Economy Committee

10am, Tuesday, 23 June 2015

Unemployment, trends and correlated factors

Item number	7.12
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards:	All

Executive summary

Research presented to the Economy Committee on 28 April was developed to gain a better understanding of unemployment figures and areas of poverty within Edinburgh. This research presented some indication of the level of detail available at the local level. There are a number of monitoring reports that are produced by the Council monthly, including Economy Watch, and annually, Edinburgh By Numbers and these can be accessed online. Bespoke research can also be compiled by Business Intelligence on request. The research presented here will be given to the Poverty and Inequality Partnership to inform their planning.

Links

Coalition pledges	P7
Council outcomes	C06, CO7, CO8, CO9, CO10, CO23
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1, SO2, SO3 and SO4

Report

Unemployment, trends and correlated factors

Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the committee:
- Notes the research presented,
- Notes that monthly monitoring of the key measures discussed in this briefing is provided through Edinburgh Economy Watch and in the Corporate Business Insight Dashboard. Analysis of these measures and trends is available from Business Intelligence on request.
- Notes that this research with further available data on low income and poverty trends will be considered by the Poverty and Inequality Partnership in developing their action plan and future interventions.
- Notes that the Economic Development Service has already targeted employability interventions in areas of the city highlighted within this research.

Background

2.1 The Economy Committee requested analysis of unemployment in the city, considering changes over time and looking at pockets of deprivation. It was agreed at Economy Committee on 28 April 2015 that a report on the next steps should be reported back to this Committee.

2.2 This report provides a brief overview of the research that was undertaken, the main findings of the research and recommendations proposed to the Economy Committee.

Main report

The research

3.1 A presentation was delivered to Economy Committee providing an overview of the primary research that was undertaken. This research explored unemployment, trends over time factors that correlated with higher level of job seekers. It provides robust figures to anecdotal evidence within wards.

3.2 The analysis looked at the multimember wards over time and in comparison to the Edinburgh average and then within wards at the very local (data zone) level.

The latest ward level Job Seekers Claimant rate for each ward is compared with the highest and lowest claimant rate by data zone within each ward. This shows how the ward average masks the disparity within.

3.3 The next stage assesses the areas that are in poverty, taking the highest 15% of data zones. Through regression analysis of JSA claimants and other factors, the research provides some evidence of linked factors, showing which factors have a higher correlation with higher levels of JSA rates.

3.4 The last area of research analyses the data thematically by indicator and geographically by ward. The indicators are: access, crime, education, employment, health, housing, and income and an indicator to reflect risk taking behaviour (accidents and percentage smoking during pregnancy).

3.5 The research concludes by demonstrating what the Council and Edinburgh Partnership are doing to address poverty and inequality in the city, as it relates to the economy.

Findings

3.6 Edinburgh's JSA rate has varied between a low of 1.6% in October of 2007 and a high of 3.3% in October 2012. However, within the city, when this is analysed at the ward level, some areas have experienced rates significantly different from this average. For example, Meadows/Morningside was as low as 1.1% during October 2013 when the average for the city was 2.7%. At the same time, the Forth ward rate was as high as 4.7%.

3.7 Further analysis within wards shows more extreme disparities in JSA claimant rates at the very local level. The starkest example from the research is Forth ward which had an average of 4.7% of JSA claimants in October 2013 but within this, Muirhouse has a datazone with a rate of 17.4%; Trinity in the same ward has a data zone with a rate of 0.3% giving a difference of 17.3% points.

3.8 A less stark ward is Corstorphine/Murrayfield. Here the average for the ward is 1.5% in October, 2013, but the difference between the highest data zone in Forrester Park and Broomhouse (3.3%), and the lowest data zone in Murrayfield and Ravelston (0.2%), is much less at 3.1% points.

3.9 The research also shows the number of data zones within the highest 15% of JSA claimant areas across all of Edinburgh's 17 multi-member wards. 83 data zones make up the top 15% of JSA claimant areas out of a total of 549 data zones within the local authority area. Forth ward has the most data zones in the top 15% of JSA claimant rate areas, 16 data zones that sit within the top 15, Leith ward has nine data zones, and the Drum Brae/Gyle has one. This indicates wards that may require a more targeted response to job seekers, and the areas that may benefit from a more blanket approach to helping job seekers.

3.10 The final stage of the research highlights issues, based on the indicators selected, that may be more of a priority for the area. This is based on the

measures in these areas being higher than the average for Edinburgh. The full list of wards and issues is included in the presentation seen as Appendix 1.

Next Steps

3.11 The research has been presented to the Corporate Leadership Group and to colleagues and partners. It will be considered by the Poverty and Inequality Partnership with additional research from Business Intelligence in autumn 2015.

3.12 The Poverty and Inequality Partnership will use this information to develop their action plan. The Economic Development Service is represented on this group.

3.13 With partners from across the city, the Economic Development Service has been undertaking a small number of employability events and courses in some of the areas identified in this research. The service will continue to explore opportunities for targeted interventions.

Measures of success

4.1 A measures of success will be that the research is shared across the Council's service areas and the Edinburgh Partnership, in particular the Poverty and Inequality theme group of the Edinburgh Partnership. And therefore, that the research is used to help inform future policy decisions that relate to areas of work within the Council helping to tackle poverty and inequality in Edinburgh.

Financial impact

5.1 It is not anticipated that there will be any financial impact as a result of this research being undertaken. The research could be used to help focus resources however.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

6.1 As this is solely a statistical analysis there will be no adverse impacts relating to risk, policy, compliance or governance.

Equalities impact

7.1 There are no adverse equalities impacts arising from this report. The data presented can help inform the channelling of resources to help alleviate poverty and inequality in the city.

Sustainability impact

8.1 There are no adverse sustainability impacts arising from this report.

Consultation and engagement

9.1   An element arising from this research will be to engage internally with other Council service areas that have a focus on poverty and inequality, to make them aware of the research and its findings, as it relates to their ongoing work.

Background reading / external references

[Economy Committee Report – 28 April 2015](#)

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Director of Economic Development

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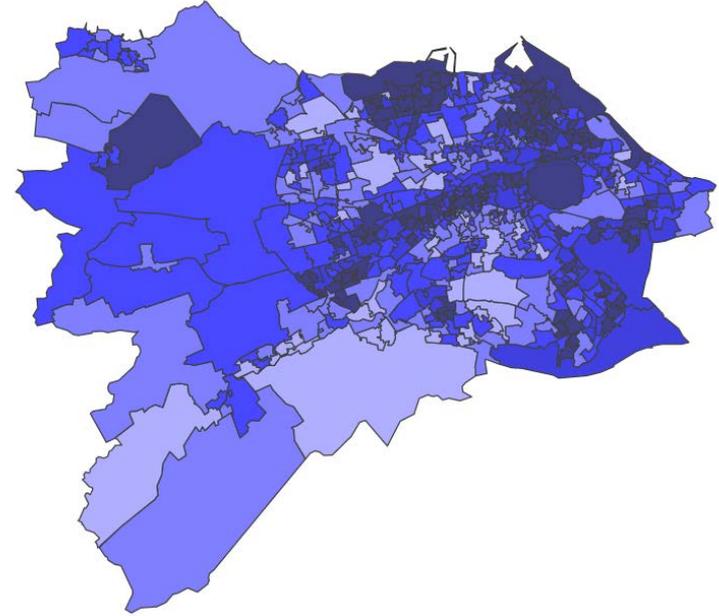
E-mail: Steven.bunch@edinburgh.gov.uk Michael.kellett@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 6465/ 0131 529 3230

Links

Coalition pledges	P7: Further develop the Edinburgh Guarantee to improve work prospects for school leavers
Council outcomes	CO6: Our children's and young people's outcomes are not undermined by poverty and inequality
	CO7: Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration
	CO8: Edinburgh's economy creates and sustains job opportunities
	CO9: Edinburgh residents are able to access job opportunities
	CO10: Improved health and reduced inequalities
	CO23: Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community
Single Outcome Agreement:	SO1: Edinburgh's Economy Delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all
	SO2: Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health
	SO3: Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
	SO4: Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric

| **Appendices** | 1 - Unemployment, trends and correlated factors (presentation to Economy Committee on 28 April 2015) |

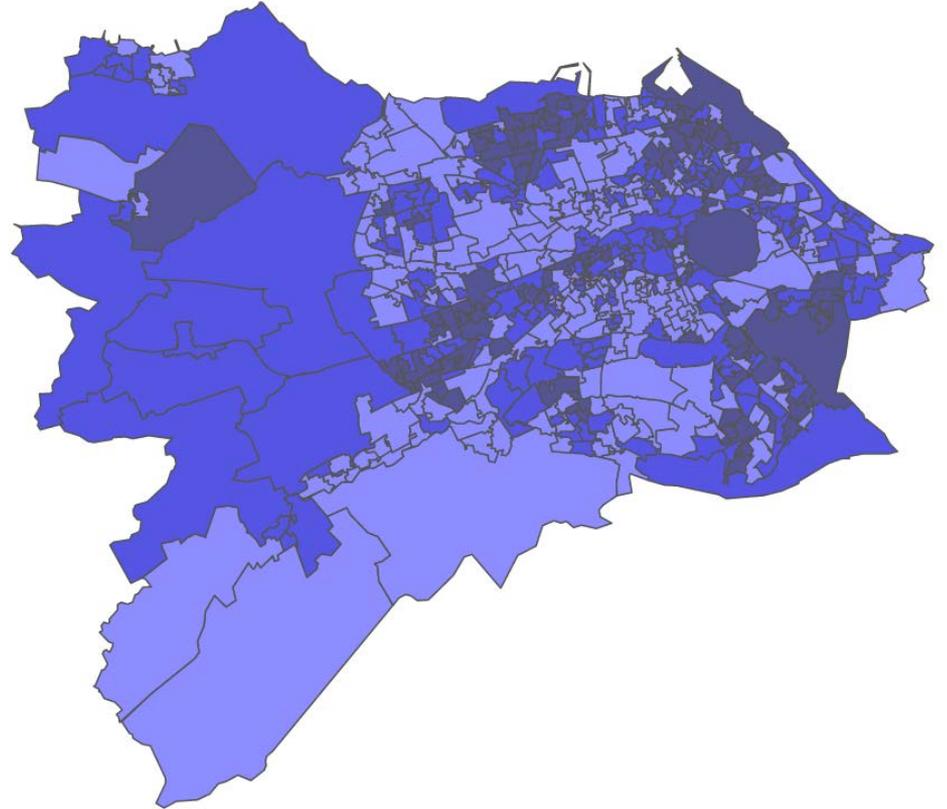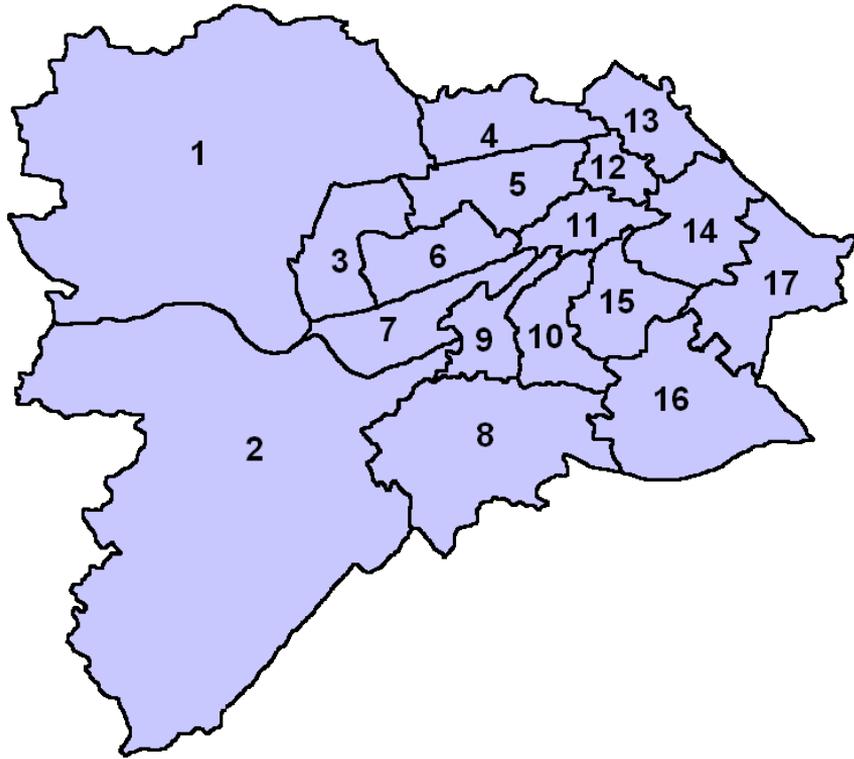# Unemployment trends and correlated factors

Michael Kellett and Steven Bunch

Context for the study

- **Building on previous poverty research in Edinburgh.**
- **Seeking to understand unemployment trends over time at ward level.**
- **Analysis of unemployment and correlated factors at the local level.**
- **Exploring the links between the JSA claimant rate and other poverty indicators.**
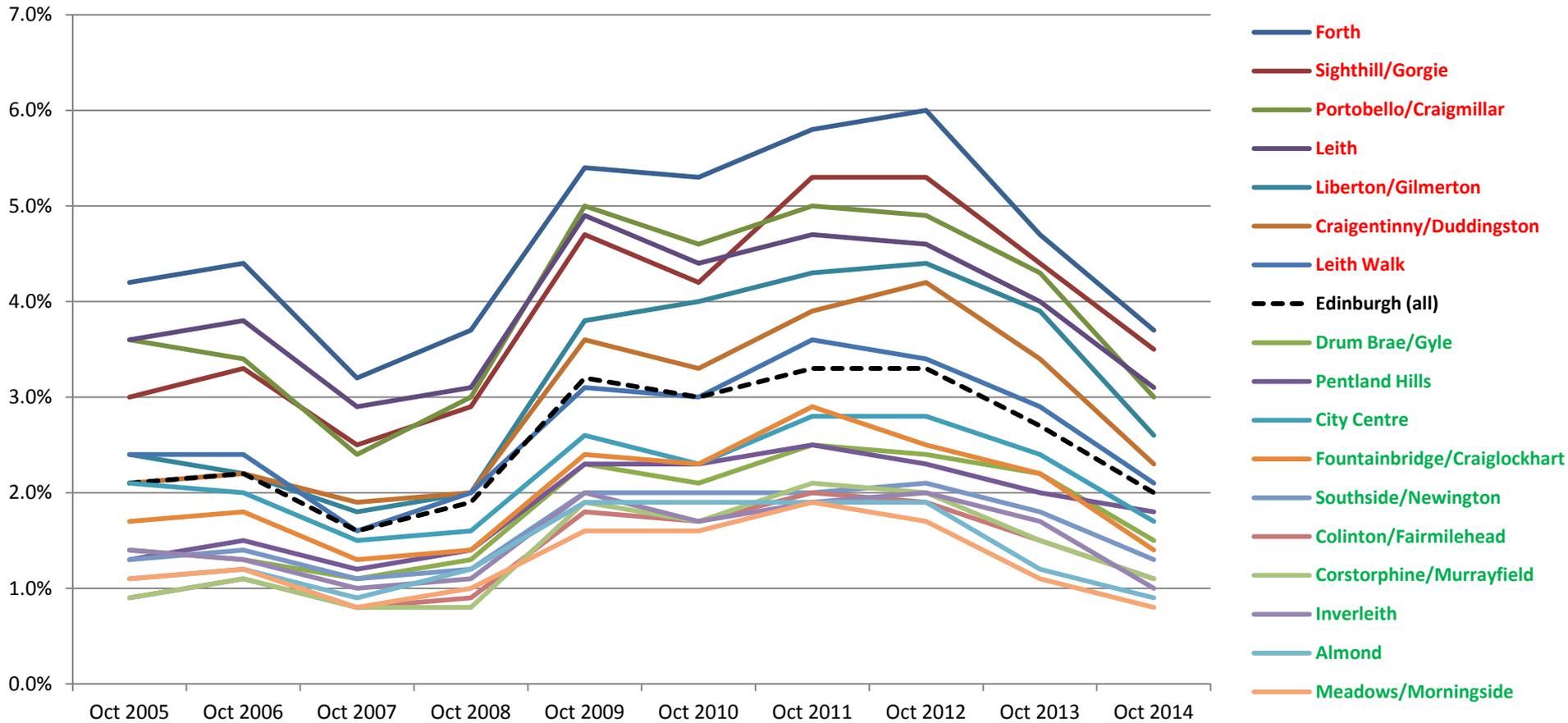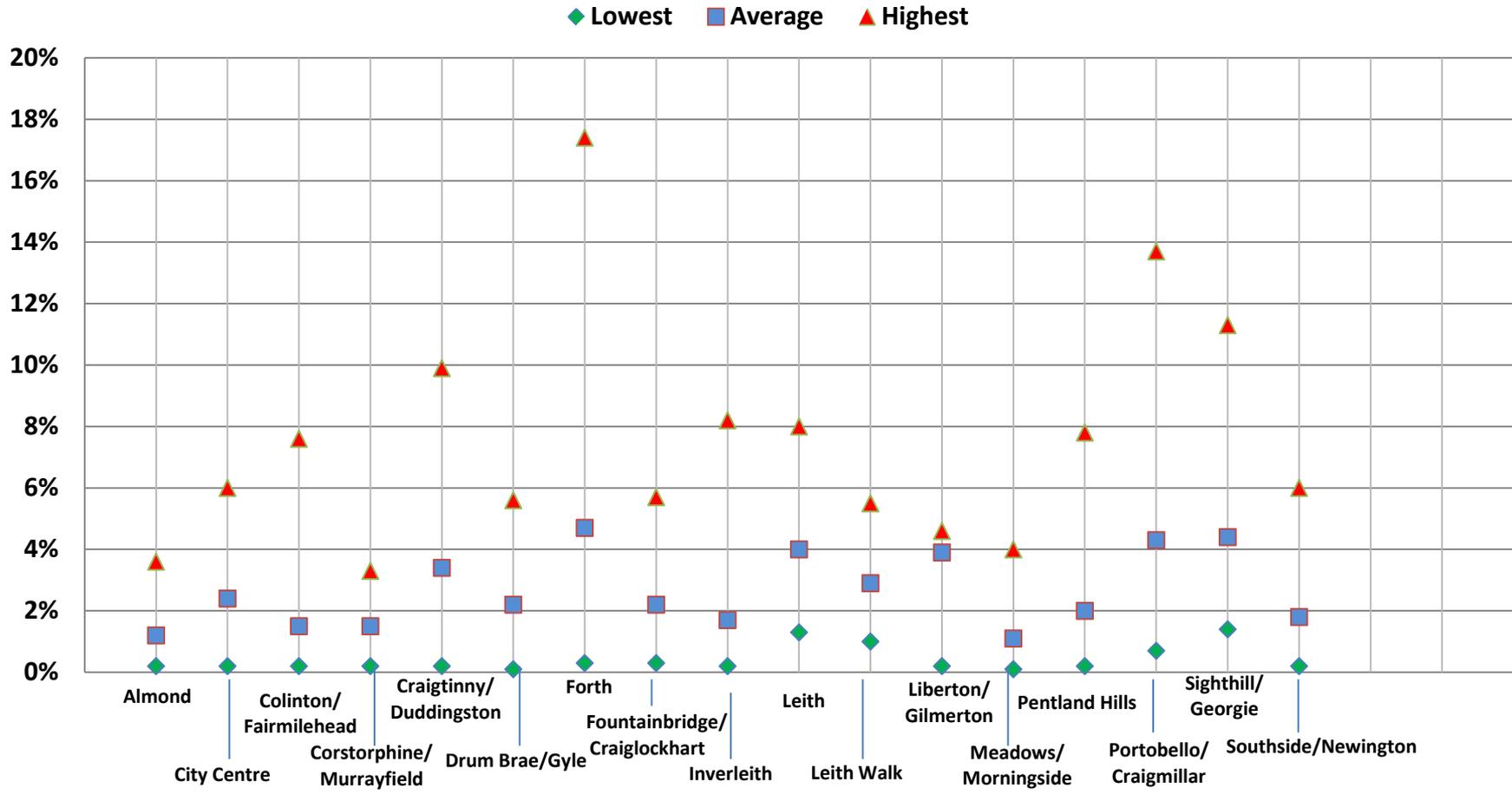
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Edinburgh's multi-member wards & data zones

Multi-member Wards and JSA trends 2005-2014

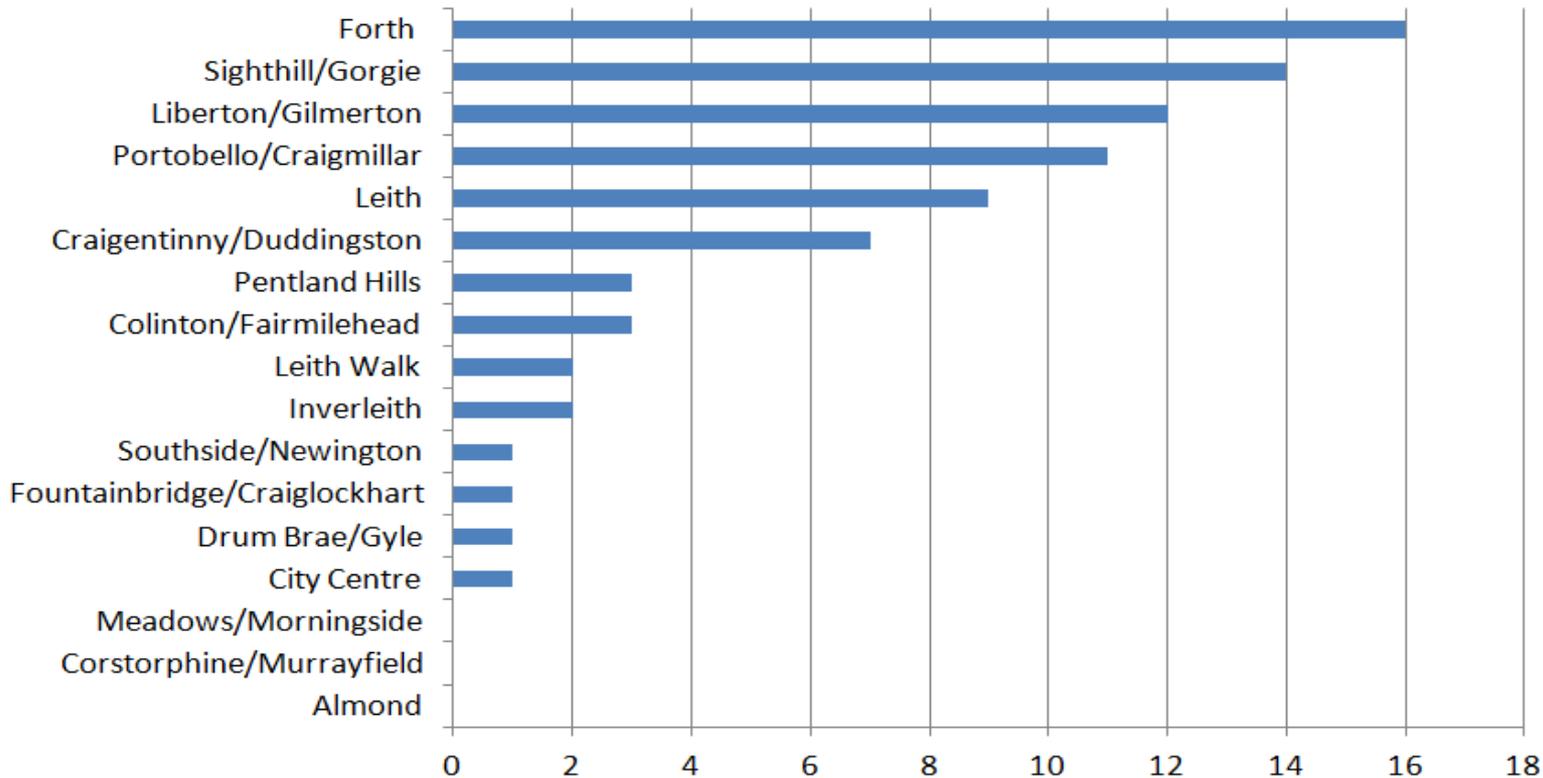|	Oct-05	Oct-06	Oct-07	Oct-08	Oct-09	Oct-10	Oct-11	Oct-12	Oct-13	Oct-14
Almond	1.1%	1.2%	0.9%	1.2%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.2%	0.9%
City Centre	2.1%	2.0%	1.5%	1.6%	2.6%	2.3%	2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	1.7%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	0.9%	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	1.8%	1.7%	2.0%	1.9%	1.5%	1.1%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	0.9%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	1.9%	1.7%	2.1%	2.0%	1.5%	1.1%
Craigentinny/Duddingston	2.1%	2.2%	1.9%	2.0%	3.6%	3.3%	3.9%	4.2%	3.4%	2.3%
Drum Brae/Gyle	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%	1.3%	2.3%	2.1%	2.5%	2.4%	2.2%	1.5%
Forth	4.2%	4.4%	3.2%	3.7%	5.4%	5.3%	5.8%	6.0%	4.7%	3.7%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	1.7%	1.8%	1.3%	1.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.9%	2.5%	2.2%	1.4%
Inverleith	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	2.0%	1.7%	1.9%	2.0%	1.7%	1.0%
Leith	3.6%	3.8%	2.9%	3.1%	4.9%	4.4%	4.7%	4.6%	4.0%	3.1%
Leith Walk	2.4%	2.4%	1.6%	2.0%	3.1%	3.0%	3.6%	3.4%	2.9%	2.1%
Liberton/Gilmerton	2.4%	2.2%	1.8%	2.0%	3.8%	4.0%	4.3%	4.4%	3.9%	2.6%
Meadows/Morningside	1.1%	1.2%	0.8%	1.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%	1.7%	1.1%	0.8%
Pentland Hills	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	1.4%	2.3%	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.0%	1.8%
Portobello/Craigmillar	3.6%	3.4%	2.4%	3.0%	5.0%	4.6%	5.0%	4.9%	4.3%	3.0%
Sighthill/Gorgie	3.0%	3.3%	2.5%	2.9%	4.7%	4.2%	5.3%	5.3%	4.4%	3.5%
Southside/Newington	1.3%	1.4%	1.1%	1.2%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	1.8%	1.3%
Edinburgh (all)	**2.1%**	**2.2%**	**1.6%**	**1.9%**	**3.2%**	**3.0%**	**3.3%**	**3.3%**	**2.7%**	**2.0%**

Multi-member Wards and JSA trends 2005-2014

Data zones and comparisons with Multi Member Ward averages (October 2013)

Number of data zones within the highest 15% JSA claimant areas

Topics

Issue	Measure	Correlation with JSA
Access	Time to services (GP, Post Office, Shops).	Weak
Crime	Deliberate fires (per 100,000)	Moderate
Education	% school leavers going into positive destinations**	Weak
Employment	Job Seekers Allowance claimant rate	-
Employment	% employment deprived***	Strong
Health	Emergency admissions (per 100,000)	Moderate
Health	Coronary Heart Disease (per 100,000)	Weak
Health	% Young mothers (under 19 years of age).	Moderate
Housing	Single adult households	Moderate
Housing	Fuel Poverty (Spend >10% of income on fuel)	Moderate
Income	Claiming pension GC (Guaranteed Credit)	Strong
Income	% low income and lone parent*** *	Strong
Income	% income deprived	Strong
Income/Health	% on Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disability Allowance	Strong
Risky Behaviour	Accidents (per 100,000)	Moderate
Risky Behaviour	% smoking (at booking antenatal appointment)	Strong

Findings by area in Edinburgh

Ward	Issues
Almond	Access; Health; Housing; Risky Behaviour
City Centre	Education; Income (old age)
Colinton/Fairmilehead	Access; Risky Behaviour
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	Access; Health; Housing; Risky Behaviour
Craigentinny/Duddingston	Crime; Employment; Health; Housing; Income (old age); Risky Behaviour
Drum Brae/Gyle	Access; Health; Income
Forth	Crime; Education; Employment; Health; Housing; Income; Risky Behaviour
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	Housing; Income
Inverleith	Education; Health; Housing
Leith	Crime; Employment; Health; Housing; Income; Risky Behaviour
Leith Walk	Education; Employment; Housing; Income
Liberton/Gilmerton	Access; Employment; Health; Housing; Income; Risky Behaviour
Meadows/Morningside	No issues worse than average
Pentland Hills	Access; Health
Portobello/Craigmillar	Crime; Employment; Health; Housing; Income; Risky Behaviour
Sighthill/Gorgie	Crime; Education; Employment; Health; Housing; Income; Risky Behaviour
Southside/Newington	Education; Housing

Questions?

Thanks