



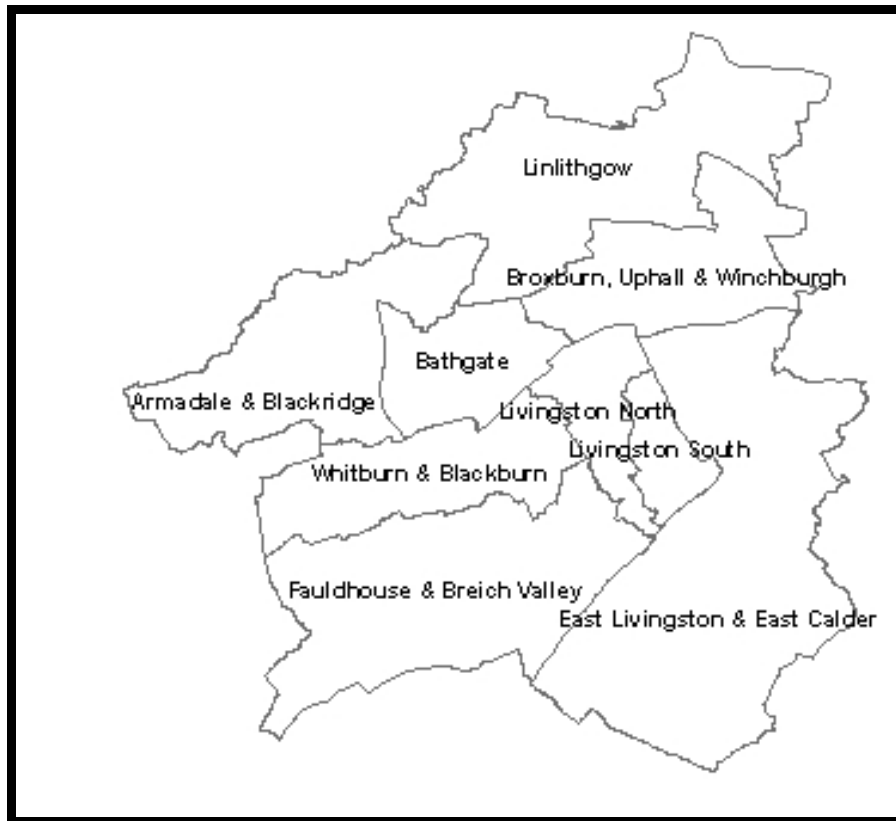
West Lothian Local Policing

Whitburn and Blackburn Ward

Report for the
Local Area Committee

October 2019-December 2019

Report compiled by PC Carol-Ann Wilson



Our Vision

Sustained excellence in service and protection.

Our Purpose

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

National Policing Priorities

Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour	Protecting People at Risk Of Harm
Serious Organised Crime	Road Safety
Counter Terrorism	Acquisitive Crime

Theme as per West Lothian Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2013 to 2023

Theme as per West Lothian Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2013 to 2023	Identified Police Priority	Short Term Police Outcome
Protecting People	Child protection	Children at risk are safer and less vulnerable
	Child sexual abuse & exploitation	Children at risk are safer and less vulnerable
	Missing persons	To reduce the instances and harm
	Sexual crimes	To reduce the harm
	Adults at risk	Adults at risk are safer and less vulnerable
	Financial harm including doorstep crime & fraud	To reduce the instances and harm
	Cyber crime	To reduce the harm
Reducing Antisocial Behaviour & Hate Crime	Antisocial behaviour & hate crime	To reduce the harm
Reducing Violence	Domestic abuse	To reduce the harm
	Crimes of violence	To reduce the harm caused by public and private space violence
Tackling Substance Misuse	Misuse drugs & alcohol	To reduce the harm
Reduce Home, Fire and Road Casualties	Road casualties	To reduce the instances and harm
Tackling Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism	Drugs, financial harm & fear	To reduce the harm
	Extremism & terrorism	To reduce the risk

PERFORMANCE

There is currently no partnership analyst in the Community Safety Unit and therefore there is no access to the previously provided statistics.

Police Scotland official West Lothian statistics can be found at (page 190 onwards)

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/138327/232757/445136/council-quarterly-bulletin-q3-2018-2019>

Protecting People

Within the ward locality officers have continued in their work in regards to Firearms Licensing. These enquires ensure the continued safe use of all guns within the ward and ensure the person requesting to hold any such license is a suitable person.

Following incidents that could have a negative effect on the local community, Locality Officers have conducted door to door enquiries to assist the enquiries and carried out re-assurance patrols in the area to allow the community to return to normality as soon as possible.

Police Scotland is committed to protecting the people of Whitburn, Blackburn and the surrounding areas. As such there is great emphasis on incidents of a domestic nature, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the families involved.

We are also finding that our assistance is also required quite regularly by those who are experiencing mental health issues.

Reducing Antisocial Behaviour & Hate Crime

The Community Policing team continues to work closely with the West Lothian Council Safer Neighbourhood Team and other registered social landlords. A number of joint visits have been carried out and several warnings issued to occupiers. This continues to prove a worthwhile and effective tactic in reducing the number of complaints, in particular repeat offenders.

In the run up to the Halloween and Bonfire seasons, the police worked in partnership with Scottish Fire and Rescue (SFRS), West Lothian Council and West Lothian Youth Action Project on an agreed strategy to minimise the impact on local communities.

This fits in with the localised 'Operation Torsion' and the national 'Operation Moonbeam' both of which is Police Scotland's response to address ongoing issues surrounding both Halloween and Bonfire night. Their aims are to protect communities and emergency services, whilst at the same time they can call on a range of specialist resources and specially-trained officers to deal with any spontaneous incidents of disorder that occur.

Local officers remain engaged in anti-violence and anti-social behaviour patrols across all West Lothian wards. This allows us to tackle and prevent public space violence and reduce the impact of antisocial behaviour on the wider community through high profile policing at key locations, such as shops, licenced premises and clubs, engaging positively with the community and using stop and search powers where proportionate.

There have been no significant patterns of hate crime.

Reducing Violence

When persons living within the ward are released from court with bail curfew conditions, locality officers visit the individuals to check compliance with the conditions, to minimise the disruption to the community and discourage further offending.

Patrols have been carried out in identified hotspot areas to deter and prevent incidents of violence.

Domestic related violence remains frequently reported within the Ward areas, this has resulted in Locality officers being tasked with progressing and assisting in the enquiries of domestic related crimes, so that a quick apprehension of the alleged suspect can be brought about.

Officers have been engaged heavily in the West Lothian Police Festive Initiative through December, involving high profile policing at key locations and carrying out checks of licenced premises, pubs and clubs, engaging positively with staff, door staff and the public.

Tackling Substance Misuse

Your Community Policing Team continue to disrupt drug dealing and production in the local area. After gathering intelligence on subjects, a number of drug warrant executions have taken place at dwellings in the ward area, resulting in the detection of several cannabis cultivations and other controlled drugs. Several offenders have been reported to the procurator fiscal as a result of these operations.

Roads policing officers have also been utilising the new drug testing kits, which can instantly test drivers for cocaine and cannabis through their saliva.

Members of the public are always encouraged to report suspicious activity, so that police can continue to gather intelligence and disrupt those who deal and misuse controlled drugs. This can be done directly by phoning 101 or anonymously by using Crimestoppers by email at crimestoppers-uk.org or 08005551111.

Reduce Home, Fire and Road Casualties

Roads Policing with the assistance of local intelligence, continue to target unlicensed and uninsured drivers throughout the ward areas. Officers will continue to target offenders in the area and take robust action when stopped.

We continue to remind drivers of expected driving standards via our social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

Police continue to receive a number of complaints regarding inappropriate/dangerous parking in and around schools throughout West Lothian, however, it is of note that after investigating many of these complaints, often the problem can be attributed to volume of traffic and congestion which causes subsequent frustration for other road users.

Locality Officers continue to support The Parksmart Scheme which has been adopted by many schools across the county and encourage all schools to sign up to it.

The schools all have access to the relevant materials.

Tackling Serious and Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism

There have been no significant issues or involving serious & organised crime or terrorism related incidents.

Contacts

Locality Officers for the Whitburn and Blackburn Ward are;

PC Carol-Ann Wilson
PC Barrie Kennedy
PC Phil Wilkin
PC Andrew Hendry

Details of your Community Policing Team can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/west-lothian>

Email:

lothianscotborderslacsuwest@scotland.pnn.police.uk

You can also follow us on Twitter: @WestLothPolice

Tel: 101