



WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL LDP2 EVIDENCE REPORT

BACKGROUND PAPER

West Lothian Settlement Profiles

(DRAFT DECEMBER 2024)



Introduction

The purpose of these settlement profiles is to provide a concise summary of the settlements in West Lothian, briefly describing their history of development, key features, available services, amenities and transport links. Understanding the unique nature of each area, town or village is important when we consider planning for the future. This document will serve as a background resource, offering context for supporting informed planning decisions.

The demographic figures presented are derived from the 2022 census. It is important to note that the boundaries defined in the census may not always align precisely with the settlements described in this report, and data is not available for every settlement. Where data has been included, it has been used and labelled as accurately as possible to provide an indication of population statistics.

The cover page image “Armada from the north-west” by Dr John Wells is licenced under CC BY 3.0.

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Abercorn and Newton/Woodend

Linlithgow Ward

History

Abercorn is a tiny village of the Hopetoun Estate, located a quarter of a mile inland from the Firth of Forth. Its 11th century parish kirk is thought to have been constructed at the site of an earlier 7th century monastery. Remnants of the 15th century Abercorn Castle, now a scheduled monument,¹ are believed to be on the site of an ancient iron-age fort.² In 1678, Abercorn was purchased by John Hope, whose widow and son, later the 1st Earl of Hopetoun, began building Hopetoun House in 1699.³ The existing homes in Abercorn date back to at least the 1800s.



Kim Traynor / Abercorn Church, West Lothian / CC BY-SA 3.0

Newton is a small estate village, originally built in the 1880s to house staff of Whitequarries shale mine.⁴ The housing consisted of cottages, and the village had a blacksmith and a pub called the Duddingston Arms. The village has seen gradual expansion and modernisation through 20th and 21st centuries, and some new houses were built to the south during the last few years.

¹ Historic Environment Scotland, Abercorn Castle, remains of, available online at: portal.historicenvironment.scot/apex/f?p=1505:300:::VIEWTYPE,VIEWREF:designation,SM7869

² West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

³ Hopetoun, History of the Hope Family, available online at: hopetoun.co.uk/about/history/

⁴ R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 36-41

Woodend is a roadside hamlet of Newton, including a row of 5 listed cottages (c. 1880),¹ Norwood Manse (1885), and the site of a Kirk which has now been demolished. There are a few 20th and 21st century homes to the south.

Features

Newton and Abercorn are situated in scenic countryside. Newton is in a convenient location for commuting to Fife or Edinburgh by road. Although small, it has a few modern amenities, including a village shop, a community centre and a pub, and has a community council. Abercorn is fairly isolated without many services or public transport links. It is notable for its history, with the Abercorn Parish Kirk and Kirkyard, and a small museum which displays a collection of ancient carved stones. It has several listed buildings, including Hopetoun Mausoleum (1831), Abercorn House (c. 1850) as well as the kirk, and has some areas of ancient woodland nearby.

Services and amenities

School catchments:





- PS: Winchburgh or Holy Family
- HS: Winchburgh Academy or Sinclair Academy

Newton:

- Newton Community Education Centre
- The Fat Pheasant Smokehouse
- Newton Stores
- Esso
- Lynendo school supply shop

Abercorn:

- Abercorn parish kirk
- Abercorn Museum

	Taxibus 1A	Newton/Woodend/Abercorn – South Queensferry/Dalmeny Station	1 per hour, available to book
	Nearest station:	Dalmeny (4 miles)	Fife circle line
	NCN link route, 76 - 754	The Forth Cycleway, Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	Nearby roads:	M9, M90	

¹ Historic Environment Scotland, Woodend Hopetoun Estate Cottages (nos 1-5), available online at: portal.historicenvironment.scot/apex/f?p=1505:300:::::VIEWTYPE,VIEWREF:designation,LB629

Armadale

Armadale and Blackridge Ward

History

The land that Armadale sits on was originally part of Barbauchlaw Estate.¹ Iron and coal mining in the area created a need for housing, and a hamlet accommodating travellers and workers alike sprung up on the great road from Edinburgh to Glasgow. Around the year 1800, the Estate was acquired by Sir William Honeyman, who took the title of Lord Armadale after another property he owned in Sutherland. The village subsequently became known as Armadale, and at this time had several amenities such as a school, tollhouse, iron monger and blacksmith.

The mid-1800s brought the arrival of the railway, as well as James Young's first oil refinery nearby, which employed many Armadale men. By the early 1900s the town had become an industrial hub with steelworks, brickworks and ongoing coal mining and quarrying.² The Miner's Welfare Institute hall was built on East Main Street in 1923.

Heavy industry declined after the Second World War, and the once linear village expanded outwards with multiple residential developments and industrial estates. Several key facilities such as the Council Office, Armadale Academy, and St Anthony's Primary School were constructed during the 60s and 70s. The Academy was rebuilt in 2009 and a new train station was constructed in 2011. 367 houses, Southdale Primary School, an ASDA supermarket and the Rowan Tree pub have been constructed as part of the Southdale development. 110 houses have been constructed at Standhill south of West Main Street with a further 374 houses under construction on the north side of the road. The Etna brickworks in Lower Bathville closed in 2011 and the site has been allocated for mixed use development.



Dr John Wells /*Armadale Cross*

¹ R. Hynd-Brown, *Armadale: Past and Present - From its Foundation to the Present Day* (1906)





² R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 54-56

Features

Armadale has strong transport links for commuters to Edinburgh, Glasgow and nearby towns. Primary and secondary education is available within the town, as well as a range of sports and leisure activities. It has several natural green spaces for walking, including Black Moss nature reserve, Hardhill Wood, and the Davie Kerr Heritage Walk. Polkemmet Country Park and the Bathgate Hills are nearby. The former nursery and primary school buildings which were built between 1878 and 1911 are now listed buildings, as is The Goth (1911) with its distinctive leaning tower, now serving as a bar and function venue. The Armadale Shed is a community workshop that provides a space for members to share tools, resources and skills. The town has its own community council.

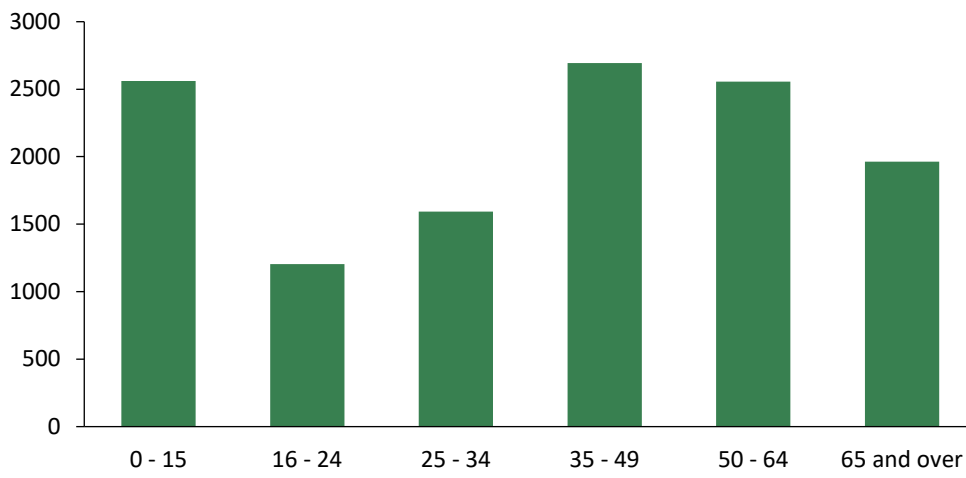
Services and amenities

- Armadale Academy (St Kentigern's RC catchment)
- Armadale PS, Eastertoun PS, Southdale PS, St Anthony's RC PS
- Armadale Medical Group Practice
- Armadale Partnership Centre
- Armadale Parish Church, Armadale Methodist Church, The Sacred Heart & St Anthony RC church, Gospel hall
- Train station
- Armadale library
- Riverside Veterinary Practice
- Black Moss Nature Reserve (and Curling Pond)
- Speedway
- Armadale Thistle Football Club
- Armadale Bowling Club
- Armadale industrial estate
- Heatherfield nursing home
- Post Office
- Mill Garden Centre
- Convenience stores, supermarkets, local businesses, takeaways, restaurants, pubs

	6	Whitburn Cross - Avonbridge	1 per hour
	X18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	2 per hour
	N18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	1 per day (night service)
	21	Boghall - Blackridge	1 per hour
	29	Falkirk - Avonbridge or Bathgate	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Armadale	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	WL 21/22	Armadale Round Town Path	
	Nearby roads:	A89, M8	

Demographics

Population of Armadale by Age Group



Total population of Armadale = 12,568

Bathgate

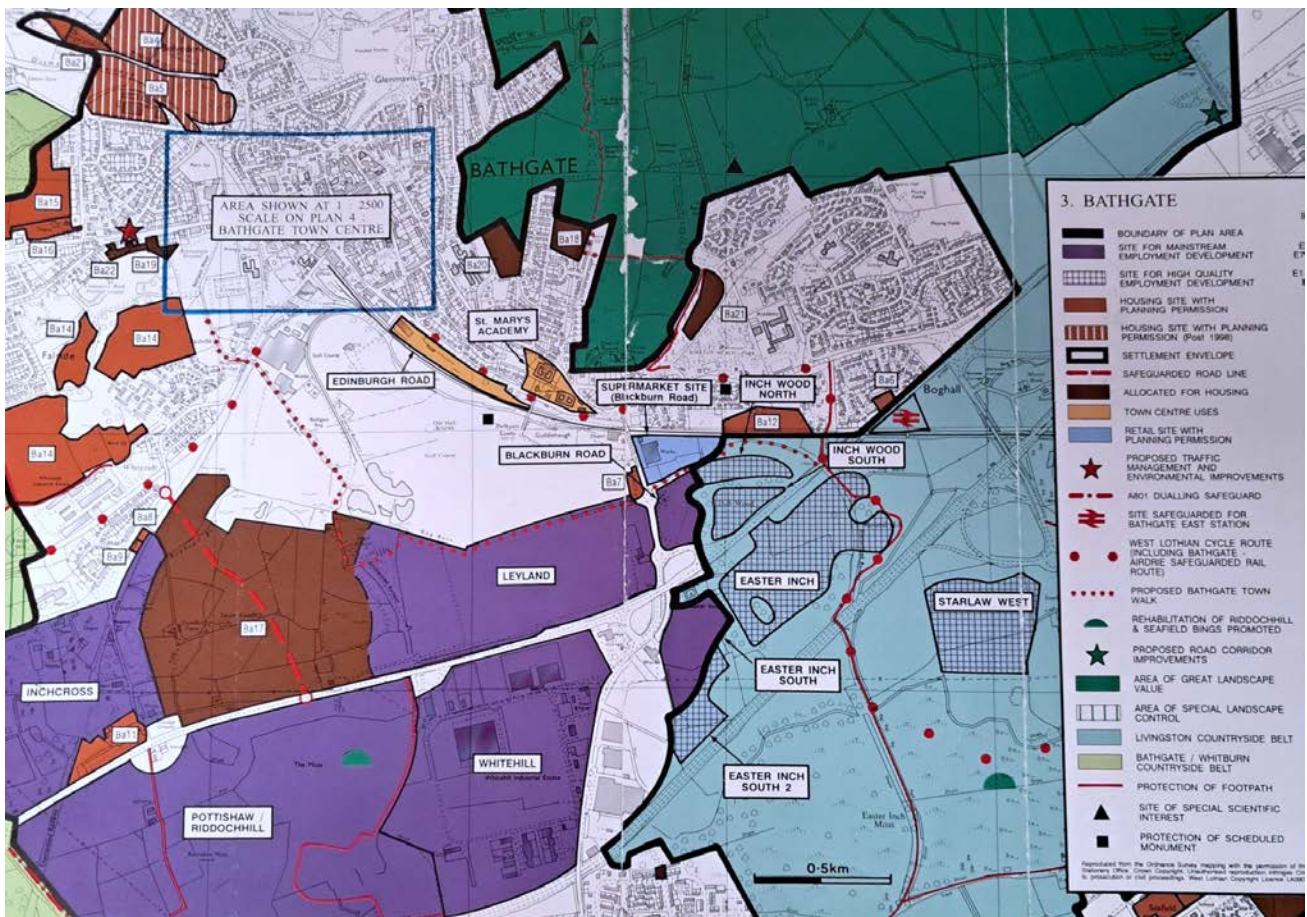
Bathgate Ward

History

Bathgate was historically the market centre of an agricultural parish long before it was legally recognised by the charter of King Malcolm IV.¹ It was granted status as a Burgh of Barony in 1661.

The town's modern growth stemmed from an economic boom in the 1800s initiated by the advent of the cotton weaving trade. Further prosperity was driven by new industrial enterprises such as coal and lime works, steel and iron foundries and James Young's oil refinery – the first in the world. As Bathgate industrialised, it transformed from a rural to urban community, expanding southward with the construction of Mid Street, George Street and Majoribanks Street, and the building of Bathgate Academy.

During the 20th century, the town continued to expand with development in Boghall to the east and various residential areas on the west such as Falside. Bathgate experienced decline during this time with the loss of key heavy industries and the eventual closure of British Leyland's truck and tractor factory in the 1980s.² In recent years, Bathgate has extended to the south with the Wester Inch development in the 2000s.



Bathgate Area Local Plan, adopted March 1998.

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 56-66

² West Lothian Council, *Bathgate Local Place Plan* (2024), p. 4 - 22

Features

Bathgate offers a mix of green spaces and community infrastructure. The surrounding Bathgate Hills and nearby Beecraigs Country Park are popular for outdoor activities like walking, biking and archery. Locally, the Wester Inch Woodland Walk, Bathgate water, and several parks provide recreational spaces in nature. The town has a strong hospitality and entertainment sector, with restaurants, cafes, bars and a local nightlife scene. George Street is now a pedestrian area with a number of shops forming the town centre. Agriculture remains significant in terms of land use. Heritage is also important in Bathgate, with 15 listed buildings including Easter Inch farm steading (1869), the High Parish Church (1882) and St David's Church (1904). Excellent travel links mean that commuters can reach Edinburgh or Glasgow in 30 minutes by train. The town is represented by its community council.







Coldupnorth / Bathgate, George Place / CC BY-SA 4.0

Services and amenities

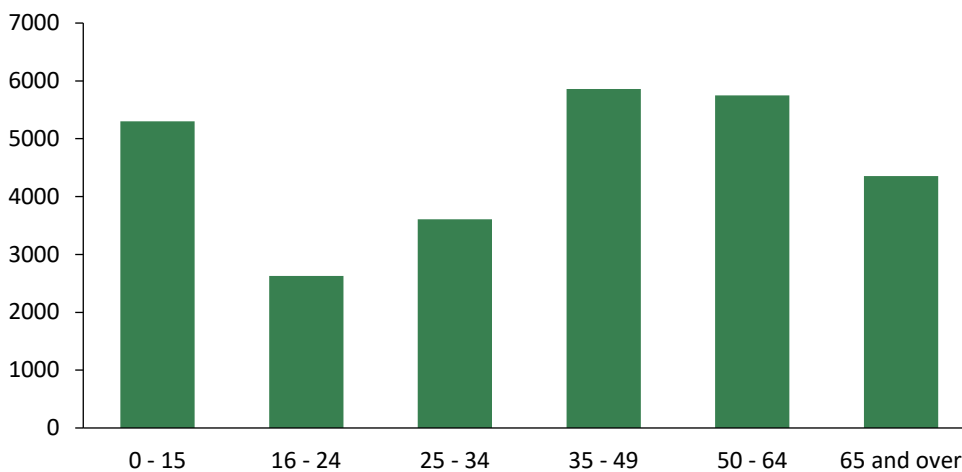
- Balbardie Primary School, Windyknowe Primary School, Boghall Primary School, St Mary's RC Primary School, St Columba RC Primary School
- Bathgate West Nursery
- Bathgate Academy (or St Kentigern's)
- Local restaurants, cafés, bars, nightlife
- St David's Church (CoS), Bathgate High Parish Church 1882, Bathgate United Reformed Church, St. Mary's Church, Bathgate Christian Spiritualist Church, St. John's Parish Church, Encounter Church Bathgate, Boghall Parish Church, St Columba's Episcopal Church
- Balbardie golf course, Bathgate golf club
- Xcite sports and leisure centre
- Balbardie park, has a football pitch + BMX track, Little Boghead nature park, Kirkton Park, Bathgate meadow park
- Bowling club
- Regal Theatre
- Bathgate Cinema
- Supermarkets

- Train station
- Police station, fire station
- Whitehill Industrial Estate
- Whiteside Industrial Estate
- Standhill Industrial Estate
- Pyramids business park

	5	Bathgate local service	1 per hour
	X18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	2 per hour
	N18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	1 per day (night service)
	21	Boghall - Blackridge	1 per hour
	X27/X28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	4 per hour
	N28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	1 per day (night service)
	29	Falkirk - Bathgate	1 per hour
	31	Livingston - Bathgate	1 per hour
	73	Livingston - Blackburn	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Bathgate	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	WL 20	Ballencrief Toll and Baldardie	
	WL 26	Puir Wife's Brae	
	Nearby roads:	M8	

Demographics

Population of Bathgate by Age Group



Total population of Bathgate = 27,459

Blackburn and Seafield

Whitburn and Blackburn Ward

History

Blackburn is a small industrial town that was originally a community centred around cotton manufacturing using a water powered mill on the River Almond.¹ During the mid-19th century, the settlement became involved in coal mining, and expanded steadily until the 1960s when its population quickly doubled. This was partly due to the Glasgow Overspill Plan, which aimed to relieve pressure in Glasgow by relocating people to towns like Blackburn. The establishment of British Leyland's truck and tractor factory in nearby Bathgate provided employment to many and also contributed to the steep rise in population. This led to a wave of residential development and new community facilities, like the Mill Centre. The Blackburn Partnership Centre was opened in 2017 and contains a library, community centre, sports hall, early years and youth spaces, and dental and GP practices.

The earliest homes of Seafield, known as the Old Rows, were built around 1874, consisting of 48 cottages along the roadside to accommodate employees of the Seafield Patent Fuel Works.² This site was purchased and redeveloped by the Bathgate Oil Company and later by the Pumpherson Oil Company.³ In 1896, another 48 cottages were added to Seafield, followed by a further 24 around 1910. By the 1960s, the homes on the south side of the road had been sold to residents, while rows on the north were eventually demolished. From this time until the 1980s, the site of the demolished oil works was used as a landfill, leading to water pollution issues. This was resolved in the 1990s when the bing from the previous mining operations was reshaped and renamed to Seafield Law.⁴ Residential development resumed in the 1970s, continuing into the early 2000s, transforming Seafield into the village it is today.



Jim Smillie / *Blackburn and Seafield Parish Church* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 83-85

² Scottish Shale, *Seafield Rows*, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/company-housing/seafield-rows/

³ Scottish Shale, *Seafield Oil Works*, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/oil-works/seafield-crude-oil-works/

⁴ West Lothian Council, *Easter Inch Moss & Seafield Law Guide* (2015)

Features

Blackburn residents have good geographic access to basic services, including a health centre, community centre, several primary schools, a high school and various sports facilities. Blackburn House (1722) is a notable listed building in the area. Seafield is smaller and has fewer services and recreational facilities. Seafield Law is a prominent landmark and nature reserve, providing green space and walking paths. Blackburn and Seafield each have a community council representing them, and are close to the larger towns of Bathgate and Livingston for shopping and further leisure activities.

Services and amenities

High school catchment: Blackburn – Bathgate Academy, Seafield – Deans Community HS
RC St Kentigern’s

Blackburn:

- Blackburn Primary School, Murrayfield Primary, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary, Pinewood School
- St Kentigern’s Academy
- Blackburn and Seafield Parish Church, Blackburn Gospel Hall, Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church
- Blackburn library
- Blackburn partnership centre
- Blackburn United Community Sports Club
- Bowling club
- New Murrayfield Park
- Ashgrove health centre
- Pharmacy
- Blackburn Equestrian Centre

Seafield:

- Seafield Primary School
- Seafield Community Education Centre
- Bowling club

	72 73	Fauldhouse - Kirkliston Blackburn - Livingston	1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Bathgate (2 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	Nearby roads:	M8, A705	

Blackridge

Armadale and Blackridge Ward

History

Blackridge is thought to be named after the ridge of Blawhorn Moss which lies slightly to the north of the village.¹ The settlement developed on the old road connecting Edinburgh to Glasgow, and had a coaching inn serving travellers in the 18th century. The Monkland Railway ran just south of the road, with Clattering Mill located in between them. By the 1880s, coal mining was underway at Westrigg, leading to the construction of terraced houses for workers and cooperative buildings by the year 1900.²

Council housing was built through the 20th century and residential development continued into the 2000s, for example with Allison Gardens. The Blackridge railway station was completed in 2010, providing a link to the North Clyde Line. Recently, houses have been built to the east of Harthill Road, and to the south of Craiginn Terrace, with plans in place for 200 more homes here as well as a neighbourhood centre and commercial space.

Features

Blackridge has two listed buildings: The Church of Christ, built in 1838 and now converted to a private residence, and the former inn known as Westcraigs. The Blawhorn Moss nature reserve has areas of class 1 peatland, which are of high conservation value and special scientific interest. The site has a wooden boardwalk for visitors to enjoy the natural habitat. The village has a primary school and the Craiginn Community Centre, which has a variety of groups and activities. Blackridge Community Council supports the village, and recently carried out a streetscaping initiative involving new planters and hanging baskets.³



Paul Birrell / *Blackridge West Lothian* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 54

² Scottish Shale, Westrigg No. 2 & 3 pit, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/coal-mines/westrigg-no-2-3-pit/

³ Blackridge Community Council, *Our Projects*, available online at: blackridge.cc

Services and amenities

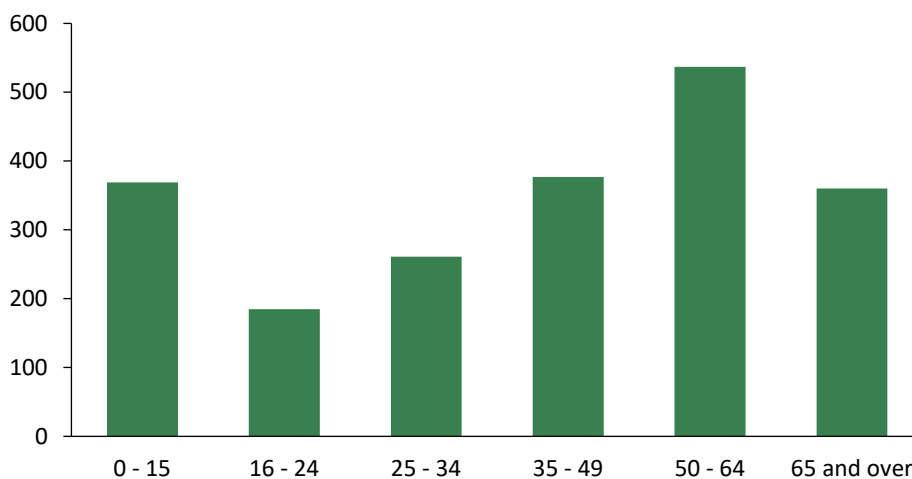
HS catchment: Armadale Academy or St Kentigern’s Academy

- Blackridge PS
- Blackridge Parish CoS
- Craiginn Community Centre and library
- Barbauchlaw Medical Practice
- Blackridge pharmacy
- Post office
- Blackridge playground, Westrigg park
- Spiced Cottage (takeaway)
- Smartways (shop)

	21	Blackridge - Boghall	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Blackridge	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	Nearby roads:	A89, M8	

Demographics

Population of Blackridge by Age Group



Total population of Blackridge = 2,089

Bridgend, Ecclesmachan, Threemiletown, Philpstoun, Old Philpstoun

Linlithgow Ward / Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward

History

These small, rural villages are located to the west of the Bathgate hills and south of the M9.

Bridgend was established in 1885 by the Linlithgow Oil Company to house its workers and is now largely made up of West Lothian Council social housing.¹ It recently received funding for village improvements, along with five new council houses being built and others refurbished.

Ecclesmachan is an ancient settlement. Its name possibly derives from a 6th century Church dedicated to St. Machan, which is thought to have stood at the present-day site of the Ecclesmachan Parish Church.² Ecclesmachan features 6 listed buildings including the church, which was built in 1244. In 1972, Oatridge College was founded to provide education on agricultural and land-based industries, and is now part of Scotland's Rural College.

Threemiletown originated as an 18th century farmstead of the Hopetoun House Estate. The farm and steadings remain, containing 9 listed buildings. A few modern homes have been constructed in the past decade at Canal Court, extending the village slightly.



Anne Burgess / *Ecclesmachan Parish Kirk* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ West Lothian Council, *Bridgend Locality Plan* (2023)

² R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 36-44

Philpstoun has its roots in shale mining, as can be seen by the nearby bings. The railway runs along the north of the village and there was originally a station, but it closed in 1951. Philpstoun has three listed buildings including the Pardovan Church, built around 1890.

Old Philpstoun maintains a small settlement feel, having developed due to shale mining and oil works at Whitequarries.¹ The small area has a mixture of old and newer buildings, with the 1676 Philpstoun House located to the northwest.

Features

The settlements are surrounded by arable farmland and woodland, with the Bathgate Hills and Beecraigs Country Park to the west offering natural beauty and outdoor recreation. Ecclesmachan and Threemiletown share a community council, while councils in Philpstoun and Bridgend are currently inactive. Ecclesmachan is home to Oatridge College, with its campus including a working farm and the Scottish National Equestrian Centre. Philpstoun and Old Philpstoun are close to the M9 and the Union Canal, providing a connection to Scotland's waterways. The villages have limited options for shopping, and residents may choose to travel to Linlithgow, Uphall or Livingston for essentials.

Services and amenities

HS catchment: Broxburn Academy / Linlithgow Academy or Sinclair Academy

Bridgend:

- Bridgend Primary School
- 1 shop + post office
- Bridgend community education centre
- Bridgend Golf and Footgolf
- 2 parks

Ecclesmachan:

- Oatridge college
- Ecclesmachan Parish Church
- Binny Golf Club
- Village hall

Threemiletown:

- playpark





Philpstoun:

- Philpstoun Community education centre

Old Philpstoun:

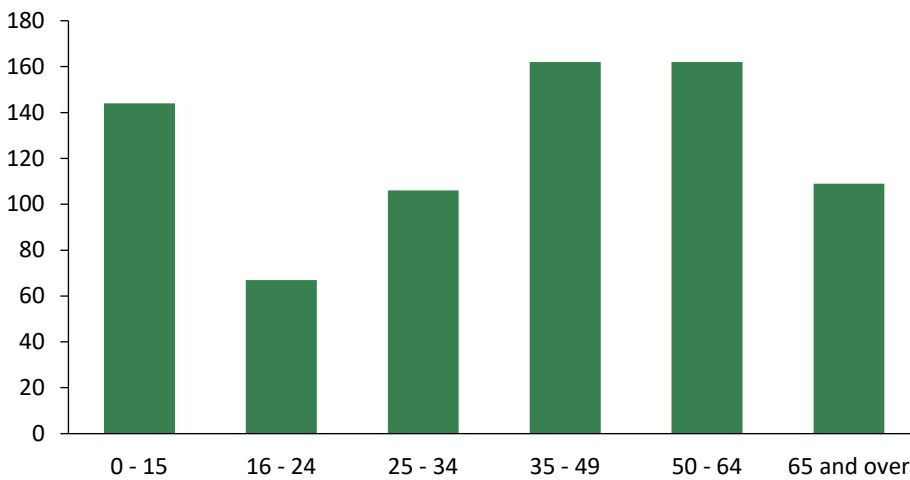
- Local businesses
 - Unique Refinishing Services
 - Area 30 (used car dealer)
 - Biocair (Logistics service)
 - Movement Physiotherapy

¹ Scottish Shale, Philpstoun No. 6 (Whitequarries) mine, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/shale-mines/philpstoun-no-6-whitequarries-mine/

	31 X38	Livingston - Bathgate Edinburgh - Falkirk via Bridgend and Threemiletown	1 per hour 2 per hour
	Nearest stations:	Uphall Station Linlithgow	Edinburgh - Glasgow Edinburgh - Dunblane Glasgow - Fife Circle Line
	WL 2 a) WL 2 b) WL 12	Union Canal Water Path Union Canal Towpath Threemiletown - Old Philstoun	
	Nearby roads:	M8, M9	

Demographics

Population of Bridgend by Age Group



Total population of Bridgend = 750

31% of households in Bridgend do not have a car or van. This is the highest of all localities covered by the census in West Lothian, despite Bridgend being a fairly small village.

Broxburn, Uphall and Burnside

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward

History

Until the 1820s Broxburn was a small agricultural hamlet. The construction of the Union Canal and the railway nearby helped to create the opportunity for growth. When the mid-1800s brought the discovery of shale deposits in the area, Broxburn was transformed into a significant site in Scotland's oil industry.¹ A conservation area designation now protects part of West Main Street and the surrounding buildings, which include miners' rows from this time.² The Broxburn Oil Works have since been replaced by an industrial estate, and much of old Broxburn was redeveloped into council housing in the 1960s. Broxburn has continued to grow with housing developments, schools and shops to accommodate an expanding population. Burnside is a small modern enclave to the south of Broxburn over the A89.

Uphall has similar beginnings as an agricultural settlement, but predates Broxburn and for many centuries was the more notable of the two. Since the 1100s it has been home to Strathbrock St. Nicholas Church, which is still in use today following significant restoration.³ The Houston House Estate was constructed in the 1600s and the mansion is now used as a luxury hotel. Some mining activity occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries, but shale mining in the late 19th and early 20th century is what drove modern development in Uphall. The growth of Livingston as a new town in the 1960s caused further residential development in the surrounding areas including Uphall. The historic core of the village is now a designated conservation area to preserve its built environment and heritage.



Coldupnorth / Main Street, Broxburn / CC BY-SA 4.0

¹ Undiscovered Scotland, Broxburn, available online at: www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/broxburn/broxburn/index.html

² West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)


³ Broxburn & Uphall Community Website, Uphall – Village Origins, available online at: broxburnanduphall.com/index.php/heritage/street-town-village-origins/village-origins

Key features

The long main street connecting Broxburn and Uphall is the site of many local businesses, fast food restaurants and convenience stores. Broxburn has several pubs and a local nightlife scene. One of its key landmarks along with the iconic red shale bings and the Union Canal is the railway viaduct to the east. Broxburn Academy provides secondary education to the surrounding catchment. Uphall is smaller and quieter. Key features include the Houston House Hotel and the golf club which was established in 1895. Due to location and good transport links, both are places are popular with commuters to Edinburgh. Together they have 27 listed buildings and each have a community council.

Services and amenities

- Uphall Primary School, Kirkhill Primary School, St Nicholas RC Primary School, Broxburn Primary School
- Broxburn Academy
- Uphall: King’s Church West Lothian, Strathbrock St. Nicholas Church, Uphall South Church of Scotland
- Broxburn: Broxburn Baptist Church, St. John Cantius & St. Nicholas RC Church, Broxburn Parish Church, Grace Community Church
- Strathbrock Partnership Centre (health)
- Busy high street – shopping district, supermarkets, fast food, pubs
- East Mains Industrial Estate
- Broxburn police station
- Broxburn fire station
- Broxburn Family Centre
- Xcite sports centre
- Broxburn Football Club
- Houston Farm Riding school
- Uphall Golf course
- Houston House Hotel

	2A/2B	Broxburn local service	1 per hour
	16	Livingston - Western General	2 per day
	X18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	2 per hour
	N18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	1 per day (night service)
	31	Livingston - Bathgate via Uphall	1 per hour
	72	Kirkliston - Fauldhouse	1 per hour



Nearest station: Uphall Station (1 mile) Edinburgh - Glasgow



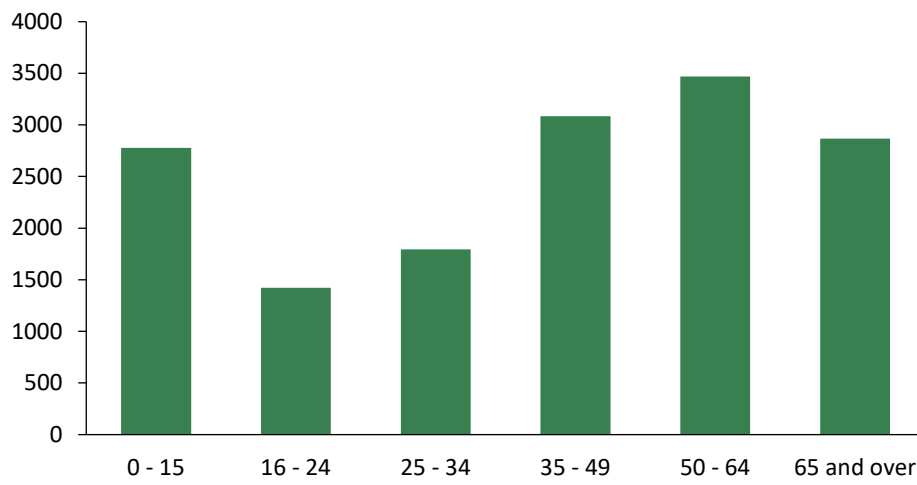
NCN Route 754 Edinburgh - Glasgow
 WL 2 a) Union Canal Water Path
 WL 2 b) Union Canal Towpath
 WL 8 Uphall - East Calder
 WL 10 Bathgate - Newbridge



Nearby roads: A89, M8

Demographics

Population of Broxburn by Age Group



Total population of Broxburn = 15,418

Dechmont and Bangour Village Hospital

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward

History

The name 'Dechmont' originally referred to a location west of the current village, which included Dechmont Law and Dechmont Estate.¹ Dechmont as it is known today was established on the road connecting Edinburgh to Glasgow in the early 19th century, during which time it had a few farms and cottages, a sawmill and a smithy. In the early 1900s a school was built, and housing development continued until the 1980s, by which time it was close to its modern form.

Bangour Village Hospital (1906) was designed as a psychiatric facility to meet the high demand for mental healthcare in Edinburgh.² The complex contained a number of buildings in addition to the hospital block itself, including a recreation hall, nurses' home, administration block, train station, power station and several dormitories. It was used to care for the wounded during WWI and the Village Church was consequently added in 1930 as a war memorial.³ During the 1930s it found purpose as a tuberculosis sanatorium and in 1939 was again converted for use as a war hospital and a new annex was built to increase capacity. After the war ended, this annex became Bangour General Hospital and served the West Lothian public until the opening of St John's Hospital in 1989. The main hospital block reverted for use as a psychiatric hospital until its closure in 2004.

The village hospital is currently being converted into a residential area as part of a large-scale development masterplan of up to 998 proposed homes, including 200 affordable ones. Its remaining listed buildings are to be refurbished into flats, a primary school and community facilities.

Features

The nearby Dechmont Law and Dechmont Woodland offer good views and footpaths, including the UFO Trail which explores the site of an alleged extra-terrestrial encounter. The village has the Dechmont Memorial Community Education Centre and a post office, and is served by a community council.

Bangour Village Hospital was a popular walking area and local tourist attraction for many years, but has been closed to visitors since development commenced. 11 listed buildings including the village church and recreation hall will be retained in the development process. It is a designated conservation area and its architectural heritage will be preserved for future residents to enjoy.

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Broxburn Academy or Sinclair Academy

- Dechmont Memorial Community Education Centre
- Post office

¹ S. Cavanagh, History of Dechmont, available online at: www.dechmontcommunitycouncil.com/history



² R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 66-68

³ West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

Bangour Village Development
 AMSiC C
 Aerial View 02

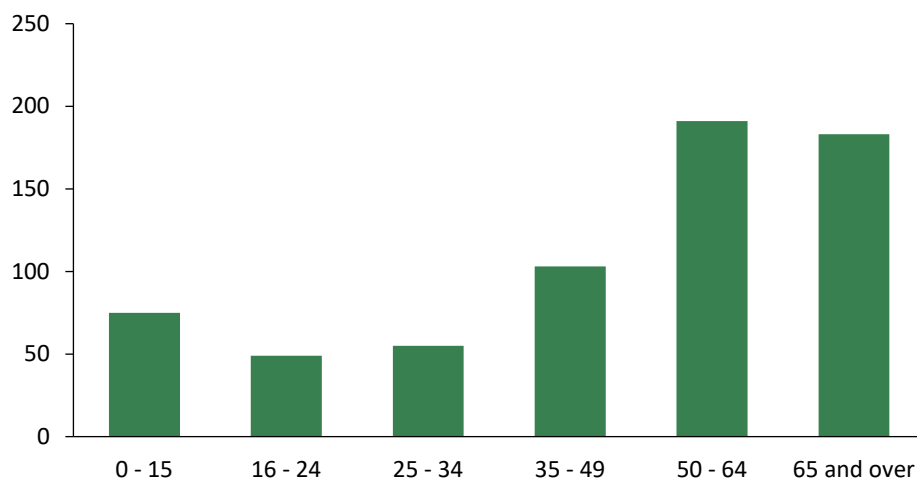


Bangour Village Estate / *Bangour Village Development*

	16 X18 N18 31	Livingston - Western General Whitburn - Edinburgh Whitburn - Edinburgh Bathgate - Livingston	2 per day 2 per hour 1 per day (night service) 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Uphall Station	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 10	Bathgate - Newbridge	
	Nearby roads:	A89, A899, M8	

Demographics

Population of Dechmont by Age Group



Total population of Dechmont = 660

42% of people aged 16 and over in Dechmont are not economically active. This is the highest percentage of all localities in West Lothian surveyed in the 2022 census. This is due to the relatively small population and older age profile of Dechmont.

East Calder

East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

East Calder was originally a rural settlement and is built upon four historical estates. The village gradually expanded in the 1800s with the arrival of the shale mining industry. Modern housing development in the late 20th century further transformed the village into a popular residential area. Today, East Calder accommodates a growing population, driven by substantial recent and ongoing housing developments at Calderwood, Langton Crescent and Raw Holdings. Calderwood Primary School opened in 2022, and East Calder Primary School was replaced with a new building in 2024.

Key features

East Calder is surrounded by scenic countryside, bordering the Almondell and Calderwood Country Park which extends to the north and west of the village. As well as being rich in natural assets, East Calder's heritage is reflected in its buildings, containing 12 listed buildings within the village and Almond Valley. These include the 16th century ruins of St. Cuthbert's church and cemetery, the Camps Viaduct and the Naysmyth Bridge. The Main Street retains many of its original sandstone buildings, preserving the townscape of East Calder's industrial past.¹ The majority of residential properties in the village are more modern, with new builds at Calderwood and Raw Holdings.

Situated between Edinburgh and Glasgow, and close to Livingston, East Calder is an appealing location for commuters with families. It is served by the East Calder & District Community Council.



East Calder Main Street

Services and amenities

HS catchment: West Calder High or St Margaret's Academy

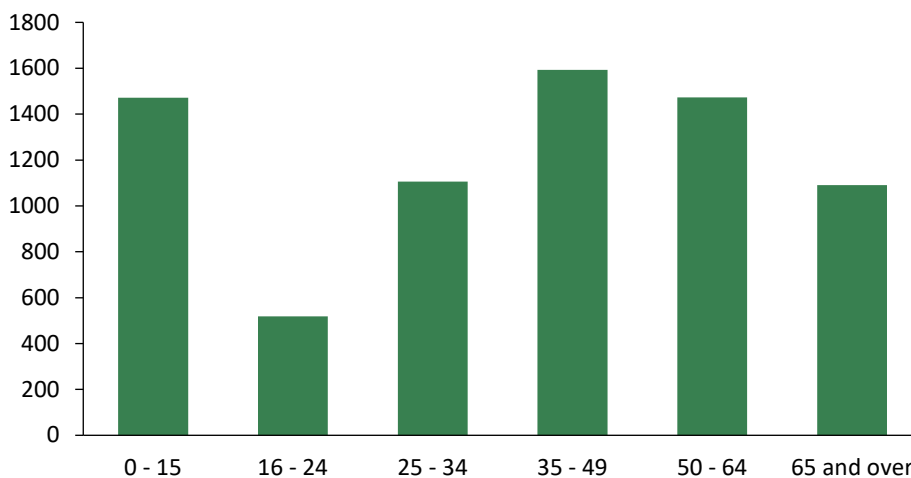
¹ West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

- East Calder Primary School, Calderwood Primary School, St Paul's RC Primary School
- East Calder Church of Scotland, St Theresa's Church
- Dave King Partnership Centre - community centre and library
- East Calder Medical Practice
- Pharmacy
- Post office
- Sports pitch
- Xcite sports centre
- Bowling club
- Scout hall
- 2 pubs – Grapes and the Village
- Camps industrial estate
- Retail
- Livingston for supermarkets, shopping and further sports and leisure

	X27/X28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	4 per hour
	N28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	1 per day (night service)
	X40	Royal Infirmary - St John's	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Kirknewton (1.5 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	WL 17	Uphall - East Calder	
	WL 18	Feeder Canal Path	
	Nearby roads:	Access to M8, M9, A71, A89	

Demographics

Population of East Calder by Age Group



Total population of East Calder = 7,252

East Whitburn, Whitburn and Greenrigg

Whitburn and Blackburn Ward

History

The Baillie family purchased land in Polkemmet in 1620,¹ and subsequently built Polkemmet House and Estate. By 1800, Whitburn was a small agricultural settlement, home to shopkeepers, tradesmen and weavers.² In 1830 the Baillies built the Public Institute Hall which still stands next to Polkemmet Lodge on East Main Street.

The coal industry took off around the year 1900 in Whitburn bringing population growth and lasting until the final pit closed in 1986.³ Miners' rows were constructed in East Whitburn to house workers of the Whitrigg Colliery,⁴ the site of which was restored to be a woodland area in the 1980s. A second wave of population growth came in the 1960s with the Glasgow Overspill Plan. Whitburn and East Whitburn expanded through the 20th century and the M8 opened in 1965, bypassing the settlements to the north.

Residential development continued into the 21st century, including 116 council houses built at Dixon Terrace in 2014, and the ongoing Heartlands project at the former Polkemmet Colliery site. This has so far involved the building of a new motorway junction and completion of 750 homes, with plans for 2000.

In 1905, the Greenrigg coal pit was opened to the east of Greenrigg Farm by United Collieries. To accommodate workers, cottages were built on the east of Harthill, forming the core of what became the village of Greenrigg⁵. Housing development continued throughout the century, with Baillie Avenue being added in the early 2000s.

Features

Polkemmet Country Park lies between Whitburn and Greenrigg, offering a natural space with walking trails and areas of ancient woodland. The River Almond runs through the park, which is also home to the Scottish Owl Centre, a golf course, and The Horn sculpture overlooking the M8. Polkemmet House was demolished in the 1960s, but other historical buildings remain including the listed Whitburn South Parish Church (1729) and Brucefield Church (1966) which adjoins the former church of 1857. There is good access to education, shopping, sports and leisure activities within Whitburn and the area is served by the Whitburn Community Council.

East Whitburn is a smaller settlement with a community centre, care home, village shop and Redmill Industrial Estate. Whitrigg Community Woodland has a network of footpaths for walkers and cyclists. East Whitburn House was constructed in the early 1800s and is a listed building. Greenrigg remains a small village on the western border of the county. It has its own primary school and community council, and a playing field and forested area to the north.

¹ West Lothian Council, Polkemmet Country Park - Past and Present History (2013)

² R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 81-83

³ Undiscovered Scotland, Whitburn, available online at:
www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/whitburn/whitburn/index.html

⁴ Scottish Shale, Shop at East Whitburn, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/stories/shop-east-whitburn/

⁵ Scottish Shale, The First Greenrigg, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/stories/first-greenrigg/



Leslie Barrie / *Former Baillie Public Institute, Main Street, Whitburn* / CC BY-SA 2.0

Services and amenities

RC HS catchment: St Kentigern's Academy

Whitburn:

- Whitedale PS, Croftmalloch PS, Polkemmet PS, St Joseph's RC PS
- Whitburn Academy
- Burnhouse School
- Whitburn community education centre
- Brucefield Church, Whitburn South Parish Church, St Joseph Catholic Church, Whitburn Pentecostal Church, RCGG Lighthouse Parish, West End Gospel Hall, Whitburn Gospel Hall, Whitburn Christian Fellowship
- Ian Tennant Whitburn Library
- Police station
- Fire station
- Xcite Whitburn (with swimming pool)
- Whitburn Bowling Club
- Central Park – Whitburn Juniors Football Club
- Polkemmet Country Park
- Polkemmet golf course
- Scottish Owl Centre
- Blaeberryhill Park, Croftmalloch playground
- Supermarkets





- Cafes, pubs, restaurants, takeaways
- Retail, local businesses
- Whitburn Old Cemetery
- Heartlands service station (M8)
- Oil States Industries
- Burnhouse industrial estate

East Whitburn:

- East whitburn community education centre
- Redmill Care Home
- Whitrigg Community Woodland
- Gothenburg Convenience Store
- Redmill Industrial Estate - Copart Whitburn

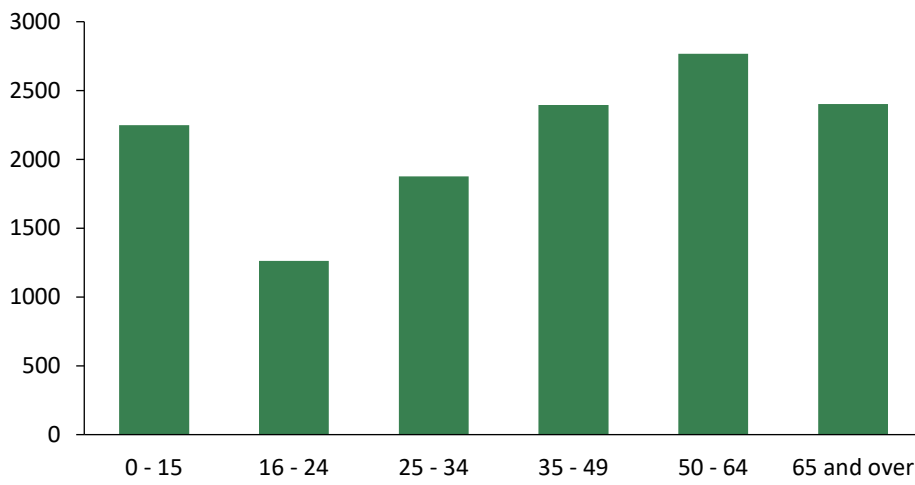
Greenrigg:

- Greenrigg PS
- Usave convenience store

	6	Whitburn Cross - Avonbridge	1 per hour
	X18	Whitburn - Edinburgh	2 per hour
	N18	Whitburn - Edinburgh	1 per day (night service)
	23	Whitburn - Shotts	1 per hour
	72	Fauldhouse - Kirkliston	1 per hour
	902	Glasgow - Edinburgh Airport	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Armadale	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 19	East Whitburn - Stoneyburn	
	WL 23	Whitburn Town Path	
	WL 25	Whitrigg Circular	
	WL 38	Blaeberry Circular	
	Nearby roads:	M8, A705, A706	

Demographics

Population of Whitburn by Age Group



Total population of Whitburn = 12,947

Fauldhouse and Longridge

Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Ward

History

Fauldhouse likely originated as a farmstead in the medieval period, and by the 1600s was marked as “Falas” on early maps.¹ The small settlement of a few farms grew significantly with the onset of mining. Located on the southwest of a major coalfield, Fauldhouse saw extensive extraction from the 1800s to the mid-1900s, alongside limestone and sandstone quarrying. Cottages, a brickworks and new buildings like St Andrew’s Kirk (1866) and St John the Baptist Church (1873) accommodated workers and their families, and the area developed three main hamlets: Crofthead, Drybridge and Greenburn.² Oil shale mining and processing also took place and several mineral railways were built to support industry. The landscape around Fauldhouse became heavily scarred with abandoned buildings, pits and spoil heaps, but has since undergone restoration. Most current housing dates to the mid-20th century, though recent housing developments have expanded Fauldhouse to the north, east and south since 2018.

Longridge developed alongside ironstone mining in the area. By the turn of the 20th century, it had a church, primary school, hotel and post office to serve its growing population. Bungalows were constructed by the council along the main street in 1939,³ with further social housing and private developments through the 20th and 21st centuries. Since 2018, the Curling Pond development has been built to the west, and more recently, 52 affordable homes have been completed to the north of Fauldhouse Road.



M J Richardson / *Main Street, Fauldhouse* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ Undiscovered Scotland, Fauldhouse, available online at: www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/whitburn/fauldhouse/index.html

² Visit West Lothian, Fauldhouse, available online at: www.visitwestlothian.co.uk/explore/fauldhouse/

³ The Gazetteer for Scotland, Longridge, available online at: www.scottish-places.info/towns/townfirst806.html

Features

Fauldhouse and Longridge are fairly quiet places to live, surrounded by countryside in the middle of the central belt. Due to there being little industry in the immediate area, many people commute to work elsewhere. Fauldhouse has a variety of takeaways, restaurants, cafes and pubs, and has walking trails in areas like Knowes Colliery Woodland and Fauldhouse Meadows. The former Crofthead Primary School, built in the late 19th century,¹ is the village's only listed building. It is currently in use as a care home. Fauldhouse has a community council.

Longridge is the highest village in West Lothian at about 250m above sea level, providing wide views of the surrounding area. It has a Primary School and a few local businesses, but as a small village it lacks other services. A key landmark is the 1840 gothic church on the Main Street, which has been repurposed for domestic use.

Services and amenities

HS catchment: Whitburn Academy or St Kentigern's Academy


Fauldhouse:

- Falla Hill PS, St John the Baptist RC PS
- Fauldhouse train station
- St Andrew's Parish Church, St John the Baptist Catholic Church
- Barclay Medical Practice
- Fauldhouse Partnership Centre
- Fauldhouse library
- Eastfield development centre
- Fauldhouse masonic club
- Fauldhouse Miners Welfare Club
- Faulhouse cemetary
- Crofthead care home
- Caledonian road playground, Eastfield play park, church place playground
- Knowes Colliery Woodland, Faulhouse meadows
- Greenburn Golf Course
- Fauldhouse United Football Club
- Take aways, cafes, pubs, restaurants
- Convenience stores, pharmacy

Longridge:

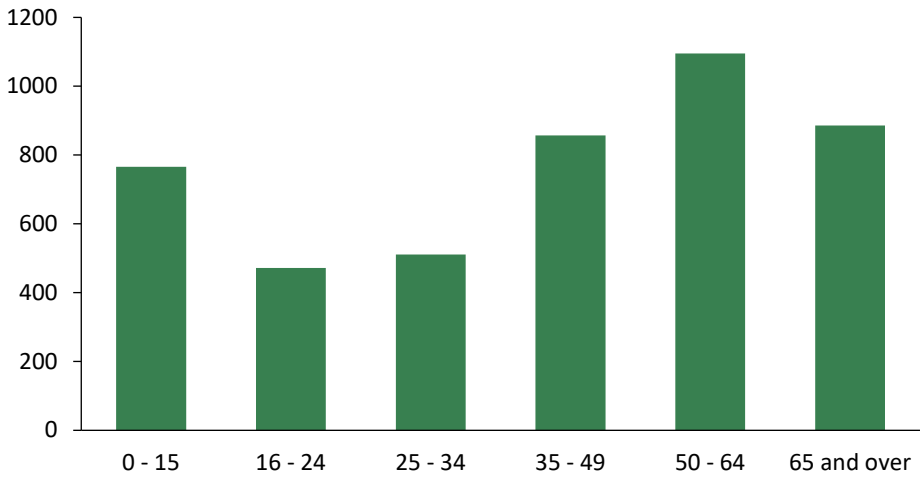
- Longridge PS
- Longridge community park
- Love gymnastics club
- Aldo's Fish and chicken bar

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 79

	34A/34B 72 74	Lanark - Livingston Fauldhouse - Kirkliston Fauldhouse - Livingston	1 per hour 1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Fauldhouse	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 24	Fauldhouse Rail Path	
	Nearby roads:	A71, M8	

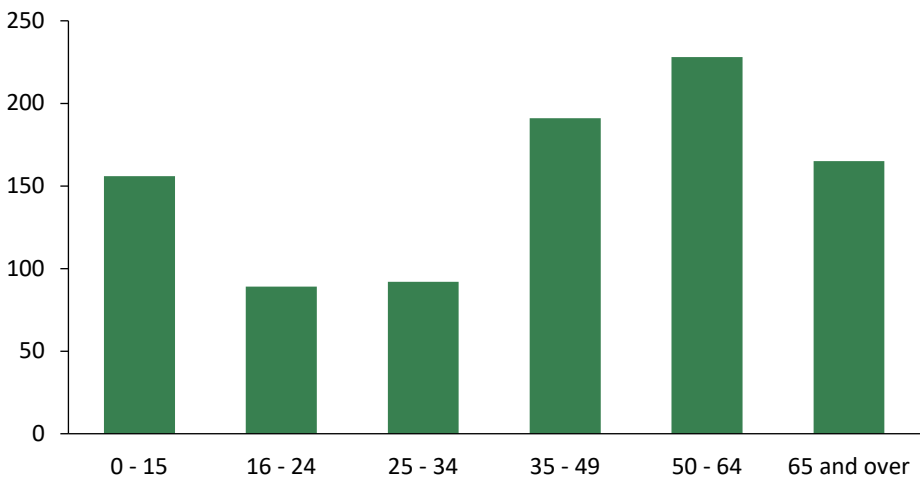
Demographics

Population of Fauldhouse by Age Group



Total population of Fauldhouse = 4,584

Population of Longridge by Age Group



Total population of Longridge = 921

Kirknewton and Wilkieston

East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

Kirknewton dates back to medieval times and expanded as a rural farming community. The historical character of the old village core is now preserved under a conservation area designation.¹ This area includes Kirknewton Cemetery, the site of two 18th century mausoleums. Construction of the railway in the 1800s followed by the mining of shale oil in the area caused further development and connectivity. A military airfield was constructed to the south during WWII and is now known as RAF Kirknewton.²

In contrast to Kirknewton, Wilkieston has remained smaller and less developed, retaining its village character, although both settlements have had some expansion in recent times. One example of this is the development of 45 houses to the west of Wilkieston, north of the A71. The two villages are located on the eastern edge of West Lothian and are surrounded by countryside.

Key features

Kirknewton and Wilkieston benefit from convenient transport links. The area is home to the Linburn Centre, a facility for veterans with sight loss, as well as a small military museum and the Cyrenians farm community. Residents live near attractions like the Jupiter Artland sculpture park and the scenic Pentland hills. However, sports and leisure facilities within the villages are limited, and residents must travel to Livingston or the Gyle for supermarkets and shopping. The area is home to 20 listed buildings including the 17th century Kirknewton House, 18th century Kirknewton Church and 19th century Ormiston House,³ and Kirknewton is served by a community council. Wilkieston is served by East Calder & District Community Council.



Anne Burgess / Kirknewton Station / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)


² Visit West Lothian, Kirknewton, available online at: www.visitwestlothian.co.uk/explore/kirknewton/

³ R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 104-107

Services and amenities

HS catchment: West Calder High, Balerno High or St Margaret’s Academy

- Kirknewton Primary School
- Angela Elizabeth Nursery
- Kirknewton & East Calder Parish Church
- Sight Scotland Veterans Linburn Centre
- Military Museum
- Cyrenians Farm - Community & Green Skills Centre
- Kirknewton Garage
- Kirknewton Cemetery
- RAF Kirknewton
- Post office
- Pharmacy
- Village hall
- Play parks
- Local businesses

	X28	Edinburgh – Bathgate via Kirknewton	2 per hour
	N28	Edinburgh – Bathgate via Kirknewton	1 per day (night service)
	X27	Edinburgh – Bathgate via Wilkieston	2 per hour
	X40	Royal Infirmary – St John’s via Wilkieston	1 per hour



Nearest station: Kirknewton

Edinburgh - Glasgow



NCN 75

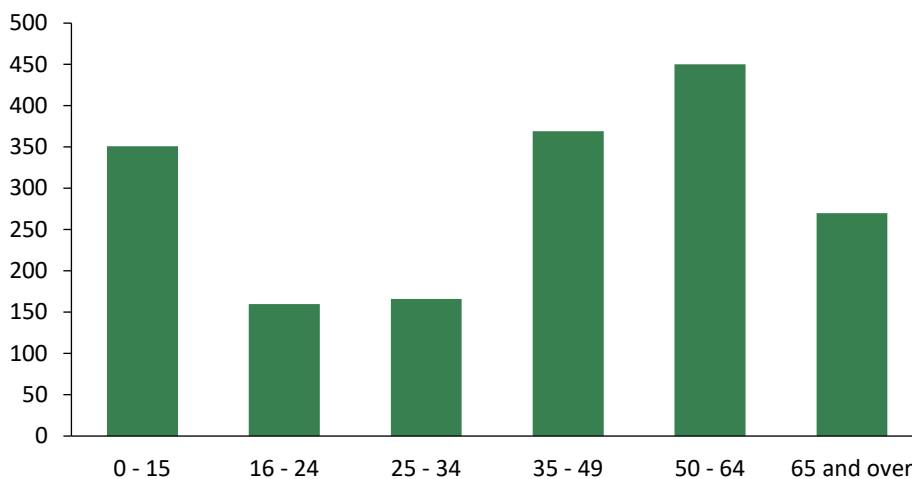
Edinburgh - Glasgow



Nearby roads: Access to M8, M9, A71, A70

Demographics

Population of Kirknewton by Age Group



Total population of Kirknewton = 1,765

73% of people aged 16 and over in Kirknewton are economically active. This is the highest percentage of all localities in West Lothian assessed in the 2022 census.

Linlithgow

Linlithgow Ward

History

Linlithgow is a town of rich history, having been granted Royal Burgh status around the year 1138. It is famously known as the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, who was born in Linlithgow Palace and baptised in St. Michael's Parish Church. Once a market town, it served as the administrative centre of Linlithgowshire (now West Lothian) until 1975.

Linlithgow has a mixture of traditional, modern and new build homes. The population more than tripled between 1960 and 2000, driven by substantial expansion to the east, south and southwest, for example, through the construction of the Springfield development. The opening of the M9 to the north in 1972 further facilitated growth.

The town has particularly high housing and education standards, but faces a lack of affordable housing. Only 11% of the town's housing stock is social housing, and only 15 council houses have been built since 1975.¹ This is a key reason for the population decrease over the last 10 years. Between 2000 and 2018, around 500 new houses were built in Linlithgow. More recently, further housing development was completed at Springfield and is underway at Deanburn Road.



Richard Sutcliffe / *Burgh Halls Linlithgow* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ West Lothian Council, Linlithgow Local Place Plan (2024), p. 8-10

Features


Linlithgow is a town with a strong heritage that attracts tourists to the Loch, Palace and Peel. The town is home to over 150 listed buildings, such as St Michael’s Parish Church (1424 - 1532) and the Burgh Halls (1668).¹ It has two conservation areas: one covering Upper Linlithgow and the Union Canal, and another consisting of the Palace, Loch and High Street, which is designated as ‘outstanding’.² A heritage trail is in place to guide visitors around the main historical sites. The site of the Battle of Linlithgow Bridge (1526) has its own trail with notice boards explaining the encounter and identifying key terrain features. The Palace is known to host historical activities and events such as tours, battle re-enactments and jousting tournaments.

The town has several picturesque green spaces and walking routes, such as the canal path, the John Muir Way and nearby Beecraigs Country Park. The loch is used for leisure activities like walking, fishing and water sports. The Linlithgow Canal Centre has a museum and tearoom and offers boat trips along the canal.

Linlithgow High Street has a number of shops, restaurants, takeaways, pubs and bars, however the town centre faces issues with traffic congestion. The town has a strong sense of community, with many groups and volunteer organisations for children and adults. The Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council serves the area.

Services and amenities

- Linlithgow Primary, Linlithgow Bridge Primary, Lowport Primary, Springfield Primary, St Joseph’s RC Primary, Donaldson Sensational Learning Centre
- Linlithgow Academy (or Sinclair Academy)
- Partnership centre + museum
- West Lothian Local History Library
- Train station
- Rugby, football + tennis facilities:
 - Linlithgow Rose Community Football Club
 - Prestonfield
 - Linlithgow RFC
 - Linlithgow Sports Club: bowling green, tennis courts, squash courts
 - Linlithgow Cricket Club
- Xcite with swimming pool, cycle circuit
- Linlithgow golf club
- Supermarkets
- Post office
- Fire station
- Mill road industrial estate

	31	Livingston - Bathgate	1 per hour
	X38	Falkirk - Edinburgh	2 per hour
	F1	Maddiston - Linlithgow	1 per hour
	F45	Linlithgow - Bo’Ness circular	8 per day
	F49	Linlithgow - Bo’Ness	4 per day

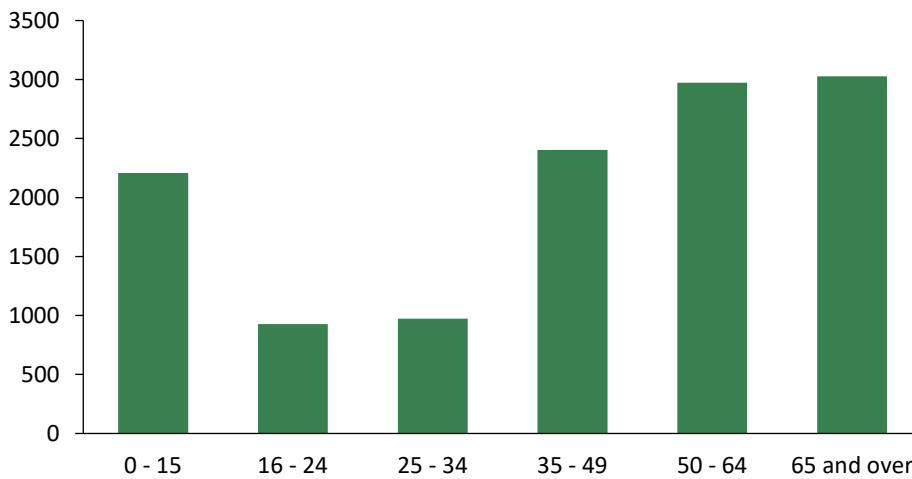
¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 1-32

² West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

	L1	Linlithgow local service	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Linlithgow	Edinburgh - Dunblane Glasgow - Fife Circle Line
	NCN 754 WL 2 a) WL 2 b) WL 3 WL 4 WL 6 WL 35	Edinburgh - Glasgow Union Canal Water Path Union Canal Towpath Linlithgow Loch Circular Linlithgow - Beecraigs Link River Avon Heritage Trail Linlithgow Loch - Union Canal Link	
	Nearby roads:	M9	

Demographics

Population of Linlithgow by Age Group

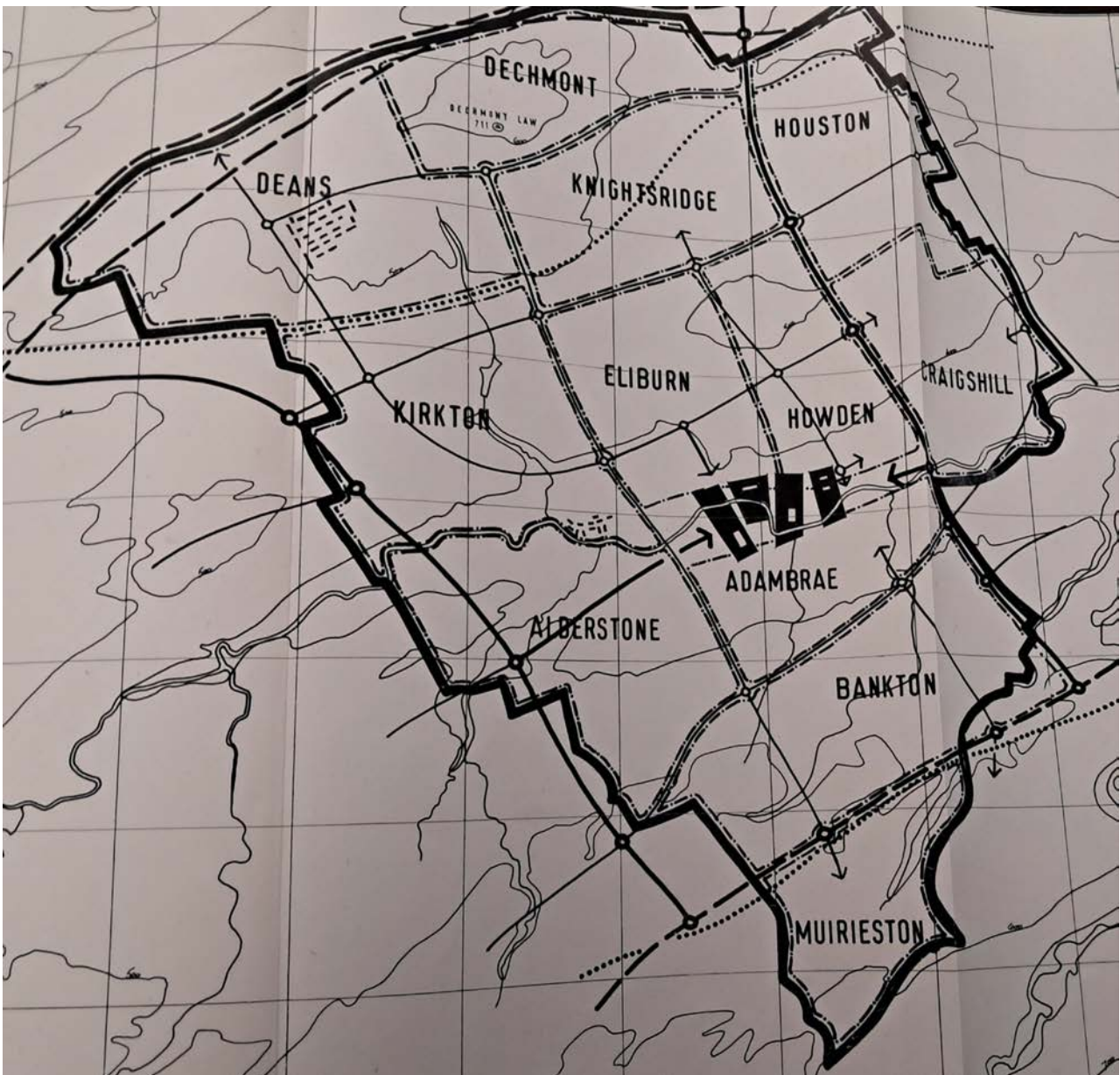


Total population of Linlithgow = 12,517

Livingston

The town of Livingston takes its name from Livingston Village, one of the original settlements that existed in the area along with Bellsquarry and Livingston Station. The land was used mainly agriculturally, benefitting from the fertile soil of the Almond Valley, as well as for quarrying and mining. Livingston was designated as a New Town in 1962 to help alleviate overcrowding in cities. It rapidly expanded with new housing districts designed by the Livingston Development Corporation (LDC), absorbing historical mansions, mills and farmhouses which give the modern town some pieces of heritage. Livingston has served as the administrative centre of West Lothian since 1975.

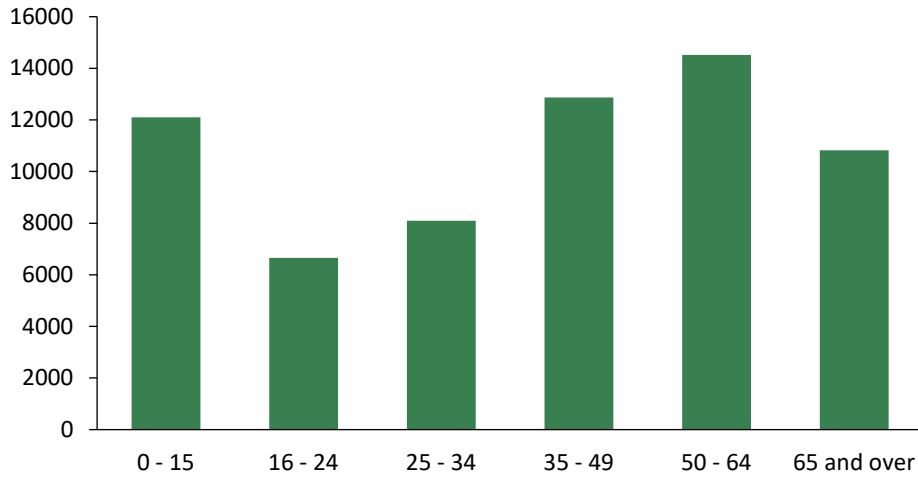
Today, it is the largest town in the county with a population of over 65,000. It has major shopping areas like The Centre, the Designer Outlet, and several retail parks. It has grown as an industrial centre with a number of industrial estates and business parks such as Kirkton Campus. The town is also home to four high schools and West Lothian College. Livingston is situated between Edinburgh and Glasgow, close to the M8, M9 and A71 roads, and has two train stations providing public transport links.



Map from the Livingston Development Corporation Master Plan, 1963.

Demographics

Population of Livingston by Age Group



Total population of Livingston = 65,056

Bellsquarry, Adambrae and Murieston

Livingston South Ward

History

Bellsquarry is named after the local limestone quarry established during the 18th century.¹ During the 19th century the settlement became increasingly inhabited by labourers finding employment at this and other nearby mineral works. Around this time the Elm Tree Inn was also in operation serving travellers through the village. Brucefield Industrial Estate was developed in the 1970s, followed by the construction of new housing either side of Bellsquarry South Road. These new streets took their names from Scottish castles. Housing development has recently occurred to Brucefield's west and north.

Adambrae derives its name from a nearby farm.² Adambrae cemetery was opened in 1990 to accommodate demand, as there was only one other cemetery in Livingston at the time. This was the final community planned by the LDC and housing underwent construction from the 1990s to the early 2000s.

Murieston is a residential area, historically comprised of small, scattered settlements and farmland.³ During the 19th century, mining of the Burdiehouse limestone seam took place, accompanied by lime kilns and shale oil works.⁴ Most of the homes here were constructed between the 1960s and 1990s by the LDC. Since 2018, more housing has been added at West Cairn View.

Features

Bellsquarry contains two listed buildings - Newpark House (1806) and Brucefield Farmstead (c. 1800) - and provides employment opportunities at Brucefield Industrial Estate. It retains a quiet village atmosphere, and Bellsquarry Wood with the Dedridge Burn flowing through is a peaceful area of ancient woodland perfect for walking. Murieston also holds ancient woodland along the banks of Murieston Water and has several popular walking paths and nearby green spaces such as Campbridge Park, the Murieston trail, the Linhouse Circular and the category A listed railway viaduct. Since 2021, a community garden has been developed next to the village hall, and there is also a cricket club. Adambrae features the Wilderness woodland with the Adambrae Burn running through.

Murieston has several listed buildings including Murieston House (c. 1830), Westfield House (1760) and Skivo Farm (late 18th century), as well as two bridges crossing the Murieston Water. Bankton House Hotel (1812) is another interesting historical building and currently operates as a hotel and restaurant. The ruined Murieston Castle is a scheduled monument within Murieston Castle Farm. The castle was originally constructed in the 16th century and remodelled in 1824.

Murieston is also the site of Livingston South railway station, providing a link from Edinburgh to Glasgow. Bellsquarry & Adambrae Community Council manages affairs of the two places combined, while Murieston has its own community council.

¹ Scottish Shale, Mr Bell's Quarry, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/stories/mr-bells-quarry/

² Gazetteer for Scotland, Adambrae, available online at: www.scottish-places.info/features/featurefirst42699.html

³ West Lothian Council, Murieston Local Place Plan (2024)

⁴ Scottish Shale, Murieston Limestone Mine, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/coal-mines/murieston-mine/



Murieston Community Development Trust / *Linhouse Water Railway Viaduct*

Services and amenities

HS catchments: James Young HS or St Margaret's Academy

Bellsquarry:

- Bellsquarry Primary School
- Bellsquarry Village Hall
- Stones Bar and Grill
- Bellsquarry Wood
- Football pitch
- Brucefield Industrial Estate

Adambrae:

- Adambrae cemetery
- Sycamore Glade Playground
- The Wilderness

Murieston:

- Livingston South Railway Station
- Murieston Community Garden
- Murieston Village Hall
- Bankton Retail Centre – Co-op, Day-Today, Supperbowl, florist, Sapphire Chinese
- Bankton Square – Nursery, Lamond Veterinary Clinic, Bankton Dental Practice, Livingston Chiropody & Podiatry

- Hamilton Square – Murieston Medical Practice, Murieston Pharmacy, West Lothian Chiropractic, Almond Hearing, restaurant/retail
- Murieston Scout Hall
- Bankton Mains Bowling Club
- Murieston United Football Club
- Williamston Primary School
- Livingston Cricket Club
- Murieston Trail, Linhouse Circular Trail, Oakbank Trails

	9 34A/34B 74	Livingston local service Livingston - Lanark Livingston - Fauldhouse	1 per hour 1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston South	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75 WL 13 WL 14	Edinburgh - Glasgow Linhouse Circular Murieston Trail	
	Nearby roads:	A71, A899, M8	

Dedridge and Howden

Livingston South Ward

History

Three rows of workers' cottages built by the Oakbank Oil Company around 1909 are marked as Dedridge on historical maps.¹ However, most of current day Dedridge is made up of terraced housing constructed by the LDC in the 1970s. Lanthorn Community Centre was opened in 1978 and James Young High School opened in 1981. The original Dedridge cottages have been refurbished and are known as Beresford Rise.

Howden is named after Howden Estate on which it is built. It was developed from east to west along the north side of the River Almond during the 1960s.² St John's Hospital was opened in 1989, replacing Bangour General Hospital in catering to the healthcare needs of West Lothian. St Margaret's Academy was opened in 1994, adding to the educational capacity of the area. The Almondvale Football Stadium was built in 1995 for the Edinburgh club Meadowbank Thistle, who were encouraged to relocate by the LDC.³ The club was later renamed to Livingston FC. The Civic Centre became the administrative centre of West Lothian Council and several other public sector organisations in 2009 and holds hearings of Livingston Sheriff Court.



Stephencdickson / *Howden House, Livingston* / CC BY-SA 3.0

¹ Scottish Shale, Dedridge Cottages, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/company-housing/dedridge-cottages/

² Livingston Development Corporation, Residents' Handbook (1973) p. 29-31

³ West Lothian Council, Livingston 60th Anniversary - Celebration Heritage Walks (2022)

Features

Dedridge has two community centres - Lanthorn and Crofthead - and is home to three primary schools. Dedridge Park is an area of ancient woodland with walking paths and a pond. This was once a mill pond, which was restored by the Dedridge Environmental Ecology Project in 2008 to enhance biodiversity. Other green spaces include Lanthorn Park and Froggy Park, which has another pond and a pump track.

Howden has several listed structures including Howden House (c. 1770), Howden Bridge (1764) and Livingston Skatepark (1981), which was the first purpose-built skate park in the country. Howden Park Centre is an arts centre with an auditorium, gallery and small restaurant, which was developed from the stables of Howden House. Howden Park offers an open space for walking, and the Almondvale Football Stadium hosts matches and is home to Livingston Football Club.

Both Howden and Dedridge benefit from their proximity to the centre of Livingston for easy access to shopping, leisure and employment opportunities. They are each served by a community council.

Services and amenities

Dedridge:

HS catchments: James Young HS or St Margaret's Academy

- James Young HS
- St. Ninian's RC PS, Bankton PS, Dedridge PS
- Cedarbank special education school
- Glenvue nursery
- Dedridge Health Centre
- Healthful Pharmacy
- Lanthorn and Crofthead community centres
- Woodland nursing home, Limecroft residential home
- Crusader Court retirement housing complex (Trust Housing Association)
- Dedridge Baptist Church, Almondvale Gospel Hall, Life Centre Livingston Church
- Froggy park / pond / pump track, Dedridge park/pond/burn, Lanthorn park

Howden:

HS catchments: Inveralmond Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- St Margaret's Academy
- Toronto Primary School, Howden St Andrew's RC Primary School
- Scottish Ambulance Service Station
- Howden Health Centre + Rowlands Pharmacy
- St John's Hospital
- Civic centre
- Livingston Sheriff Court
- West Lothian Indoor Bowling Club
- Livingston Football stadium
- Edmonton Green Playground, Almondvale Play Park

	9	Livingston local service	1 per hour
	16	Livingston - Western General	2 per day
	X27/X28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	4 per hour
	N28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	1 per day (night service)
	31	Livingston - Bathgate	1 per hour
	34A/34B	Livingston - Lanark	1 per hour
	X40	Royal Infirmary - St John's	1 per hour
	72	Kirkliston - Fauldhouse	1 per hour
	73	Livingston - Blackburn	1 per hour
	74	Livingston - Fauldhouse	1 per hour



Nearest station: Livingston North / South Edinburgh - Glasgow



NCN 75 Edinburgh - Glasgow
 WL 27 River Almond Water Path
 WL 31 Livingston Loan Path



Nearby roads: A899, A705, M8

Carmondean and Deans

Livingston North Ward

History

The name Deans can be traced back to Deans Estate, but the village here was originally known as Livingston Station, named after the railway station on the Edinburgh to Glasgow line.¹ In the 1880s, Deans Oil Works was established and cottages were constructed to house workers. The remnants of the house and farm buildings of Deans Estate may have become buried underneath Deans Bing. The village expanded substantially when the Pumpherston Oil company acquired the site and built over 160 new houses between 1905 and 1910.² Main Street became known as 'Fishers Row' as it was home to many former fishermen from Musselburgh who came to work in the shale mines.

During the 1960s and 1970s the early homes were demolished, making way for around 500 of the first LDC houses. The development of Carmondean, located between Deans and Knightsridge, followed soon after, while the former site of the oil works and bing was transformed into Deans Industrial Estate. In 2004, structural issues with roof panelling led to the redevelopment of Deans South. Regeneration efforts have been underway since 2018, with over 80 new council homes built so far and plans for a total of 136.



Scottish Shale / Postcard showing Pumpherston Oil Company's oil worker's housing at Main Road, Livingston Station (1906)

¹ Livingston Development Corporation, Residents' Handbook (1973) p. 29-31

² Scottish Shale, Livingston Station Village, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/company-housing/livingston-station/

Features

Deer Park Golf and Country Club includes a bowling alley and is popular leisure and fitness venue. Dechmont Woods has a number of walking paths, including the UFO trail, which explores the site where a local man claimed to encounter an extra-terrestrial spacecraft in 1979. Dechmont Law provides 360° views of the surrounding area.

The area has good geographical access to education, with three primary schools and a high school in the area. The Livingston Station School building (1906) is now used as an Islamic Centre and Mosque. Knightsridge House (1851) is the only listed building in the district.

The Carmondean Centre is home to local businesses and shops including a Morrisons supermarket and a BP petrol station. Just south of this is Grand Central, Livingston's only night club, and Livingston North train station, which provides transport from Edinburgh to Glasgow. Other local facilities include the Livingston United FC grounds, two community centres and a library. Deans Industrial Estate lies to the east and offers a range of employment opportunities, including at the large Tesco Distribution Centre. Carmondean has a community council, while the Deans Community Council is not currently in operation.

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Deans Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Deans Community High School
- Carmondean Primary School, Meldrum Primary School, St John Ogilvie RC Primary School
- Livingston North train station
- Deer Park Golf & Country Club, bowling
- Livingston Islamic Centre & Mosque
- Veterinary Specialists Scotland
- Livingston United FC
- Premier Inn
- Deans Industrial Estate - Tesco Distribution Centre, Lothian Buses Depot
- Fairways business park
- Dechmont Law / Dechmont Woods
- Carmondean Community Centre
- Livingston North Partnership Centre + Carmondean library
- St Peter's Catholic Church
- Grand Central Night Club
- Barclay Medical Practice Livingston
- The Ability Centre Support Services
- Carmodean centre – shops, businesses



X18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	2 per hour
N18	Edinburgh - Whitburn	1 per day (night service)
X27/X28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	4 per hour
N28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	1 per day (night service)
73	Blackburn - Livingston	1 per hour
801	Edinburgh Airport - Deans Road End	6 per day



Nearest station: Livingston North Edinburgh - Glasgow



WL 28 Livingston Nell Burn Path
WL 29 Livingston Railway Path
WL 36 Dechmont Law Link



Nearby roads: A899, A89, M8

Eliburn

Livingston North Ward

History

Eliburn's roots trace back to a 12th century fortified tower known as the Livingston Peel, located at what is now Peel Park.¹ The Peel was acquired by the Murrays of Elibank in Selkirkshire in the 16th century, leading to the settlement being named Eliburn in connection with the Folly Burn. A 'physic' garden featuring a collection of exotic medicinal plants was cultivated by Sir Patrick Murray in the 17th century. The Peel was eventually replaced by Livingston House, which stood until its demolition in the 1840s. At this time there had been little other activity in the area beyond a few farms. In the early 20th century, the Eliburn Reservoir was created by the Pumpherstons Oil Company, who dammed the Nell Burn in order to provide a water supply for the nearby Deans Oil Works.²

By the 1980s, modern housing and Peel Primary School had been constructed on the west of Alderstone Road. Eliburn was one of the later districts to undergo development by the LDC, with substantial residential expansion taking place from the 1990s. In 2014, 90 council homes were completed at Drumgelloch Crescent, with additional houses built at Appleton Parkway and Caldercruix Crescent since 2018.

Features

Eliburn has several green spaces for outdoor recreation including Peel Park, which has a play area, footpaths, the remains of Livingston House and a formal garden commemorating the physic garden which inspired the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. Eliburn Park and Reservoir is a popular spot, including a play area and ancient woodland with plenty of wildlife. The reservoir has a number of wooden fishing platforms for casting and is under joint management by the council and the West Lothian Coarse Angling Association. Eliburn has one listed building - the 18th century Newyearfield Farmhouse and Steading.

Eliburn is also home to the Livingston United Football Club, which hosts matches and aims to engage young people in the community. The area has its own primary school, industrial park and several churches, and is served by the Eliburn Community Council.



Peel Park, Eliburn

¹ West Lothian Council, Peel Park, Eliburn - Placemaking Report (2020)

² West Lothian Council, Livingston 60th Anniversary - Celebration Heritage Walks (2022)

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Inveralmond Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Peel Primary School
- Eliburn Nursery Class
- Peel park, Eliburn park, Livingston standing stones, Pyramid of Life sculpture
- Almond Valley Baptist Church, Church of Christ, Livingston Free Church, Assembly Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
- Eliburn Industrial Park
- Eliburn Adult Training and Resource Centre
- Livingston Lodge Hotel
- Convenience stores
- Takeaways
- Local businesses

	72	Faulhouse - Kirkliston	1 per hour
	73	Blackburn - Livingston	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston North	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	WL 28	Livingston Nell Burn Path	
	WL 33	Livingston Folly Burn Path	
	Nearby roads:	A705, M8	

Knightsridge and Ladywell

Livingston North / Livingston South Ward

History

Knightsridge takes its name from Knightsridge Farm, which may in turn have been named after lands of the Knights Hospitaller.¹ The land was largely used for agricultural purposes until Livingston gained its New Town designation in 1962. Development by the LDC began in the 1970s, resulting in over 1000 new homes, Knightsridge Primary School and a small shopping complex. It is primarily made up of terraced housing, with some more recent detached homes.

Ladywell is also named after a local farm, but the name may have been derived from a much earlier holy well dedicated to the Virgin Mary by the Knights Hospitaller. The well was thought to have healing properties and was reputedly used to cure scrofula. Ladywell was one of the earlier districts developed in the Livingston New Town scheme. Harrysmuir Primary School and a substantial amount of new housing was built from east to west during the 1960s and 1970s. More recently, 92 council houses were completed at Scott Brae in 2014, and a further 29 homes were built at Eagle Brae in 2022.

Features

Moss Wood is an area of ancient woodland in Knightsridge containing footpaths for walking. The Vennie Youth Club and a large playing field sit within it. East of the playing field is the Mosswood Community Centre, a gathering space for local groups with a community garden. Newyearfield Wood in Ladywell also contains ancient trees and surrounds a recreation area including a skate park, play park and outdoor sports court. Ladywell has community tennis courts and is home to the Harrysmuir Bowling Club. Knightsridge has three 18th century listed cottages known as the Moss Houses.

Ladywell pupils attend Inveralmond Community High School within the district, while those from Knightsridge go to Deans for secondary education. Each district has its own community council.

Services and amenities

Knightsridge:

HS catchments: Deans Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Knightsridge Primary School + early years centre
- Ogilvie School Campus special education school
- Mosswood Community Centre
- The Vennie youth club
- Moss Wood park, Sutherland Way park, Moncrieff Way Play Park
- Playing field
- Knightsridge Industrial Estate
- Convenience stores, takeaways, local businesses

Ladywell:

¹ Livingston Development Corporation, Residents' Handbook (1973) p. 29-31

HS catchments: Inveralmond Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Harrysmuir Primary School
- Inveralmond Community High School
- Forestbank Community Centre
- Ladywell Baptist Church
- Ladywell skatepark
- Harrysmuir bowling club
- Ladywell community tennis courts
- Laywell Pharmacy
- Post Office
- Livingston Bridge BT Exchange

	16	Livingston - Western General	2 per day
	X27/X28	Bathgate - Edinburgh	4 per hour
	N28	Bathgate - Edinburgh	1 per day (night service)
	31	Bathgate - Livingston via Linlithgow	1 per hour
	X51	Dunfermline - Livingston	1 per hour
	73	Blackburn - Livingston	1 per hour
	902	Glasgow - Edinburgh Airport	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston North (1 mile)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 30	Livingston Harrysmuir Path	
	WL 31	Livingston Loan Path	
	Nearby roads:	A899, A705, M8	

Livingston Village

Livingston North / Livingston South Ward

History

Livingston Village is an ancient settlement, originally known as Leving's Toun.¹ It is thought that the land was granted to the Leving family in the 12th century, who subsequently built and occupied The Peel nearby. The settlement eventually became known as Livingston, and later Livingston Village, when it gave its name to the New Town of Livingston. Many of the remaining buildings date back to the 18th century, including Livingston Kirk, built in 1732 to replace an earlier structure of 1150, and the Livingston Inn, which served coaches on the Edinburgh to Glasgow road from the 1760s.²

In the 1960s and 1970s, the village expanded to accommodate around 500 homes as part of the New Town scheme. Development continued into the 21st century, with Livingston Village Primary School opening in 2001 and 45 new council houses added to Alderstone Road in 2014. In 2020, a new housing development and Kirk Lane nursing home replaced the Kirkton Business Centre.



Google / Main Street, Livingston Village

Features

A conservation area containing 19 listed buildings covers parts of Main Street, Kirk Lane and Village Lane, preserving the charm of the village core.³ Listed buildings include the Livingston Parish Kirk (1732), The Manse (1803), Livingston Inn (c. 1760) and Livingston Bridge (18th century). Several historical cottages fall into the boundary including the Danders which frame the small village green.

To the west lies the Almond Valley Heritage Centre (1992), which includes the Oil Museum and Mill Farm, an 18th century steading featuring a restored mill wheel, house and cornmill. The centre holds an archive of the area's history and is an excellent destination for visitors. There are plenty of walking and cycling opportunities, with the Folly Burn and boardwalk, the River Almond, the Shale Trail and National Cycle Network route 75 all passing through the village. Livingston Village Community Council serves the area.

¹ Livingston Development Corporation, Residents' Handbook (1973) p. 29-31





² Gazetteer for Scotland, Livingston Village, available online at: www.scottish-places.info/towns/townfirst804.html

³ West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Inveralmond Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Livingston Village Primary School
- First Class Nursery
- The Livingston Inn
- Old Parish Church
- Livingston Village Park

	16 X40 72	Livingston - Western General St John's - Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Fauldhouse - Kirkliston	2 per day 1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston North (2 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75 WL 32	Edinburgh - Glasgow Livingston Killandean Path	
	Nearby roads:	A705, M8	

Craigshill

East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

Craigshill was one of the earlier New Town housing districts with the first homes being occupied in 1966. The first streets to be completed were the 'Walks', followed by quick development of further terraced houses and flats in a geometric layout.¹ Riverside Primary School opened in 1966, followed by Letham Primary School in 1967 at the former site of Letham Farm. Craigshill Mall opened in 1968 and was Livingston's main shopping centre until the Almondvale Shopping Centre was built in the mid-70s. The Tower Bar and Stirrup Stane pubs were also in operation during the early times of Craigshill. A health centre and a high school were built in 1969, with Craigwillow Education Centre being used as the gym hall.² The high school was later closed and demolished in 1990. More recently, a block of flats was constructed at Forth Drive and semi-detached housing was developed at Almondbank Drive in the 2010s.

Features

There are several sports clubs and facilities in Craigshill, including the Craigswood Xcite, which has a 400m running track and athletics equipment. Local groups meet in the area for activities such as boxing, rugby and gymnastics, and the RAF Cadets 2535 squadron is based at Maple Grove. The Craigsfarm Community Hub is set within one of the oldest buildings in Craigshill, formerly Craigs Farm.

St Andrew's Roman Catholic Church is a listed building of 1970, notable for its unusual modernist design. The Livingston Central Mosque is also located in Craigshill. For outdoor recreation, the Almond Park and River sit to the south, forming a natural boundary with Mid Calder. Craigshill is represented by a community council.



Jim Smillie / Burns Court, Craigshill / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 88

² West Lothian Council, *Livingston 60th Anniversary - Celebration Heritage Walks* (2022)

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Inveralmond Community High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Riverside Primary School, Letham Primary School
- Beatlie School Campus
- Craighill Health Centre
- St Andrews Roman Catholic Church
- Livingston Central Mosque
- Craigsfarm Community Hub + Craigshill Thistle Pavillion
- Pathways Support Services
- Letham Young People's Centre
- Craigmair Nursing Home
- Citizens Advice Bureau Livingston
- Xcite Craigswood
- RAF Cadets 2535 squadron
- Livingston Boxing Club
- Livingston Rugby Club
- West Lothian School of Gymnastics Trust
- Letham Park, The Civilization Park / Woodland
- Takeaways

	X27/X28	Bathgate - Edinburgh	4 per hour
	N28	Bathgate - Edinburgh	1 per day (night service)
	72	Fauldhouse - Kirkliston	1 per hour
	902	Glasgow - Edinburgh Airport	1 per hour
	X51	Dunfermline - Livingston	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston North / Uphall Station (2 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	Nearby roads:	A899, A705, M8	

Mid Calder

East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

Mid Calder has its origins in the 11th century, developing as a small settlement that was a key passage and marketplace for cattle drovers.¹ Its growth was influenced by the shale mining industry in the 1800s, which brought both economic activity and population increases. As the mining industry declined, the land was repurposed for recreation and housing. The village further expanded its outer areas during the 1970s and 80s, and housing has recently been built at New Calder Mill on Calder Park Road. The centre of the village is a designated conservation area.²



Coldupnorth / *The Corner of Main Street and Market Street, Mid Calder* / CC BY-SA 4.0

Key features

Mid Calder blends into the surrounding nature of the Almondell and Calderwood Country Park, rich in wildlife and featuring many walking paths. Calderwood is home to the largest ancient woodland in West Lothian, and is recognised as a site of special scientific interest (SSSI). The village is home to 22 listed buildings including the 14th century Mid Calder Kirk and 16th century Calder House.³ Several artisan buildings of the oil boom era remain in the original village centre. Additionally, it is supported by the Mid Calder Community Council.

Services and amenities

HS catchment: West Calder High School or St Margaret's Academy

- Mid Calder Primary School
- Kirk of Calder
- Mid Calder Institute & Community Centre
- Cunnigar House - retirement housing / housing-with-care

¹ West Lothian Council, Mid Calder Local Place Plan (2024), p. 5

² West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

³ R. Jaques and C. McKean, West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide (1994), p. 98-103

- Local businesses:
 - Mid Calder Convenience store
 - Black Bull
 - Mid Calder Inn
 - Tonino's
 - Steven Belford Traditional Butcher
 - Barbers and hairdressers

	X27/X28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	4 per hour
	N28	Edinburgh - Bathgate	1 per day (night service)
	X40	Royal Infirmary - St John's	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Livingston South (2 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN 75	Edinburgh - Glasgow	
	Nearby roads:	Access to M8, M9, A71, A89	

Polbeth, West Calder and Harburn

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward / East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

Polbeth has a history of limestone and coal mining, and became a key location during the shale oil boom. James “Paraffin” Young moved into Limefield House in 1855 and extended his operations to the local area.¹ Polbeth continued to expand through the 20th century, with West Calder High School being built there in 1965. The high school has since been demolished in 2019 and relocated to West Calder. Polbeth now has around 1000 dwellings.²

During the medieval period, West Calder was under the parish of Calder Comitis, which also included Mid Calder. The Auld Kirk, built in the 1600s and now a ruin in the centre of the village, marks the time when West Calder became a distinct parish. In the 19th century, West Calder was of great commercial importance to the West Lothian oil boom, along with the formation of several co-operative societies. Much of the housing from this time was unsound, leading to it being demolished in the 1920s - 30s. Recently, wind turbines have been constructed nearby, along with a state-of-the-art high school and a new medical centre in the village. New housing has been constructed at Hartwood Road to the south west of the village and Mossend to the north, with the large Gavieside housing development proposed further north.



West Calder Local Place Plan / *West Calder Public Library*

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 95-108

² National Records of Scotland, *Small Area Statistics on Households and Dwellings* (2024)

Harburn is a small village to the south east of West Calder and Polbeth, known for its 19th century country estate. The Camilty powder mill produced explosives for the shale industry and later manufactured munitions during WWI. Camilty is now a tree plantation, with several wind turbines. An interesting historical feature of Harburn is a Roman fortlet known as Castle Greg, which is a scheduled monument. The village maintains its quiet, rural character.

Features

Polbeth has three listed structures - Limefield House and two bridges crossing Harwood Water. The nearby Five Sisters Zoo opened in 2005 and is a popular visitor attraction. It is named after the Five Sisters bing, an iconic landmark and remnant of the area's shale mining heritage.¹ The Shale Trail is a 16 mile scenic walking route which starts in West Calder and includes historical information about the shale oil story of West Lothian. West Calder has a busy high street with shops, pubs and local businesses. It contains several historical buildings, including the former co-operative society building and the West Calder library. Union Square and the Burngrange memorial clock are in the centre of the village. The train station is also a listed building, and is situated on the Edinburgh Waverly – Glasgow Central line. West Calder and Harburn share a community council, while Polbeth has its own.

Services and amenities

RC HS catchment: St Margaret's Academy

Polbeth:

- St. Mary's RC Primary School
- Polbeth Nursery
- Polbeth Harwood Parish Church
- Five Sisters Zoo
- Community hub / village hall
- Limefield Falks
- Football park
- Bowling club
- Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden
- Pharmacy
- Industrial estate
- Local businesses





West calder:

- Parkhead Primary School
- West Calder High School
- Our Lady & St Bridget's Catholic Church, Limefield U.F. Church
- West Calder Medical Centre
- West Calder Police Station
- West Calder Community Education Centre
- West Calder Bowling Club
- Post Office

¹ Historic Environment Scotland, Five Sisters, available online at: portal.historicenvironment.scot/apex/f?p=1505:300:::::VIEWTYPE,VIEWREF:designation,SM6254

Harburn:

- Harburn Village Hall
- Golf club
- Wonder Woods Nursery

	34A/34B 74	Lanark - Livingston Fauldhouse - Livingston	1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	West Calder	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 16	West Calder - Polbeth	
	Nearby roads:	A71, A70	

Pumpherstun, Uphall Station and Roman Camp Cottages

East Livingston and East Calder Ward

History

Pumpherstun was the centre of the shale oil industry from the late 19th century until the decline of the local industry after WWII.¹ It was built by the hugely successful Pumpherstun Oil Company to house its workforce, and some of the buildings from this time remain, including the south village miners' rows and the cooperative store and clock tower.² Uphall Station sits directly to the north of Pumpherstun. It takes its name from the nearby village of Uphall and the railway station that was established in 1849. Since the times of the oil industry, both villages have expanded. Roman Camp Cottages may derive its name from traces of Roman activity in the area. It was originally constructed around the year 1890 to house workers of the Roman Camp Oil Works, and is still a small residential hamlet today.³



Scottish Shale / Drumshoreland Road, Pumpherstun (c. 1960). Whyte's village post office, company housing, shale bings, brickworks (on left) and oil works chimneys (on right).

Key features

The villages are fairly well-connected areas with good transport links by rail and road. Pumpherstun has a community council, while Uphall Station does not. Both areas border the Houston Industrial Estate which offers job opportunities and specialist services. For recreation, the area is home to a golf course and a football pitch. For shopping and leisure needs, residents travel to nearby Livingston and Broxburn.

¹ Scottish Shale, Pumpherstun Oil Works, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/oil-works/pumpherstun-oil-works-refinery/

² West Lothian Council, The Historic Environment (2021)

³ Scottish Shale, Roman Camp village, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/company-housing/roman-camp-cottages/

Services and amenities

HS catchment: Broxburn Academy or St Margaret's / Sinclair Academy

- Pumpherston & Uphall Station Community Primary School
- Secondary education at Broxburn academy
- Society of Model Engineers
- Football pitch
- Pumpherston Golf Club
- Local businesses

	72	Kirkliston - Fauldhouse	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Uphall Station	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 8	Uphall - East Calder	
	Nearby roads:	M8	

Stoneyburn/Bents, Addiewell and Breich

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward

History

The history of Stoneyburn and Bents is rooted in coal mining. Stoneyburn dates back to the 17th century, marked by the construction of Stoneyburn House.¹ The village was largely built to house staff of Foulshiels Colliery, which operated from 1894 to 1957.² The village gained some public amenities throughout the 20th century, such as Stoneyburn Parish Church in 1925, and Stoneyburn Primary School in 1986. Bents was established to the west of Stoneyburn in 1919 with housing built by United Collieries. It features a small residential area built by the West Lothian Housing Society in the style of the garden city urban planning movement. In 2024, planning permission was approved for 332 new homes to the south of Cannop Crescent.

Addiewell has a rich industrial history, with coal mining taking place in the area before the 1850s. The Loganlea Colliery (1890 – 1959) was the biggest pit owned by United Collieries.³ The village was also home to James Young's large chemical works, established in 1865 and closed by 1921.⁴ Many typical miners' cottages were constructed between 1865 and 1870 in association with the chemical works, such as Faraday Place which still exists in the village. Addiewell had a brickworks which enabled cheap construction of buildings for industrial purposes, as well as a public school. Much of the original architecture was demolished between 1930 and 1950, and has since been redeveloped. HMP Addiewell was built in 2008.



Scottish Shale / Faraday Place, Addiewell

¹ R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 79-81

² Historic Environment Scotland, *Foulshiels Colliery*, available online at: canmore.org.uk/site/132663/foulshiels-colliery

³ Scottish Shale, *Lovely Loganlea*, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/stories/lovely-loganlea/

⁴ Scottish Shale, *Addiewell Village*, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/places/company-housing/addiewell-village/

Breich is a small settlement located on the A71, characterised by a row of mid-20th century roadside houses. It was originally settled in the 1890s by the Woodmuir Coal Company, which opened up new pits nearby after deposits in the moorland at Woodmuir were exhausted.¹ Some new houses were constructed behind the roadside homes in the early 2000s, and the railway station which once served local quarries and mines has recently been rebuilt. Planning permission was granted in 2022 for 15 houses, which are under construction, to the east of Woodmuir Road.

Features

Stoneyburn and Bents are surrounded by farmland, and Foulshells Woodland now occupies the former colliery site. Addiewell has several pre-oil boom listed buildings, such as Addiewell Farm (1762), Loganlea House (1798), and Auchenhard House (c. 1800). It also has its own railway station, providing a good transportation option for residents. Breich also benefits from a railway station, but is otherwise limited in terms of access to basic services. Addiewell and Breich share a community council, while Stoneyburn's is not currently in operation.

Services and amenities

HS catchment:

Stoneyburn – Whitburn Academy or St Kentigern's
Addiewell & Breich – West Calder High or St Kentigern's

Stoneyburn:

- post office
- Stoneyburn health centre, Breich Valley medical practice
- Our Lady's RC Church, Pentecostal Church, Breich Valley CoS
- Our Lady's RC Primary School, Stoneyburn Primary School
- Beachwood Park (football ground)
- Pharmacy
- Stoneyburn Bowling
- Convenience stores


Addiewell:

- HMP Addiewell
- Train station
- Addiewell Primary School, St Thomas RC Primary School
- St Thomas RC church
- The Pitstop (community facility/ softplay/ gym)
- Post office
- Addiewell and Loganlea memorial garden

Breich:

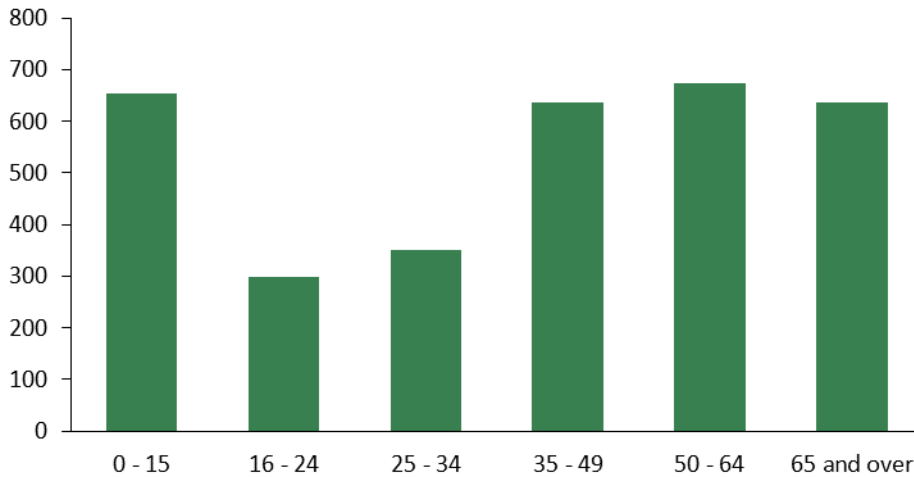
- Woodmuir Primary School
- Railway station
- Post office

¹ Scottish Shale, Alternative Realities in Breich, available online at: www.scottishshale.co.uk/stories/other-worlds-in-breich/

	34A/34B 74	Lanark - Livingston Fauldhouse - Livingston	1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest stations:	Addiewell Breich	Edinburgh - Glasgow Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 19 WL 39	East Whitburn - Stoneyburn Stoneyburn - Loganlea	
	Nearby roads:	A71, M8	

Demographics

Population by Age Group



Total population of Addiewell and Stoneyburn = 3,250

Torphichen

Armadale and Blackridge Ward

History

Torphichen is a small, ancient village with a rich history dating back to at least 400AD with the building of a church by St Ninian.¹ Torphichen Preceptory was founded at the site in the 1100s by King David I.² It became the Scottish base for the Knights Hospitallers and played a key role during the Scottish Wars of Independence, making it a monument of national importance. The Parish Kirk was constructed in the former nave of the Preceptory in 1756.

Torphichen features a number of traditional 18th and 19th century buildings, however, the majority of residential properties are more modern.³ The village expanded gradually throughout the 20th century, beginning with James Wood Park in 1922. Council housing developments followed from 1945, with Greenside and Bowyett on either side of the park, as well as Priorscroft and St. John's Place. The most recent council housing developments at Northgate, Priorscroft and Manse Road were completed in the 1960s. Private housing was built at Cathlaw Lane in the 60s and 70s, and at Priors Grange and in the Loan during the 90s. This has changed the function of the village from largely agricultural to residential.



Coldupnorth / *Torphichen Preceptory* / CC BY-SA 4.0

¹ Undiscovered Scotland, Torphichen, available online at: www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/torphichen/torphichen/index.html

² Historic Environment Scotland, Torphichen Preceptory, available online at: www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/torphichen-preceptory/history/

³ West Lothian Council, Torphichen Conservation Area Appraisal (2023)

Features




Torphichen has a central village square and green, home to the Jubilee Fountain, a post office, and the Torphichen Inn. The historic kirk and Preceptory remain the headquarters of the order of St. John and are of notable historic and tourist interest. The traditional character of the village is protected by a conservation area designation, which extends into the Torphichen Hills to the east and open land to the south and west. There are 14 listed buildings, including the 18th century Wallhouse mansion and doocot, and the 1843 church hall. The sanctuary stones which originally marked an area of refuge are now scheduled monuments, as is Castlethorn fort and its standing stones to the east. The surrounding countryside offers scenic walking routes to Lochcote Reservoir, the River Avon walkway, Linlithgow, Beecraigs Country Park and the Bathgate Hills. As a small village local services are limited. However, Torphichen benefits from having several major access roads nearby, making it easy to travel and commute to nearby towns and beyond. The village is served by its own community council.

Services and amenities

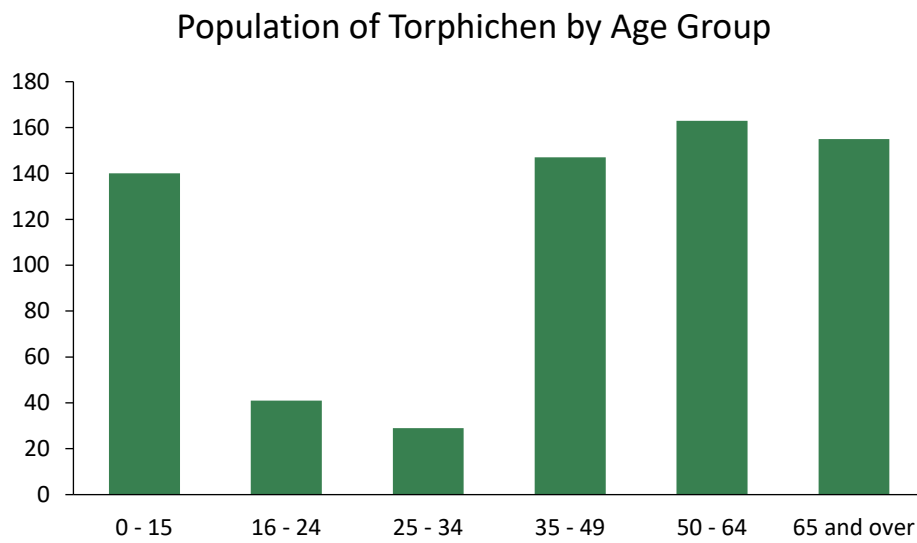
School catchments:

- PS: Torphichen or St Mary's
- HS: Linlithgow Academy or St Kentigern's Academy

- Torphichen nursery and primary school
- Secondary education at Linlithgow Academy or St Kentigern's
- Greenside playpark
- The Craigs camping and training centre

	31	Bathgate - Livingston	1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Bathgate (3 miles) Linlithgow (5 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow Edinburgh - Dunblane Glasgow - Fife Circle Line
	Nearby roads:	M8, M9	

Demographics



Total population of Torphichen = 675

90% of households in Torphichen have a car or van. This is the highest percentage of all localities covered by the 2022 census in West Lothian.

Westfield, Bridgecastle and Bridgehouse

Armadale and Blackridge Ward

History

Westfield grew alongside the establishment of a paper mill in the early 1800s and the arrival of the Monkland railway's Blackston branch in 1855. Education needs of the developing settlement were met with the construction of a school in the early 1900s. By the 1980s most of the current housing was complete, with homes at the junction of the B8028 and B8047, and new Strathlogie and Millburn streets. The Westfield Paper Mill closed 2002 and the complex has since been demolished.¹

A large area of land to the east of the village, extending over Logie Water, has long been allocated for housing development.

The 16th century Bridge Castle and Brig House, its nearby dower house, are enduring landmarks of the area which give their names to the surrounding communities.² The landscape around these buildings developed alongside coal mining activity from the early 1800s up to the 1930s.³ Several terraced roadside cottages of the time still remain today, such as Craigrigg Cottages. Bridge Castle itself was restored in the 19th century after a period without a roof and was turned into flats at the end of the 20th century.



VictorPaulK / *Main Street, Westfield* / CC BY-SA 4.0

¹ Gazetteer for Scotland, Westfield, available online at: www.scottish-places.info/towns/townfirst738.html

² R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 52

³ Scottish Shale, Bridgecastle (lands), available online at: scottishshale.org.uk/places/estates/bridgecastle-lands/





Features

Westfield, Bridgecastle and Bridgehouse are small, rural communities with many outdoor amenities nearby, such as Logie Water, Burbauchlaw Burn, the River Avon and the scenic Bathgate Hills. Several properties in the area are rented out as holiday homes. Westfield Railway Viaduct is a listed structure with 12 arches crossing the River Avon to the north of Westfield. Another historical landmark is the refuge stone, a scheduled monument that marks the ancient sanctuary boundary of Torphichen. Westfield has a primary school and Cargill Aqua Nutrition – a fish meal factory – provides employment opportunity. Bridgehouse features a village hall with a stage, meeting room and kitchen for community events.

Services and amenities

HS catchments: Linlithgow Academy or St Kentigern's

- Westfield Primary School
- Westfield playground
- Cargill Aqua Nutrition (fish meal factory)
- Bridgehouse village hall

	6 29	Whitburn Cross - Avonbridge Falkirk - Avonbridge or Bathgate	1 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Bathgate (5 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	WL 6	River Avon Heritage Trail	
	Nearby roads:	A801, A706, M8, M9	

Winchburgh and Faucheldean

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward

History

Records of Winchburgh date back to 1189, but the settlement is likely even older.¹ By the mid-18th century, Winchburgh was a rural farming village supporting surrounding farmlands belonging to the Hopetoun Estate. At this time, around 150 people lived here in farmhouses and worker's cottages. The village grew significantly during the 19th century with the arrival of the Union Canal and the railway, and later the brickworks and shale mining industry. The red sandstone miner's rows to the east of the canal are remnants of this period.²

Winchburgh has seen rapid expansion since the masterplan to turn the village into a new town was granted permission in 2012. It includes plans for the potential construction of 3500 new homes, schools, green spaces and a marina.³ A new town centre with supermarkets and offices was built in 2018, and Auldathie Park opened in 2021. By 2023, a new motorway junction was constructed, and over 1000 homes have already been completed. Winchburgh Academy and the new Holy Family Primary School building were opened in 2022, allowing Winchburgh Primary School to take over the original shared building. Sinclair Academy opened for the 2023/24 school year. A further primary school is set to be completed by August 2025.

Faucheldean is a small roadside hamlet between Winchburgh and Broxburn. It also developed as result of the shale oil industry, and was closely tied to the operations of the Hopetoun Oil Works.



Richard Webb / *Niddry Road, Winchburgh* / CC BY-SA 2.0

¹ Winchburgh Community Development Trust, *Winchburgh's History* (2021), available online at www.winchburgh.org/WinchburghHistory.aspx

² R. Jaques and C. McKean, *West Lothian: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* (1994), p. 45-46

³ Winchburgh Developments Limited and Hopetoun Estates, *Winchburgh 2035 Consultation Boards* (2024)

Features

Winchburgh’s historical landmarks include Niddry Castle (c. 1550) and the ruins of Auldcaithie Church (c. 1400). Its old primary school buildings and the Union Canal bridges are also listed buildings. Hawk Hill Wood and Beatlie Wood are sites of ancient woodland, offering natural beauty. Although the railway passes through, there is no station in Winchburgh, with transport primarily relying on road access. The Union Canal and marina are key features, providing a scenic route through the area. Nearby Faucheldean is surrounded by countryside belt, local bings, and the Niddry Burn, supporting biodiversity in a peaceful setting. The Winchburgh Community Council aims to advocate for the interests of the local community.

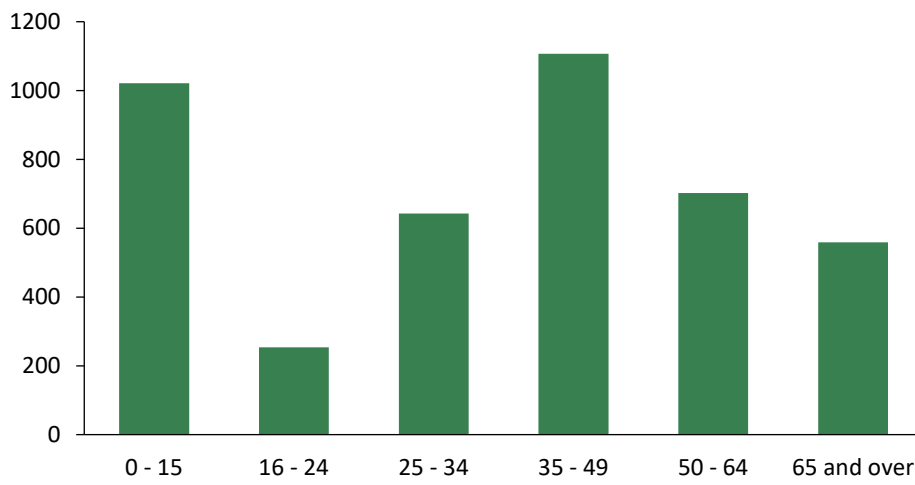
Services and amenities

- Winchburgh Primary School, Holy Family Primary School
- Winchburgh Academy, Sinclair Academy
- Winchburgh Church of Scotland, Winchburgh Community Church, St. Philomena Catholic Church
- Winchburgh Community Education Centre
- Almond Group Medical Practice
- Xcite Winchburgh Sport and Wellbeing Hub
- Niddry Castle Golf Club
- Town centre
- Local businesses

	16 X38 72	Livingston - Western General Edinburgh - Falkirk Kirkliston - Fauldhouse	2 per day 2 per hour 1 per hour
	Nearest station:	Uphall Station (5 miles)	Edinburgh - Glasgow
	NCN Route 754 WL 2 a) WL 2 b) WL 11	Edinburgh - Glasgow Union Canal Water Path Union Canal Towpath Winchburgh - Kirkliston	
	Nearby roads:	M9, M8	

Demographics

Population of Winchburgh by Age Group



Total population of Winchburgh = 4,283