

WEST LOTHIAN ADVICE NETWORK TRAINING PROGRAMME 2026



January 2026

Wednesday 7th Employment Support

Tuesday 13th Blue Badge Training

Tuesday 27th Poverty Awareness



February 2026

Wednesday 4th Child Maintenance Services

Thursday 12th Supporting Opportunities for Life

Thursday 19th The Bridge Community Project
Overview



March 2026

March 3rd Disability Benefits Training



EMPLOYMENT - SUPPORT AVAILABLE

DATE : 07/01/2026

PLACE : ONLINE

TIME : 11AM - 12PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)



AIM OF THE TRAINING

THIS SESSION WILL PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF:

- THE 1:1 EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT OFFERED FROM ACCESS2EMPLOYMENT
- INFORMATION OF FUNDING TO RESKILL/UPSKILL
- WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE
- EMPLOYMENT RELATED WELLBEING SUPPORT
- INFORMATION ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THOSE STARTING WORK

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ANYONE WORKING WITH PARENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR THOSE LOOKING TO START WORK.

BLUE BADGE TRAINING

DATE : 13/01/2026

PLACE : ONLINE

TIME : 10AM - 11AM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

AIM OF THE TRAINING

THIS SESSION WILL COVER THE BLUE BADGE SCHEME IN WEST LOTHIAN AND WILL INCLUDE:

- ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- AUTOMATIC AND DISCRETIONARY ENTITLEMENT
- HOW TO APPLY
- USING A BLUE BADGE
- APPEALING A DECISION

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ANYONE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT THE BLUE BADGE SCHEME.

POVERTY AWARENESS

DATE : 27/01/2026

PLACE : BATHGATE PARTNERSHIP
CENTRE (ROOM 14/15)

TIME : 1PM - 3PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)



AIM OF THE TRAINING

THIS WORKSHOP WILL COVER:

- THE POVERTY PROFILE IN WEST LOTHIAN
- WHAT POVERTY IS, WHAT IT MEANS TO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING IT AND THE ROOT CAUSES
- HOW TO AVOID STIGMATISATION, AWARENESS OF STEREOTYPES AND HOW THIS CAN LEAD TO PREJUDICE AND UNFAIR TREATMENT OF PEOPLE LIVING ON A LOW INCOME
- IDENTIFYING SUPPORT FOR CUSTOMERS AND HOW TO ENSURE CUSTOMERS CAN ACCESS THIS SUPPORT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ALL PROFESSIONALS WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF POVERTY ISSUES WITHIN WEST LOTHIAN AND THE IMPACT THIS CAN HAVE ON THEIR SERVICE USERS.

CHILD MAINTENANCE SERVICES

DATE : 04/02/2026

PLACE : BATHGATE PARTNERSHIP
CENTRE (ROOM 14/15)

TIME : 10AM - 12PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

AIM OF THE TRAINING

THE COURSE AIMS TO INCREASE THE CONFIDENCE OF PARTICIPANTS TO EMBED CHILD MAINTENANCE IN INCOME MAXIMISATION CONVERSATIONS WITH FAMILIES. BUILDING THE CONFIDENCE OF PARTICIPANTS TO UNDERSTAND CHILD MAINTENANCE AS A CHILD'S RIGHT ISSUE.

SESSION OUTCOMES:

- INCREASE AWARENESS OF CHILD MAINTENANCE AND THE CHILD MAINTENANCE SYSTEM.
- INCREASE CONFIDENCE TO DISCUSS AND REFRAME BARRIERS TO CHILD MAINTENANCE.
- INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF CHILD MAINTENANCE AS A CHILD'S RIGHTS ISSUE

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ALL PROFESSIONALS WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CHILD MAINTENANCE SERVICES.

SUPPORTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE (SOL)

DATE : 12/02/2026

PLACE : BATHGATE PARTNERSHIP
CENTRE (ROOM 14/15)

TIME : 1PM - 2:30PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

AIM OF THE TRAINING

SOL (SUPPORTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE) IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN POLICE SCOTLAND AND THE CHARITY, AID & ABET, TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 10-25 IN WEST Lothian.

THE PROJECT OFFERS TAILORED GUIDANCE, COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT, AND PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE MOVE AWAY FROM CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR, TOWARDS A MORE HOPEFUL AND POSITIVE FUTURE.

THE AIMS OF THE AWARENESS SESSION IS TO EXPLORE THE ROOT CAUSES OF YOUTH OFFENDING AND HIGHLIGHT HOW SOL IS TURNING YOUNG PEOPLE AWAY FROM CRIME TOWARDS POSITIVE OPPORTUNITIES. PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO HEAR POWERFUL FIRST-HAND STORIES FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE OVERCOME TRAUMA AND ADVERSITY IN THEIR OWN LIVES'.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ANYONE WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE OR THOSE WHO MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT.

THE BRIDGE COMMUNITY PROJECT

DATE : 19/02/2026

PLACE : BATHGATE PARTNERSHIP
CENTRE (ROOM 14/15)

TIME : 1PM - 2PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

AIM OF THE TRAINING

AT THIS SESSION, WE'LL INTRODUCE THE WORK WE DO AT THE BRIDGE, WITH AN OVERVIEW OF OUR THREE MAIN SERVICES:

- FINANCIAL WELLBEING – INCLUDING DEBT AND BUDGETING ADVICE, OUR SPEND SMART EAT WELL COURSE, AND PRACTICAL COOKING SESSIONS.
- COUNSELLING SERVICE – ONE-TO-ONE COUNSELLING SESSIONS, OFFERED ON A DONATION BASIS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY.
- STEPPING STONES TO WELLBEING – A RANGE OF WELLBEING GROUPS AND COURSES, INCLUDING LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING, EMOTIONAL LIFE JACKET, BEREAVEMENT, AND ANXIETY COURSES.

YOU'LL LEAVE THE SESSION WITH A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW THESE SERVICES CAN SUPPORT THE PEOPLE YOU WORK WITH, AND HOW TO REFER THEM WITH CONFIDENCE.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

THIS SESSION IS DESIGNED FOR PROFESSIONALS SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO MAY BENEFIT FROM FINANCIAL ADVICE, COUNSELLING, OR WELLBEING SERVICES, AND WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO CONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE BRIDGE'S SUPPORT.

DISABILITY BENEFITS TRAINING

DATE : 03/03/2026

PLACE : ONLINE

TIME : 1PM - 2PM

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

AIM OF THE TRAINING

SOCIAL SECURITY SCOTLAND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE BENEFITS DEVOLVED TO SCOTLAND. THESE INCLUDE DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR CARERS.

THIS SESSION WILL PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW ON THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS, INCLUDING HOW TO CLAIM AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- ADULT DISABILITY PAYMENT
- CHILD DISABILITY PAYMENT
- CARERS ALLOWANCE SUPPLEMENT
- YOUNG CARER GRANT
- PENSION AGE DISABILITY PAYMENT
- CARER'S SUPPORT PAYMENT
- PASSPORTED ENTITLEMENT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

ANYONE WORKING WITH OR SUPPORTING THOSE WITH A DISABILITY OR CARERS.