeing new faces this term – both schools have been assigned a dedicated school link officer. The brand new positions have been created on a one-year trial basis, with officers working with the schools in a range of ways: from drug education; to organising diversionary activities; to assisting in early intervention for the children who need it most.

Floorsweep

West Lothian’s award winning Operation Floorsweep continues to be one of the division’s most successful initiatives. Designed to target underage drinking and associated anti-social behaviour, the operation involves small teams of community police officers being deployed to hot-spot areas, to identify under-age youths under the influence of alcohol. The young people are then brought back to a police station, their parents are contacted to attend, all parties are warned regarding their behaviour, and other agencies brought in if needs be (including West Lothian Council and Health and Education workers). Operation Floorsweep won the Chief Constable’s overall prize at last year’s Force Excellence Awards.



Safer Neighbourhoods

Safer Neighbourhoods

Created last year, West Lothian now has nine Safer Neighbourhoods teams, dedicated to reducing anti-social behaviour. The teams are based in each council ward, and consist of two dedicated Lothian and Borders Police officers and a council-funded neighbourhood response officer. Many of the issues they respond to (such as vandalism, noise and youth disorder) are raised at community council meetings, but the teams also respond to calls and concerns from the public.

Latest crime figures for West Lothian*

Robbery and assault	52%	▼
Violence against a person	13%	▼
Theft by shoplifting	2%	▼
Theft of motor vehicles	29%	▼

*(April 09 to July 09)



Volunteer view

Lothian and Borders Police has a number of volunteers who give their time and energy to help the police in their community. Alan Paterson, 26, works at Scottish Widows, but has been volunteering with the police for six months.

To find out more about volunteering, contact Christine Harrison, volunteer co-ordinator, on 0131 311 3131.

“ In May I worked at Choices for Life, a drug awareness show for primary seven kids from all over Lothian and the Borders. I helped with the entrance, checking different school groups in, but at times it did feel like crowd control – there were literally thousands of screaming eleven year olds!

Today I'm working at the Mela, a big multicultural festival held every year in Edinburgh. I'm here to talk about the recruitment process, which is nice because I'm in the middle of joining the police myself, so I know a bit about it. That's partly why I decided to start volunteering, to get a better understanding of how the force works.

I know it sounds completely clichéd, but I really do enjoy the fact that I'm giving something back. I'd advise anyone to give it a shot, at the end of the day you come away with a sense of real satisfaction.



Take control

Remote Reporting is a way of reporting a crime or passing on information without contacting the police directly. There are a number of different organisations throughout Lothian and the Borders where you can speak privately to a member of staff, and they will pass your information onto the police. You can:

- ask for your information to be investigated
- leave details, but ask for your information not to be investigated
- leave no details, and ask for your information not to be investigated

To see a list of organisations offering Remote Reporting, visit www.lbp.police.uk/takecontrol

Why call Crimestoppers?

Crimestoppers is a freephone service which allows you to report a crime without leaving any information about yourself. Crimestoppers record no personal details, they simply pass on the information you have about crime while protecting your identity.

To contact Crimestoppers anonymously, call 0800 555 111, or see www.crimestoppers-uk.org





Neighbourhood Watch



With around ten million members, Neighbourhood Watch is the largest community safety organisation in the UK. More than 760 of these groups are based in Lothian and the Borders. The scheme is based on the simple idea that by sharing information with your neighbours and local police, you can help reduce local crime and disorder, making your area a better place to live, work and play.

To start a local Watch, get in touch with your local community police officer. They'll give you a questionnaire, which you can get your neighbours to fill out to see if there's enough interest. If there is, you can arrange a first meeting for your neighbours and community police officer.

At this meeting you'll decide:

- Who will be the coordinator
- Whether you want to put up street signs, and how they would be paid for
- How you will communicate with each other and your local community police officer
- How you will run as a group, and any aims and objectives

Your local community police officer will be able to tell you about local crime statistics and give you crime prevention advice, so you're well informed about your area's issues and how to approach them. Each member will also receive a Neighbourhood Watch window sticker.

For more information, contact your local community police officer on 0131 311 3131, or visit the Association of Scottish Neighbourhood Watches website, at www.aosnw.co.uk

West Lothian

Emergency services

Police, fire or ambulance
999

Gas emergencies
0800 111 999

Reporting crime – non-emergency

Police non-emergency (24hrs)
0131 311 3131

Crimestoppers (24 hrs, freephone)
0800 555 111

West Lothian antisocial behaviour line (freephone)
0800 801 331
Txt phone 18001 01506 464 427

Take Control (Remote Reporting)
List of organisations where members of the public can report crime or give information without going into a police station:
www.lbp.police.uk/takecontrol

Have your say...

What would you like to hear about in your area? If you have any comments or suggestions, Lothian and Borders Police would like to hear from you.

Email us on:
pr-marketing@lbp.pnn.police.uk

More contacts on next page



West Lothian

West Lothian help and advice

West Lothian Housing Emergency Number

If you have nowhere to sleep tonight:
01506 775 000
01506 777 000

West Lothian Social Work Emergency Number

01506 775 000
01506 777 000

Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service (freephone)

Fire safety advice:
0800 169 0320
enquiries@lbfire.org.uk

Lothian Gay and Lesbian Switchboard

0131 556 4049
0131 557 0751 (lesbian)

Samaritans

For emotional advice if you are feeling depressed or suicidal:
0131 221 9999 (Edinburgh and Lothians)
08457 90 90 90 (National)

Shakti Women's Aid

Offers support and information to black minority ethnic women experiencing domestic abuse:
0131 475 2399

Update

Signposts people with disability to a wide range of services:
0131 669 1600

Victim Support West Lothian

01506 635 050

Women's Aid West Lothian

01506 413 721

National freephone helplines

(calls may not be free from mobile phones)

Breathing Space

For emotional advice if you are feeling depressed:
0800 838 587

Childline

Help for people aged 18 or under: 0800 11 11

Know the Score

Free confidential drugs information and advice:
0800 587 587 9

Message Home

Get a message home for free if you have run away:
0800 700 740

National Debtline

0808 808 4000

National Domestic Violence Helpline

0808 2000 247

National Missing Persons Helpline

0500 700 700

Runaway Helpline

0808 800 7070

Scottish Domestic Abuse Line

0800 027 1234

Shelter's Free Housing Advice Helpline

0808 800 4444

Stonewall

Lesbian, gay and bisexual charity:
08000 50 20 20

Women's Aid

0808 2000 247

West Lothian Council

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden Road South
Livingston EH54 6FF
01506 775 000
01506 777 000
www.westlothian.gov.uk

More contacts on next page



West Lothian

West Lothian police stations

Armadale

71 West Main Street,
EH48 3PZ

Bathgate

18 South Bridge Street,
EH48 1TW

Blackburn

58 East Main Street,
EH47 7QS

Broxburn

205a West Main Street,
EH52 5LJ

Fauldhouse

2a Eldrick Avenue, EH47 9BB

Linlithgow

4 High Street, EH49 7EQ

Livingston

West Lothian Civic Centre,
Divisional HQ, Howden Road
South, Livingston, EH54 6FF

Mid Calder

27 Market Street, EH53 0AL

West Calder

9 Polbeth Terrace, EH55 8BH

Whitburn

66 West Main Street,
EH47 0QU

To contact any Lothian
and Borders Police station,
telephone: **0131 311 3131**