



West Lothian  
Council

# BUILDING STANDARDS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUILDING STANDARDS & DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT Information Note 09

'West Lothian Council is committed to providing the people of West Lothian with services which are reliable, courteous and effective'

## The difference between Development Management and Building Standards

Development Management and Building Standards are two separate service units within West Lothian Councils Planning Services section. Each service unit grants a different permission.

Development Management grants **Planning Permission** and Building Standards grants **Building Warrants**.

On some occasions you may need **both** permissions, on other occasions only **one** of them.

We have observed that occasionally this causes confusion with our customers who are unaware of the difference between the development management and building standards sections and can get the two permissions mixed up.

The two Services are entirely different and require separate applications, which are assessed under different criteria, procedures and statutory legislation.

It is important that you always speak to **both services** about any proposals you may have.

Development Management, generally, is primarily involved in the appearance of the building and its effect on the environment and neighbouring properties (See leaflet "Obtaining Planning Permission").

Building standards are more interested in the details of construction to preserve minimum health and safety standards in conjunction with energy conservation.

We are always delighted to receive suggestions for improving our standards and performance. Contact us at:

**Building Standards  
County Buildings  
LINLITHGOW  
WEST LOTHIAN  
EH49 7EZ**

### Office Opening Hours

Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 5.00 pm  
Friday 8.30am – 4.00pm

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