Police hunt armed bank robbers

POLICE are hunting two men involved in an armed robbery at a bank in Llandysul yesterday, Tuesday.

Armed police, sniffer dogs and a search helicopter were scouring the surrounding area after the pair robbed a Security guard as he entered Lloyds TSB on the High Street.

One of the men being hunted was described as being white, 5ft 10 inches, wearing a green hooded top of thigh length, brown or reddish trousers and a fluorescent workman’s jacket.

The second man is white, 19 or 20-years-old, wearing a blue jacket with white stripes along the side and dark trousers.

Police said one of the robbers was armed with a hand gun and Dyfed Powys Police have advised members of the public not to approach the men if seen, but to report any sightings to them.

A reward is now being offered for information which leads to the robbers being tracked down.

Officer in charge of the investigation, Chief Inspector Arfon Jones, said: "A Security van was delivering an, as yet, untitled amount of money to Lloyds TSB at 10.45am when the guard carrying the box was approached by two youths, who had followed him into the bank.

"The males threatened the guard and pointed a gun at him before taking the box and running away from the scene.

"One onlooker, who didn’t want to be named, said: “This is quite amazing.

"I just don’t expect this sort of thing to happen in a small town like Llandysul.”

A member of staff from the nearby Lunchbox shop said: "To be honest, we didn’t see a thing and the first thing we knew about it, was when the police turned up and cordoned off the street.”

High Street was closed off all day on Tuesday with all traffic heading into Llandysul from the Carmarthen direction diverted to alternative routes as police teams carried out an extensive search of the area, and specifically the bank itself.

Forensic teams also carried out a painstaking search of adjacent Marble Terrace, looking for fingerprints of the assailants.

There was much confusion on the streets as people were trying to find alternative routes.

A film crew from the 4C children’s programme were stuck on High Street as they tried making their way to Llandysul Primary School, only to find that the route was cordoned off by police tape.

Security confirmed that none of their staff were injured.

A spokesperson for the company said: "Security deplores such incidents and is doing everything possible to assist the police with their enquiries.

"The safety of our staff and the public is of paramount importance and, as such, we are offering a £500 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the attack.”

There were two members of staff in the branch when the incident took place but a spokesperson for Lloyds TSB confirmed that they were not directly involved. The bank does have CCTV installed and have said that they are co-operating fully with the police in their enquiries.

The robbers escaped the scene by foot and are believed to have fled via nearby Marble Terrace.

Police are anxious for anyone with information or who may have witnessed the incident or seen anything suspicious to contact either Cardigan Police Station on (01239) 612209, or Credwys on 0800 555111.

POLICE: High Street was cordoned off following the robbery.

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