

**PRESTON  
SETON  
GOSFORD  
WARD  
COMMUNITY  
PROFILE**

Last updated

**June 2010**



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## Introduction and Sources

The profile has been compiled in consideration of the East Lothian Single Outcome Agreement and to reflect the priorities identified by the East Lothian Community Planning Partnership.

In preparing this report every attempt has been made to use the most recent information publically available for each theme and therefore the information here has come from a variety of sources including :-

- **The East Lothian SOA**  
<http://www.eastlothiancommunityplanning.org.uk/files/Final2009SOA.pdf>
- **East Lothian Customer Survey 2009** – conducted by MRUK (Market Research UK) for East Lothian Council and covering a range of issues including quality of life, community cohesion, social attitudes, community safety, contact with the Council and satisfaction with services.
- **Scotland's Census Results Online** - [www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk)
- **Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics** – [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk) - part of the Scottish Governments on-going programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics in Scotland
- **Community Health and Well-being Profiles** – produced by the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) and comprising 61 indicators of health and wider determinants of health [www.scotpho.org.uk/profiles](http://www.scotpho.org.uk/profiles)
- **Scottish Schools Online** - [www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline/](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline/)
- **Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)** – provides an analysis of the SIMD 2009 and, in particular, change in each of the domains between SIMD 2006 and SIMD 2009 by local authority [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/)
- **East Lothian Council** - Information provided by relevant East Lothian Council Departments and through the Committee Management Information System
- **Lothian and Borders Police** – Measuring our Performance  
[www.lbp.police.uk/freedom-of-information/pl\\_performance.asp](http://www.lbp.police.uk/freedom-of-information/pl_performance.asp)
- **The Scottish Government** - [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/) where a range of government statistics are arranged under various key themes
- **Youth Vision – East Lothian** - <http://youthvisionel.net/>

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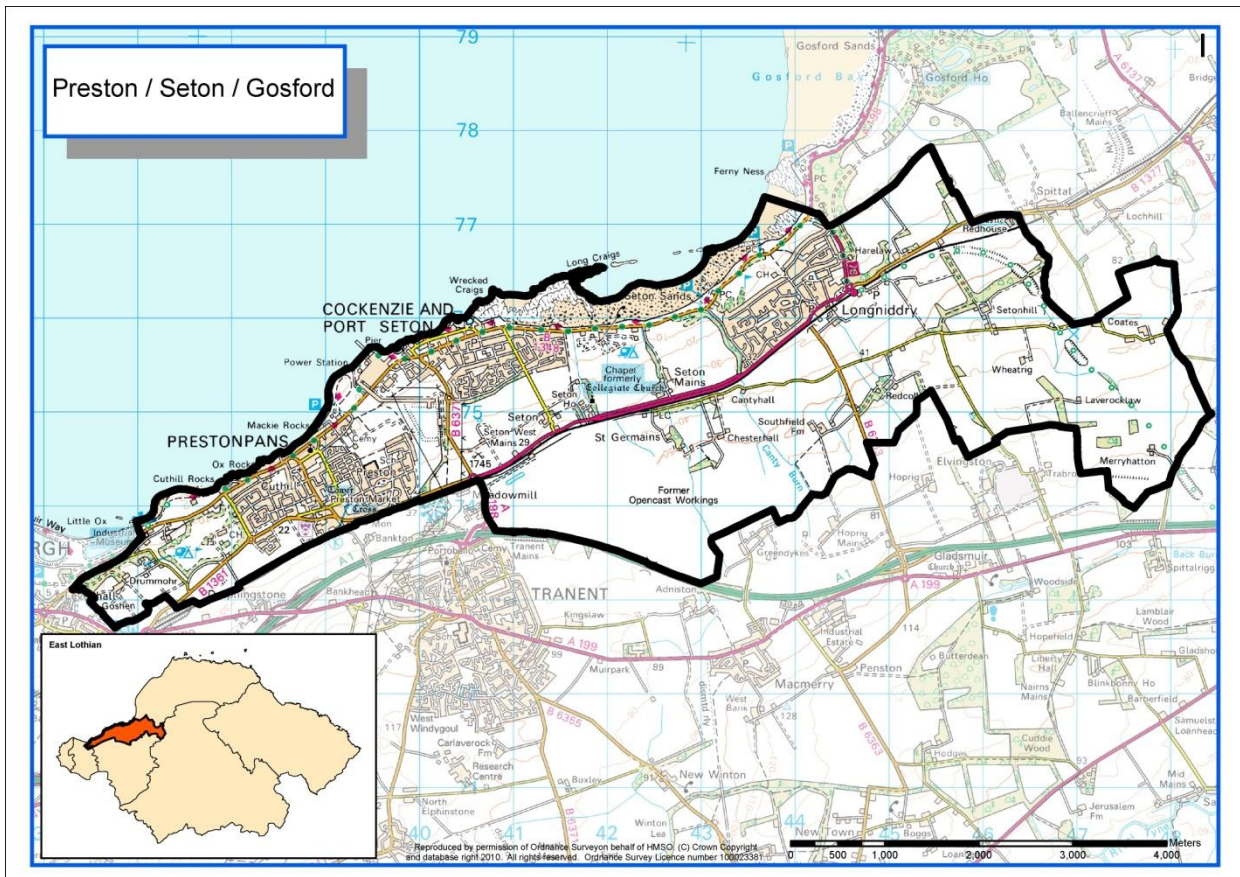
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# The Preston / Seton / Gosford Ward

Preston / Seton / Gosford is one of East Lothian Council's multi-member wards. It stretches along the Forth coast in the east of the county and includes the settlements of:-

- Prestonpans
- Port Seton
- Cockenzie
- Longniddry



## 16204 people live in the Preston / Seton / Gosford Ward.

(2008 General Register of Scotland estimate provided by Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

At this time :-

- 17% of the population of East Lothian live in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward making it the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest ward in the county
- 38% of the ward population live in Prestonpans, 34% in the Cockenzie/Port Seton area and 28% in the Longniddry area
- Across East Lothian the population is growing – with a growth rate of 7% since 2001. This has not been the case within the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward where the population has grown by only 2%

([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

### So what are these 16204 people like?

#### How old are they?

	Across PSG	East Lothian	Scotland
% of the population are children & young people	19%	19%	18%
% of the population are of working age (16-74)	60%	60%	62%
% of the population are of pensionable age	21%	21%	20%

([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

- In this regard the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward is similar to the rest of East Lothian, although there are marginally fewer people of working age than across Scotland as a whole
- There is also considerable variation within ward areas – for example in the Port Seton / Cockenzie area 21% of the population are children and only 18% are 'of pensionable age'.
- In Longniddry there is a considerably older population with 25% 'of pensionable age' (aged 65 and over)

#### Are there more males or females?

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

- in Preston/Seton/Gosford 49% of the population is male (Scottish average 48%)
- in Preston/Seton/Gosford 51% of the population is female (Scottish average 52%)

#### Where are they from?

Results from the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) showed that:-

- 59% of respondents from the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward had lived in East Lothian for more than 20 years
- Only 8% had lived in the county for less than 5 years – this was the lowest level recorded in any East Lothian ward and below the average of 11%

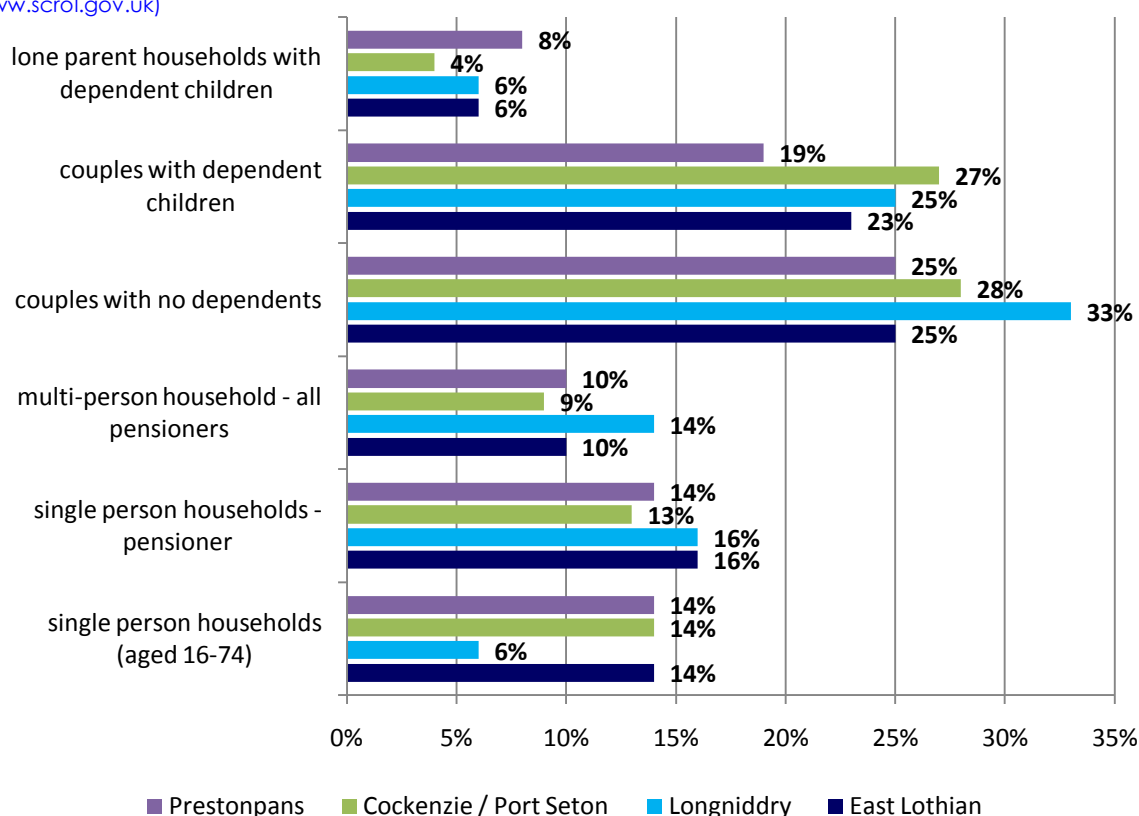
According to the most recent census figures:-

- 94% of the population of Prestonpans were born in Scotland (this is above the average for East Lothian and Scotland of 87%)
- This is also above rate for Cockenzie/Port Seton – 91% - and for Longniddry 83%
- 4% of the population in Prestonpans were born elsewhere in the UK – rising to 8% in Cockenzie/Port Seton and 14% in Longniddry
- 2% were born elsewhere in Europe or in another part of the world – for the rest of Scotland this figure increases to 4%

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

### How are their households made up?

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))



These results show that:-

- In Prestonpans there were more 1-parent households with dependent children (8%) than average in East Lothian
- Cockenzie / Port Seton showed the highest concentration of households reflecting the traditional nuclear family (27% couple with dependent children), 4% higher than across East Lothian as a whole
- In Prestonpans, by contrast there were proportionately fewer couples with dependent children than average across East Lothian
- In Longniddry 1/3 of all households were made up of a couple with no dependents (significantly above the average rate for East Lothian), and this area also showed an above average rate of multi-person households where all residents were of pensionable age

### How are they coping financially?

Results from the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) show that 11% of people surveyed in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward felt that poverty was either a 'serious' or 'very serious' problem in their local area.

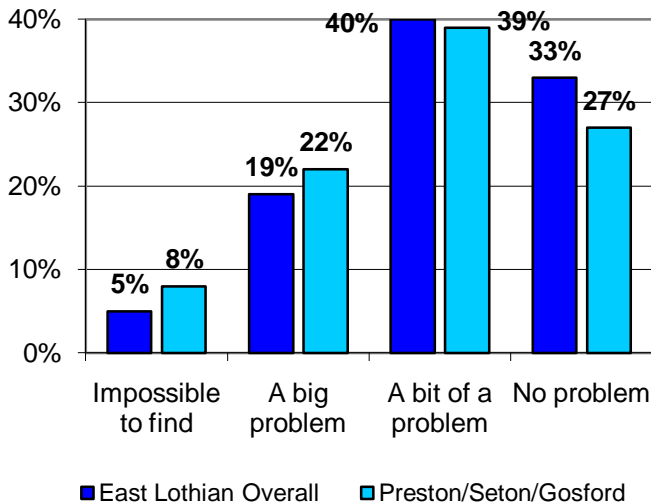
- In 2009 5% of the working age population in the ward were claiming Income Support
- At the same time 25% of those of pensionable age were claiming Pension Credits ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

As part of the same survey people across the county were asked

#### 'How would you say your household is currently managing financially?'

- In Preston/Seton/Gosford people were less likely to say that they were managing 'very well' or 'quite well' - only 34% compared to 48% across East Lothian
- The largest response, 49%, showed that people felt they were 'getting by alright'
- However 14% reported they were 'not managing very well' or in 'financial difficulty'

#### How would your household be placed if you suddenly had to find £250 to meet an unexpected expense?



The graph to the left shows how people would cope with an unexpected expense of £250.

- 8% of those questioned in Preston/Seton/ Gosford indicated that it would be 'impossible to find'. This was the highest rate reported across East Lothian.
- Elsewhere in the same survey respondents were asked to select from a list of issues those that they felt most needed improving in their area. 16% of those surveyed in the ward felt 'wage levels and local cost of living' was something that needed to be addressed (compared to only 10% from across East Lothian overall)

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2009 identifies concentrations of deprivation in East Lothian in Preston/Seton/Gosford, Musselburgh East and Fa'side wards.

- 3 datazones in East Lothian are ranked within the 15% most deprived datazones in Scotland – 2 of these are in Prestonpans
- The SIMD 2009 classifies 14% of the population of the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward as income deprived (compared to 13% in East Lothian and 17% across Scotland)
- 2 datazones in Prestonpans are within the 15% most income deprived in Scotland, and a further 2 fall within the 20% most income deprived.

#### What is the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)?

The SIMD 2009 is a tool used by the Scottish Government to identify concentrations of deprivation across Scotland in a consistent manner.

It does this by dividing the country into 6505 datazones (each averaging around 750 people). These datazones are then ranked against key measures of deprivation – income, education, crime, health, employment, access and housing – as well as by overall deprivation.

It is important to note however that the SIMD only identifies concentrations of deprivation.

Therefore not all people who are deprived live in a datazone highlighted by the SIMD, and not all people living within an identified datazone are deprived.

# Housing

The results of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) show that 40% of people across the ward think that the availability of 'affordable, decent housing' is an important factor in making somewhere a good place to live.

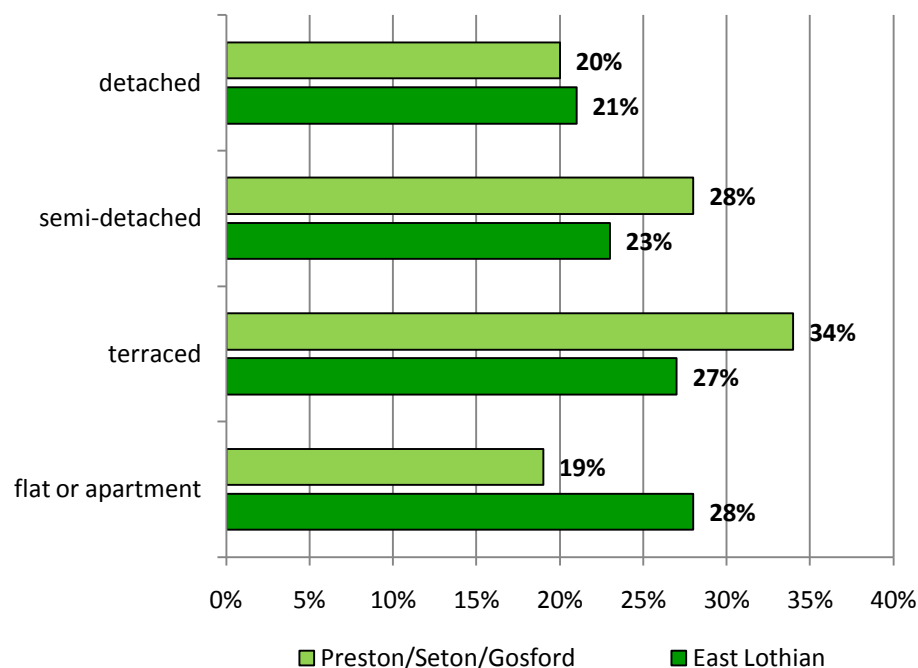
There are 7400 dwellings in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward.

- Across the ward area housing density is comparably high for East Lothian – at 3.4 dwellings per hectare, compared to 0.65 dwelling per hectare across the county
- This makes Preston/Seton Gosford the 2<sup>nd</sup> most densely populated East Lothian Council ward, exceeded only by Musselburgh West.
- 61% of dwellings in the ward area fall into Council Tax bands A-C while only 15% fall into bands F-H

(2009 General Register of Scotland estimate provided by Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

## What types of housing is most common in the Preston/Seton/Gosford area?

([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))



- Terraced and Semi-detached housing are the most common form of dwellings in the Preston/Seton/Gosford area, both notably more common than throughout East Lothian as a whole
- There is however significant variation across the area. In Longniddry, for example 52% of houses are detached - compared to 20% across the ward and only 6% in Prestonpans.
- 13.5% of households in Prestonpans have too few rooms per resident - compared to 9.5% across East Lothian – while in Longniddry this rate drops to 3.3%.
- Here the average number of rooms per household is almost 6, compared to 4.9 across East Lothian and 4.3 in Prestonpans.

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

### Do people own or rent their houses?

- Across the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward patterns of tenure vary considerably.
- In Longniddry and Cockenzie/Port Seton rates of home ownership are significantly higher than across East Lothian as a whole
- In Prestonpans the percentage of households renting from the Council or another social landlord is almost double the rate across East Lothian as a whole

	Prestonpans	Cockenzie / Port Seton	Longniddry	East Lothian
% owned (either outright or with a mortgage)	44%	74%	83%	64%
% rented from the Local Authority or another Social Landlord	50%	21%	13%	27%
% privately rented	2%	3%	3%	5%

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

- Concerns about homelessness however featured in the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) 11% of respondents in the ward reporting that it was a 'quite serious' or 'very serious' problem in their area (compared to 7% across the county)
- The survey also showed within Preston/Seton/Gosford 26% were satisfied with homelessness services (compared to 21% overall)

### Council Housing

In March 2010 East Lothian Council's total housing stock across the county was 8044 dwellings.

1755 of these (or 22%) are in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward,

- 1347 in Prestonpans
  - 314 in Cockenzie / Port Seton
  - 94 in Longniddry
- The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) showed that the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward had the highest percentage of people renting their homes from the local authority - at 35%.
  - The survey also showed that satisfaction with the Council house repair service was higher than average – with 37% reporting they were satisfied in Preston/Seton/Gosford compared to 30% across East Lothian.

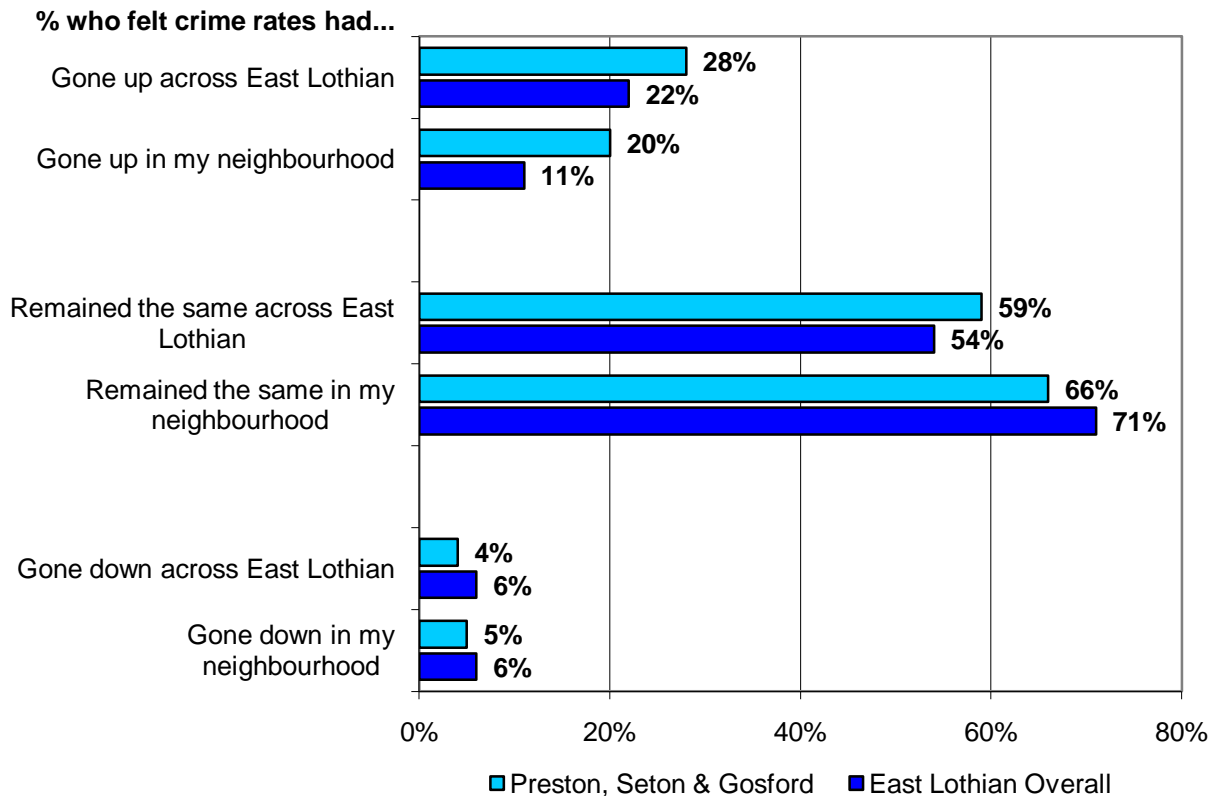
## Crime and Safety

East Lothian is a relatively safe place to live, with levels of serious crime and disorder that are significantly below the Scottish average.

However crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime can undermine community cohesion and have an impact upon local people's quality of life.

### How do people think crime rates have changed?

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) asked residents how they thought crime rates had changed in their neighbourhood and across East Lothian.



- Residents in Preston/Seton/Gosford were more likely to believe that crime had gone up across East Lothian than residents across the county
- They were also almost twice as likely to believe that crime rates had increased in their neighbourhood
- 17% of those surveyed in this ward also reported that crime was a 'serious' or 'very serious' problem in their area – 6% higher than responses from across East Lothian

### Do crime rates vary across the area?

Across East Lothian there are communities that do experience a higher than average volume of crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly within more deprived areas and in town centres.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) has identified 9 small areas in East Lothian (known as datazones) that have higher levels of specific crimes - including crimes of violence, drug offences, domestic house breaking, minor assault and vandalism.

- 3 of these datazones fall within Preston/Seton/Gosford
- Of these 2 are in Prestonpans (one falling into the "5-10% most deprived" category and the other into the "11-15% most deprived")
- The other is in Port Seton (falling within the "11-15% most deprived" in Scotland).

### How many crimes are reported in each area?

Lothian and Borders Police regularly publish the number of crimes reported in each area, organised in 5 groups. The table below shows the number of crimes:-

- reported in each area
- how many crimes are reported for every 10,000 people living in each area
- and whether the number of reported crimes has gone up or down compared to the previous year

	East Lothian 2008/2009			Preston/Seton/Gosford 2008/2009		
	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	%change from 2007/8	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	%change from 2007/8
<u>Group 1:</u> Crimes of Violence	104	11	-28%	23	14.2	-16%
<u>Group 2:</u> Sexual Crimes	62	6.6	-31%	15	9.3	0%
<u>Group 3:</u> Crimes of Theft / Dishonesty	2187	231.6	+22%	368	227	+27%
<u>Group 4:</u> Vandalism, Fire raising, malicious mischief	1534	162.4	-8%	303	187.	-6%
<u>Group 5:</u> Other Crimes – including Drug Related Crimes and offensive weapons	673	70.5	+1%	137	84.5	-9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4560</b>	<b>482.8</b>	<b>+4%</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>+5%</b>

(from Lothian and Borders Police - Measuring our Performance, March 2009)

This Lothian and Borders Police publication shows that for most categories of crime the rate of reported incidences is dropping across the county, a trend also evident in Preston/Seton Gosford.

- The exception is 'crimes involving dishonesty' - including theft, housebreaking, theft of and from motor vehicles, shoplifting, fraud etc. Here there has been a 22% increase across East Lothian in reported crimes from 2007/08.
- At the same time 'crimes involving dishonesty' have increased by 27% in Preston/Seton/Gosford ward – although, when you look at the number of crimes reported per 10,000 people it is still below the average for East Lothian.
- Despite significant advances the rate of reported crime per 10,000 people remains higher in Preston/Seton/Gosford (at 522/10,000 people) than across East Lothian as a whole (482.8 per 10,000 people) – and this is true for each other category of recorded crimes.

### Domestic Abuse\*

- In 2008/9 there were 1982 incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the police across East and Mid Lothian – this is equal to 114 per 10,000 people.

- This is a 29% increase from the number recorded in 2007/8 (1511 incidents) but this increase may in part be due to an increased public awareness of the issues surrounding domestic violence and an increased willingness to report incidents.

\* figures available from Lothian and Borders Police combine East and Mid Lothian

**Racist Incidences and Racially Motivated Crime\***

- There were 48 racist incidents recorded across East and Mid Lothian in 2008/9
- There were additionally 95 racially motivated crimes recorded in 2008/9

\*figures available from Lothian and Borders Police combine East and Mid Lothian

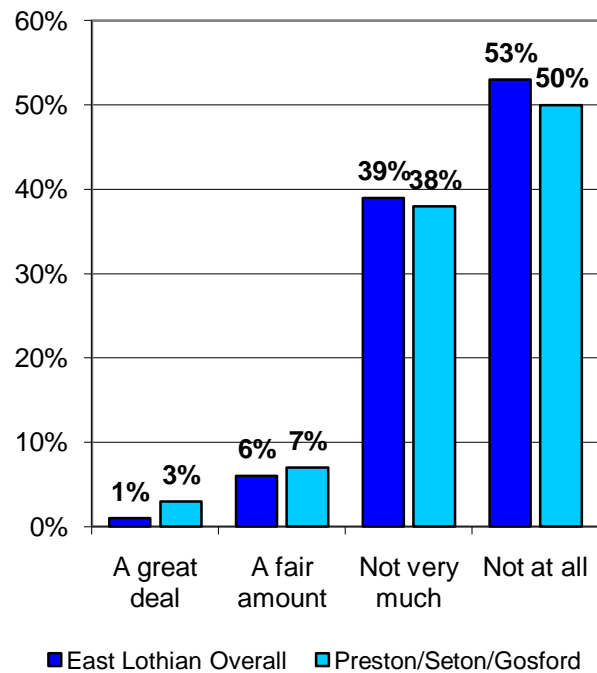
**Fear of Crime**

People's fear of crime does not always reflect the actual rate of crime occurring in their local areas. The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) asked residents –

**To what extent do you feel threatened by crime in your neighbourhood?**

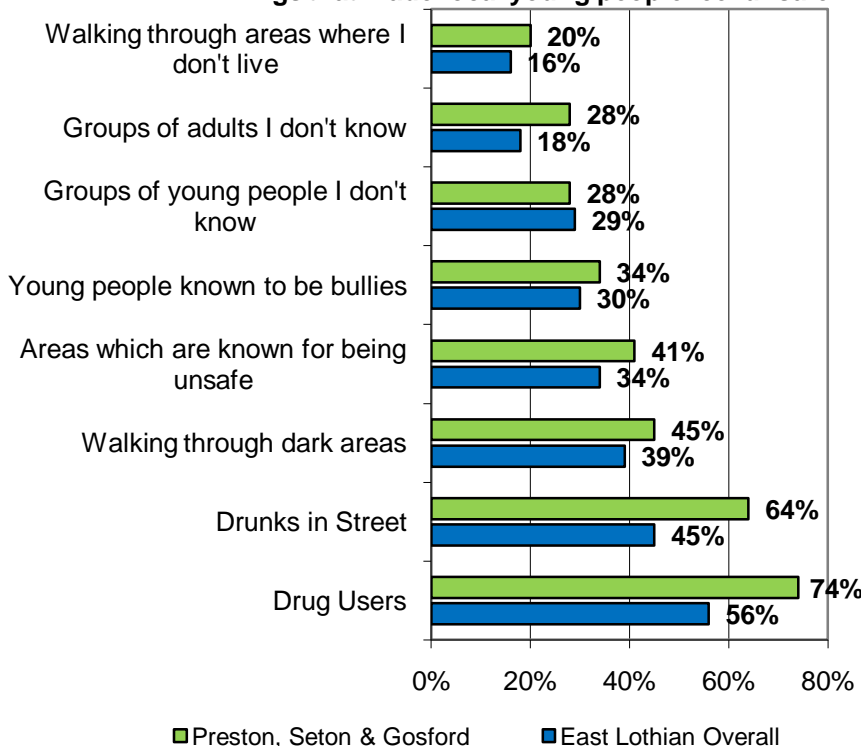
These results show that:-

- Overall people in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward were more likely to say they felt threatened by crime than across East Lothian as a whole
- 3% of respondents in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward reported that they felt threatened by crime 'a great deal'



(Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 - cello mruk research)

**Things that made local young people feel unsafe**



For the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy young people across East Lothian were asked how safe they felt in their local environments.

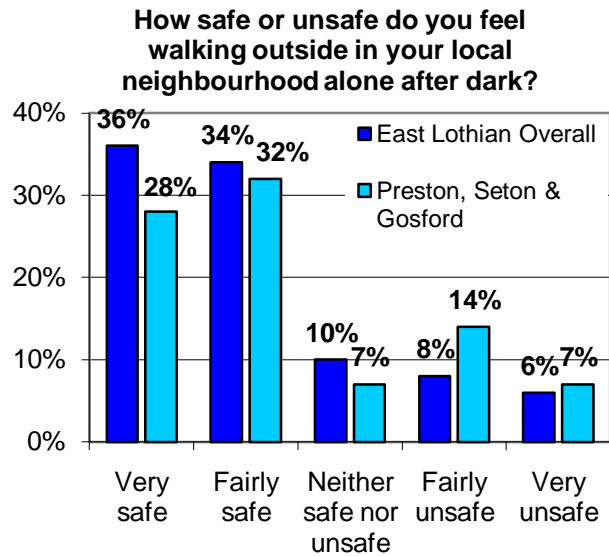
In Preston/Seton/Gosford 86% of young people reported feeling safe compared to 83% across East Lothian.

- Despite this when asked what made them feel unsafe local figures were generally higher than those for young people across East Lothian as a whole
- The most significant differences were feeling unsafe due to drunks in the streets and drug users

**Crime and Safety continued...**

The East Lothian Household Survey (2009) showed that how safe people feel in their neighbourhoods varied significantly depending on the time of day.

- 94% of respondents in Preston/Seton/Gosford said they felt safe 'walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day'
- 2% however reported feeling 'very unsafe' during the day (the highest rate across East Lothian)
- After dark the situation was different and only 60% reported that they felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood – notably lower than the 70% recorded across East Lothian
- 21% of people surveyed in the area reported that they felt 'very' or 'fairly unsafe' walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark – 1/3 more than the East Lothian average.



(Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 - cello mruk research)

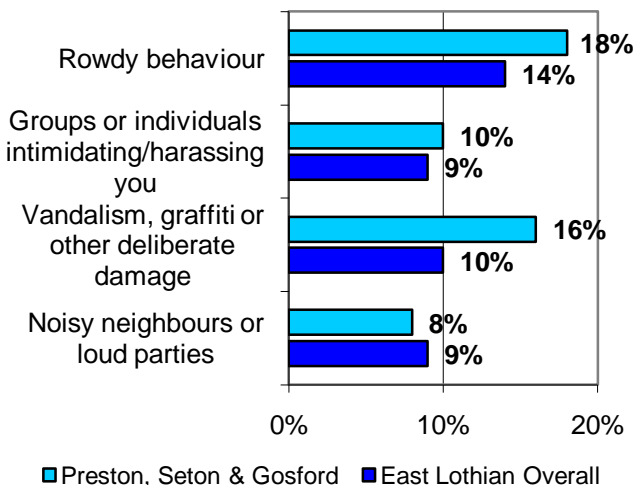
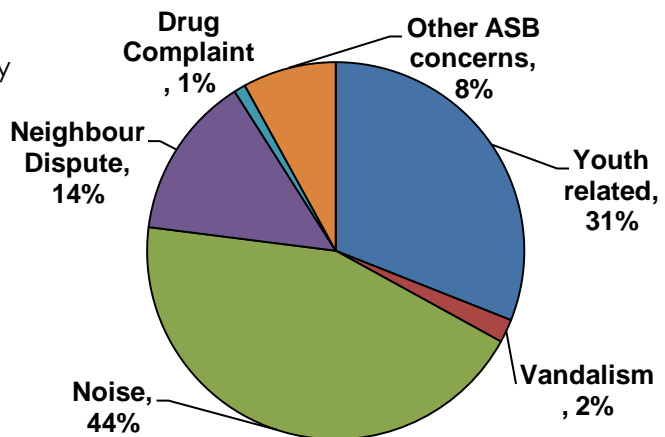
**Anti-Social Behaviour**

Anti-social behaviour plays a big part in making people feeling threatened and/or unsafe within their communities.

- In 2008/09 1151 calls were made to the East Lothian Anti Social Behaviour Helpline
- 17% of these calls were from the Prestonpans area

This chart gives a breakdown of all calls by category for 2008/09.

- Noise accounts for most complaints including:
  - Loud Music
  - Shouting / Voices
  - Dogs barking
  - Household activities

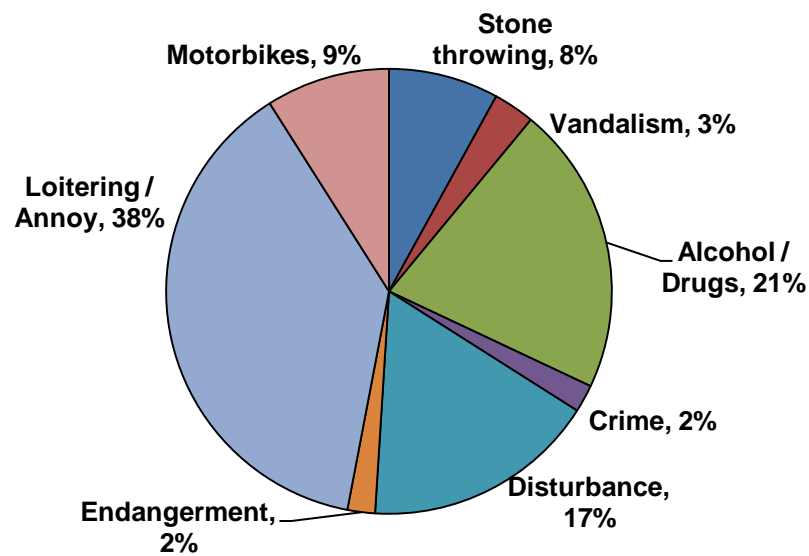


Across Preston/Seton/Gosford people indicated in the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) that there were a number of anti-social behaviours 'common' or 'very common' in their area which have an impact upon their feelings of security within their community.

These are shown in the graph to the left and suggest that incidents of rowdy behaviour and vandalism / deliberate damage are more common in this ward than elsewhere across the county.

Of the complaints made to Lothian and Borders Police in April 2010 from the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward 32% were related to Anti Social Behaviour

- 50% of all Anti Social Behaviour complaints were youth related



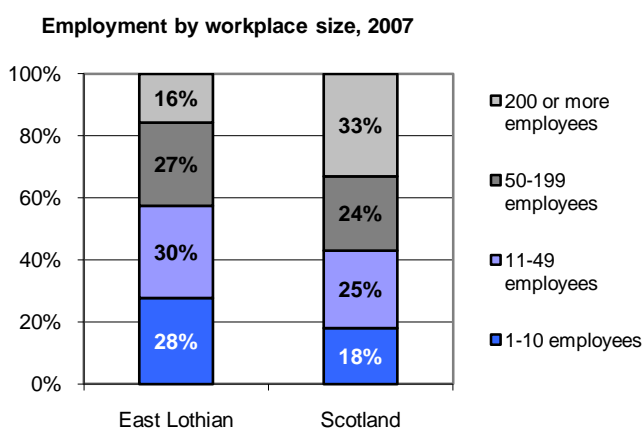
This graph gives a breakdown of all youth complaints made to the police during April 2010.

- 59% of calls came from Prestonpans
- 22% of calls came from Port Seton
- 11% of calls came from Cockenzie
- 8% of calls came from Longniddry

# Business and Employment

## What are businesses like across East Lothian?

- 84% of businesses across East Lothian employ less than 10 people
- 28% of the total workforce in East Lothian are employed by small businesses (with 1-10 employees)
- This is much higher than the average for Scotland and also higher than within the Edinburgh & Lothian's region (16%)



## What are the main business sectors?

At the end of the 2008/9 financial year there were 2759 registered businesses in East Lothian (excluding central and local government). This is an increase of 8% from 2001.

Together these businesses employ 20680 people.

Of these:-

- 26% were in the 'Financial Intermediation, Real Estate, Renting and Business Activity' sector. The table shows that this sector has been the fastest growing in East Lothian - up 49% since 2001
- 'Wholesale and Retail Trade and Repairs' was the next largest business sector (17%), followed by 'Construction' (13%), and 'Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing' (11%)
- Although it is only a small sector overall the number of 'Health and Social Work Services' also grew rapidly – up 29% since 2001
- The number of 'Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing' businesses registered within East Lothian however has fallen significantly since 2001 (a drop of 18%), reflecting the changing character of the county

Number of Registered Businesses in East Lothian *	In 2001	In 2009	as % of total	Change since 2001
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	385	315	11%	-18%
Mining and Quarrying	5	5	0.2%	=
Manufacturing	155	155	6%	=
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	5	5	0.2%	=
Construction	285	355	13%	+25%
Wholesale and Retail Trade and Repairs	535	485	17%	-9%
Hotels and Restaurants	220	225	8%	+2%
Transportation, Storage and Communication	95	115	4%	+21%
Financial Intermediation, Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	485	720	26%	+49%
Education	25	30	1%	
Health and Social Work	120	155	6%	+29%
Other Community, Social and Personal Services	265	230	8%	-13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2580</b>	<b>2795</b>		<b>+8%</b>

\* Excludes central and local government.

[www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/business/corporate](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/business/corporate)

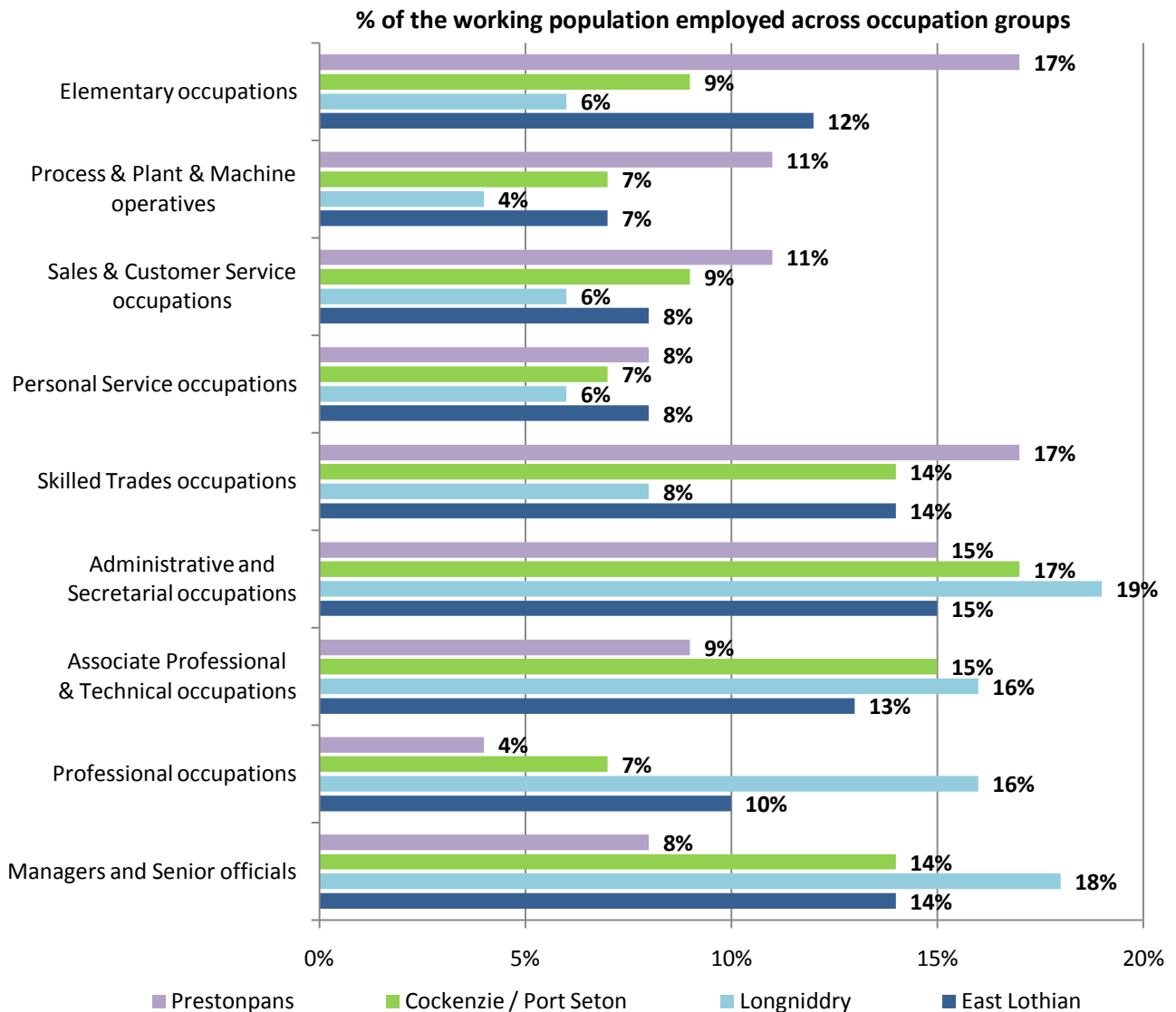
## Employment Patterns in Preston/Seton/Gosford

Latest population estimates (2008) suggest that 59.5% of people in the Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward are aged 16 – 74. This means there are 9641 people of working age living in the area.

**Business and Employment continued...**

Rates of employment across the different industry sectors are generally comparable with the rest of East Lothian and are concentrated within the most popular sectors.

- 20% are employed within the 'Financial Intermediation, Real Estate, Renting and Business Activity' sector, followed by 16% within the 'Wholesale & Retail Trade & Repairs' sector and 10% in 'Health and Social Care'
- In Preston/Seton/Gosford 10% in work in 'Construction' although there is variation across the area - with 13% in Prestonpans working in this sector compared to only 6% in Longniddry
- Across occupational groups, as the graph below shows, there were more obvious differences –



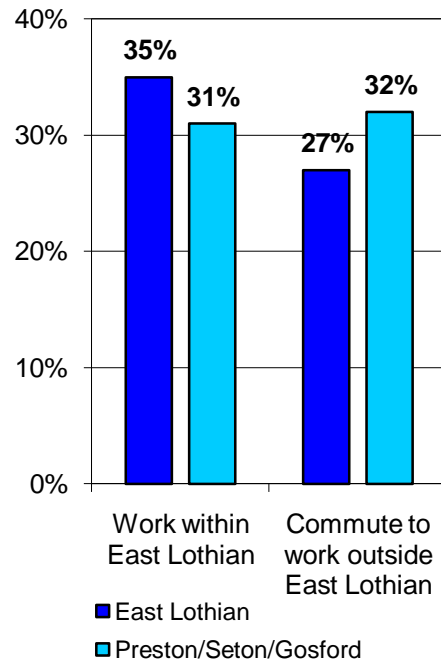
- The percentage of people in Prestonpans employed in 'Process, plant and machine operative positions' and 'Elementary Occupations' was significantly higher than in other areas of the ward
- Significantly more people in Prestonpans also work in sales, customers services and skilled trades
- In Cockenzie and Port Seton the highest percentages of people worked in Administrative and Secretarial, Associate Professional and Technical occupations
- In Longniddry 50% of the workforce are employed in Management, Professional, Associate Professional and Technical occupations

### Commuting to work

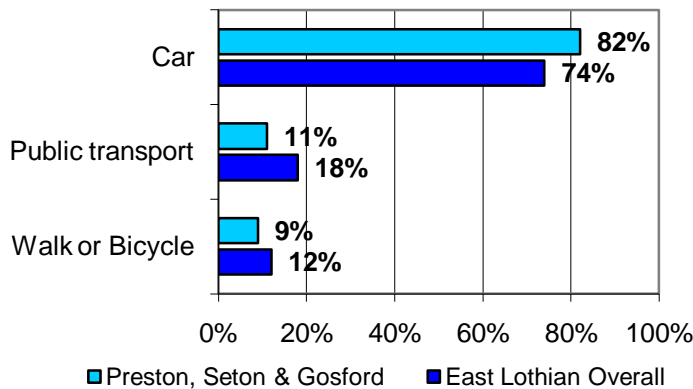
Jobs density is particularly low in East Lothian. In 2008 there were 0.59 jobs for every person of working age, compared to an average density of 0.84 across Scotland as a whole.

This low jobs density is reflected in the number of people who commute out of East Lothian for employment.

- According to the results of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) significantly more respondents in Preston/Seton/Gosford commute to work outside East Lothian than overall
- Travelling by car was the main form of transport used to commute to work by people in Preston/Seton/Gosford
- People in this ward were also significantly less likely to use public transport to travel to work than people across East Lothian as a whole



#### What is the main mode of travel used to commute to work?



(Graphs created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 - cello mruk research)

### Economic Activity across the Ward

The most recent census indicates that:-

- In Preston/Seton/Gosford 68% of residents of working age (16-64 years) were economically active
- 40% of the people who were economically active were employed full-time, 13% were employed part-time and 7% were self-employed
- Of those who were economically inactive 7% were permanently sick or disabled. This was significantly higher than the Scottish average.
- 5% were looking after home and/or family – less than the Scottish rate.

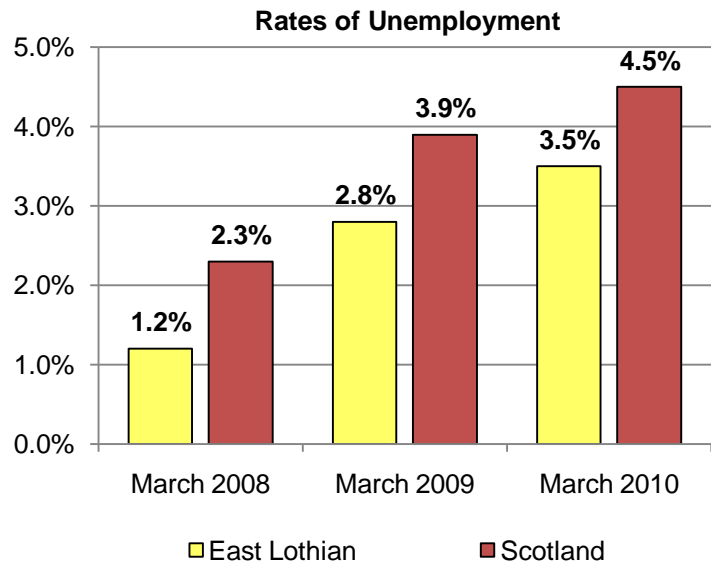
	PSG	East Lothian	Scotland
% of the working age population who were 'Economically Active'	66%	68%	65%
Of those who were Economically Inactive :-			
% who were Retired	15%	15%	14%
% studying	2%	2%	4%
% looking after home / family	5%	6%	7%
% permanently sick / disabled	7%	6%	4%

[www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk)

## Unemployment across the area

Despite the current economic downturn East Lothian has retained relatively high levels of employment and economic activity compared to the rest of Scotland.

- In March 2010 (according to Skills Development Scotland) 3.5% of the working age population in East Lothian were claiming unemployment benefits.
- This is significantly below the Scottish rate of 4.5%
- It is however up 0.7% from the same time last year – and almost 3 times the rate recorded 2 years ago.
- This means that East Lothian has seen a higher rate of growth in unemployment than across Scotland as a whole.



The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) showed that:-

- 31% of people in Preston/Seton/Gosford thought that unemployment was a 'serious' or 'very serious' problem in their area
- This was significantly higher than the 18% across East Lothian who reported it was a problem

The most recent figures available at a ward level show that the number of people claiming income support varies across the East Lothian. In 2009, the highest numbers of claimants were in Fa'side, Preston/Seton/Gosford and Musselburgh East and Carberry ward areas.

- In Preston/Seton/Gosford 5% of the working age population was claiming Income Support in March 2009 – well above the rate for East Lothian as a whole.  
([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))
- The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009 (which measures indicators of concentrated deprivation in a consistent way across Scotland) classifies 11% of the population of Preston/Seton/Gosford as employment deprived (compared to 9% across East Lothian)
- 2 datazones in Prestonpans fall within the 15% most employment deprived datazones in Scotland, and a further datazone in Port Seton falls within the 20% most employment deprived.

([www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD))

According to the most recent census figures for Preston/Seton/Gosford:-

- 32% of people who were unemployed and looking for work were aged between 16 and 24 years. This is significantly above the East Lothian rate of 28% for this age group
- 14% of those who were unemployed and looking for work were aged 50 and over. This is notably lower than the East Lothian rate of 18% for this age group
- Of those who were unemployed and looking for work 11% have never worked and 23% are long-term unemployed

([www.scr.gov.uk](http://www.scr.gov.uk))

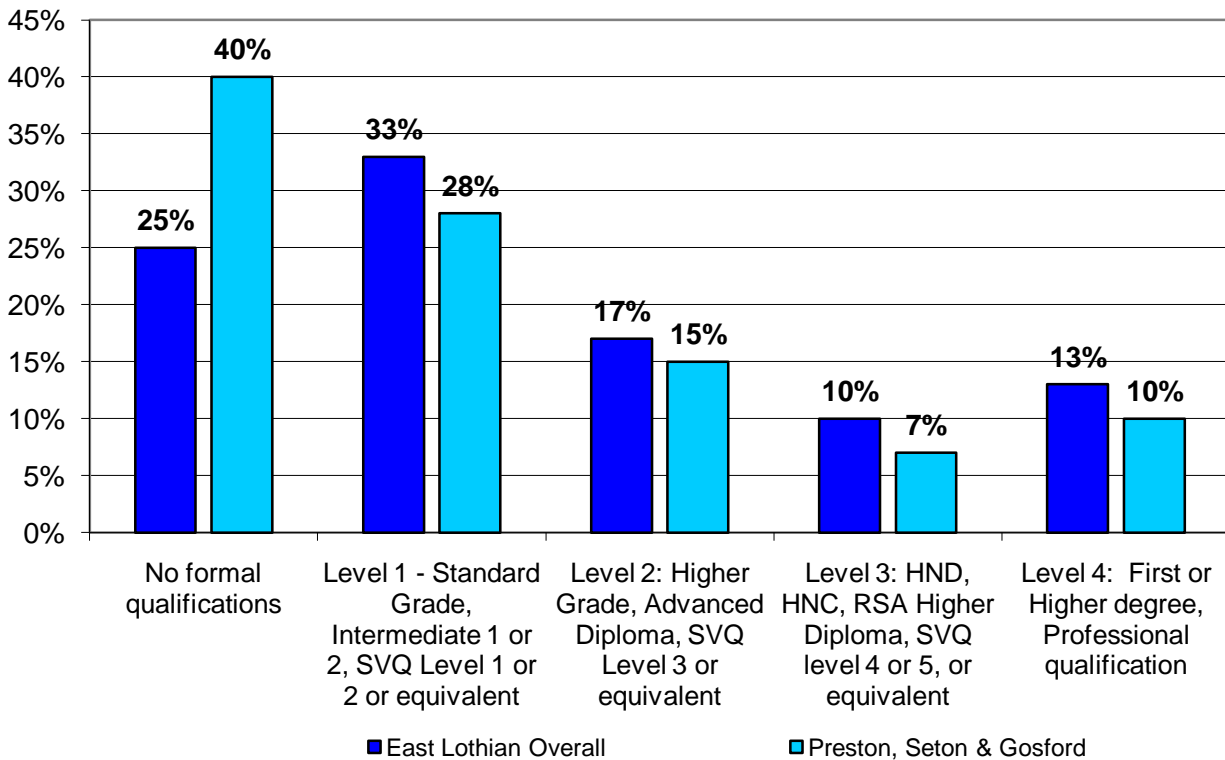
# Education and Training

## Education and Training among adults

Overall the working age population of East Lothian are more highly qualified than the Scottish average.

- In East Lothian the proportion of the workforce with no qualifications is similar to the Scottish average and falling. ([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

**Highest Qualification Attained (working age population)**



According to the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009:-

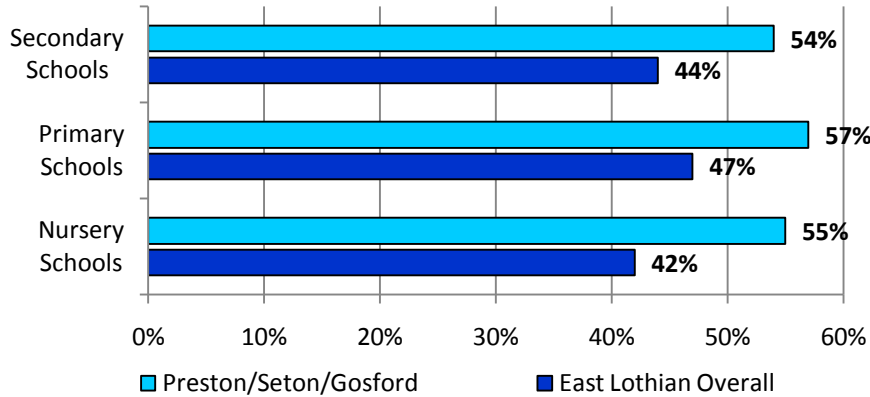
- 32% of working age people in Preston/Seton/Gosford are qualified to SVQ level 3 or higher (compared to 40% across East Lothian) and 17% have undertaken some form of Higher or Further Education.
- People in this ward however were significantly more likely to have no formal qualifications than across East Lothian. At 40% this was the highest rate recorded across East Lothian.
- This varies significantly across the ward. At the last census 45% of households in Prestonpans had no one in the household aged 16-74 with any qualifications or currently in full-time education, compared to 30% in Cockenzie / Port Seton and 25% in Longniddry. ([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))
- 940 adults aged 16 and over across the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward were involved in some form of post-school, higher or further education in 2004/05. ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))
- The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2009 identifies 6 datazones in East Lothian that fall within the most deprived 10% in Scotland in terms of Education, Skills and Training. 2 of these are in Prestonpans.
  - A further 3 datazones in Prestonpans fall within the 20% most education deprived. ([www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD))

### Education and Training for children and young people

19% of the ward's population are children

- 2202 of these children are of compulsory school age (5-15 years)
- There are 4 Primary Schools and 1 cluster High School located within the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward
- At September 2009 there were 1303 pupils enrolled at Local Authority Primary Schools across the ward and 1080 pupils enrolled at High School

#### Local Satisfaction with...



Results from the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) show that people in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward reported above average levels of satisfaction with local school provision.

While East Lothian schools continue to show improving results for pupils at the end of S4, and remain consistently above the Scottish average, results from Preston Lodge High School lags behind.

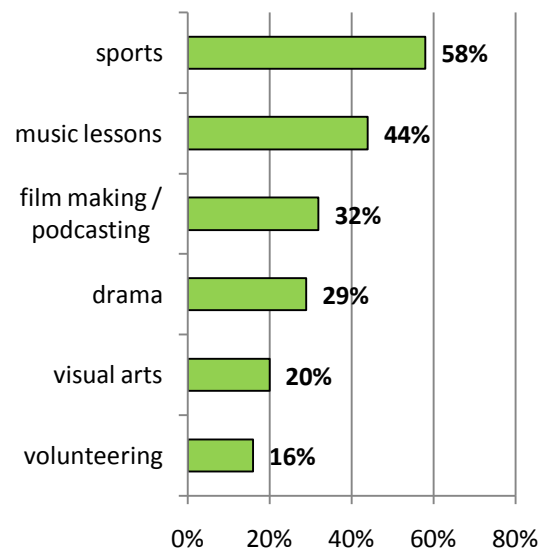
In 2008/ 09:-

- 87% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 3 (Standard Grade Foundation level or equivalent) or better – compared to 95% across East Lothian
- 72% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 4 (Standard Grade General level or equivalent) or better– compared to 84% across East Lothian
- 27% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 5 (Standard Grade Credit level or equivalent) or better– compared to 38% across East Lothian

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

When young people from Musselburgh were surveyed for the Youth Vision Strategy:-

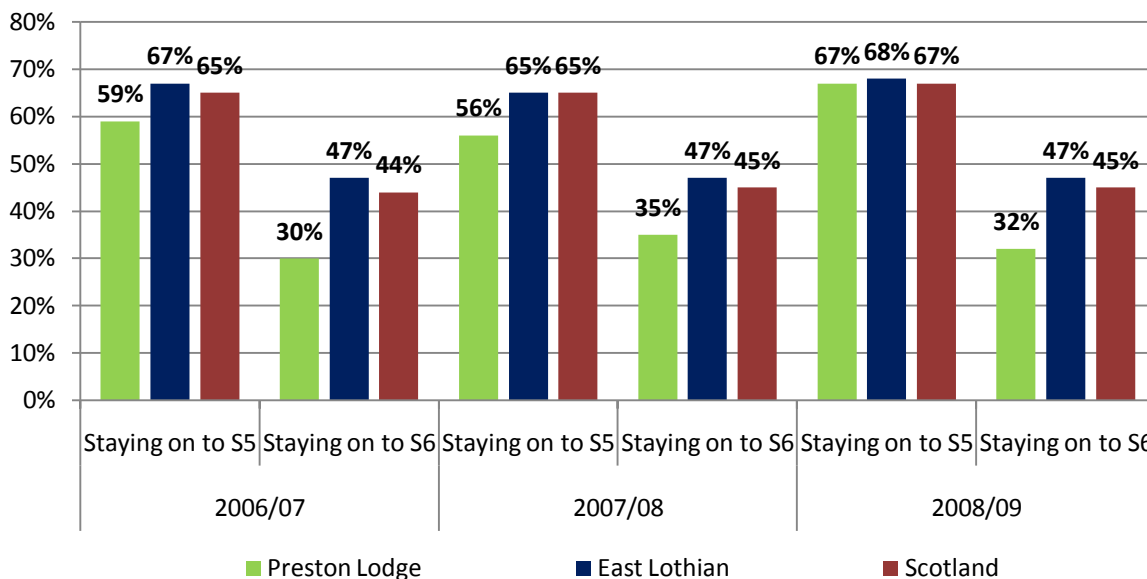
- 68% reported that they participated in activities outside school which contribute to their informal learning – including participation in
  - youth clubs
  - sports
  - music and dance activities
  - uniformed organisations
  - non-vocational classes (eg drama, art or singing)
- Activities young people reported that they would like more opportunity to take part in are shown in the graph to the right.



### Education and destinations for young people 16+

The graph below shows Staying on Rates to S5 and S6.

- Staying on rates at Preston Lodge High School are generally below both the East Lothian and the Scottish average.
- There was however a notable rise in staying on rates to S5 recorded in 2008/09 (which could in part be attributed to the shrinking jobs market), bringing the rate level with the Scottish average.



Across East Lothian more school leavers are entering higher and further education than ever before, almost equivalent to the Scottish average.

Rates for pupils from Preston Lodge High are below the East Lothian average.

- 62% of school leavers from Preston Lodge High School went straight into higher or further education and training.
- 20% of pupils from Preston Lodge High School went into employment on leaving school – above the Scottish average of 19%
- 14% of pupils however were unemployed and seeking work, compared to the Scottish average of 12%

2008/09 School Leaver Destinations

	Preston Lodge High School	East Lothian	Scotland
Full-time higher education	33%	38%	35%
Full-time further education	23%	23%	27%
Training	6%	3%	5%
Employment	20%	19%	19%
Unemployed, seeking employment	14%	13%	12%
Unemployed, not seeking employment	3%	3%	2%

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

## Life Expectancy

Across East Lothian male and female life expectancies are significantly better than the Scottish average, and have been rising steadily over time.

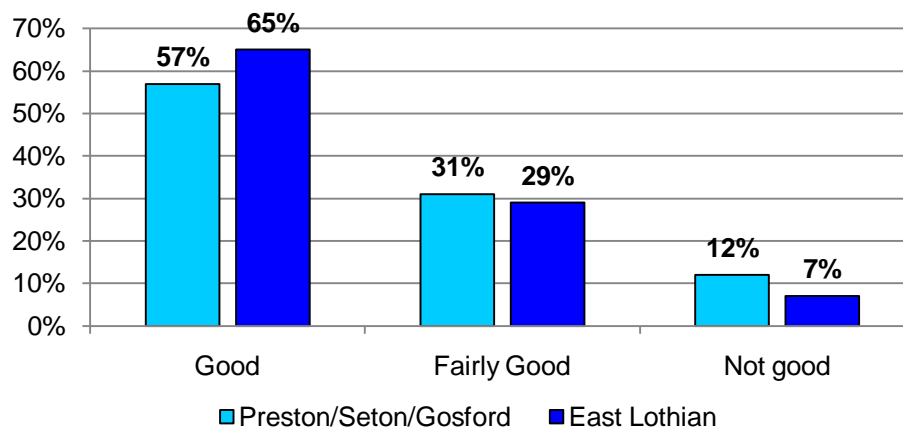
- The average man in East Lothian can expect to live to 75.8 years age - and expect, for 69 of those years, to be in 'good health'
- The average woman can expect to live to 80.3 years of age - and expect 72.6 years of 'good health'

(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008)

Across the Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward a person's average life expectancy varies considerably from the East Lothian average:-

- In Prestonpans the average life expectancy for men falls to 72.9 and for women it is just below average at 79.1 years
- In Cockenzie / Port Seton life expectancy for men is 77.3 years (above East Lothian average) although life expectancy for women is marginally lower at 78.8 years
- In Longniddry life expectancy for both males and females is around 4 years higher than the average for East Lothian - with men living an average of 80 years and women 83.8 years.

(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008)



(Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 - cello mruk research)

In Preston/Seton/Gosford respondents to the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) were significantly less likely than overall to rate their own health as 'good'. They were also most likely across all East Lothian wards to rate their health as 'not good'.

- Again there was variation across the ward – in Longniddry the percentage self-assessing their health as 'not good' fell to 7% while in some areas of Prestonpans this rose to 13% (ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008)

In the same survey 21% of those in Preston/Seton/Gosford reported that they, or someone in their household, had a long term illness, health problem or disability. This is higher than the reported rate across East Lothian overall which was 16%.

- The rate for Preston/Seton/Gosford was more comparable with the Scottish average rate of 20%, although in some areas of Prestonpans this rose to 25% (ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008)

### Illness and Hospital Admissions

Rates of hospital admissions (reported as an age standardised rate per 10,000 people living in the area) are generally comparable with those across East Lothian.

- There were significantly higher numbers of unintentional injuries in the home to children under 15 in the ward – averaging 7 per 1000 children per year, compared to 4 per 1000 across East Lothian
- Unintentional injuries to people over 65 years varied across the ward - from 6 per 1000 people 65 years and over in Cockenzie to 11 per 1000 in Prestonpans

**2005 Hospital admissions / 10 000 people  
(age standardised)**

	Preston/Seton /Gosford	East Lothian
Emergency Admissions	843	846
Accidents	127	116
Alcohol related	47	47
Cancer	289	332
Heart Disease	66	64
Respiratory Disease	144	136
Drug Misuse	14	20

(East Lothian CHP-Community Health Profile 2004)

### Local Access to Health Services

As part of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) residents were asked how easy was it to access a range of health related services using their normal means of transport.

- 94% across the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward stated that it was easy (or very easy) to get to a GP. This compares to only 71% of people across East Lothian stating it was easy.
- 93% reported that it was easy (or very easy) to travel to a chemist or pharmacy.
- In this ward only 63% of people said it was easy (or very easy) to access local hospital services (compared to 71% across East Lothian) and 26% reported that it was 'very difficult'.
- Further only 9% of respondents stated that health services in the area were something that most needed to be improved locally

### Maternity and Child Health

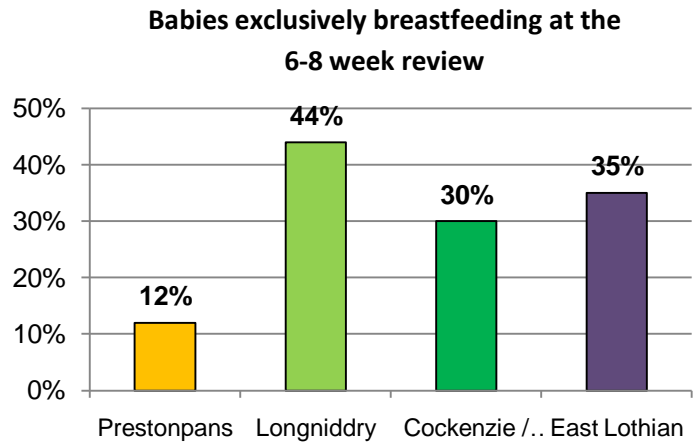
Estimates from the General Register of Scotland indicate that in 2008 there were 945 children aged 0 – 4 years living in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward.

#### Births across the area

- The average age of a first time mother in the Prestonpans area was 24.1 years of age and in Cockenzie / Longniddry it was 28.3 (compared to the East Lothian average of 27.2 years and the Scottish average of 26.4 years) ([ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2004](#))
- Birth rates across the ward are slightly lower than the East Lothian average – although in Cockenzie / Port Seton there were 16 births per 1000 people annually (compared to 11 per 1000 across East Lothian)
- Teenage pregnancy rates across the ward are generally significantly above the East Lothian average rate of 38 per 1000 females aged 15-17
  - in Cockenzie / Port Seton the rate was 53 per 1000 females aged 15-17
  - in areas of Prestonpans the rate rose to 111 per 1000 females aged 15-17 ([ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008](#))

Health data regarding children in East Lothian is, in the main, very positive, including breastfeeding rates well above the Scottish average and a similar situation regarding child dental health in primary 1.

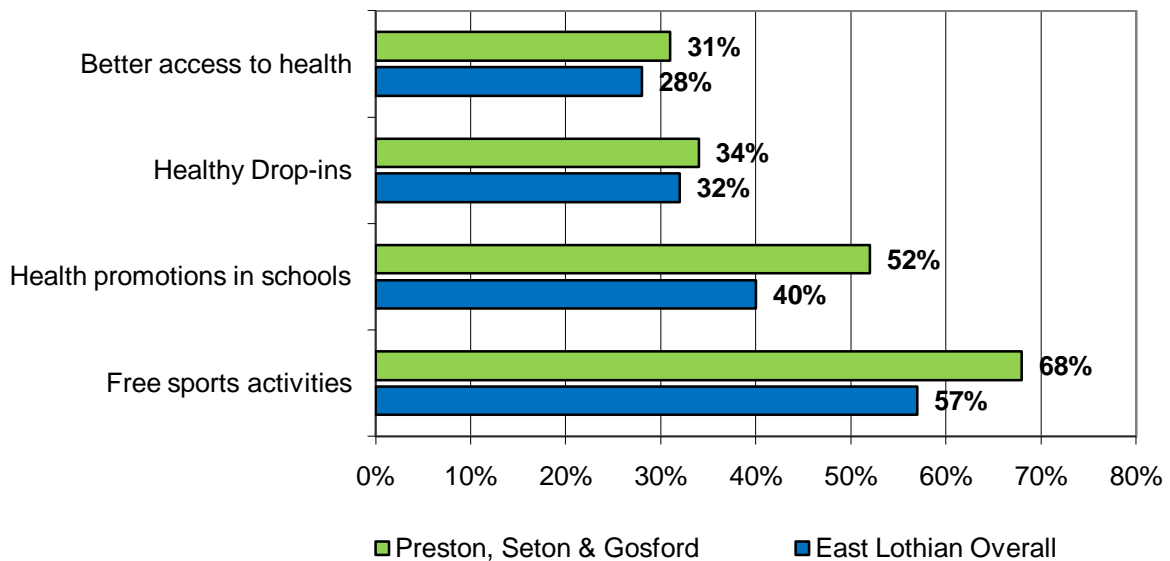
- In the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward however child health indicators do not always meet the East Lothian average, for example:-
  - There is a higher rate of low birthweight babies
  - Fewer babies are breastfeeding at their first review (52% vs 57% in 2008)
- Smoking during pregnancy across Prestonpans is higher than the East Lothian average at 27% (compared to 16%), although in Cockenzie / Port Seton the rate falls to only 8%.



(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2008)

### Young People's Attitudes to Health

As part of developing the East Lothian Youth Vision young people across Preston/Seton/Gosford were asked - 'What would help to improve your health?'



Young people were also asked –

#### 'Where do you go for advice and information regarding sensitive health issues?'

- In the Preston/Seton/Gosford area 'Parents' was the most popular choice (63%), followed closely by 'Friends' (59%)
- Significantly less young people said they would ask a Guidance Teacher (24%), a doctor (16%), youth workers (10%) and the internet (10%)

## Care and Carers

- 21% of people in Preston/Seton/Gosford have a life limiting long term illness
- The average age of a person with a life-limiting long term illness in the area is 61 years - this is above the Scottish average of 58 years
- Across East Lothian 6% of the working age population is unable to work due to illness and/or disability (across Scotland it is 7.5%)
  - In the Preston/Seton/Gosford area this rises to 7.3%

According to the most recent census figures:-

- Across Preston/Seton/Gosford 1546 people are providing unpaid care to a friend or family member
- That equates to 10.3 % of the population of the ward
- 6.2% of these carers are providing 1-19 hours of care per week
- 2.1% however are providing more than 50 hours of care per week
- 18.6% of households have 1 or more carers in residence, which is above the East Lothian average, and this rises to 19.5% in the Longniddry area

Who is providing this care in the ward?

- the average age of a person providing voluntary care is 49.5 years
- 2% are aged under 16
- 20% are aged 65 or over
- 61% of carers are female
- 53% are also employed

[www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk)

## The Environment

East Lothian has a range of public open/green spaces including coastal and countryside sites, woodlands, parks, amenity open spaces, green corridors, village greens, play areas, school grounds and civic spaces.

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) found that people across East Lothian are generally satisfied with parks and open spaces in their communities

- However in Preston/Seton/Gosford 12% felt that this was something that most needed improving in their area (double the rate across East Lothian)

East Lothian's coast and countryside are important as visitor destinations. An estimated 2.5 million visitors annually visit both the rural and urban sections of the coast and it is a challenge for local communities to support tourism developments while at the same time ensuring that the natural heritage, diversity and quality of their coastal areas are protected and enhanced.

Access to the East Lothian countryside is provided through a network of paths for the benefit of all user groups (walkers, cyclists and horse riders) of all ages and abilities. One of the main paths is the John Muir Way, a coastal route that extends from Musselburgh to Dunglass, and passes along the coast through Preston/Seton/Gosford. There are also a range of medium distance paths between and around local communities.

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) also found people were generally happy with their 'access to the outdoors' – with only 3% reporting that this was something that most needed improving in their area.

- in Preston/Seton/Gosford however significantly more (6%) felt that 'access to the outdoors' needed to be improved

### The quality of the local environment

When asked in the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) 8% of respondents from the Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward thought that pollution was an issue that most needed to be addressed in their area (double the East Lothian average of 4%)

- In 2005 3% of the population of the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward lived within 500m of a site on the Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory.
- 93% however live within 2km of the site

Ambient air quality across the ward however is generally comparable with East Lothian averages. Indicators of air quality include:-

- NO<sub>2</sub> (Nitrogen Dioxide) concentration / m<sup>3</sup>. For this indicator the concentration in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward was 11.1 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> in 2002-4 (compared to an East Lothian average concentration of 11.5)
  - Although in Cockenzie/Port Seton this fell to 10 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup>
  - And in Prestonpans rose to 13 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup>
- PM<sub>10</sub> concentration / m<sup>3</sup> (particle pollution generally caused by diesel combustion, construction, mining and quarrying). Here the concentration was 13.2 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> compared to 13.1 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> across East Lothian
  - Although in parts of Prestonpans it rose to 13.9 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup>

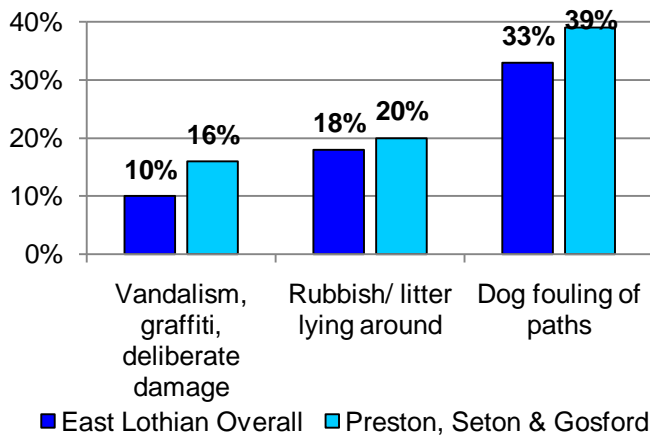
**Community satisfaction with parks, gardens and open spaces**



Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello mruk research

The cleanliness of East Lothian's open spaces and streets is measured through LEAMS (Local Environmental Assessment & Management System). In 2009/10 East Lothian achieved a LEAMS score of 73%.

At a neighbourhood level however environmental quality concerns – like dog fouling, litter, graffiti, abandoned vehicles, and noise nuisance - affect people's perceptions of their environment.



Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello mrk research

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) asked residents which environmental complaints were common or very common in their neighbourhoods. The results, in the graph to the left, show that residents across the Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward reported that dog fouling and vandalism were common in their local area notably more often than it was reported across East Lothian as a whole.

- When asked elsewhere in the survey 'What most needs improving in your local area?' 16% thought 'cleaner streets' were a priority

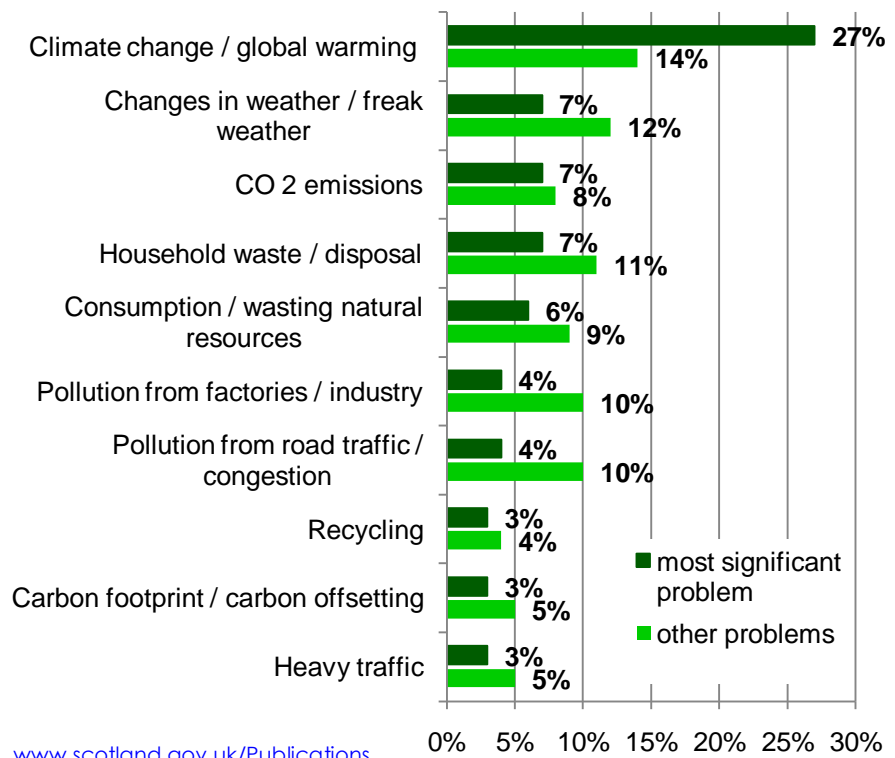
### Being Green

Ecological footprinting provides a picture of the impact of our consumption patterns and the resources that we use by measuring the amount of land area required to meet our energy, transport, food and water needs.

- East Lothian's ecological footprint equates to 5.31 global hectares per capita ([East Lothian SOA](#)).
- That means that if everyone in the world consumed resources as we do in East Lothian, we would require 3 planets to supply all our resources and consume all our waste.

The Scottish Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours Survey 2008 included a question to gauge which specific environmental issues are most prominent in the public mind. Respondents were asked (unprompted):

- what they considered to be the 'most significant' environmental problem these days;
- what they saw as 'other' environmental problems.



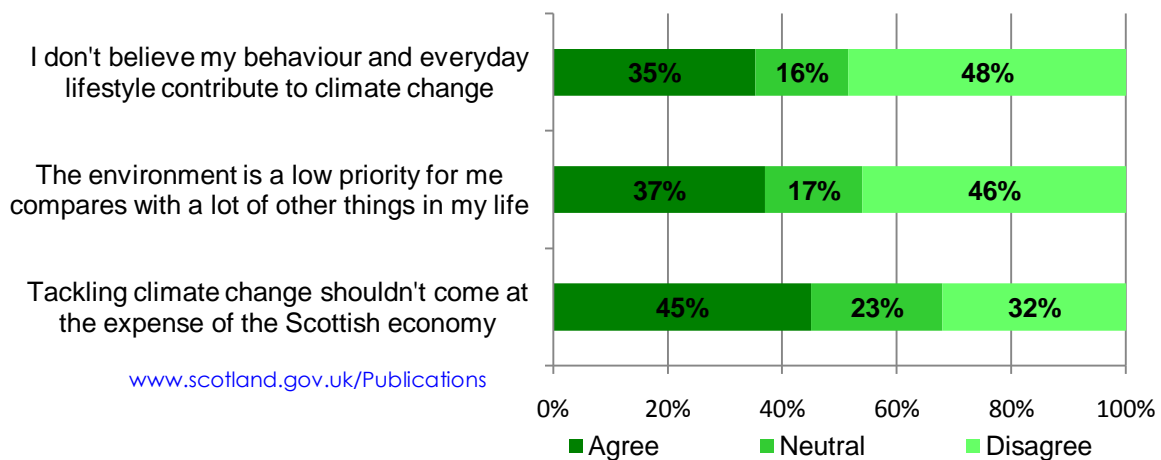
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications)

**The Environment continued...**

- Climate change was by far the most common response - 41% of respondents in total mentioned the issue, and 27% identified it as the single most significant environmental issue.
- The next highest ranking issues were: changing weather patterns (mentioned by 19% overall), household waste (18%), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (15%), and over-consumption (15%)

Respondents to the Scottish Environmental Attitudes and Behaviours Survey 2008 were also asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about climate change and the environment.

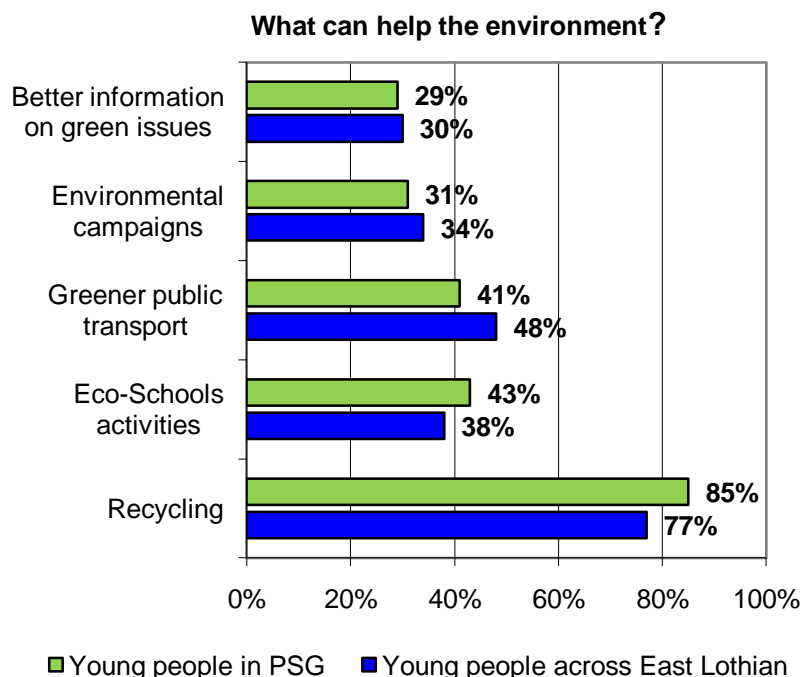
The results show that a sizeable proportion of people struggle to make the link between climate change and their own individual behaviour, with over a third (35%) agreeing, 'I don't believe my behaviour and everyday lifestyle contribute to climate change'.



The results further indicate that, when set against other day to day concerns, climate change is not top of the Scottish public's priorities. Over a third of respondents (37%) agreed that the 'environment is a low priority for me compared with a lot of other things in my life', while less than half (46%) disagreed with this. Also, more people agreed (45%) than disagreed (32%) that, 'tackling climate change shouldn't come at the expense of the Scottish economy'.

While preparing the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy in 2008 young people across the county were surveyed on a number of issues including what they thought could help the environment.

- Young people in Preston/Seton/Gosford were most likely to think that recycling would make a big difference



**Waste and Recycling across East Lothian**

Achievements so far:-

- Across East Lothian the amount of bio-degradable waste sent to landfill has reduced by 19% over 3 years - from 32.3 kilo tonnes in 2004/05 to 26.2 kilo tonnes in 2008/09
- The percentage of Municipal Waste that is recycled / composted has increased from 6% in 2001/02 to 38% in 2008/09. This is above the Scottish average of 34%
- The volume of waste produced by individuals has also decreased – from 741 tonnes per 1000 people in 2007/08 to 709 tonnes per 1000 people in 2009/10
- Weekly refuse collections are made from over 40,000 households and nearly 1,400 trade premises across East Lothian. In 2007/08 although 37% of waste collected was recycled / composted, 43,881 tonnes of waste was still sent to landfill at Dunbar. ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

	2003 / 04	2007 / 08	% increase
Glass Bottles	47%	86%	82%
Plastic	8%	79%	988%
Metal Cans	18%	77%	428%
newspaper / paper / card	72%	84%	17%
one or more of the above	77%	88%	14%

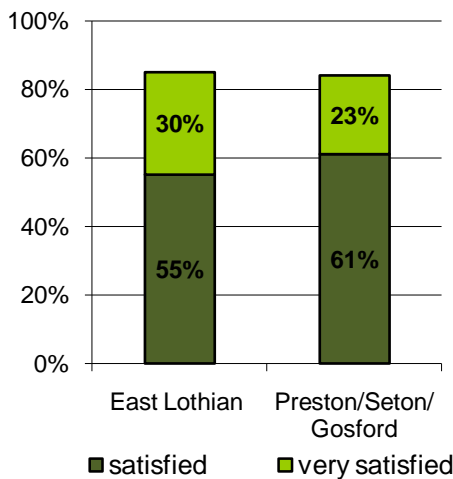
Almost 90% of households in East Lothian have access to a regular kerbside recycling collection.

East Lothian Council also provides:-

- a network of over 80 Recycling Points with facilities to recycle glass and cans - around 40% also having facilities to recycle paper and textiles
- four Recycling Centres within the county where over 20 different materials are separately collected for either reuse or recycling

[www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/Environment](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/Environment)

**Community satisfaction with refuse collection**



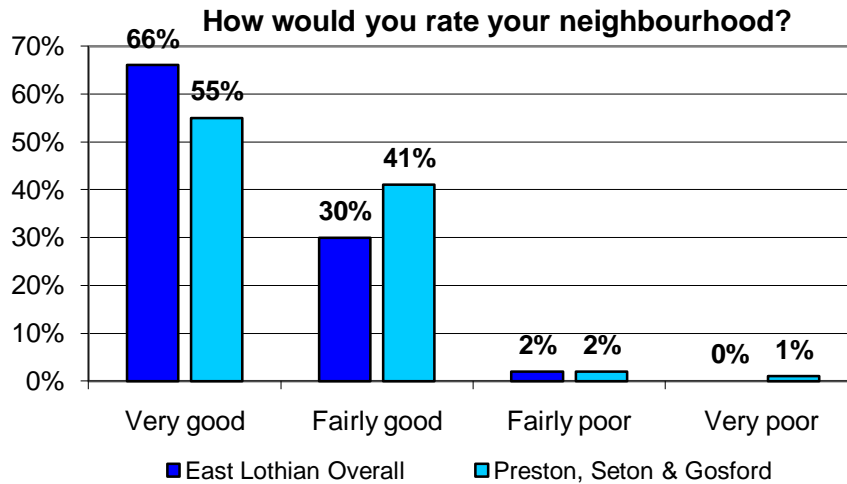
There appears to be generally high levels of satisfaction with refuse collection across the Preston/ Seton/Gosford Ward.

- 84% reporting that they were 'satisfied' with this service when asked as part of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009)

## Neighbourhood and Place

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) showed that 97% of people surveyed across the county thought that East Lothian was a good place to live.

- The results were generally similar when people were asked about their own neighbourhoods
- 96% of respondents across Preston/Seton/Gosford rated their neighbourhood as a 'fairly good' or 'very good' place to live – the same rating as across East Lothian as a whole
- however residents in Preston/Seton/Gosford were significantly more likely to rate their neighbourhood as only 'fairly good' than the rest of the county

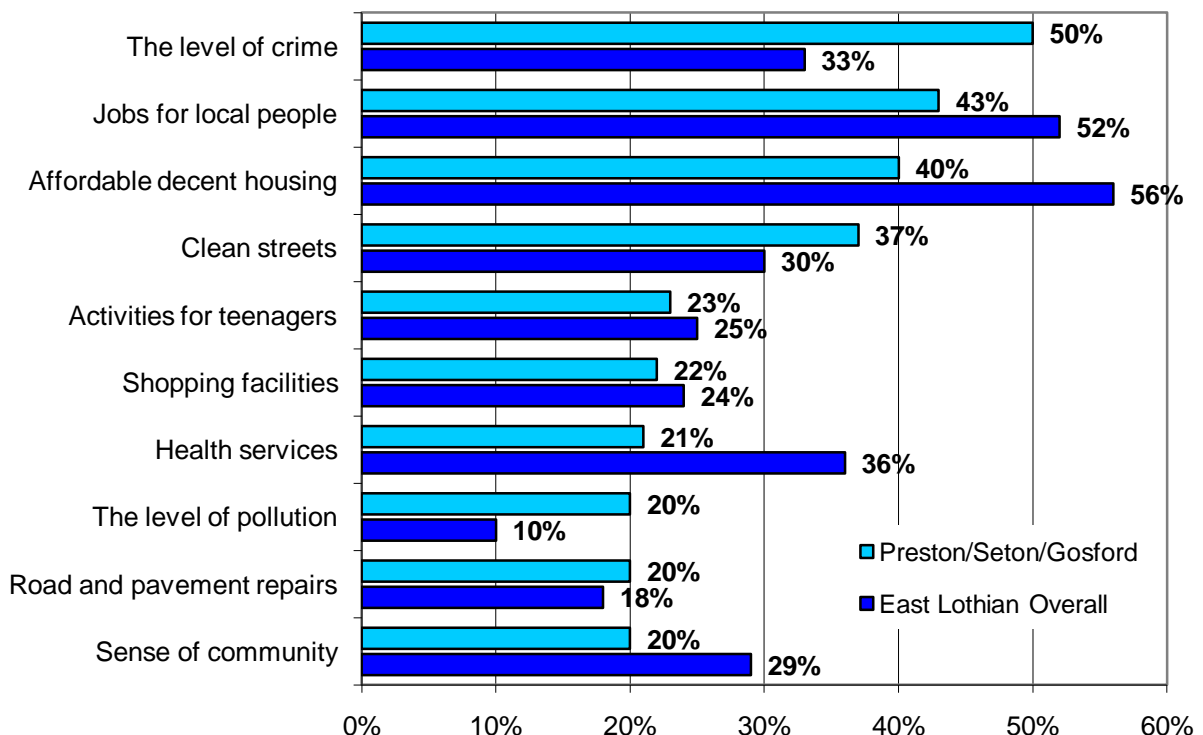


(Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 - cello mruk research)

The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) also asked people :-

### What was most important in making somewhere a good place to live?

The graph below shows the top 10 responses from people in the Preston/Seton/Gosford ward (from a list of 21) :-



Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello mruk research

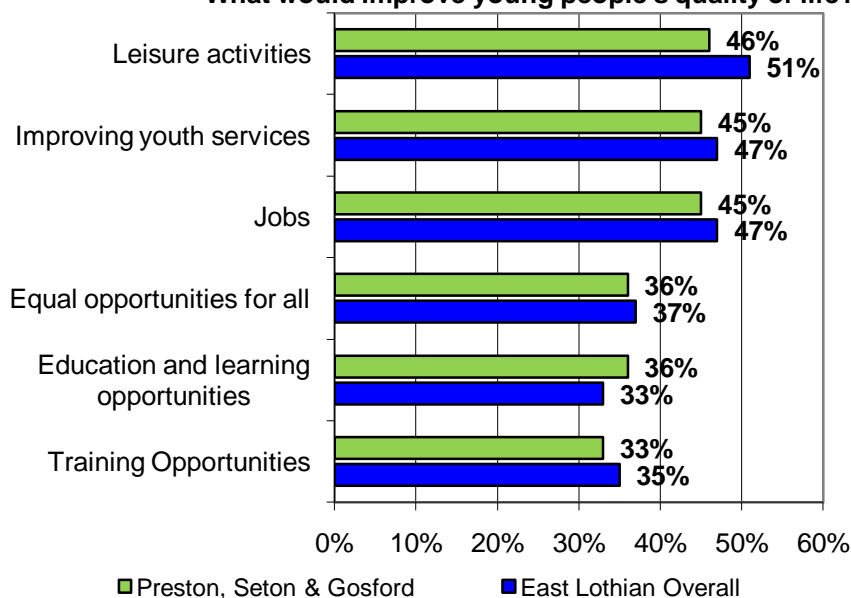
**Neighbourhood and Place continued...**

- 'The level of Crime' was the highest single factor for people in the ward –with 50% of respondents indicating it was one of the most important things in making somewhere a good place to live. This was higher than in any other ward and 17% higher than across East Lothian as a whole
- 'Jobs for local people' and 'Affordable decent housing' were the next most highly ranked – although by percentages significantly lower than average for East Lothian
- People in this ward were also significantly more likely to rate 'levels of pollution' as important – with 20% of respondents considering pollution an important factor this was higher than any other ward in East Lothian and double the East Lothian average.
- Road and pavement repairs, clean streets, wage levels and local cost of living were also seen as more important in making somewhere a good place to live in Preston/Seton/Gosford than overall in East Lothian.
- Compared to other wards across East Lothian people in Preston/Seton/Gosford were also least likely to say that health services, public transport, a sense of community, or facilities for children were among the most important factors in making somewhere a good place to live.

For the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy young people were asked what things could be done to improve the quality of their life in East Lothian.

- Young people in PSG were most likely to say that improved leisure services, youth services and jobs would improve their quality of life
- they were also more likely to say better education and learning opportunities were important

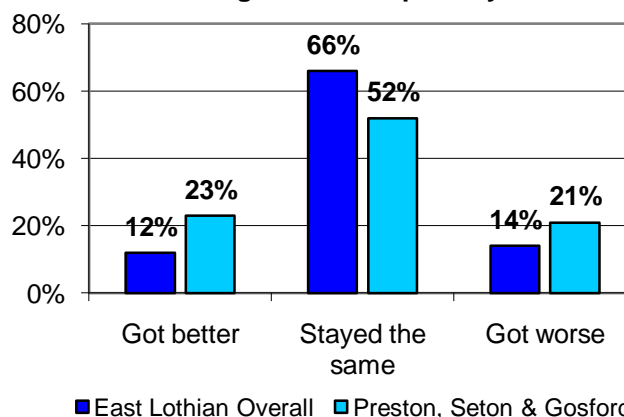
**What would improve young people's quality of life?**



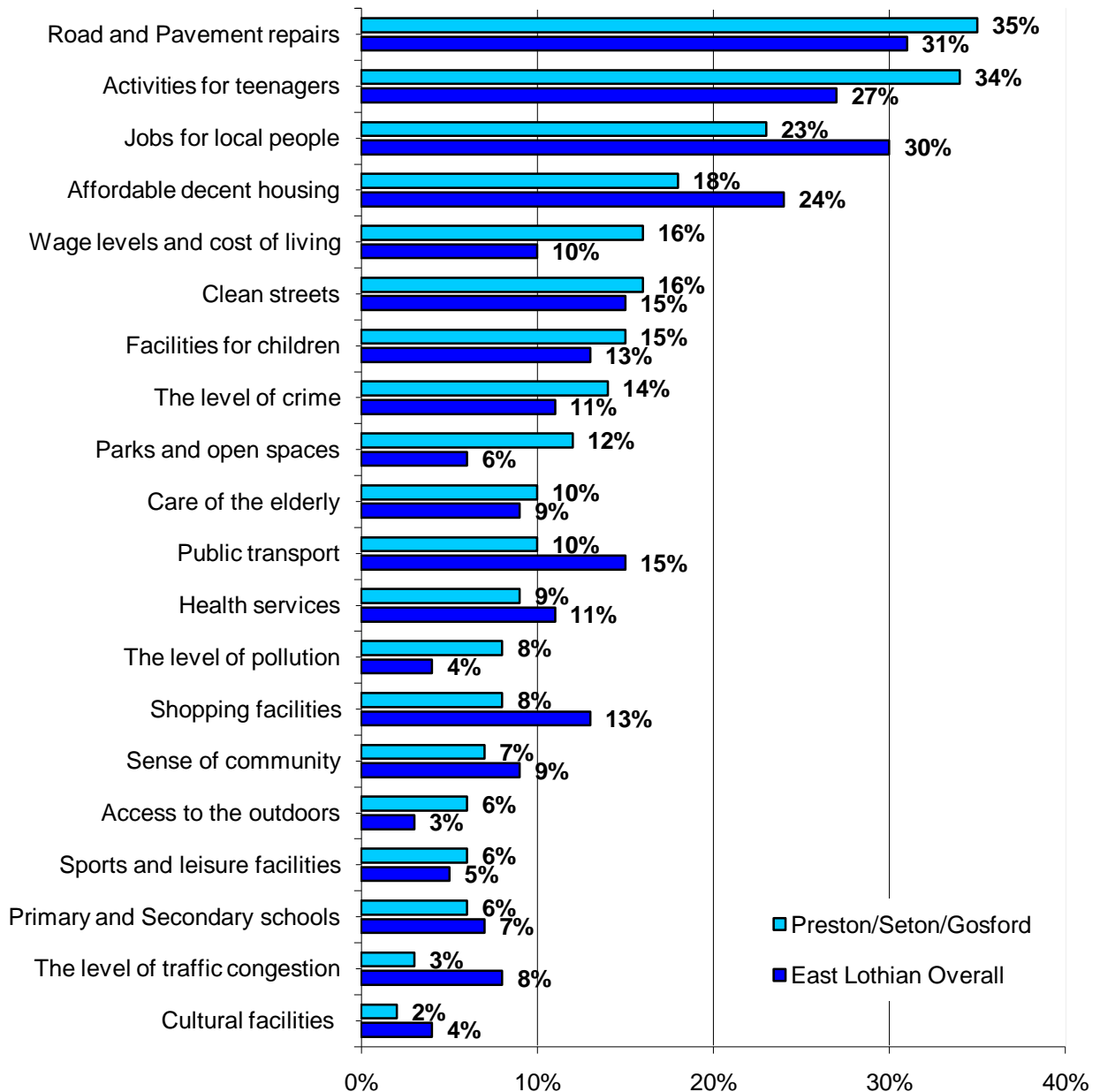
The East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) also asked people how they thought their neighbourhood had changed:-

- This question clearly split responses in the Preston/Seton/Gosford area
- 23% (almost double the East Lothian average) felt their neighbourhood had gotten better over the past 5 years
- However almost the same number said their neighbourhood had gotten worse – 21%. This was the highest rate recorded across all wards.

**How has your neighbourhood has changed over the past 5 years?**



Thinking about your neighbourhood, what do you think most needs improving?



Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello muk research

The graph above shows the percentage of people in Preston/Seton/Gosford who thought various features within their community were in need of significant improvement.

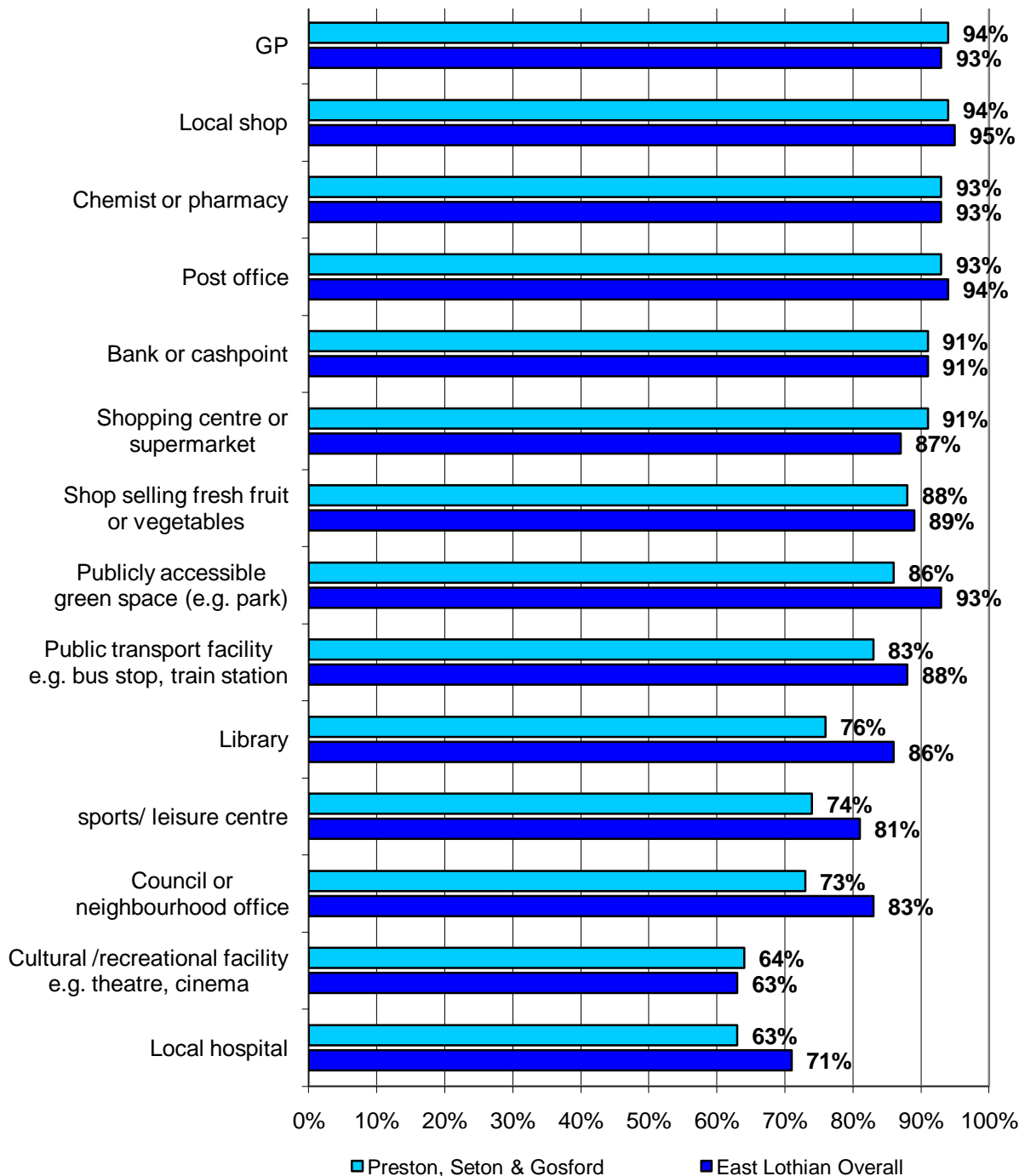
- 35% of respondents reported the need for road and pavement repairs – this was also the highest area for improvement identified across East Lothian, although by comparatively fewer respondents (31%)
- The need for improvements in activities for teenagers, wages and local cost of living, access to affordable housing, clean streets, local jobs, crime and facilities for children all also rated highly
- There were also a number of categories where people in Preston/Seton/Gosford indicated a need for improvement at double the rate of those across East Lothian as a whole indicating particular problems in this area. These were in regard to parks and open spaces, levels of pollution and access to the outdoors.
- In this ward however people were notably less likely to rate improvements in public transport and shopping facilities as ‘most needed’ than people across East Lothian.

## Access to Services and Facilities

The results from the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) suggest that residents in Preston/Seton/Gosford have relatively good access to services and facilities, with over 60% saying it was quite easy to access all the services listed using their regular form of transport. For people across the ward ease of access is generally comparable to East Lothian as a whole, although more people than average report that it is 'difficult' or 'very difficult' to access specific services including:-

- Council or neighbourhood offices (10% more)
- Local Hospital (8% more)
- Parks or publicly accessible green spaces (7% more)
- A library (10% more) or sports / leisure facilities (7% more)
- Public Transport facilities (5% more)

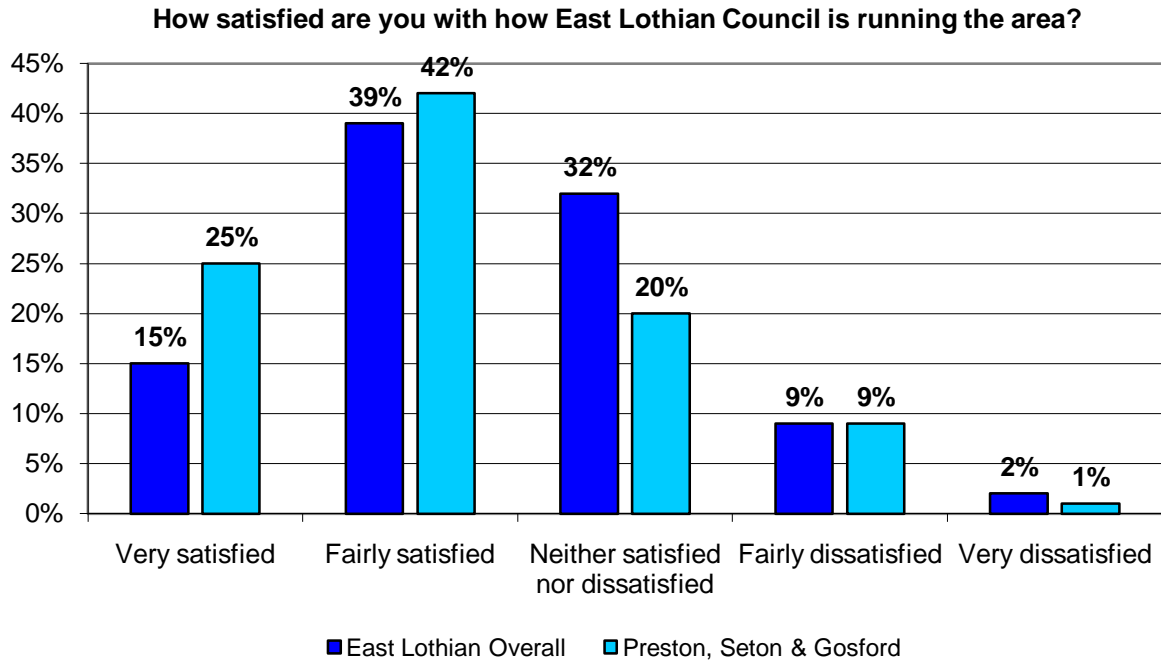
**% reporting it is 'very' or 'fairly easy' to access services using their usual form of transport**



## Perceptions of East Lothian Council and satisfaction with services

East Lothian Council is the principle service provider within the county – with a responsibility for providing many of the services and facilities residents rely on in their daily lives.

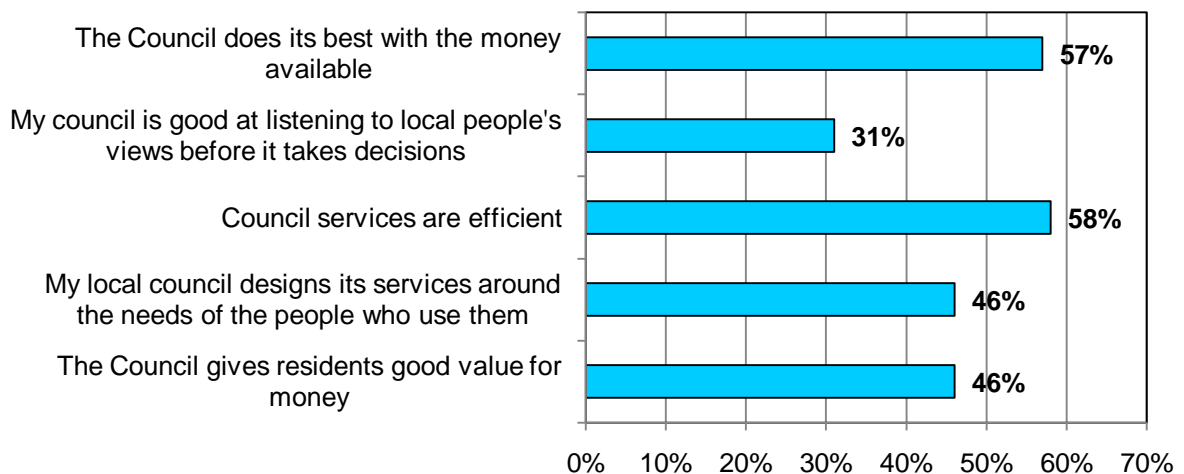
As part of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) therefore people were asked how they felt East Lothian Council was doing in their area.



- In Preston/Seton/Gosford significantly more people were 'very satisfied' with the way East Lothian Council was running the area than across East Lothian as a whole
- 67% of respondents in the ward were positive overall (compared to 54% across the county)
- 27% across the ward also agreed that the Council 'keeps us very well informed' about the services and benefits it provides' – compare to 19% East Lothian wide.

The survey also asked whether people agreed or disagreed with a number of statements and the figures for Preston/Seton/Gosford were comparable with those for East Lothian as a whole.

### % agreeing with the following statements



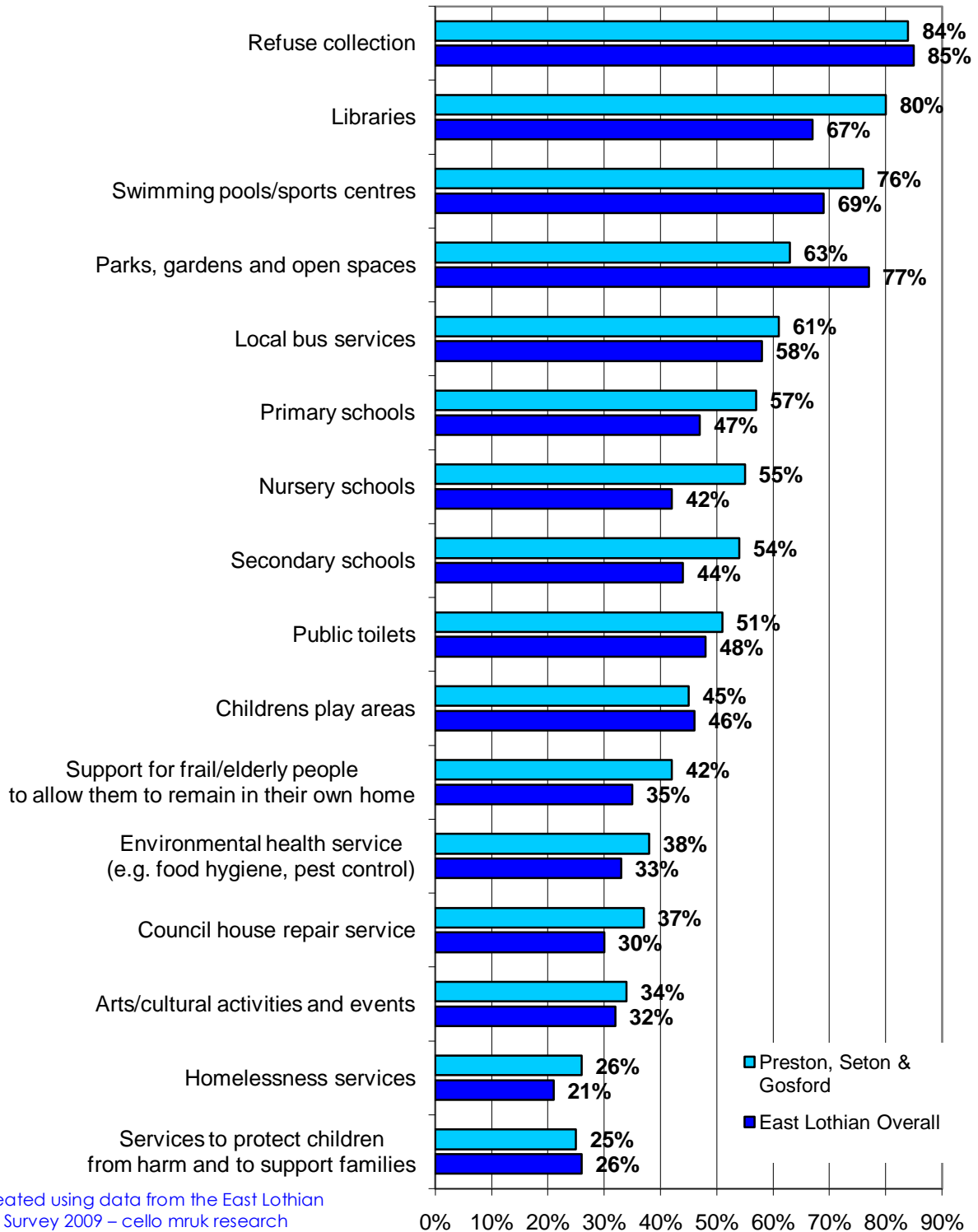
(Graphs created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello mruk research)

*Satisfaction with services continued...*

As part of the same survey people were asked about their level of satisfaction with the East Lothian Council Services they used.

- Overall residents in Preston/Seton/Gosford generally expressed higher levels of satisfaction with local services than across East Lothian as a whole
- As the graph below shows significantly higher than average levels of satisfaction were shown with Libraries, swimming pools/sports centres and local schools
- They were however significantly less likely to report being satisfied with local parks, gardens and open spaces (reporting satisfaction rates 14% below the East Lothian average) and 9% reported they were very/fairly dissatisfied with childrens play areas

**% reporting they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with services they use**



Graph created using data from the East Lothian Customer Survey 2009 – cello mruk research

## Community and Participation

There is a strong tradition of community activity and involvement within the Preston/Seton Gosford area and 20% of respondents to the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) replied that a 'Sense of Community' is important in making somewhere a good place to live.

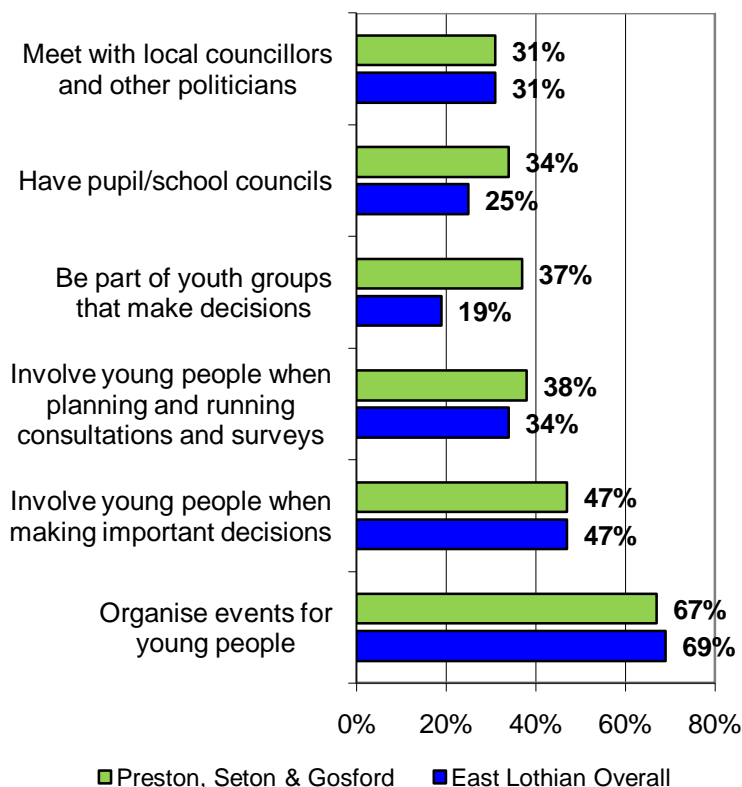
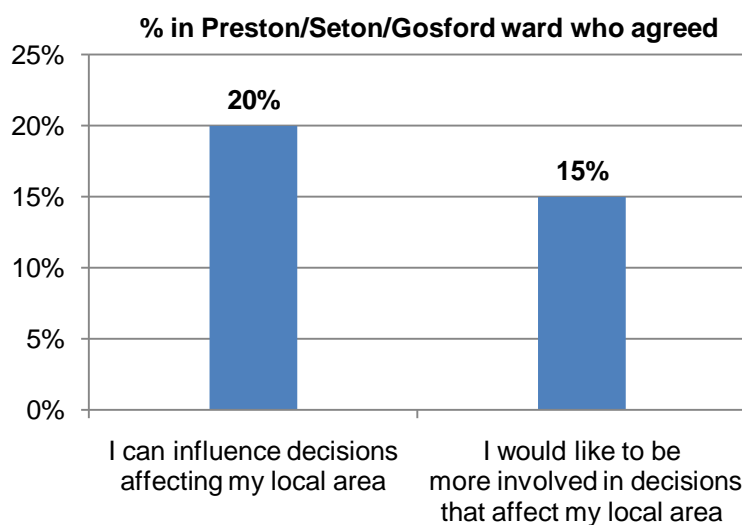
The same survey also showed that 5% of people in the ward had volunteered within their communities over the past 12 months, although the figure is likely to be much higher as many people do not think of their contribution to local groups or activities (like coaching a football team) as volunteering.

- The most popular types of volunteering were with: -
  - church groups
  - citizens groups
  - children's activities both in and outside school
  - activities that supported health, social welfare and disability groups

In East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) people were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a number of statements.

The results showed that people across the ward were less likely to believe that they could influence decisions affecting their local area than across East Lothian - 20% compared to 31%

However an above average number of people (31%) agreed that 'My council s good at listening to local people's views before it takes a decision.'



As part of developing the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy young people were asked what were the best ways to ensure that their voices were heard and that young people had a chance to contribute to decisions that affect them.

The graph to the left shows what young people in Preston/Seton/Gosford thought were the best ways to do this.

- Like other young people across the county they thought that events for young people were the best way to do this.

- They were significantly more likely to believe that pupil councils and youth decision making groups made a difference than other young people across East Lothian.