16 DAYS OF ACTION



25TH NOVEMBER-10TH DECEMBER

You are invited to join our local campaign to help make West Lothian a safer and happier place for everyone. **Together, we can make a big difference!**

WHAT IS 16 DAYS OF ACTION?

16 Days of Action is a time when people all over the world work together to stop violence and make sure everyone is treated fairly and kindly. It lasts for 16 days and helps raise awareness about keeping people safe.

WALK WITH THEM

On **Wednesday, 25th November**, there will be a big walk and gathering to start the campaign. **The walk begins at West Lothian College at 10:15am and ends at the Civic Centre.** When we get there, you'll hear important messages from people who care about this cause.



WHAT IS GENDER BASED VIOLENCE?

Gender-based violence means hurting someone because they are a boy, a girl, or because of how they see themselves. It happens when people use power to make others feel small or less important. This can happen at home or in public, and it mostly affects girls and women.

Adapted from: Safeguarding Network: Gender Based Violence and Council of Europe, Gender Matters

FACTS

In West Lothian, the police were told about almost 2,700 cases where someone was hurt at home in 2024/25. That's more than before.

About 1 in 4 women will be hurt by someone they know at some point in their life, and 1 in 5 children will see this happen. Sadly, many children in West Lothian need extra protection because they might be living in homes where this happens.

UNFAIR AND UNSAFE ACTIONS

- Hurting someone at home (domestic abuse).
- Forcing someone to marry.
- Following or scaring someone (stalking).
- Hurting someone in private ways (rape or sexual assault).
- Cutting parts of a girl's body (female genital mutilation).
- Treating someone badly because of family honour.
- Making someone do things for money in unsafe ways.