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COUNCIL ATTRACTS WOMEN TO CONSTRUCTION

Mid Lothian Council Commercial Operations Roads / Civil Engineering Placement Student

Mid Lothian's Council's Road Services team comprises civil, road safety, structure and lighting professionals and provides input into major transportation projects in Midlothian and the surrounding area. Our multi skilled workforce are able to undertake a comprehensive range of design maintenance, construction and servicing activities.

Mark Rankine, Roads Operations and Asset Manager said

"We have participated in Careerwise for the past 3 years, since the initial pilot in 2014 as we want to attract more women to construction. Being the pilot authority, it was important that we supported the initiative from the start. We undertake many outreach activities in local schools and we try to encourage young girls to take on an apprentice program but we just cannot get girls to apply. Collaborating with Careerwise has enabled us to bring in women to the sector and show them the many job opportunities available. The placements help us carry out project work that may otherwise not get done in time and having a woman in the team can help change the team dynamics. The placements have been very useful and worthwhile."

Midlothian 

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I WAS LEANING MORE TOWARDS BEING OFFICE BASED BUT I REALLY ENJOYED BEING OUT ON SITE, SO I'M NOW REALLY CONSIDERING THIS.



Kirsty Tweedie Edinburgh Napier University

3rd Year, MEng Civil and
Transportation Engineering

I've been involved in a big project with the Bush Science Centre, looking at the economic benefits of updating the road infrastructure in and around; I've had to look at the reasons for the update as well as the benefits of doing all the work so we can achieve the funding. I've seen surfacing being done, reinstatement, lifting surfaces and I spent a day with street lighting observing their inspections. I also spent a week with Tarmac to gain an insight into where materials come from and how they are produced – so looking at production, quarrying, materials and distribution.

The placement gave me a taster as to whether I would enjoy the transportation side - which I did but it also gave me exposure to civil works, which allowed me to get out on site. Before my placement I was leaning more towards being office based but I really enjoyed being out on site and found it really interesting, so I'm now really considering this.

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