

Front Counter and Estates Organisational Reviews Final decisions

EASTERN DIVISION

Details highlighted in red show where a change from the recommendations has been made

	Decision
Greenbank	Front Desk remains open. Base for police officers and staff.
Accrington	Front Desk remains open. Base for police officers and staff.
Blackburn Town Centre	Front Desk remains open.
Clitheroe	Front Desk remains open. Base for police officers and staff.
Darwen	Front Desk remains open (it had been earmarked for closure) and local officers are well established at the Town Hall where they have been based for the past two years.
Great Harwood	Front Desk remains open. (Front desk had been earmarked for closure). Base for police officers and staff.
Longridge	Front Desk will close but will be kept as a base where police officers will work out of
Edgworth	Being retained as a rural beat
Whalley Billington Gisburn Hurst Green Chipping Ribchester Newton-in-Bowland	Rural police bases which will be sold off.

- In **Eastern Division**, there will continue to be Neighbourhood Policing Officers available at the following locations irrespective of the decisions taken around front counters / estates;
 - Bangor St Community Centre
 - Bank Top Community Centre
 - Blakewater College, Blackburn
 - Witton Park High School
 - Eanam Wharf
 - Mill Hill Community Centre
 - Darwen Council Offices
 - Mellor Brook Community Centre
 - Sabden Village Hall

There is also a mobile police station used across the Ribble Valley to increase access to services.

The Chief Superintendent responsible for Eastern Division, Bob Eastwood, welcomed the fact that the front counters at Great Harwood and Darwen would now remain open. He said: “We are fortunate in Eastern Division that, despite the very difficult financial situation the force finds itself in, only one of our seven front counters will close and we will be retaining Edgworth as a rural beat premises.

“There has been a general misconception throughout the period of consultation that where front counters may close, the entire police station will close and this is simply not the case. I would like to reassure the public that in the case of Longridge, whilst the front counter will close, the station will remain as a base from where police officers and staff will work so a visible policing presence will remain.”

Chief Superintendent Eastwood added: “I appreciate that some people will be disappointed that some of our rural police bases will be sold but it’s important to remember that these premises do not offer public access and, in the main, have not been used as operational bases so in that sense, I hope people will be reassured that they will see little change to the policing services offered.

“Eastern Division is very well served in terms of the numbers of front counters, police stations and local neighbourhood bases it has and as I have said many times to people locally, the fact that we are selling some non-operational, non public-facing police premises gives us the opportunity to further protect the frontline.”