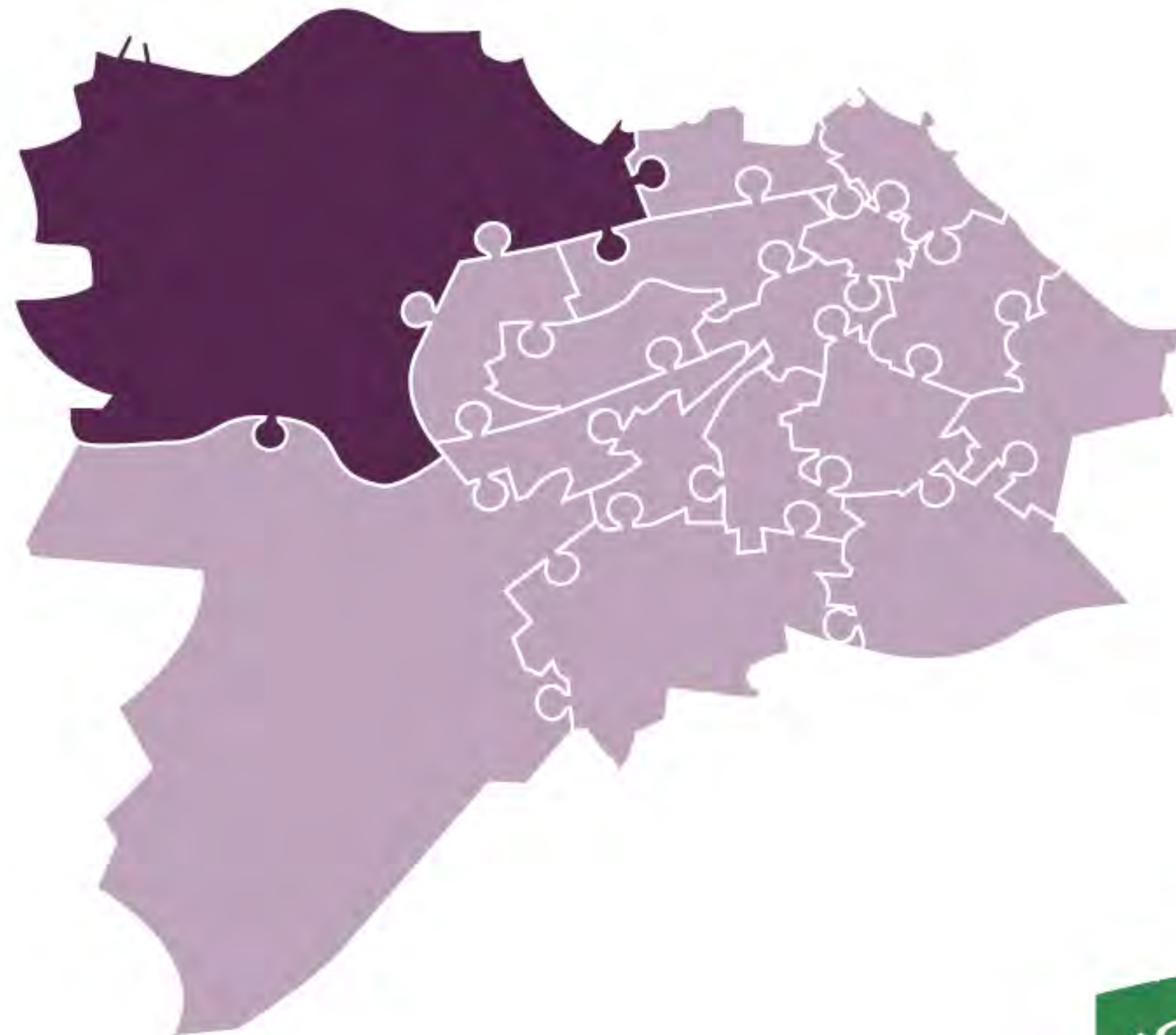


Evidence Report Place Profile

Ward 1 Almond



Introduction

Place Profiles have been created for each of the 17 Electoral Wards within the City of Edinburgh Council area.

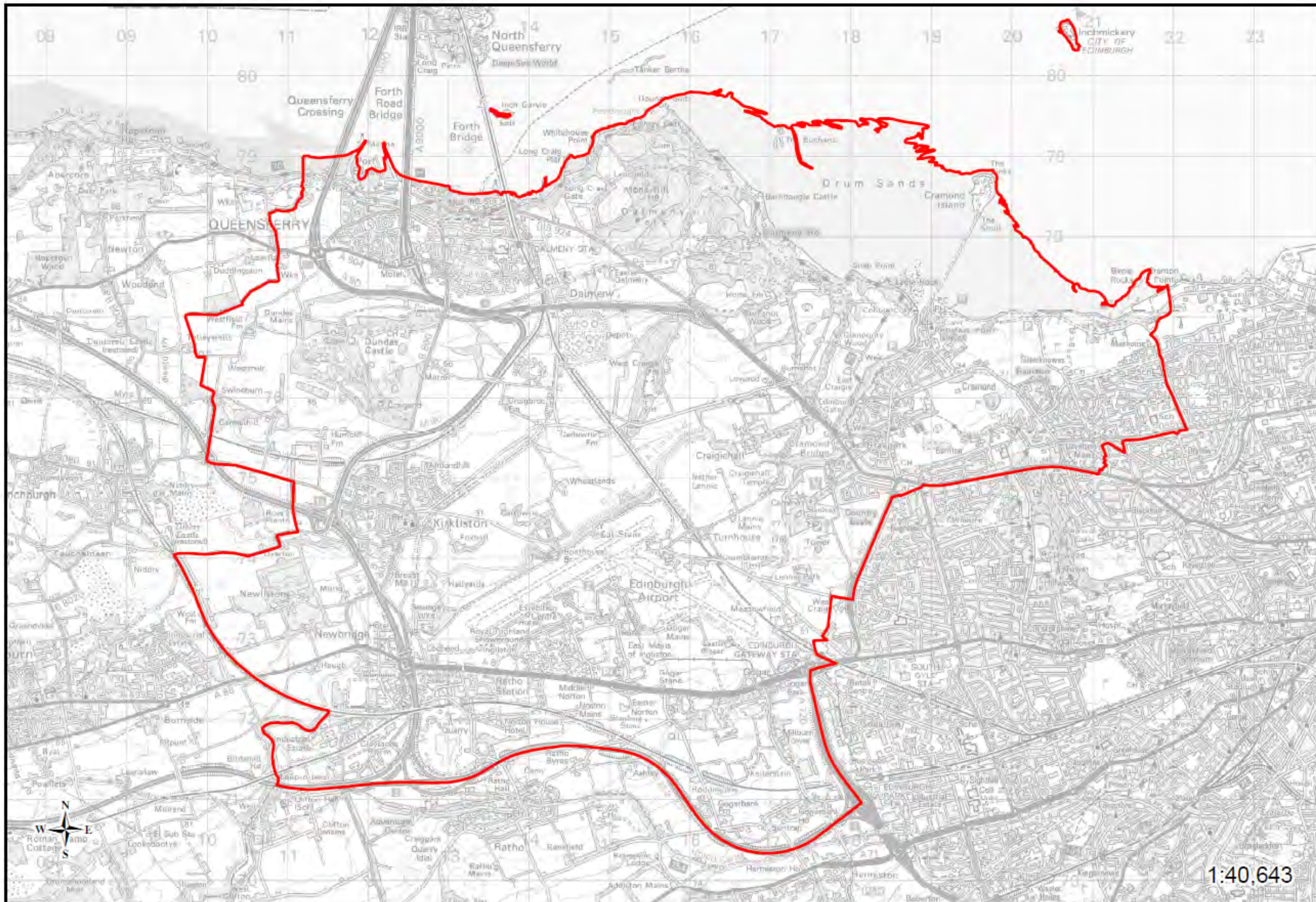
In line with NPF4 and related guidance, new Local Development Plans in Scotland need to be place-based, people-centred and delivery-focussed.

These Place Profiles display information on the people, infrastructure and key features of each ward and identify areas of focus for the Proposed Plan.

They provide spatial focus for the Evidence Report where they require a place-based analysis.

They are a tool for engagement, pulling together our spatial and statistical understanding into one place for quick access. This will assist communities looking to prepare Local Place Plans, and in turn the Place Profiles can be updated to include relevant work from Local Place Plans.

Demographic information is from the 2022 Census of Scotland and the Public Health Scotland Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) Profiles.



Place

Headlines

This is a summary of key issues raised through analysis and engagement in this ward. Full details are shown in the appendix.

Strengths	Challenges
- Engagement feedback indicates that most residents are satisfied with living in the ward - Residents feel that there is a good mix of housing types in the area, and that homes generally meet their needs - The ward benefits from the presence of major employers, including Edinburgh Airport and the Royal Bank of Scotland at Gogarburn as well as employment opportunities in Newbridge - Children and young people reported that they were generally positive about public transport and report using it regularly - Access to green open space is valued, with popular/favourite spots including Princes Street Gardens, the Meadows and Davidson's Mains Park. Although these are often located outwith the ward, they were described as being fun and close to home - It was noted that food growing opportunities were concentrated in Kirkliston, Sighthill and Muirhouse	- There is contrast between areas of the ward reporting higher levels of deprivation within the ward concentrated in Muirhouse within the Edinburgh urban area - Traffic and congestion was highlighted as a key concern across the ward - Some housing is not suiting to the needs of the residents in areas such as parts of Queensferry and Kirkliston as well as Muirhouse which are more likely to be overcrowded - Certain areas have limited access to shops and services, or only basic provision. - Engagement feedback indicates a perceived overrepresentation of certain retail uses (cafes, beauty parlours, charity shops, large supermarkets and car garages) and a desire for greater variety in retail and service offer was proposed - Active travel had less positive feedback with concerns raised regarding distance between connectivity stops, highlighting that it is too far, takes too long and did not feel safe walking around - Public transport provision was considered variable, with some areas lacking convenient or direct access to services - Public highlighted they were not happy about traffic and parking pressures, which were identified as a problem - Local facilities and community spaces were commented to be underutilised/not a preferred choice for socialising - Location of health facilities was commented to be lacking in Kirkliston, Newbridge and Ratho Station indicating a need to improve accessibility to these services
Implications	
- Opportunity to consider the spatial distribution of health facilities - There is an implication to consider the housing mix and distribution across the ward - A lower level of public transport access in parts of the ward highlights an opportunity to improve sustainable transport options. More traffic mitigation measures was highlighted as a key need - There is an opportunity to provide better facilities for formal and informal recreation. Better/ more equipment was highlighted as important - The public felt that the development should not reduce green space or outdoor play areas, and request for more nature-based play was identified - Opportunity to align provision of community spaces with local wants and needs including sports clubs, youth-oriented spaces (such as reading or gaming groups), and opportunities targeted at specific groups (such as for girls) - There is an opportunity to improve access to volunteering and training opportunities within the ward - There is opportunity to improve walking and cycling routes and wheeling routes and connections in the ward including specific identified areas such as Queensferry - Opportunities to address gaps in growing spaces identified in Queensferry, Cramond, Barnton, Newbridge and Ratho Station - There is an opportunity to strengthen climate resilience measures, including sustainable drainage to manage flood risk, and to increase tree and vegetation cover and retaining existing greenspace	

Background

Almond Ward covers a large area of rural west Edinburgh and is a mixture of the Firth of Forth coastline, countryside, farmland, estate land, historic settlements and urban suburbs with a commercial, industrial and aviation spine along the A8 corridor.

Queensferry owes its name and existence as a ferry passage to Fife. It became a flourishing seaport in the 17th century, and the medieval burgh is still recognisable in its townscape and buildings. After a period of decline, it boomed again in the late 19th century with the construction of the rail bridge. Queensferry expanded with council housing in the inter-war and post-war periods, and it has continued to develop as a residential area until the present day.

Dalmeny has medieval origins but was primarily an agricultural village with some later shale mining; and the shale waste forms the landscaping around the village.

Kirkliston was an agricultural and linen weaving village which developed further with the arrival of the distillery and turnpike road by the early 19th century. It developed as a residential area in the post-war era and has continued to expand with new housing development.

Cramond was a Roman outpost fort for the Antonine Wall and then an agricultural settlement tied closely to Edinburgh. Cramond became a pioneer of the iron industry with the five mills along the River Almond capitalising on the river as a source of power and the harbour for transportation. Remnants of the mills are still visible along the river alongside the workers housing in the main village. As this industry declined, the village expanded in the later 19th century with residential development close to railway stations at Davidson's Mains and Barnton that gave easy access to Edinburgh.

Davidson's Mains is a former farming village which underwent suburban expansion as railways and other public transport expanded here.

Barnton is a residential area characterised by large villas dating from the early 19th century and later development from the 1970s onwards.

Strathalmond is an earlier post-war residential area.

Silverknowes is a residential area built primarily in the mid-20th century.

Muirhouse is a post-war Council housing estate which takes its name from Muirhouse Mansion. It is one of many local authority housing areas planned around the city's boundaries to clear slums and reduce population density in Edinburgh city centre. Initial prefabricated housing was replaced with higher density housing including tower blocks.

There are local shopping centres at Queensferry, Scotstoun Grove (Queensferry), Main Street (Kirkliston), Whitehouse Road (Barnton), Davidson's Mains and Muirhouse.

There has been recent new residential development within the ward that has resulted in significant change. This has expanded the urban edge of the city around **West Craigs**, **Cammo** and **Turnhouse**, which is also the name of the former RAF base and is now used for cargo operations as part of the airport.

Within the ward, there is a corridor of activity along the A8 with identified areas of economic importance including:

Gogar refers to a lost village and is currently an area of open land with key buildings and activities such as Gogar Castle, Millburn Tower, RBS headquarters and the tram depot.

Ingliston is the location of the Royal Highland Showground and Edinburgh Airport.

Ratho Station is a small residential settlement along the A8 originally centred around a closed railway station with recent new housing development. It also contains part of the Newbridge Business and Industry Area and the Hillwood Quarry.

The small village of **Newbridge** was centred around the bridge over the River Almond but is now known for the large business, industrial estate and roundabout.

The ward contains significant air, road and rail infrastructure including the A8, M8, M9, M90, the Newbridge Roundabout and the start of the Forth road and rail bridges as they cross to Fife. The railway lines to Glasgow and to the north run through the ward with a train station at Dalmeny. The tram line terminates at Edinburgh Airport which is Scotland's largest airport. These form major routes and public transport corridors through the ward and leading out of Edinburgh to the west and north.

The River Almond runs through the ward and industrial heritage is evident along the length of the river. The Gogar Burn is also a key watercourse running through the ward that feeds into the River Almond.

Within the Almond ward, there are several existing and former country houses/ country estates including Lauriston Castle, Dalmeny, Dundas Castle, Craigiehall, Cammo and Norton House.

There are also a number of golf courses: Silverknowes, Bruntsfield Links, Royal Burgess, Dundas Parks and Gogarburn.

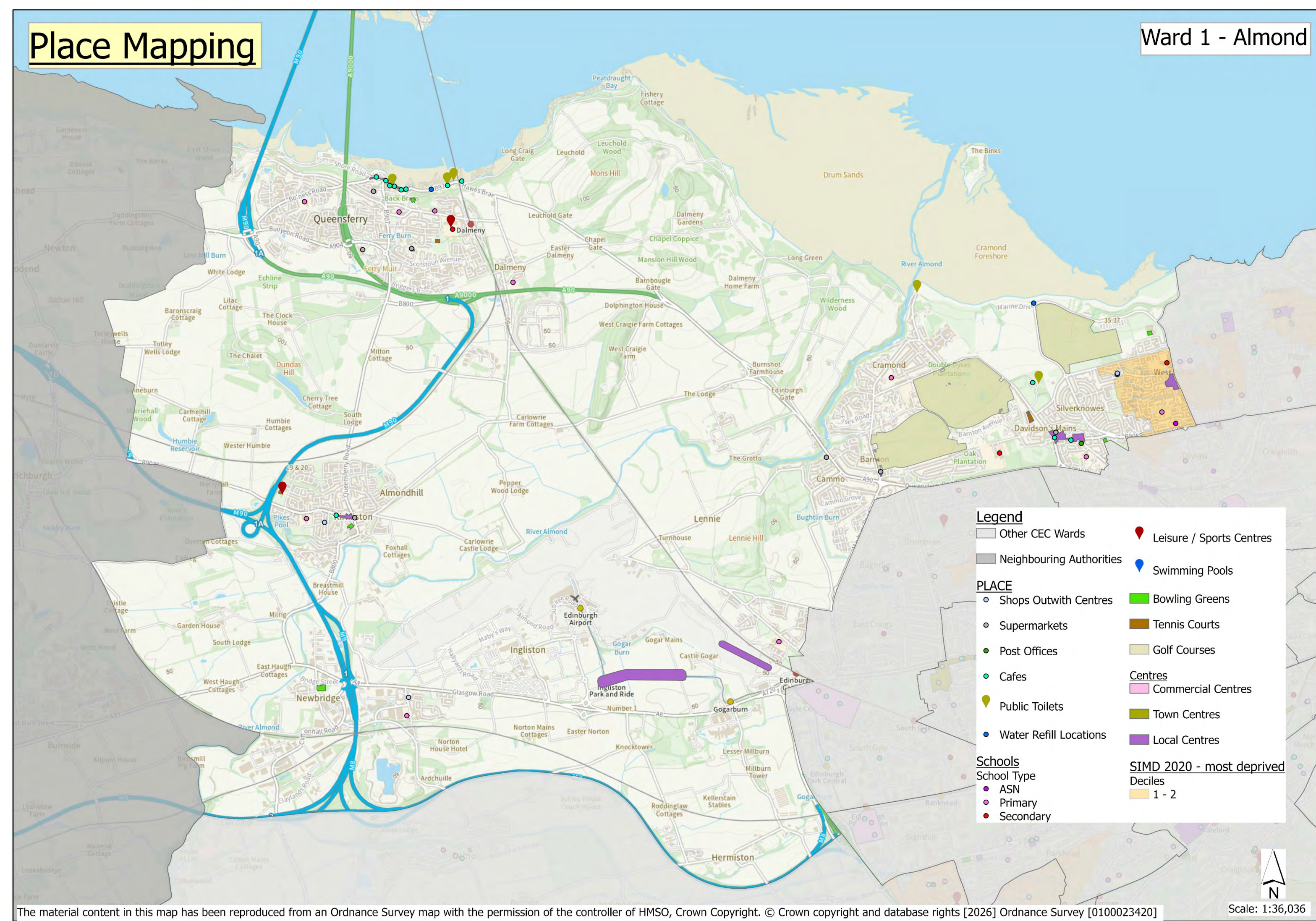
Other key leisure, sports and cultural activities within the ward include Port Edgar, the Forth Bridge as an inscribed World Heritage Site, Cramond Island, Cramond/Silverknowes Esplanade and Conifox Adventure Park.

Place Mapping

- Mapping of key amenities are shown below, which are linked to amenities detailed in the **Local Living topic paper** which can contribute to Living Well Locally.
- Distribution of cultural facilities and community-run spaces is also shown. This is based upon available information at the time of mapping and may not include all existing spaces but is used to show an overall pattern.

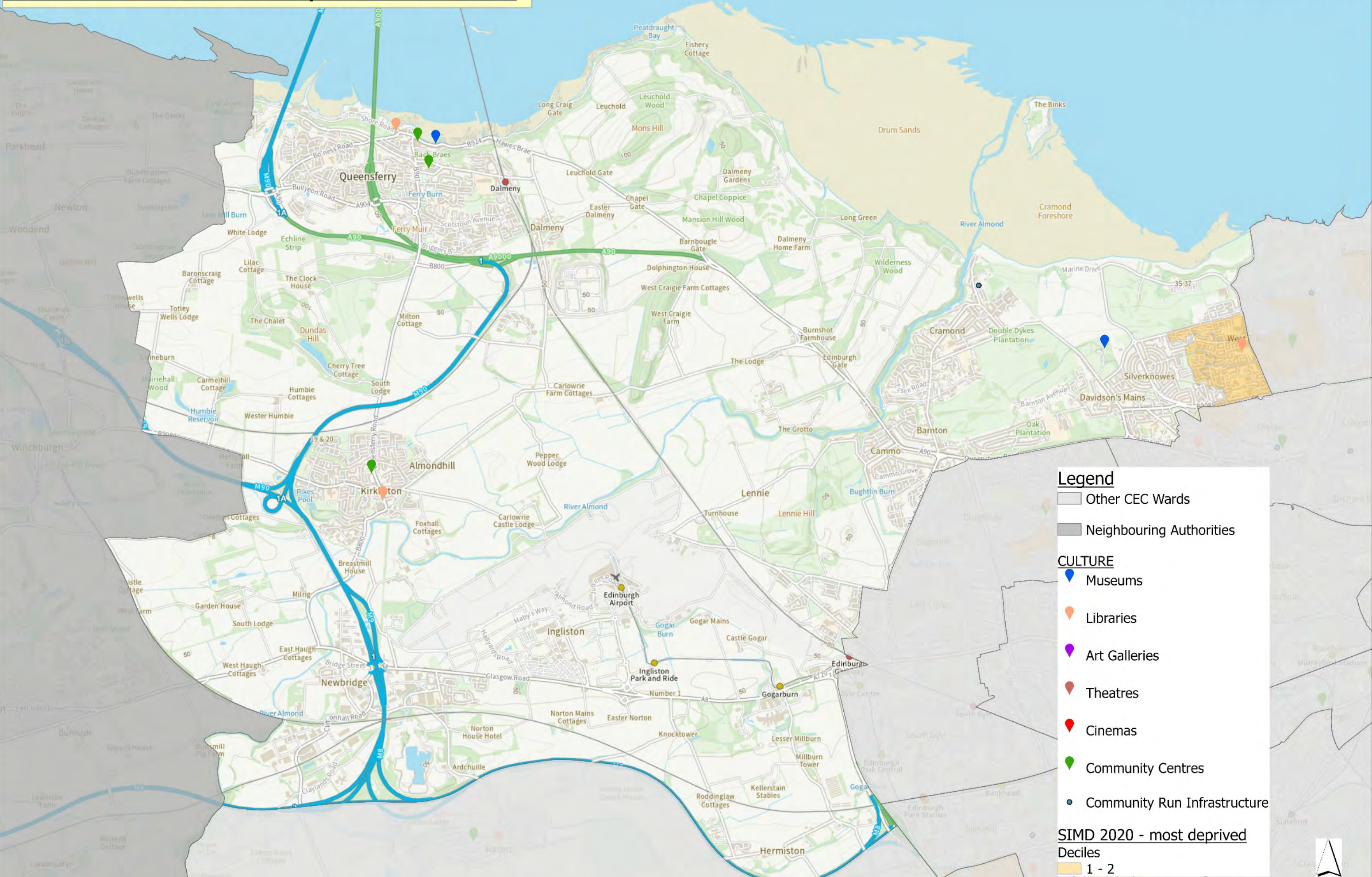
Place Mapping

Ward 1 - Almond



Culture and Community Infrastructure

Ward 1 - Almond



Considerations

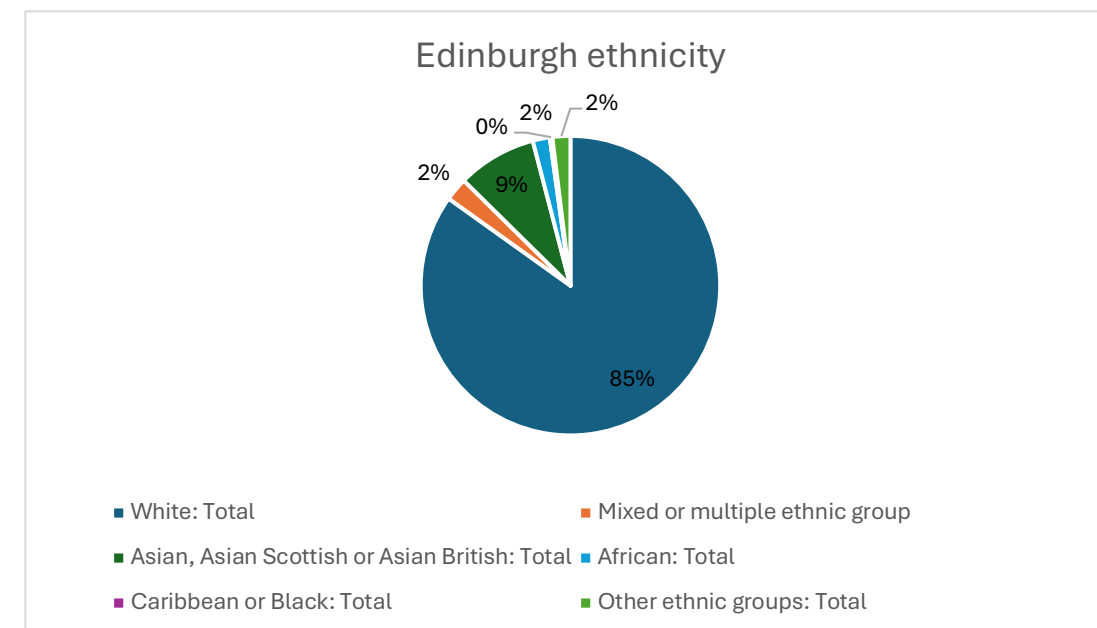
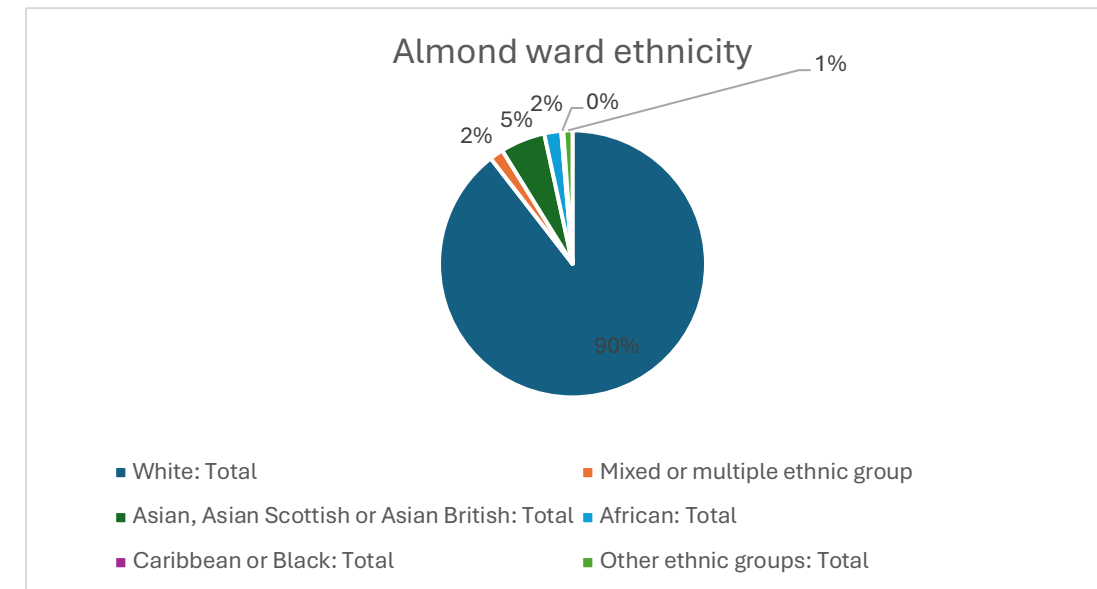
- Place mapping shows that amenities located close to the local centres of Muirhouse and Davidson's Mains, tend to align with transport access providing a focus for local amenities and public transport access for the surrounding residential areas and aligning with higher population density within the Edinburgh Bypass closer to the centre of Edinburgh.
- Local centres are proposed to be delivered at West Edinburgh which is subject to a placemaking framework, with primary and secondary schools and other amenities proposed as part of development.
- Outside of the bypass, this largely rural Ward concentrates amenities and population in certain village areas focussed on Queensferry and Kirkliston with gaps in between.
- Overall, cultural spaces are concentrated in Queensferry, Kirkliston and parts of Wester Hailes, with gaps in provision in Newbridge, West Edinburgh and Barnton.
- Children and young people generally thought there was the right amount of shops and services in the area but this was in contrast to some responses who thought there was a need for be a greater range of shops, food outlets and libraries.
- The general public is also generally negative about the community space; some places were well provided but others lacked enough.
- Children and young people tend not to use local facilities to play, socialise or hang out and are more likely to go to a friend's house, go into town or go to a shopping centre/ food and drink place.
- Children and young people highlight the need for local facilities in Queensferry such as libraries, leisure spaces and cafes to support families and everyday life. They want safe, welcoming places to meet friends and socialise.
- They considered that there were enough activities, clubs and groups including on a weekend and holidays, but they wanted different types of sports clubs, clubs that were less sport orientated such as reading or gaming and interest groups focussed on girls.
- Schools and community buildings were seen as important local assets that support activity and services especially by the wider community outside school hours.

People

Demographics

- The population of Almond is 34,967, which is **6.8%** of the Edinburgh total of 514,543.
- This population is housed in 14,787 households, which is **6.2%** of the Edinburgh total of 238,944 households.
- The following sites located within the ward boundary are allocated within the adopted City Plan 2030.
 - OPP64 Land at Ferrymuir – 88 homes.
 - H29 Silverlea – 120 homes.
 - H61 Crosswinds – 2,500 homes.
 - H62 Land adjacent to Edinburgh Gateway – 250 homes.
 - H63 Edinburgh 205 – 7,000 homes.
 - H65 Old Liston Road – 104 homes.
 - H96 East of Milburn Tower – 1,350 homes.
 - HSG1 Springfield – 176 homes.
 - HSG5 Hillwood Road – 124 homes.
 - HSG19 Maybury Central/Maybury West – 2,085 homes.
 - HSG32 Buileyon Road – 840 homes.
 - City Plan 2030 allocates a total 14,637 which would be a **98%** increase in households, compared to a projected 40,288 or **16.9%** increase for Edinburgh as a whole as set out in City Plan 2030.
 - The expected rate of growth in this ward is much higher than that of Edinburgh as a whole, primarily due to proposed development in West Edinburgh.
- The age breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - The population aged 0-15 is 7,299 which is **20.9%** of the ward population compared to **14.58%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 16-64 is 21,247 which is **60.8%** of the ward population compared to **69.5%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 65+ is 6,429 which is **18.4%** of the ward population compared to **15.93%** for the Edinburgh total.

- The ethnicity breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - The percentage of the population recorded as white is **89%** compared to **85%** for Edinburgh as a whole.
 - For the population recorded as not white, the largest groups represented are:
 - Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British (707)
 - Other African (702)
 - Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group (626)

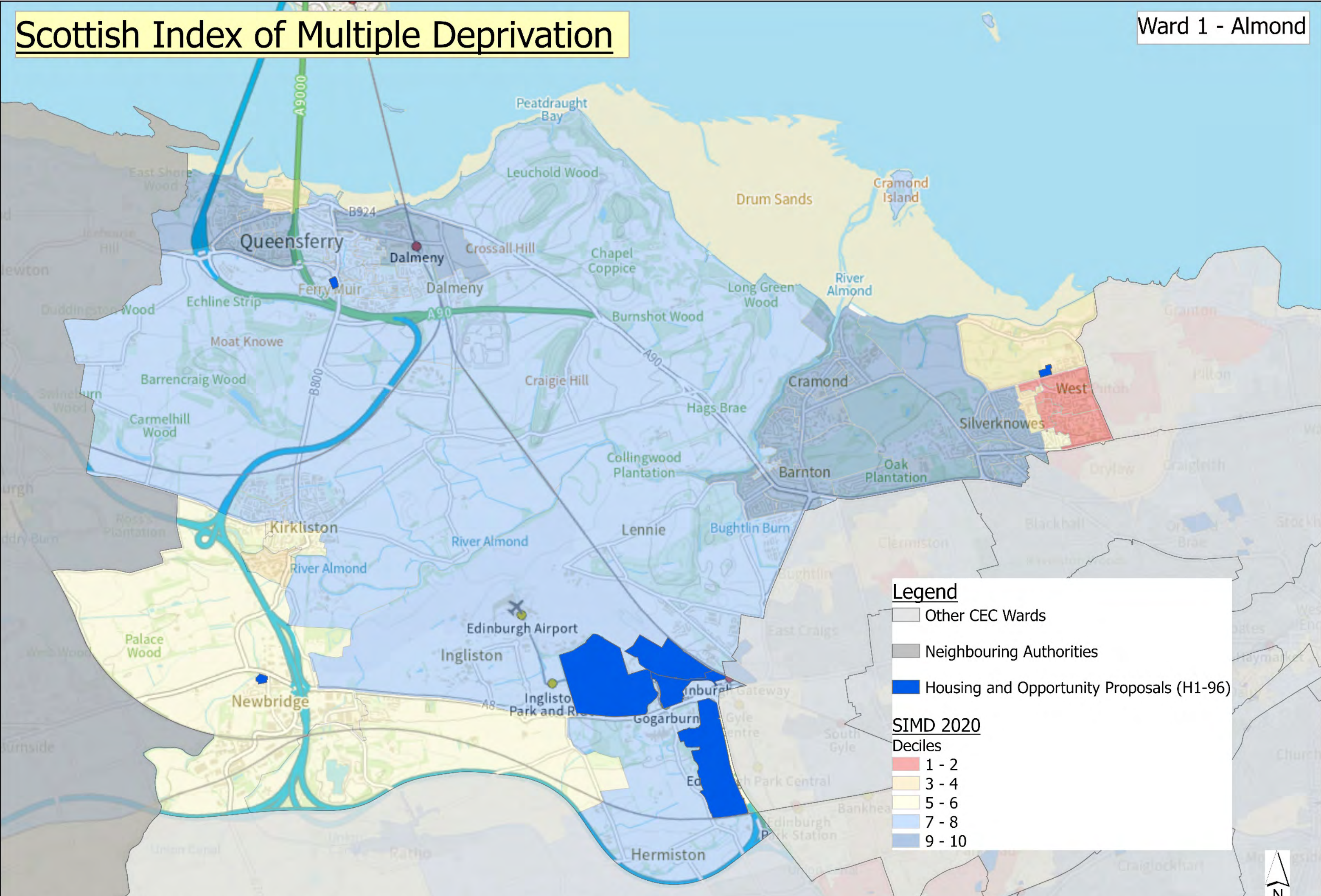


Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

- SIMD mapping is shown below and shows this as a ward of varied levels of deprivation amongst and within settlements.
- South Queensferry is a settlement with mainly low levels of deprivation, with the exception of the north-west of the settlement.
- Kirkliston is a settlement with a higher level of deprivation concentrated in the south of the settlement, although no areas are within the top or bottom 20% most deprived in Scotland.
- Newbridge and Ratho Station show relatively low levels of deprivation.
- In the east of the ward, within the Edinburgh urban area, there is a contrast between the parts of the ward falling within Cramond, Barnton, Davidson's Mains and Silverknowes which contains areas falling within the least 20% deprived in Scotland. The part of the ward falling within Muirhouse contains areas falling within the most 20% deprived in Scotland.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Ward 1 - Almond



Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities
- Housing and Opportunity Proposals (H1-96)

SIMD 2020

Deciles

- 1 - 2
- 3 - 4
- 5 - 6
- 7 - 8
- 9 - 10

Considerations

- The population is expected to grow much faster than the Edinburgh average, with this growth concentrated in the West Edinburgh area which is subject to a placemaking framework and the nearby East of Milburn Tower site.
- The working age percentage is lower than the Edinburgh average, but the child age and older population percentages are higher than the Edinburgh average.
- This ward is slightly less diverse than Edinburgh as a whole based upon population groups present.
- Some areas of the ward are identified as being within the most 20% deprived in Scotland, concentrated on Muirhouse within the Edinburgh urban area. This contrasts with Cramond, Barnton, Davidson's Mains and Silverknowes which contains areas falling within the least 20% deprived in Scotland. The other small settlements within this Ward are mixed but with a lower overall range of deprivation.
- Most people were happy living within the ward.
- Responses are mixed, reflecting the different settlements within the ward.
- Traffic was a key concern.
- Preferred improvements would be better public transport, parks and play space improvements and more local amenities.

Health

Demographics

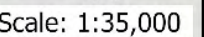
- **18.5%** of the ward population reported having a long-term illness or disease, compared to **18.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **8.9%** of the ward population reported having a long-term mental health condition, compared to **11.9%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **83.8%** of the ward population considered themselves to be in good or very good health, compared to **83.7%** of the Edinburgh population.
- The total number of dental registrations in this ward is **24,268**, greater than the ward population of **34,967**. Dental practices do not have fixed boundaries, indicating that people may travel outwith this ward for dental care.
- This ward has a ratio of **1 pharmacy per 6,313 people** based on mid-2024 estimates compared to **1 pharmacy per 5,006.4 people** for Edinburgh as a whole.
- It is estimated based on A&E attendances that **19.85%** of the ward have accessed A&E services in 2025, compared to **17.59%** for Edinburgh as a whole.
- For pregnant people in this ward who had a BMI reading taken between 2020 and 2025, **28.96%** were overweight and **20.95%** were obese. For Edinburgh as a whole, **29.1%** were overweight and **18.76%** were obese.
- For all people who had a BMI reading taken in 2025, **32.92%** were overweight and **34.2%** were obese. For Edinburgh as a whole, **32.56%** were overweight and **30.12%** were obese.
- As these BMI statistics are biased towards either all pregnant people or people who are more likely to have a BMI taken for medical reasons they should be viewed for comparison only, not as an accurate reading of population health statistics.
- Life expectancy data is based upon intermediate zones, which do not match with ward boundaries. For Edinburgh as a whole, between 2022 and 2024 male life expectancy was **78.3 years** and female life expectancy was **82.2 years**. The life expectancy measured from 2019 to 2023 of the intermediate zones wholly or partially within this ward are as follows:
 - In Barnton, Cammo & Cramond South – Male life expectancy was **81.2 years** and female life expectancy was **89.3 years**.
 - Cramond – Male life expectancy was **83.8 years** and female life expectancy was **85.9 years**.
 - Dalmeny, Kirkliston & Newbridge – Male life expectancy was **79.8 years** and female life expectancy was **83.9 years**.
 - East Craigs North – Male life expectancy was **78.4 years** and female life expectancy was **80.7 years**.
 - Granton West & Salvesen – Male life expectancy was **75.1 years** and female life expectancy was **77.9 years**.
 - Muirhouse-City of Edinburgh – Male life expectancy was **71.5 years** and female life expectancy was **78 years**.

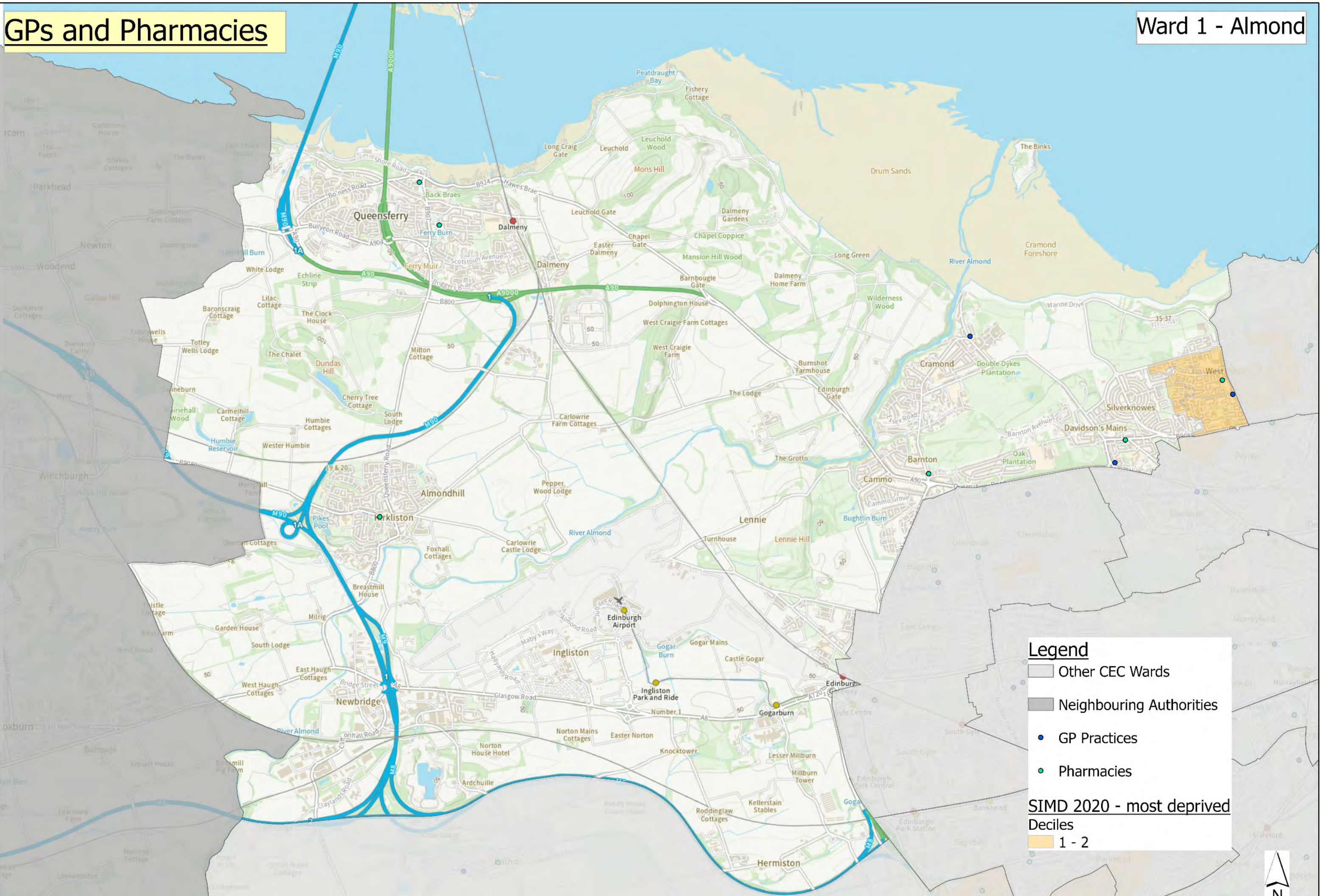
- Queensferry East – Male life expectancy was **80.2 years** and female life expectancy was **85.3 years**.
- Queensferry West – Male life expectancy was **78.9 years** and female life expectancy was **80.8 years**.
- Ratho, Ingliston & Gogar – Male life expectancy was **80.6 years** and female life expectancy was **84.1 years**.
- Silverknowes & Davidson's Mains – Male life expectancy was **83.1 years** and female life expectancy was **86.5 years**.

Uses likely to affect health and wellbeing and food access

- Town and local centres with identified clusters of unhealthy uses are set out in the **Health and Wellbeing topic paper** and **City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres topic paper**.
- There are no town and local centres with identified clusters of unhealthy uses within this ward.
- The Priority Places for Food Index identifies neighbourhoods that are most vulnerable to increases in the cost of living and which have a lack of accessibility to cheap, healthy, and sustainable sources of food making them a Priority Place for Food as set out in the **Health and Wellbeing topic paper**.
- According to this index, there are no data zones within this ward falling within the top 20% priority areas lacking access.
- Hot food takeaway uses are dispersed widely around the ward with some concentrated in South Queensferry and Davidson's Mains.

Ward 1 - Almond





Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities
- GP Practices
- Pharmacies

SIMD 2020 - most deprived Deciles

1 - 2

Considerations

- The percentage of people who report being in good or very good health is in line with the Edinburgh average, with a similar percentage of people having a long-term illness/disease as the Edinburgh average.
- The percentage of people who report having a long-term mental health condition is lower than the Edinburgh average.
- The percentage of the population reporting to be in good or very good health is approximately in line with the Edinburgh average.
- The location of health facilities is distributed around most areas within the ward, however Kirkliston, Newbridge and Ratho Station do not have any provision.
- The general public was generally positive about the healthcare facilities, but this would be dependent on their location within the ward with some services at or over capacity.

Housing

Housing type and density

- 10,235 households live in houses, which is **69.2%** compared with **36.8%** of the Edinburgh total, while 4,554, which is **30.8%**, live in flats compared with **63.2%** of the Edinburgh total. 1 live in a caravan or another mobile/temporary structure.
- Although the level of flatted accommodation is lower on average than the Edinburgh total, mapping shows some concentration of households in flatted accommodation within Queensferry and Muirhouse.
- Population density is generally lower, reflecting the rural nature of much of this ward. Higher levels of population density are concentrated in Muirhouse and parts of Queensferry.

Housing tenure and overcrowding

- The housing tenure breakdown of the ward is listed below.
 - **73.1%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as owned, compared to **60.1%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **16.7%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as social rented, compared to **15.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **9.2%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as private rented, compared to **23.1%** for the Edinburgh total.
- The level of owner occupation is greater than the Edinburgh average, but a slightly higher percentage of households also live in socially rented accommodation than the Edinburgh average. The mapping shows this to be concentrated in Muirhouse and parts of Kirkliston and Queensferry.
- The level of overcrowding as measured by occupation of rooms per household is higher in Muirhouse and parts of Queensferry. This aligns with some areas of social housing that are noted above.

Density (Households per Hectare)

Ward 1 - Almond

Legend

Other CEC Wards

Neighbouring Authorities

Public Transport Stops

Type

Bus

Coach

Rail

Tram

Open Space

Centres

Commercial Centres

Town Centres

Local Centres

Datazones

Households Per Hectare

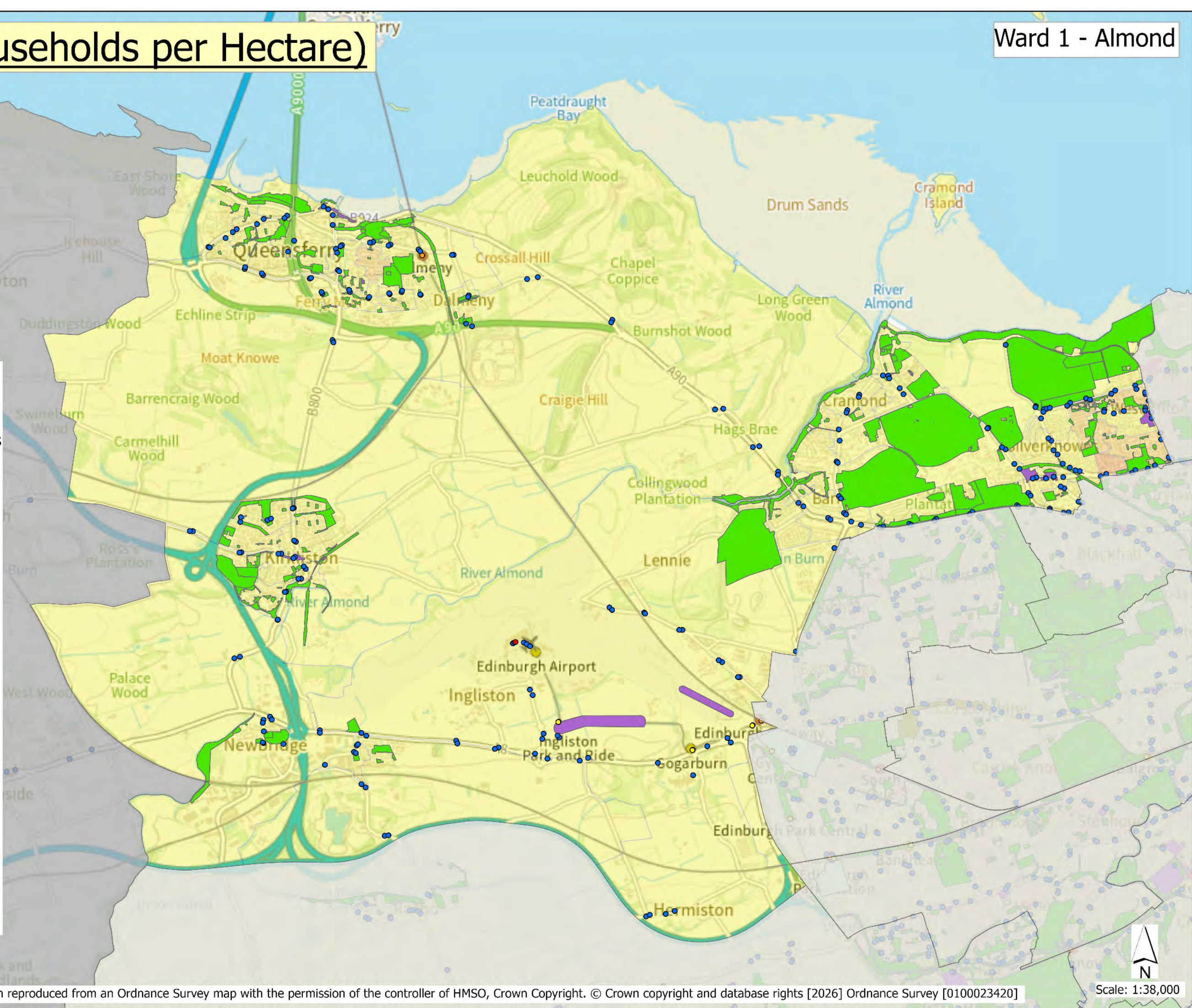
0 - 25

26 - 50

51 - 75

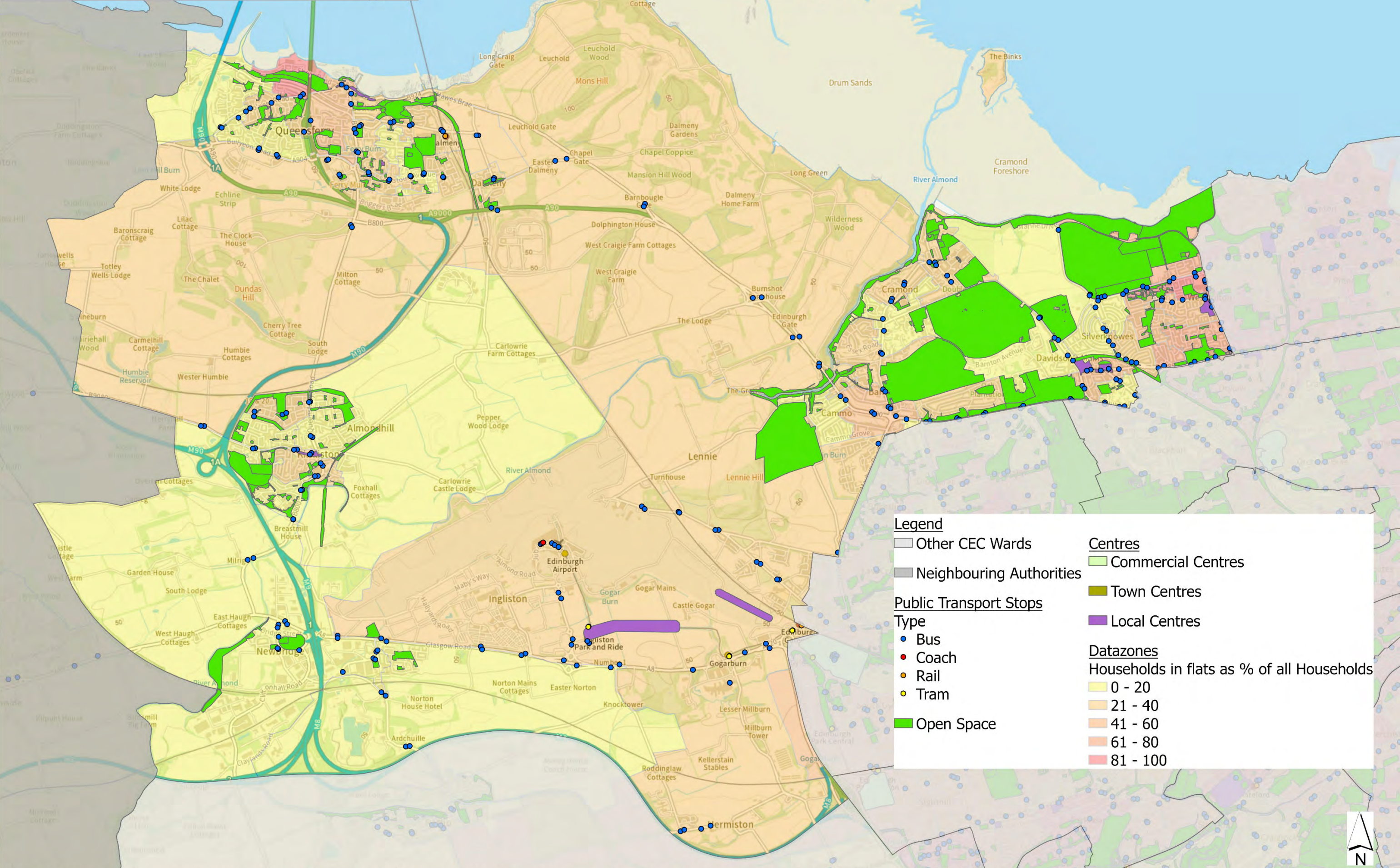
76 - 100

100+



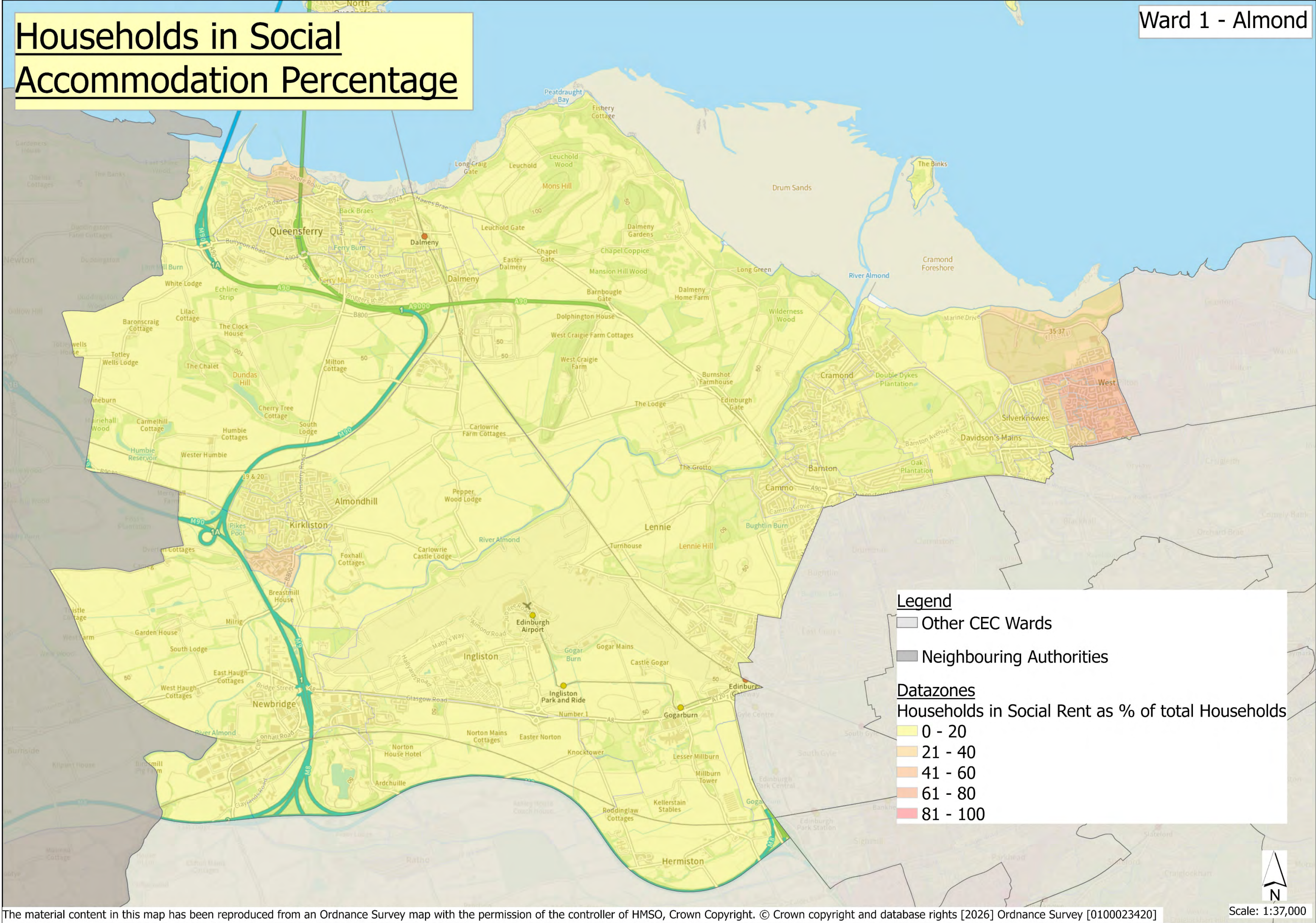
Flats, Apartments and Maisonettes Percentage

Ward 1 - Almond



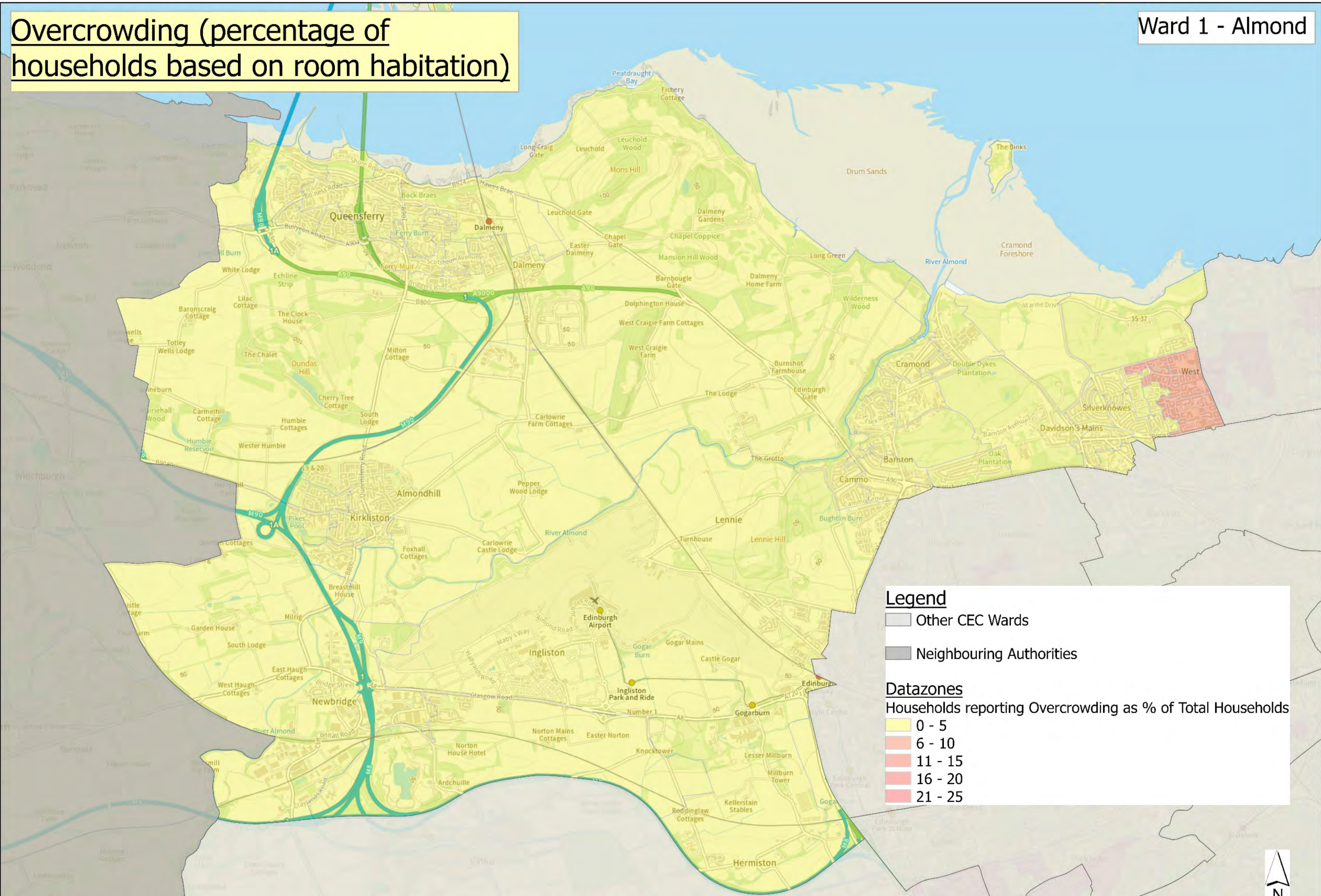
Households in Social Accommodation Percentage

Ward 1 - Almond



Overcrowding (percentage of households based on room habitation)

Ward 1 - Almond



Considerations

- Flatted accommodation is concentrated in the denser area of Muirhouse which was built as a post war public housing development, with a higher concentration of houses outwith this area. Despite the rural nature of much of the Ward, some denser areas are found within parts of Queensferry and Kirkliston.
- Social housing is concentrated in Muirhouse and parts of Queensferry and Kirkliston and these areas see more overcrowding.
- The general public is generally happy with their home but if they could change anything, they would be a bigger place, a house rather than a flat and more efficient, accessible and affordable homes.
- The homes in the area generally meet the needs of the people living as there with a good mix of housing types.
- Children and young people were happy with their home but preference for having a bigger home and a home that is warmer or less damp/cold was highlighted.

Economy

Demographics

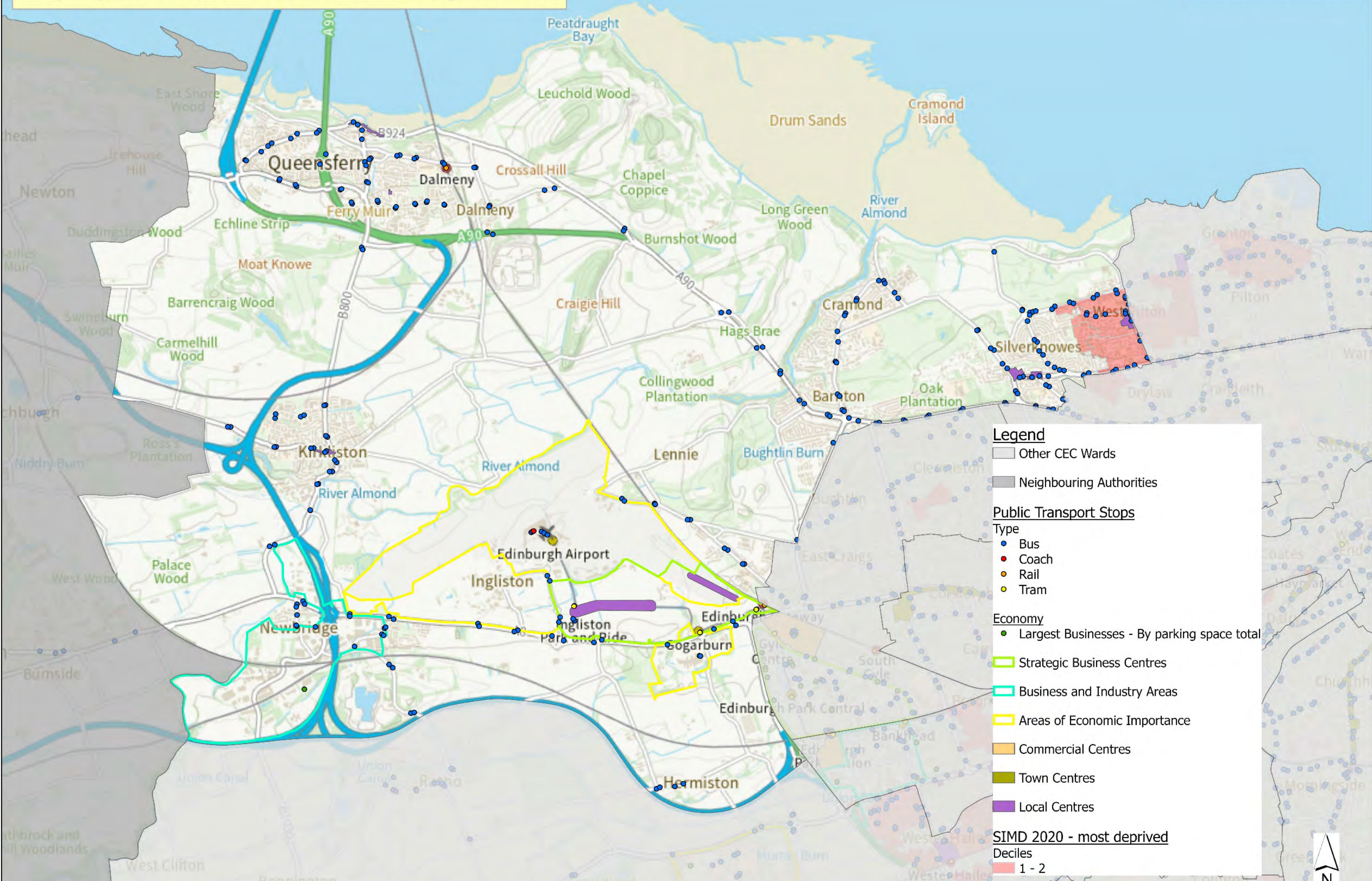
- The occupation breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **10.5%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Managers, Directors and Senior Officials, compared to **8.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **27%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Professional Occupations, compared to **29.9%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **15.2%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Associate Professional and Technical Occupations, compared to **15.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **9.5%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Administrative and Secretarial Occupations, compared to **8.9%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **8%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Skilled Trade Occupations, compared to **7.2%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **7.6%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations, compared to **7.5%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **6.9%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Sales and Customer Service Occupations, compared to **7.2%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **1.9%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Process, Plant and Machine Operatives, compared to **4.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **10%** of people aged 16 or over in employment in the ward report their occupation as Elementary Occupations, compared to **10.6%** for the Edinburgh total.
- The qualification breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **11.2%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as No qualifications, compared to **9.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **17.6%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Lower school qualifications, compared to **14.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **10.6%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Upper school qualifications, compared to **4.4%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **5.4%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Apprenticeship qualifications, compared to **4.4%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **10.7%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Further Education and sub-degree Higher Education qualifications incl. HNC/HNDs, compared to **9.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **44.7%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Degree level qualifications or above, compared to **50%** for the Edinburgh total.

Employment designations and centres

- The mapping below shows areas designated for Strategic Business Centres, Business and Industry and Economic Importance, alongside the network of local, town, commercial and city centres and some known large employers mapped previously.

Employment and Economic Designations

Ward 1 - Almond



Considerations

- A designated Business and Industry Area can be found in Newbridge. Designated Areas of Economic Importance are located within this ward at Edinburgh Airport, and the wider West Edinburgh Area as well as Gogarburn. The Strategic Business Centre at Edinburgh Park and South Gyle is also adjacent to the south-east of the ward. There are no town centres in this ward, however a network of local centres covers parts of the ward with the exception of Cramond, Newbridge and Ratho Station which do not have provision.
- New town and local centres are proposed as part of the West Edinburgh Placemaking Framework to support the scale of new development here.
- Key large and anchor employers here are located at Edinburgh Airport and the RBS site at Gogarburn as well as the businesses located in Newbridge.
- There was a less positive response to opportunities for work, volunteering and studying within the ward.
- The general public were not positive about the shops and services within the ward. Some parts of the ward have a good variety of shops and services, sometimes in walking distance. However, there are areas with no shops or just the basics. It would be better to have shops in walking distance and better connections to other shopping destinations.
- Those with existing shops would like to see better variety. It was considered that there were too many cafes, beauty parlours, charity shops, large supermarkets and car garages.

Transport

Demographics

- The breakdown of the primary method of travel to work is listed below:
 - **38.8%** of the working population report mainly working from or at home, compared to **39%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **37%** of the working population report driving a car or van, compared to **25.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **13.3%** of the working population report travelling by public transport (bus, minibus, coach, train, underground, subway or tram), compared to **16.7%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **2.3%** of the working population report travelling by bike, compared to **3.8%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **4.6%** of the working population report travelling on foot, compared to **12%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **78.2%** of households in the ward have access to a car or van, compared to **62.3%** of the Edinburgh total.

Car and van access and driving to work

- The areas where households have lower access to cars or vans are concentrated in Muirhouse and parts of Queensferry, aligning areas of higher deprivation.
- Use of cars for driving to work is broadly higher in the west of the ward which is further from the city centre and lower in population density and transport access.

Public Transport

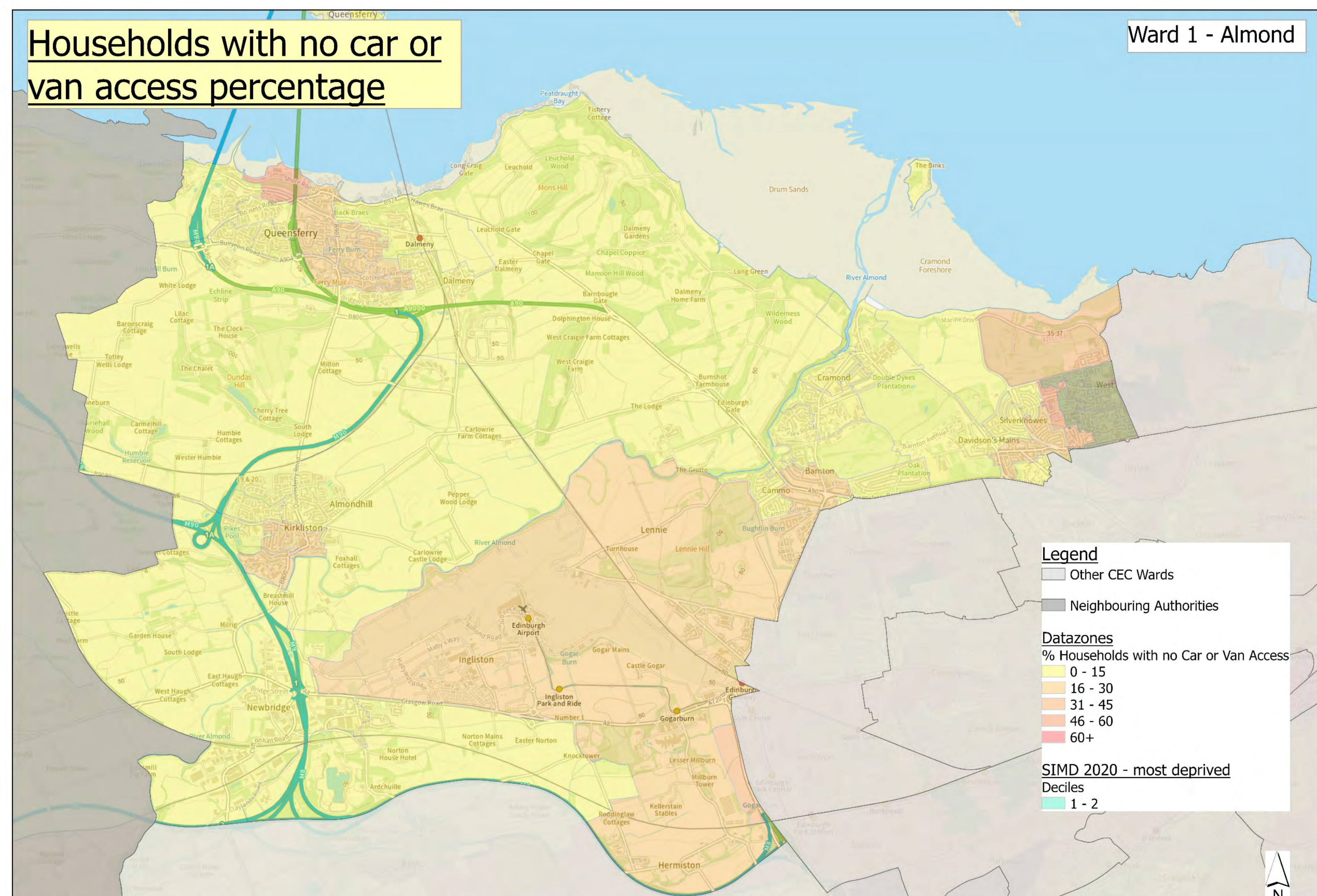
- Public Transport Accessibility Levels (PTAL) are calculated by the Council based on service patterns and stops and are mapped below from 1 (lowest level of accessibility) to 6 (the highest level). A rating of 3 or higher is considered to have a good level of access.
- Good access is concentrated along the Glasgow Road and Edinburgh Airport/West Edinburgh area which is on the main route into the city from the west. Areas of good access can also be found in parts of Queensferry, Barnton, Davidson's Mains and Muirhouse.
- Poor access is concentrated in large areas of Queensferry, Kirkliston and Cramond, as well as West Craigs where a large amount of recent development has occurred.
- Improved orbital bus routes and connections and bus priority measures are planned to improve journey times into Edinburgh from the Forth Road Bridge via the A90, around to other parts of Edinburgh, and into and close to West Edinburgh to facilitate development in this area.

Active travel

- Key active travel paths are shared use paths passing along Glasgow Road between Newbridge and East Craigs within the urban area, and between Dalmeny and Queensferry and the North Edinburgh Path Network at Silverknowes via quiet roads in Cramond. Another less direct route between Queensferry and Silverknowes follows a coastal path around Dalmeny Estate.
- The City Mobility Plan has identified projects which will reduce vehicle dominance, increase space for active travel and improve pedestrian access and sense of place. Key projects include, a route linking Dalmeny and Ratho via Kirkliston, Newbridge and Ratho Station, and the Queensferry Connections project.

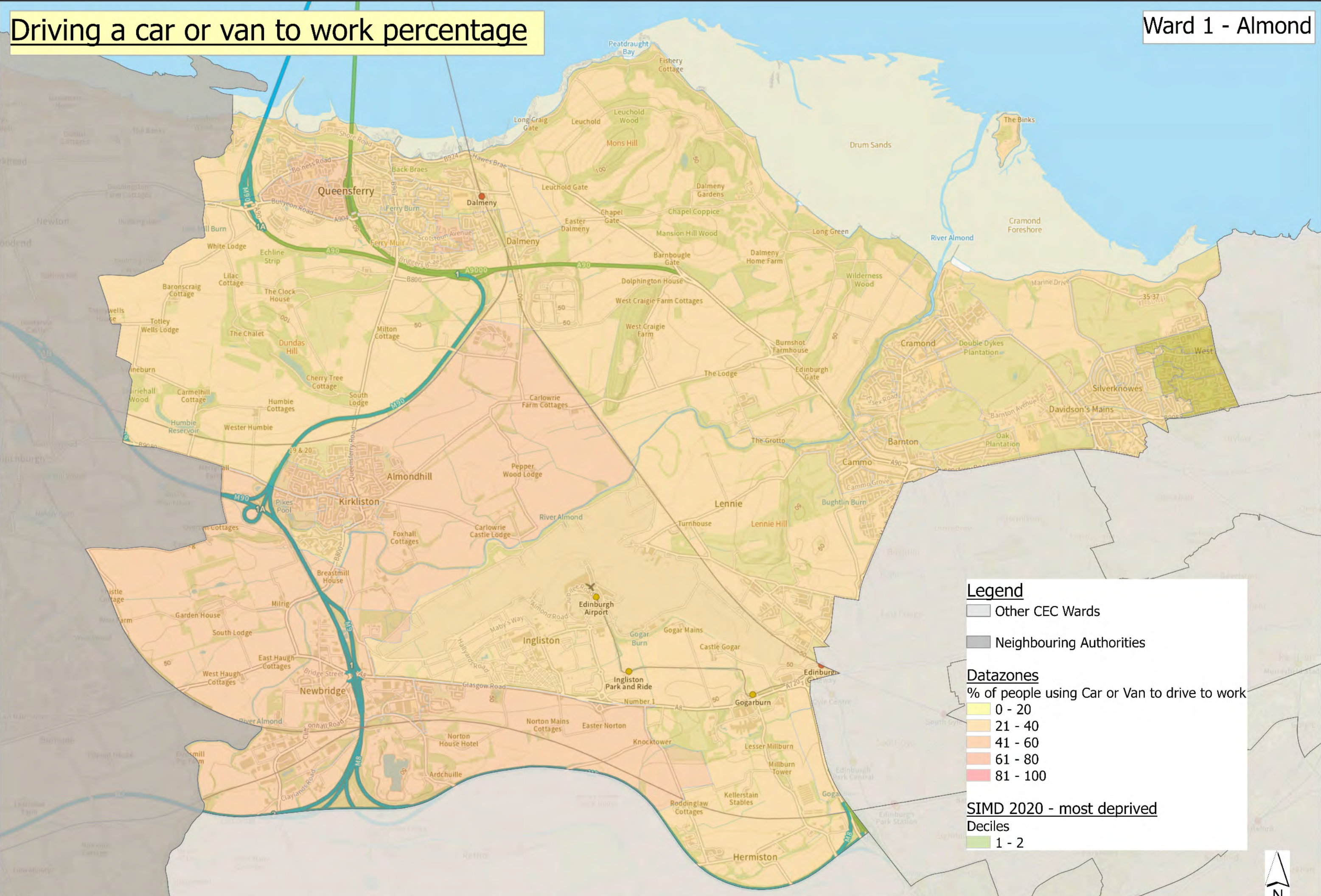
Households with no car or van access percentage

Ward 1 - Almond



Driving a car or van to work percentage

Ward 1 - Almond



Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities

Datazones

% of people using Car or Van to drive to work

- 0 - 20
- 21 - 40
- 41 - 60
- 61 - 80
- 81 - 100

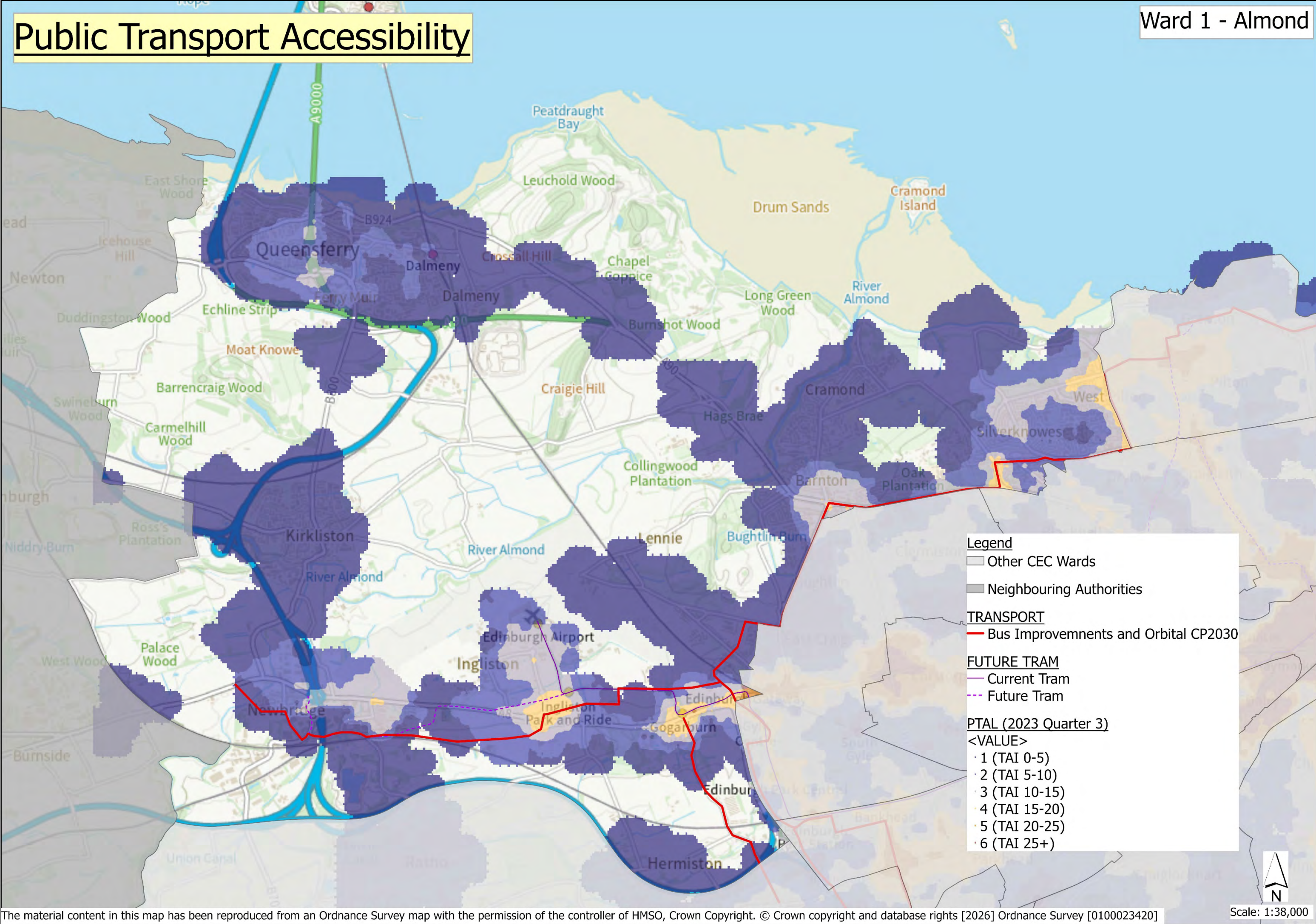
SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

- 1 - 2

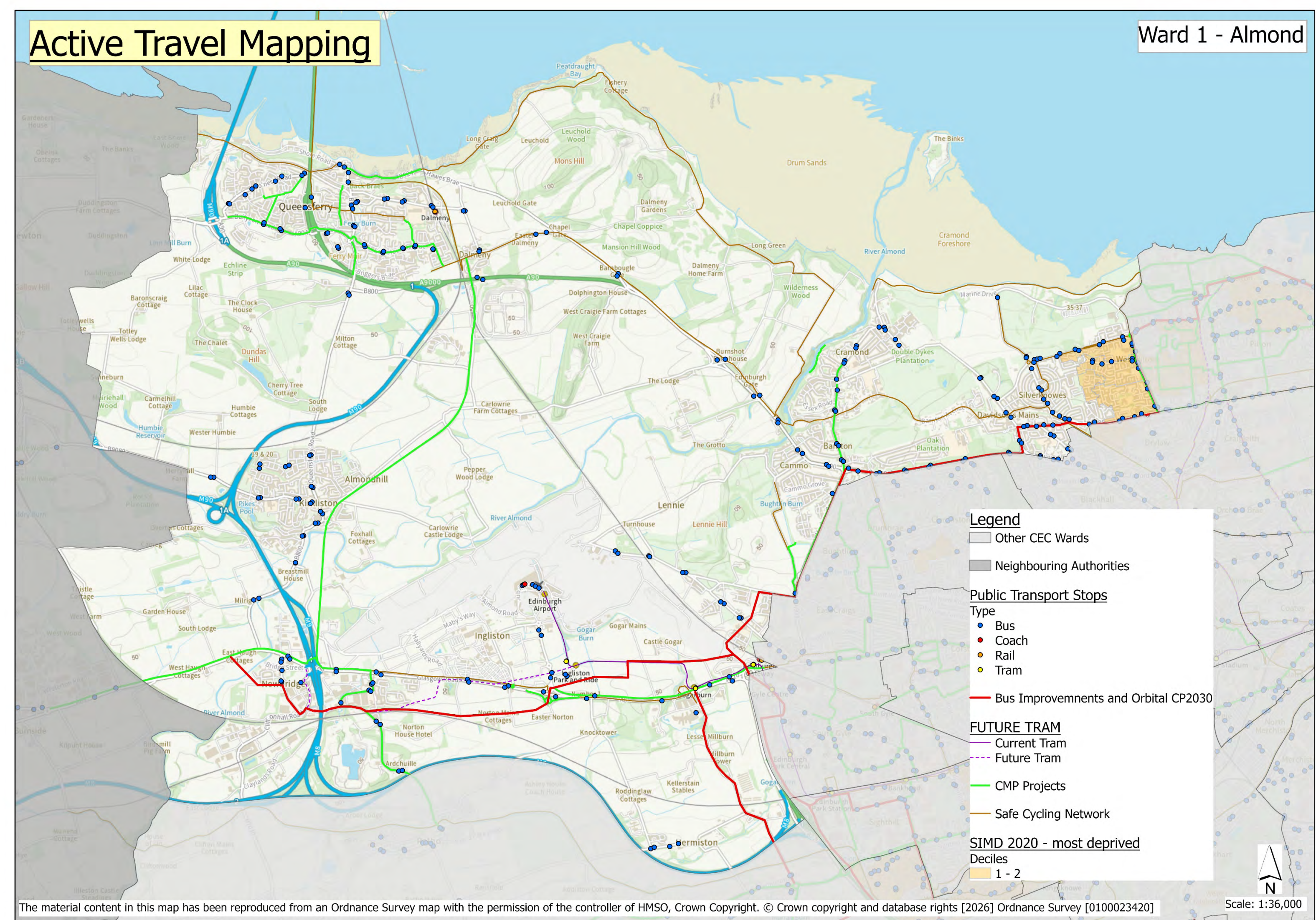
Public Transport Accessibility

Ward 1 - Almond



Active Travel Mapping

Ward 1 - Almond



Considerations

- A higher percentage of people in the ward drive to work compared to the Edinburgh average whilst walking, cycling and public transport use are lower, reflecting the more rural nature of the ward with a lower level of public transport access. Levels of car access are higher than the Edinburgh average.
- Areas with lower access to a car or van broadly line up with areas of higher deprivation in Muirhouse and parts of Queensferry.
- Public transport access is concentrated in the main western corridors approaching the city along Glasgow Road/West Edinburgh and the A90 corridor between the Forth Road Bridge and Ferry Road. The smaller settlements of Kirkliston, Queensferry and parts of Newbridge have poor access.
- City Mobility Plan improvements are proposed including within Queensferry and linking Dalmeny to Ratho via Kirkliston, Newbridge and Ratho Station.
- Public transport access and future City Mobility Plan improvements are concentrated along the Glasgow Road and A90 corridors to improve journey times and improved access to proposed new development at West Edinburgh, and orbital routes to improve overall routes and connections.
- Getting around by active travel had a less positive response in this ward than other areas with improvements needed to walking and cycling routes to improve accessibility, safety and connectivity. Children and young people were also not positive about getting around by active travel highlighting that it is too far, takes too long or did not feel safe walking around.
- Within Queensferry, safer walking and cycling routes were identified as key to helping children and young people to move independently and chose active travel options over public transport/car.
- There was a mixed response to public transport provision with more finding it difficult to get to where they needed or wanted to go by public transport. Children and young people were more positive about public transport and used it a lot.
- People identified traffic and parking as a problem in the area. This is influenced by the road corridors in this ward leading into the city from the west and north.

Environment

Green blue network and biodiversity

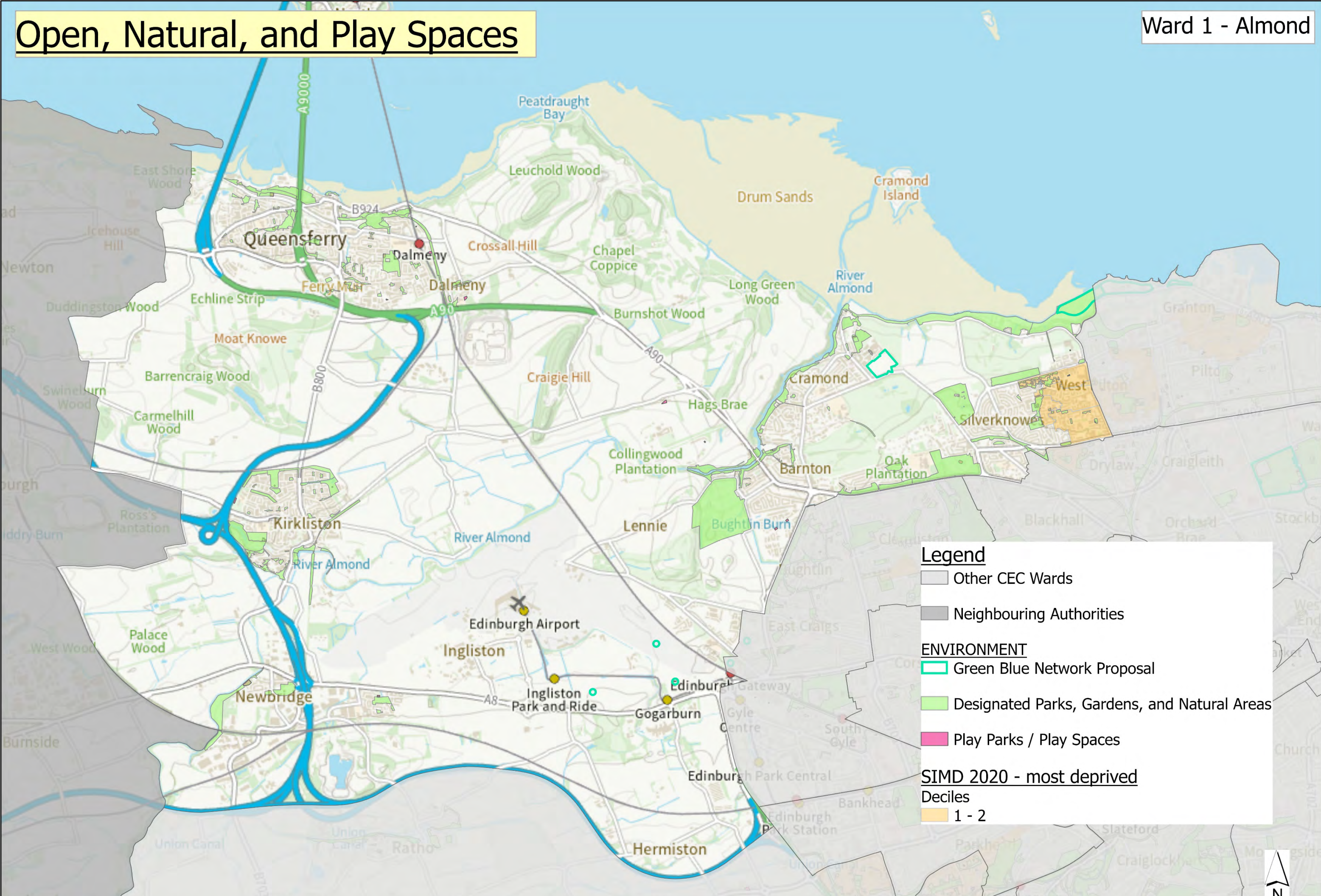
- Open spaces are well dispersed throughout the ward.
- Mapping has been produced showing Edinburgh's Green Blue Network at the strategic, city-wide scale. It shows infrastructure important for water management, biodiversity and recreation. It includes both local and national designations to show how they are interconnected.
- Due to this ward's location mainly outside the Edinburgh urban area, a number of green blue corridors pass through the ward and connect strategically from rural to urban. These include the Edinburgh waterfront, River Almond corridor and the area around the Gogar Burn. These provide corridors and areas for habitat, recreation and landscapes of importance for Edinburgh and link into larger landscape-scale spaces such as Dalmeny Estate, Cramond and existing and proposed green space at Granton Waterfront. The proposed active travel path, based on an existing route, between Dalmeny and Newbridge via Kirkliston also forms part of this.
- The Granton Waterfront masterplan includes proposed green blue network improvements along the coast and green blue network enhancements are proposed to facilitate development in West Edinburgh.

Growing Spaces

- Growing spaces mapped include Council-run allotments and community-run growing spaces, which are displayed together to show opportunities for food and other growing in the ward.
- Council allotments are only found in Kirkliston. Community growing spaces are also found in Kirkliston as well as Silverknowes and Muirhouse, providing opportunities for growing within and close to areas with higher reported deprivation.
- There is a lack of growing spaces of any kind in Queensferry, Cramond, Barnton, Newbridge and Ratho Station.

Open, Natural, and Play Spaces

Ward 1 - Almond



Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities

ENVIRONMENT

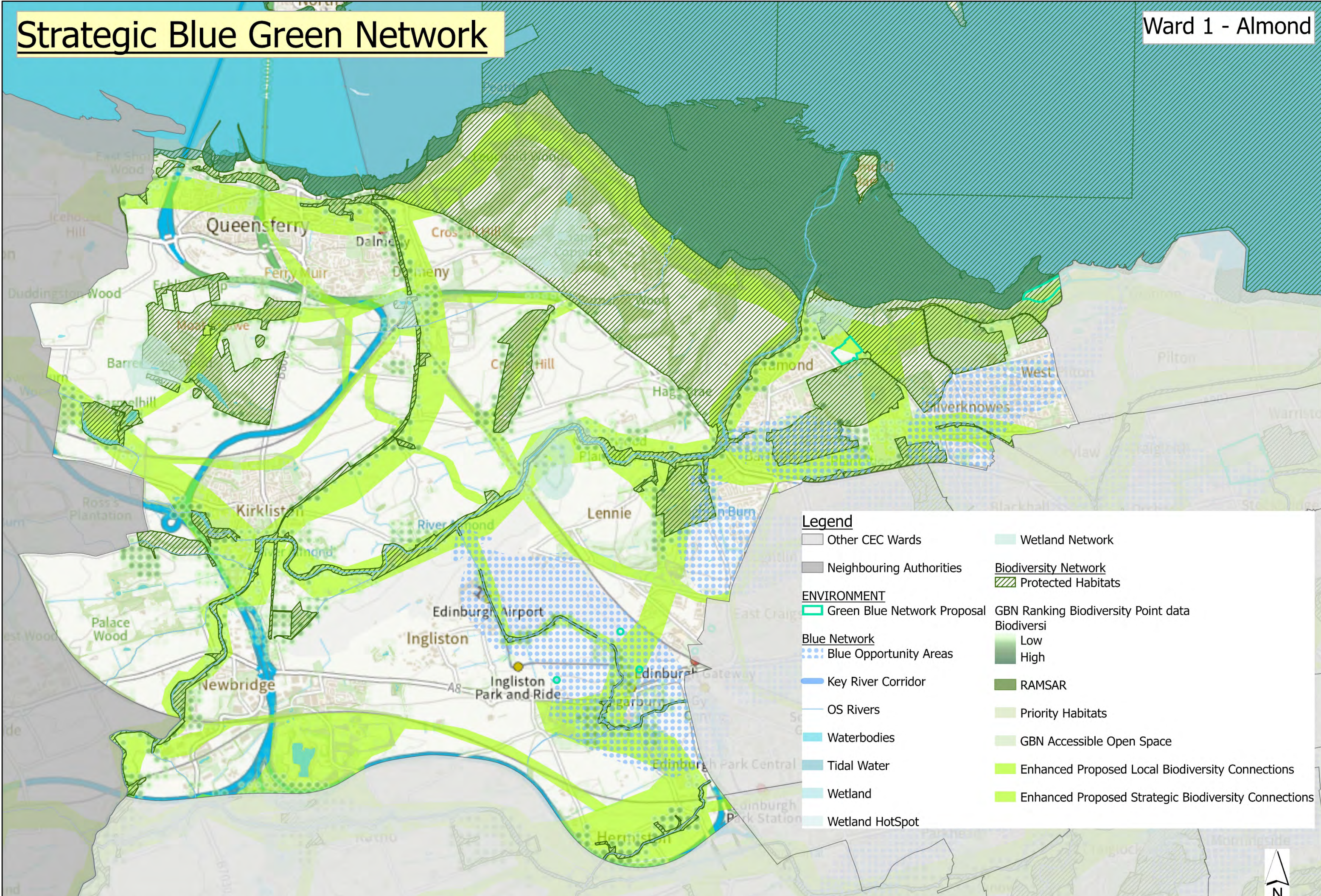
- Green Blue Network Proposal
- Designated Parks, Gardens, and Natural Areas
- Play Parks / Play Spaces

SIMD 2020 - most deprived Deciles

- 1 - 2

Strategic Blue Green Network

Ward 1 - Almond

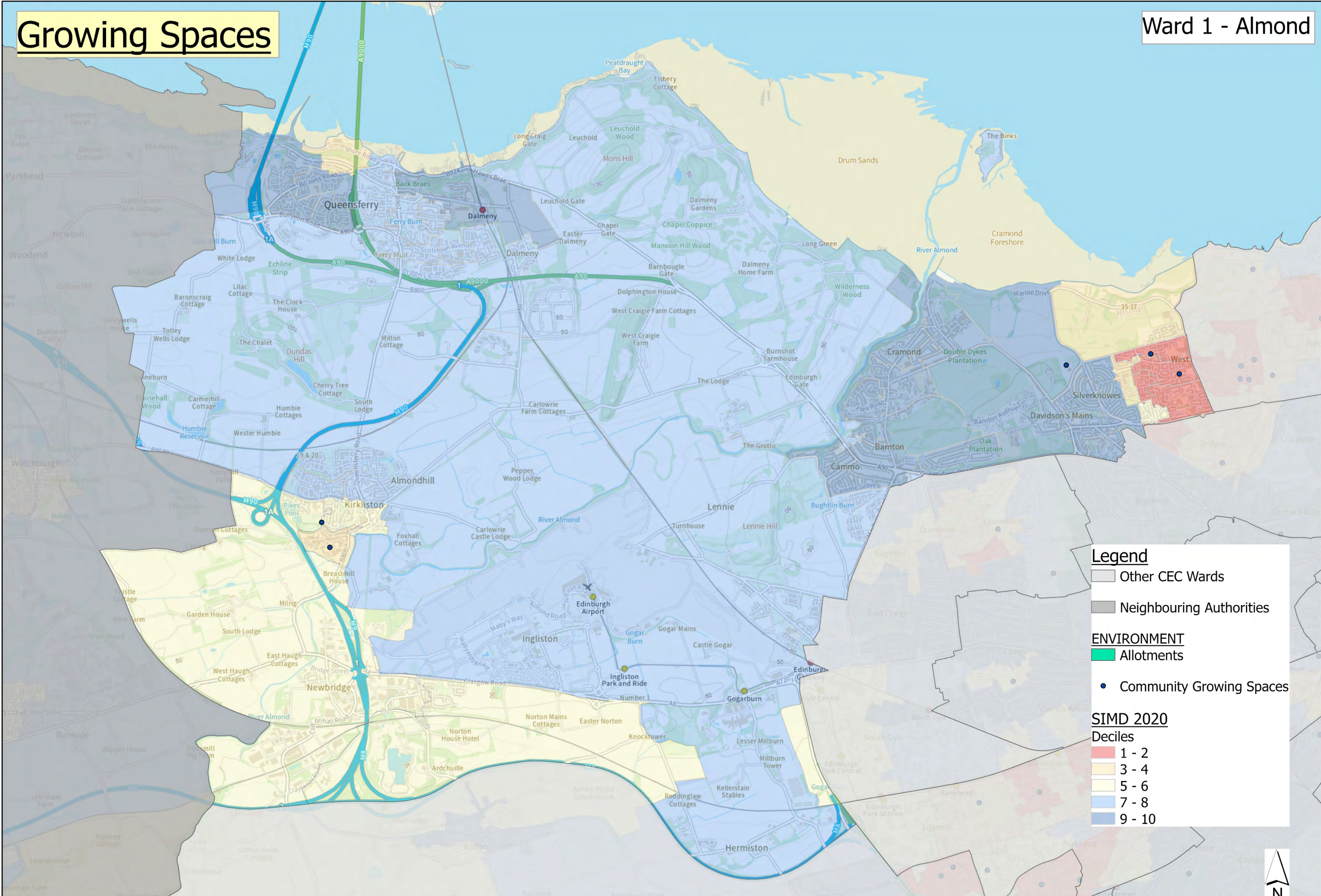


Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities
- ENVIRONMENT**
 - Green Blue Network Proposal
 - Blue Network
 - Blue Opportunity Areas
 - Key River Corridor
 - OS Rivers
 - Waterbodies
 - Tidal Water
 - Wetland
 - Wetland HotSpot
 - Wetland Network
 - Biodiversity Network**
 - Protected Habitats
 - GBN Ranking Biodiversity Point data
 - Biodiversity
 - Low
 - High
 - RAMSAR
 - Priority Habitats
 - GBN Accessible Open Space
 - Enhanced Proposed Local Biodiversity Connections
 - Enhanced Proposed Strategic Biodiversity Connections

Growing Spaces

Ward 1 - Almond



Legend

- Other CEC Wards
- Neighbouring Authorities

ENVIRONMENT

- Allotments

Community Growing Spaces

- Community Growing Spaces

SIMD 2020 Deciles

- 1 - 2
- 3 - 4
- 5 - 6
- 7 - 8
- 9 - 10

Considerations

- Existing green blue corridors in the ward are centred on the waterfront, River Almond and Gogar Burn with various landscape, nature and open space designations within or adjacent to these key corridors.
- A Coastal Change Adaption Plan is currently under development which will assess risks and identify adaption options. Lower levels of tree canopy cover are concentrated in West Edinburgh where large amounts of development are proposed, as well as parts of Muirhouse and Queensferry in existing urban areas.
- Opportunities for food growing are concentrated in Kirkliston, Sighthill and Muirhouse but there are gaps in Queensferry, Cramond, Barnton, Newbridge and Ratho Station.
- The engagement also highlighted that there was not good access to growing spaces in the ward. Lauriston Farm was cited as a good example of community growing.
- The general public had a mixed reaction to the number of green spaces and natural spaces in their area. Protection of green space and natural space was important.
- While some children and young people went outside to play or hang out but the number that rarely went out is higher than other wards.
- They were less positive about the number of good parks and greenspace in their area, and their favourite parks were Princes Street Gardens/ the Meadows or Davidson's Mains Park. Being close to home, being fun, somewhere to play football and ball games and better/ more equipment were important.
- The general public was also not positive about the number of open spaces to play ball games and there was a need for more places that were free was highlighted.
- In Queensferry, there was a strong emphasis on protecting existing greenspace with Burgess Park being important; and new development should not reduce green space or outdoor play areas. More nature-based play was identified as important.
- Climate change comments included traffic mitigation measures, more climate mitigation measures such as sustainable drainage for flood prevention, increase tree/ foliage cover and retain green spaces.
- Children and young people generally felt close to nature and more trees/ planting were identified as improvements. Climate change was an issue but felt it affected the world rather than them or their local area.

Appendix

This report details the consultation and engagement information utilised when creating the Almond Place Profile.

The document includes the area-specific results from two “what makes a good place?” questionnaires: one for public at large and another for children and young people. In addition, the report outlines the results received from previous engagements undertaken by the Council services and other stakeholders in the ward.

A total of 2649 responses to “What makes a good place?” questionnaires were received. Out of these, 799 were from public at large and 1850 were from children and young people. These were then divided and matched with one of the 17 Wards.

A total of 521 responses were received for the Almond Ward. Out of these, 88 were from public at large and 433 were from children and young people studying at the local schools.

Results

In this chapter, the results for the ward are further divided into seven categories – Housing, Health, Transport, Economy, Culture, Environment and Place. These categories correspond with the Place Profile structure. Each category presents the results from the public at large then children and young people where similar questions were asked.

Housing

Public at large

How happy are you with your home?

- 18 Very happy
- 18 Happy
- 8 Neutral
- 1 Unhappy
- 1 Very unhappy

If you could change one thing, comments

- Bigger space, like a house as opposed to a flat with a personal garden, and that homes are more modern, energy/noise efficient, accessible and affordable
- More local amenities, sports facilities and community spaces
- Fix litter issues

How well do the homes in your area meet the needs of people living there?

- 6 Very good
- 18 Good
- 20 Neutral
- 1 Bad
- 1 Terrible

Homes in the area, comments

- Good: Good mix of housing types in the area, a strong sense of community and well looked after properties.
- Good access to green spaces, beautiful surroundings
- Good bus routes

What is your area like for the shops and services you need?

- 2 Very good
- 6 Good
- 14 Neutral
- 17 Bad
- 8 Terrible

Shops and services, comments

- **Good:** Some parts of the ward have good variety of shops and services, sometimes within walking distance.
- **Bad/change:** Some areas do not have shops or only the most basic shop in their area. They would like shops in a walking distance and better connections to other shopping destinations. People want to have a post office nearby. Areas with existing shopping would like to see better variety.

Thinking of your local shops and services, do you think there is too much of anything?

- 4 Yes
- 39 No
- 1 Don't know

What there is too much of, comments

- Cafes/Coffee Shops/ beauty parlours/charity shops
- Large supermarkets
- Car garages

Draft Queensferry Local Place Plan (2025 – high level)

- Considers housing growth and change within existing character.
- Highlights issues of scale, location, and infrastructure support for new housing.

Children and Young People

Are you happy with your home (the building)?

- 353 Yes
- 71 It's OK
- 5 It's not good
- 3 It's bad

If you could change one thing, comments

- Having a bigger place
- Warmer, less damp/cold
- Being in a different location

Do you have all the shops and things you need near your home?

- 2 Too many
- 296 Right amount
- 130 Not enough
- 4 None

Shops and things, comments

- More and greater range of shops, food outlets and libraries.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Children expressed concern that housing growth could reduce parks, play space and greenery.

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Emphasis on housing development needing to fit with safe streets, play areas and community infrastructure.

Health

Public at large

What is your area like for the healthcare facilities you need?

- 4 Very good
- 15 Good
- 11 Neutral
- 9 Bad
- 7 Terrible

Healthcare facilities, comments

- Good access to excellent healthcare facilities
- Very accessible in terms of getting appointments

Living Well Locally – Queensferry (2023)

- Explored links between access to services, building and everyday wellbeing
- Emphasised social connection and quality of life

Children and Young People

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Play, access to greenspace and active travel identified as essential to children’s wellbeing.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Children linked outdoor play, socialising and being active with feeling healthier and happier.

Transport

Public at large

How easy is it to walk, cycle or wheel to places you need and want to go to?

- 2 Very easy
- 12 Easy
- 15 Neutral
- 7 Difficult
- 10 Very difficult

Walk, wheeling, cycling, comments

- **Good:** Generally pleasant, with access to green spaces, local shops and scenic routes specifically for walkability.
- **Bad/change:** Cycling is okay but is not as safe or as accessible as walking.
- Routes for both cycling and walking throughout the area however quality of these spaces vary in accessibility, safety and connectivity.

How easy is it to get to where you need or want to go by public transport?

- 3 Very easy
- 12 Easy
- 14 Neutral
- 12 Difficult
- 4 Very difficult

Public transport, comments

- Good bus route connections
- Good bus frequency
- Happy with the Lothian bus app accuracy
- Very accessible

How do you feel about the traffic and parking in your area?

- 0 Very happy
- 3 Happy
- 12 Neutral
- 14 Unhappy
- 18 Very unhappy

Traffic and parking comments

- **Good:** Plenty of parking options
- **Bad/change:** Traffic is a problem

West Edinburgh Transport Improvements Programme (2023)

- Programme covering public transport, active travel, and road upgrades.
- Aims to improve connectivity between neighbourhoods, employment areas, and regional destinations.

South Queensferry – Walking, Wheeling & Cycling Improvements (2022)

- Proposals to enhance active-travel routes in South Queensferry.
- Focus on safer everyday walking, wheeling, and cycling connections.

Children and Young People

We know that walking, cycling, wheeling are great ways of getting around – it’s good for you and good for the environment. Is there anything that stops you from getting around this way?

- Bad weather stops me
- Too far/ takes too long
- I don’t feel safe walking around

Public transport (buses, trams and trains) is great as it can reduce the number of cars on the road. What do you think about public transport in your area?

- It’s great - I use it a lot
- Not always on time
- Prefer to go by car instead

There is a tram that goes from the Airport to Newhaven. Do you think a tram line from Granton to the Sick Kids Hospital, going through the city centre, is a good idea?

- 209 Yes
- 33 No
- 117 Don’t know
- 70 Don’t care

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Children raised concerns about road safety, vehicle speeds and unsafe crossings, particularly near schools, parks and the High Street.

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Safer walking and cycling routes were identified as key to helping children move independently around Queensferry.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Requests included more crossings, speed control, better pavements and improved cycle parking.

Economy

Public at large

How are the opportunities for work, volunteering and training in your area?

- 2 Very good
- 4 Good
- 25 Neutral
- 3 Bad
- 7 Terrible

Work, volunteering and training, comments

- Unsure about job opportunities
- Retail work in shops

Living Well Locally – Queensferry Buildings & Facilities Workshop (2023)

- Explored how existing buildings and facilities can better support local services.
- Focused on making better use of community assets for everyday needs and activities.

West Edinburgh Placemaking Framework & Strategic Masterplan (2023)

- Sets a long-term vision for economic growth across West Edinburgh.
- Identifies opportunities for employment, innovation, and investment linked to major infrastructure.

Towards West Edinburgh 2050 (2023)

- Engagement explored future jobs, skills, and infrastructure needs.
- Considered West Edinburgh’s long-term economic role and growth potential.

Children and Young People

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Children highlighted the importance of local facilities such as libraries, leisure spaces and cafés that support families and everyday life.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): School and community buildings were seen as important local assets that support activity and services rather than employment directly.

Culture

Public at large

How good are the spaces and opportunities where you can meet up with friends and other people?

- 3 Very good
- 9 Good
- 12 Neutral
- 15 Bad
- 7 Terrible

Spaces to meet people, comments

- Town could do with more opportunities for socialising
- More community centres/hubs needed

How is the community space in your area?

- 3 Very good
- 10 Good
- 11 Neutral
- 10 Bad
- 12 Terrible

Community spaces, comments

- **Good:** Lots of nice cafes, greenspaces, and benches in the surrounding area. There is a local pub as well as an excellent local library. Lots of church halls.
- **Bad/change:** Not enough community spaces overall

Living Well Locally – Queensferry Buildings & Facilities Workshop (2023)

- Focused on accessibility and community use of buildings and services.
- Highlighted importance of shared spaces, flexible facilities, and local hubs.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025)

- Engagement with school community on education provision and wider community role.
- Explored shared use of school facilities.

Draft Queensferry Local Place Plan (2025 – high level)

Raised issues around community facilities, connectivity, and local priorities.

Children and Young People

If you go out to play, socialise, or hang out, where would you go?

- Friend's house
- Going into town
- Shopping centres/food and drink places

Are there enough activities, community clubs, and groups for young people to do within your local area?

- 167 There are plenty
- 155 There are a few
- 58 There are some, but I do not like them
- 17 Yes, but they cost too much
- 34 None that I know about

What clubs are missing / would you like to see in your area?

- More/different forms of sports clubs
- Other forms of clubs such as reading or gaming
- Some interest in clubs focussed on girls

Are there enough things for you to do on your weekends and holidays?

- 204 Yes
- 181 Sometimes
- 37 No
- 9 Don't know

There are many free art galleries and museums in Edinburgh. Do you go to any of them?

- 23 Often
- 150 Sometimes
- 155 Very rarely
- 102 Never

If you selected 'Never' or 'Very Rarely', tell us why

- Boring/not interested
- No idea what there is

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Children want safe, welcoming places to meet friends and socialise.

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Support for youth-friendly spaces, community centres and shared facilities.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Strong support for school buildings and facilities being used by the wider community outside school hours.

Environment

Public at large

How happy are you with the number of green and natural spaces in your place?

- 12 Very happy
- 7 Happy
- 14 Neutral
- 12 Unhappy
- 1 Very unhappy

Open and natural spaces, comments

- Very happy with the quality of green and natural spaces, feels safe and mostly clean.
- Do not want new tram systems to take away from the green spaces
- More stringent controls on natural heritage sites in the area

What is the access to growing spaces like now?

- 1 Very happy
- 1 Happy
- 22 Neutral
- 6 Unhappy
- 12 Very unhappy

Growing spaces, comments

- **Good:** Most have own garden. Lauriston Farm and community woodland
- **Bad/change:** Add them/more of them. Grow Lauriston Farm.

Climate change, comments

- Traffic mitigation measures
- More climate change mitigation measures, such as more sustainable drainage for flood prevention measures.
- Retain, protect and increase number of existing trees and natural foliage in the area. Do not develop green spaces where it can be avoided.

How would you rate the number green and open spaces in your local area to play ball games such as football, cricket, rugby, golf, basketball, tennis, bowls etc.?

- 2 Very happy
- 9 Happy
- 13 Neutral
- 10 Unhappy
- 10 Very unhappy

Ball game spaces, comments

- **Good:** Good range of ball games and good standard of spaces
- **Bad/change:** Not sure, there don't seem to be any

Queensferry

Draft Queensferry Local Place Plan (2025 – high level)

- Emerging themes include protecting local character and landscape setting.
- Focus on managing growth while retaining heritage and environmental quality.

Children and Young People

How often do you go outside to play or hang out in your local area (not counting school times)?

- 82 Almost every day
- 184 A few days a week
- 66 Once a week
- 88 Rarely
- 9 I don't go outdoors to play or hang out

Are there enough good parks or greenspaces near you to play/hang out?

- 141 Yes, there are lots
- 220 There are a few
- 62 No, there aren't enough
- 5 No, there aren't any

What is your favourite park or greenspace in Edinburgh?

- Princes Street Gardens/The Meadows
- Davidsons Mains Park

Think about your favourite places for you to hang out/play. What do you like about it?

- It is easy to get to
- It is close to home
- It is fun
- Can play football and ball games

What stops you from using the outdoors/parks more often?

- Hard to organise meeting up with friends
- Bad weather/too dark in winter
- Equipment is only for little kids

How could the places where you hang out be better?

- More/better things to do, equipment or activities
- Cleaner

Are the outdoor spaces you go to clean?

- 15 Very clean
- 123 Clean
- 219 OK
- 61 Dirty
- 9 Very Dirty

Outdoor play equipment

- 136 In good condition
- 60 Needs fixing
- 91 Needs cleaned/painted
- 57 Needs replacing
- 61 There is not enough or any play equipment

How safe do you feel when hanging out or moving around in your local area?

- 217 I always feel safe
- 200 I sometimes feel safe
- 7 I never feel safe

How safe do you feel when hanging out or moving around in your local area?

- Groups of teenagers can make some feel unsafe
- Feeling unsafe at night/in the dark

How close are you with nature?

- 30 7 (closest to nature)
- 82 6
- 131 5
- 115 4
- 54 3
- 10 2
- 6 1 (furthest away from nature)

What could be done to help nature in your local area?

- More trees and planting
- Less litter and cleaner spaces

Are you worried about the impact of climate change in your area? Do you want to tell us more?

- Concern noted, some responses say they feel it will affect the world but not them personally/their area.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Strong emphasis on protecting existing green spaces and trees, especially Burgess Park.

Queensferry Place Plan (Draft, 2025): Children supported more greenery, wildlife habitats, ponds and nature-based play.

Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement (2025): Clear concern that new development should not reduce green space or outdoor play areas.

Place

Public at large

How happy are you with your area?

- 3 Very happy
- 20 Happy
- 13 Neutral
- 8 Unhappy
- 2 Very unhappy

What would you change, comments

- Less traffic, smoother paths, more accessible and affordable homes that are more climate conscious and energy efficient

Any other comments

- More local amenities such as sports facilities and community spaces.

Children and Young People

Is there anything else you want to tell us that we haven't asked you about?

- Parks and/or play space improvements
- Support for more tram routes or other transport improvements

Data Sources

- Council Mapping, City of Edinburgh Council, April 2026
- [Scotland's Census 2022, National Records of Scotland accessed April 2025](#)
- [What makes a good place?, City of Edinburgh Council February 2026](#)
- Edinburgh Ward analysis of ScotPHO Profiles, Public Health Scotland, accessed April 2026
- [Queensferry Place Plan Draft, Queensferry & District Community Council, December 2025](#)
- [Queensferry Campus Primary School Engagement; City of Edinburgh Council, February 2025](#)
- [West Edinburgh Transport Improvements Programme, City of Edinburgh Council, February 2024](#)
- [South Queensferry – Walking, Wheeling & Cycling Improvements, City of Edinburgh Council, December 2022](#)
- [Queensferry Living Well Locally – Stakeholder Workshop Feedback Summary, City of Edinburgh Council, February 2025](#)
- [West Edinburgh Placemaking Framework & Strategic Masterplan, City of Edinburgh Council, January 2024](#)
- [Towards West Edinburgh 2050, The City of Edinburgh Council, September 2024](#)