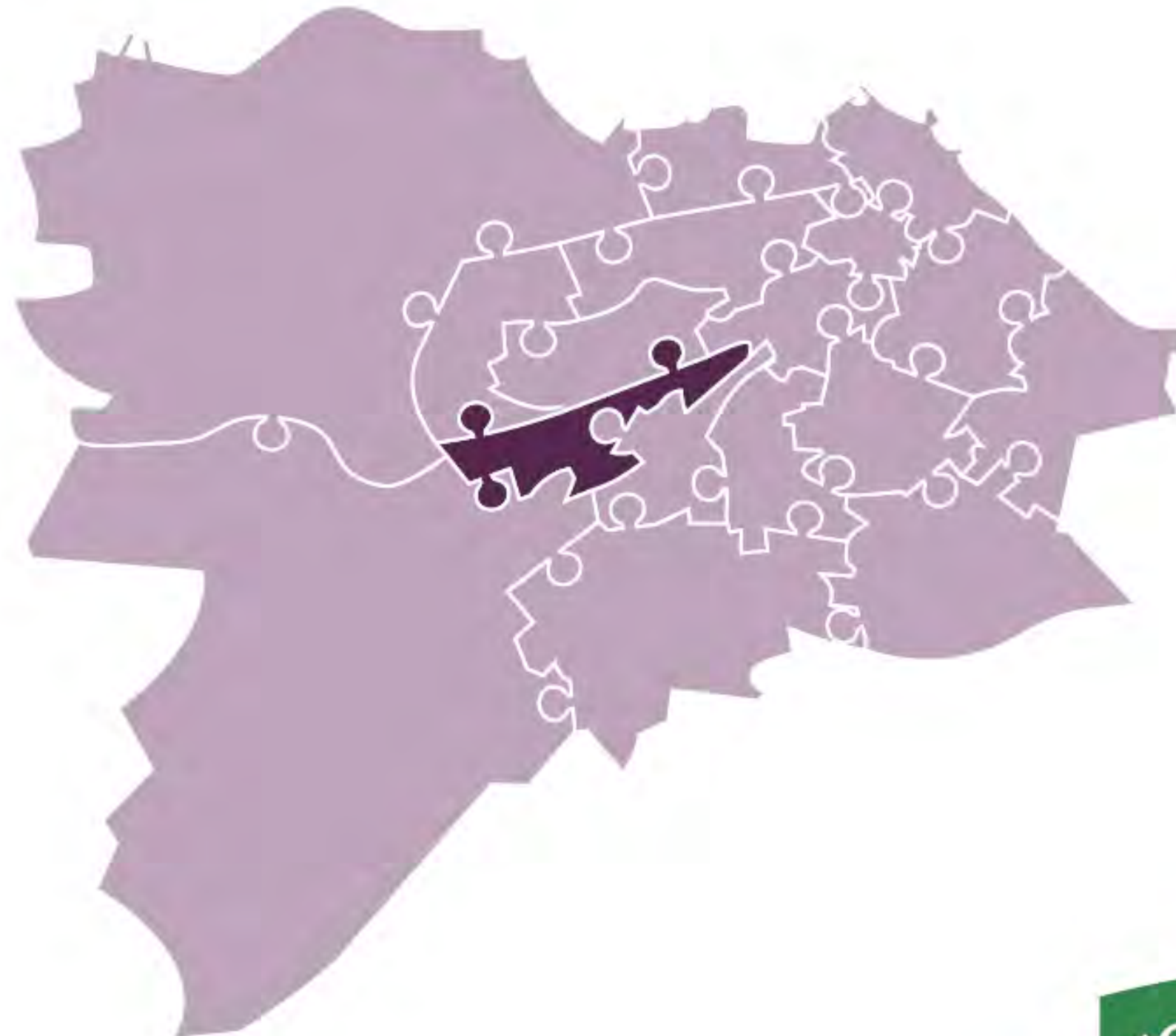


Evidence Report Place Profile

Ward 7 Sighthill / Gorgie



Introduction

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

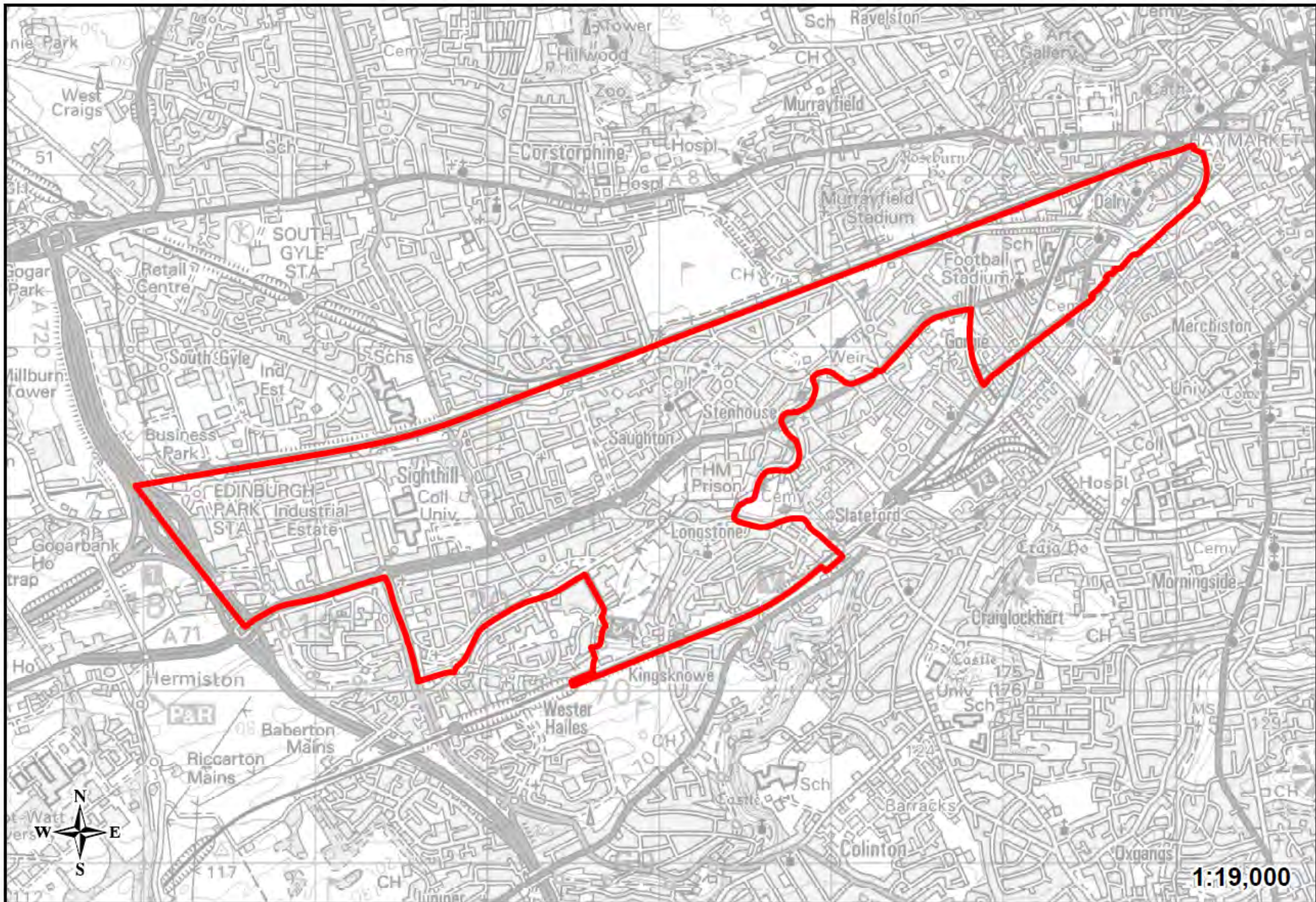
In line with NPF4 and related guidance, new Local Development Plans in Scotland need to be place-based, people-centred and delivery-focussed.

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
- Overall, most people are happy with their area - Most housing meets the needs of occupants - There is a variety of shops and services dispersed throughout the ward, with a concentration around Gorgie Road and Dalry Road - There are some volunteering opportunities to be found in the ward - Good access to public transport is concentrated along the Calder Road-Gorgie Road corridor, and access to trams is found in the north of the ward - Active travel routes include the Sighthill Quiet Route, the Roseburn-Union Canal connection providing connectivity to adjacent wards - Open spaces of varying sizes are well dispersed throughout the ward and provide natural corridors to other areas of the city - There are allotments and community growing spaces found throughout the ward and are well dispersed	- There is a contrast in deprivation levels within the ward, with Saughton, Broomhouse and parts of Dalry reported as being more deprived - There is perceived under provision of GP capacity, with some unable to register at a practice - Some housing does not meet the needs of all residents, with a higher likelihood of overcrowded reported in Sighthill and Balgreen and instances of poor insulation and damp reported - Access to cheap, healthy and sustainable food sources is poor in Stenhouse and Broomhouse - There is overprovision of vape shops, barbers and takeaways within parts of the ward - There is a clustering of unhealthy uses at the Sighthill local centre - Noise, traffic levels and narrow pavements result in stress among the ward population - There is poor access to public transport in the south of the ward - High levels of traffic congestion along with low parking provision is considered a challenge - Surface water flooding due to climate change is a concern within the ward
Implications	
- Housing should be improved to meet the requirements of the population, improve energy efficiency and affordability - Explore the retention and support of local independent businesses - Develop the commercial centre found at the west of the ward and encourage connectivity with Strategic Business Centres and industry found in adjacent wards - Develop and invest in Gorgie-Dalry town centre as a place for economic and social activity - There is a desire to explore improvements to the public realm - Public transport improvements to increase access to areas of the ward outwith the major transport corridors and reduce travel times could be made - Active travel routes could be improved to support increased walking, wheeling and cycling - Explore the improvement and increased maintenance of existing public open spaces and facilities including planting - Opportunity to increase the number of allotments and/or community growing spaces - All ages would welcome an increase in well publicised, freely accessible and safe community spaces	

Background

Sighthill/Gorgie Ward has two distinct periods of development: Victorian industrialisation and inter/post-war housing development.

Dalry was originally the agricultural estate of Dalry House, now located on Orwell Place. Its context dramatically changed with industrial growth linked to the development of the railway. The new jobs created led to large-scale tenement development to accommodate the workers.

Gorgie was a rural area until 1885 but was transformed into an industrial hub including Cox's glue works alongside breweries and whisky distilleries. Tenements were built to house the workers.

Most of the industry has disappeared from Gorgie and Dalry and was replaced with housing.

Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre is situated along Gorgie and Dalry Roads with a variety of shops, amenities and services.

Gorgie Road (A71) runs through the ward and is a main traffic and public transport route. This section of the ward is adjacent to the Western Approach Road. The railway line and the tram line form a boundary to the north and intersect the ward.

Dalry Cemetery, North Merchiston Cemetery and Dalry Community Park are the main areas of open space.

Tynecastle Park is home of Heart of Midlothian Football Club, which moved to Gorgie in 1881, and is a key landmark.

From Gorgie, the city expanded with areas of inter-war housing development including the **Stevenson**, **Whitson** and **Stenhouse** areas.

Post-2nd World War, the city significantly expanded along the A71 with a mixture of public and private housing including:

- **Longstone/Redhall/Inglis Green**
- **Stenhouse/Saughton**
- **Broomhouse**
- **Sighthill**
- **North Sighthill**

The area reflects the different approaches to delivering housing in different periods from the low-rise garden city style homes to high-rise flats.

There are local shopping centres at Balgreen, Stenhouse Cross, Parkhead and Sighthill.

The A71 is a dual carriageway through this section of the ward with pedestrian underpasses to navigate the series of roundabouts along the road. The area is served by tram stops at Balgreen, Saughton, Bankhead and Edinburgh Park as well as Edinburgh Park train station.

The Water of Leith intersects the area and forms the boundary to Saughton Park which opened to the public in 1910. The main open spaces are Saughton Park, Sighthill Public Park and Hailes Quarry Park.

HM Prison Edinburgh, known locally as Saughton Prison, opened in 1919.

Edinburgh College and Edinburgh Napier University campuses are both based in Sighthill.

Located close to the A702 (City Bypass) is Bankhead and Sighthill Industrial Estates, an established area of business and industry, and Hermiston Gait, a large commercial centre.

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 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

- Other CEC Wards

Leisure / Sports Centres
- Swimming Pools

Bowling Greens
- Shops Outwith Centres

Tennis Courts
- Supermarkets

Golf Courses
- Post Offices

Centres
- Cafes

Commercial Centres
- Public Toilets

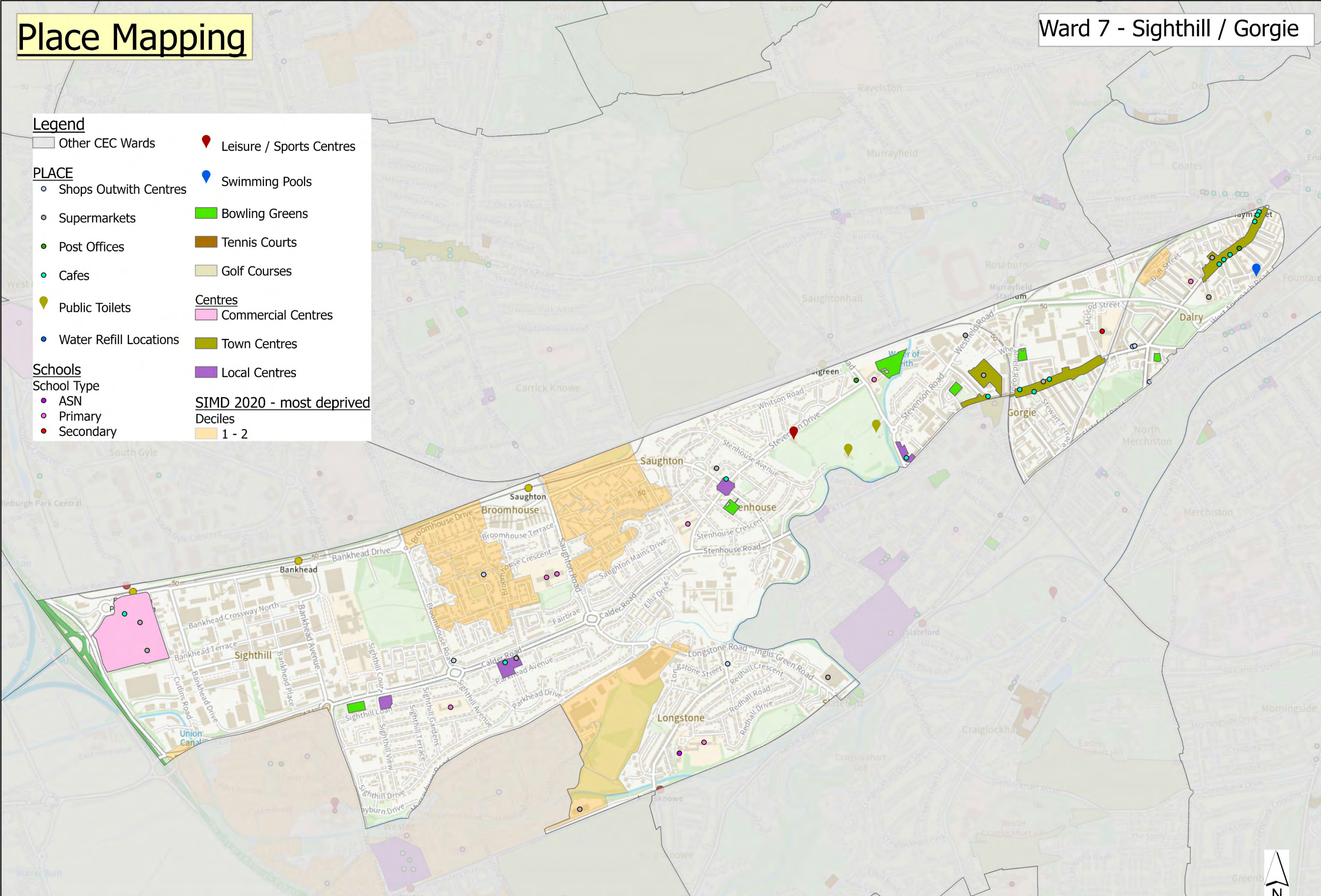
Town Centres
- Water Refill Locations

Local Centres
- Schools

SIMD 2020 - most deprived
- School Type

Deciles
- ASN

1 - 2
- Primary
- Secondary



Culture and Community Infrastructure

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

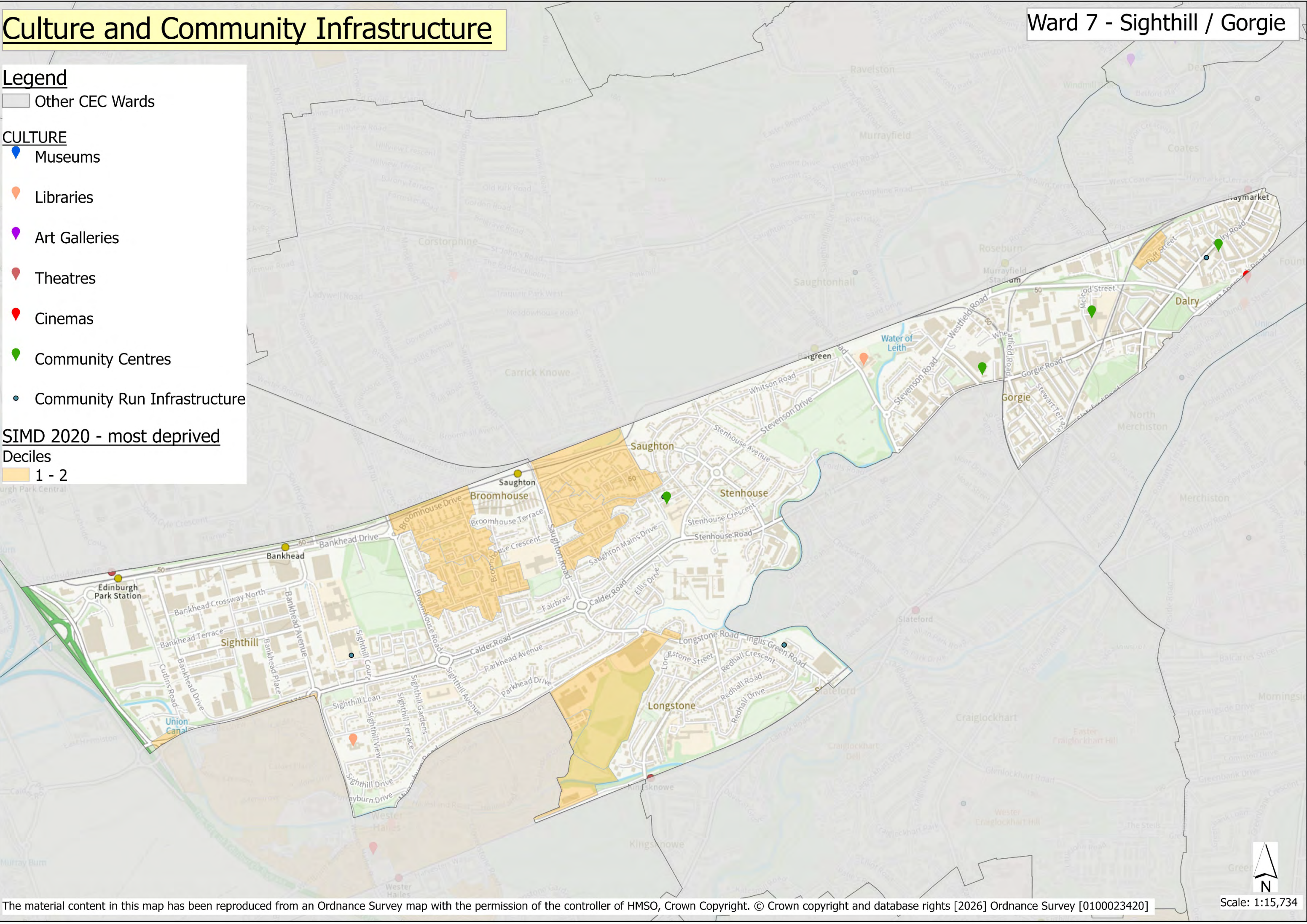
Other CEC Wards

CULTURE

- Museums
- Libraries
- Art Galleries
- Theatres
- Cinemas
- Community Centres
- Community Run Infrastructure

SIMD 2020 - most deprived Deciles

1 - 2



Considerations

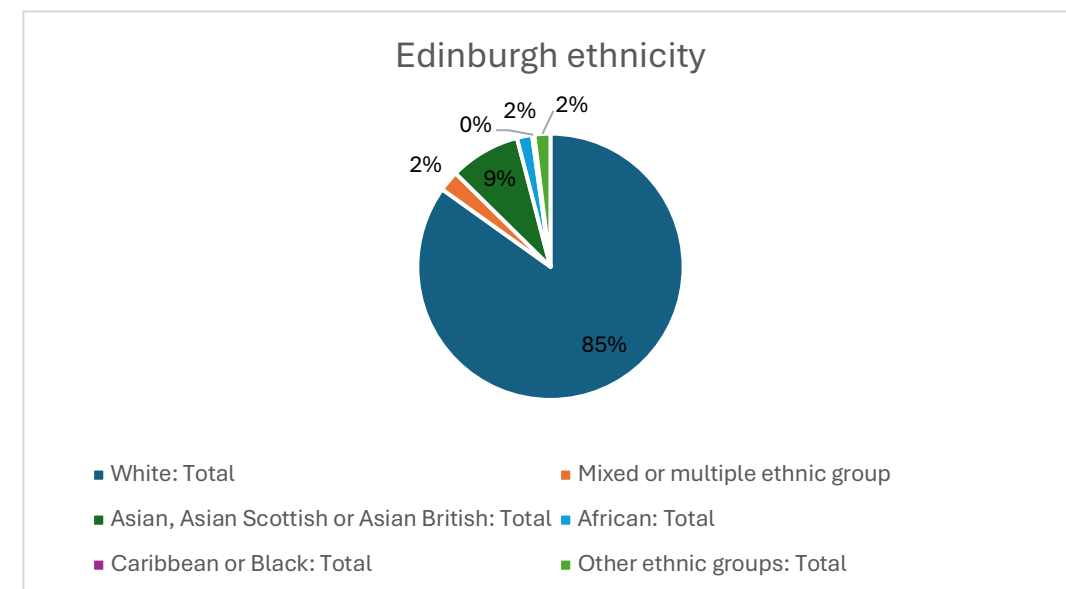
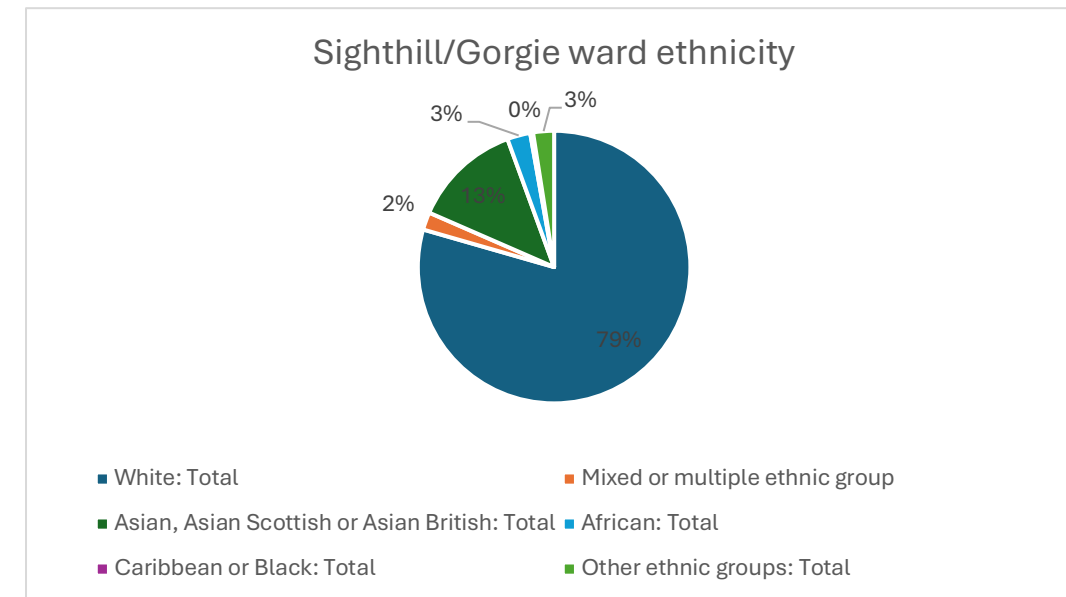
- Place mapping shows that amenities located along Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre tend to align with population density and transport access. This amenity distribution results in compact neighbourhoods where mix of uses and tenements, other flatted development are common. This urban form is relatively continuous and connects to adjacent wards, particularly City Centre and Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart Wards. Other local centres can be found in Stenhouse and Sighthill. Local amenities and public transport access are focused here and serve the surrounding residential areas.
- Cultural facilities and community-run cultural facilities are concentrated in the east of the ward closer to the city centre and areas of higher population density. A few can be found in Sighthill, Stenhouse and Longstone.
- People were divided on the topic with most feeling that there are parks and food places to meet however not enough free, accessible and safe spaces for community. The existing community spaces were appreciated but it is felt they need to be advertised better.
- Most young people responded that they hang out at a friend's house and shopping centres with some going to playgrounds.
- Previous engagement showed a strong support for youth community spaces and improvements to public realm, especially streets, to make it a place to meet and hang out.
- Shopping is felt to be good, especially around Gorgie-Dalry. It is felt that local shops need to be supported, and pavements, cycle, public transport improved for the town centre to thrive. Overall, vape shops, barbers and takeaways were too common and western parts of the ward especially lacked a good quantity and variety of shops.

People

Demographics

- The population of Sighthill/Gorgie is 30,902, which is **6%** of the Edinburgh total of 514,543.
- This population is housed in 15,564 households, which is **6.5%** of the Edinburgh total of 238,944 households.
- The following sites located within the ward boundary are allocated within the adopted City Plan 2030:
 - OPP78 Stevenson Road – 290 homes.
 - OPP80 Murrayburn Road – 384 homes.
 - H4 Dalry Road – 45 homes.
 - H7 Murieston Lane – 69 homes.
 - H76 Peatville Gardens – 10 homes.
 - H79 Broomhouse Terrace – 320 homes.
 - City Plan 2030 allocates a total 1,118 which would be a **7.2%** 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.
 - Overall, the ward is projected to grow at a slower rate than Edinburgh as a whole.
- The age breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - The population aged 0-15 is 3,860 which is **12.5%** of the ward population compared to **14.58%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 16-64 is 23,487 which is **76%** of the ward population compared to **69.5%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 65+ is 3,538 which is **11.4%** 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 **80%** compared to **85%** for Edinburgh as a whole.
 - Of the population recorded as not white, the largest groups represented are:
 - Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British (2,008)
 - Other African (781)
 - Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British (695)



Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

- SIMD mapping below shows this as a ward with a higher level of deprivation than the Edinburgh average and when compared to most adjacent wards. Deprivation is concentrated in Broomhouse, Saughton and parts of Dalry which contain areas within the most 20% deprived in Scotland.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

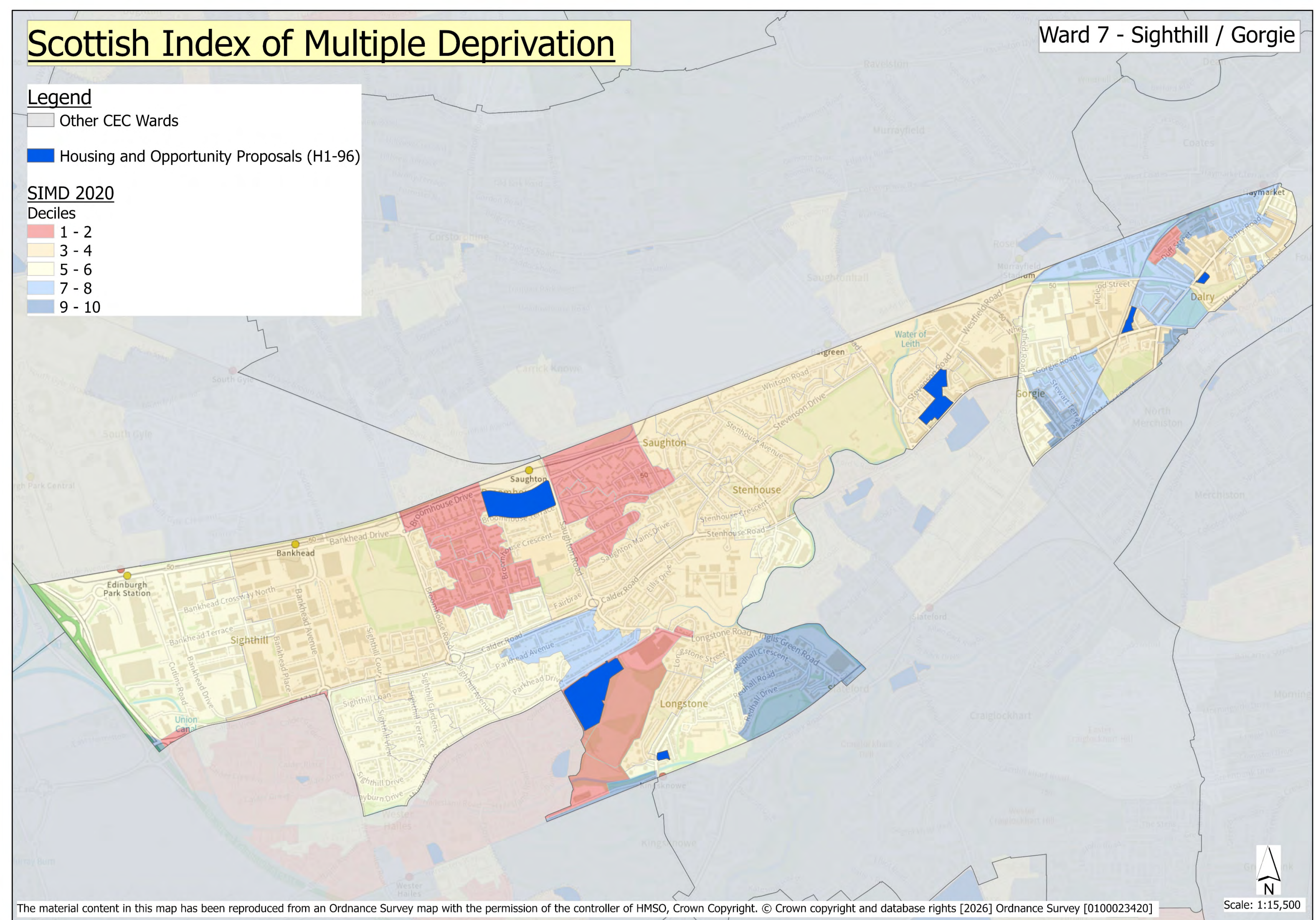
Other CEC Wards

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 slower than the Edinburgh average, with the growth concentrated in the several allocated sites in Broomhouse, Drumbryden and Gorgie.
- The working age population is higher than the Edinburgh average, but the child-age and older populations are higher than the Edinburgh average.
- This ward has a higher-than-average level of diversity compared to the Edinburgh average, with the Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British population group present here.
- This ward has a higher level of deprivation than the Edinburgh average and compared to the adjacent wards. The ward contains the most 20% deprived areas in Scotland, concentrated in Broomhouse and Saughton, which were built as post-war public housing developments, and in parts of Dalry.
- Overall people are happy with their area however they would like to see cleaner, safer and renovated streets with less traffic.
- Young people would like to see more free spaces to hang out and better transportation on the outskirts of the ward.

Health

Demographics

- **18.2%** of the ward population reported having a long-term illness or disease, compared to **18.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **14.8%** of the ward population reported having a long-term mental health condition, compared to **11.9%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **80.2%** 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 **32,918**, greater than the ward population of **30,902**. Dental practices do not have fixed boundaries, indicating that people may travel to this ward for dental care.
- This ward has a ratio of **1 pharmacy per 4139.8 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 **16.88%** 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, **32.03%** were overweight and **22%** 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, **32.52%** were overweight and **36.36%** 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 Broomhouse & Bankhead – Male life expectancy was **70.1 years** and female life expectancy was **76.4 years**.
 - Dalry & Fountainbridge – Male life expectancy was **77.1 years** and female life expectancy was **80 years**.
 - Gorgie East – Male life expectancy was **79.1 years** and female life expectancy was not available.
 - Gorgie West – Male life expectancy was **77.4 years** and female life expectancy was **79.9 years**.
 - Longstone & Saughton – Male life expectancy was **76.5 years** and female life expectancy was **81.4 years**.
 - Murrayburn & Wester Hailes North – Male life expectancy was **71.1 years** and female life expectancy was **78.9 years**.

- Parkhead & Sighthill – Male life expectancy was **79.3 years** and female life expectancy was **86 years**.
- Polwarth – Male life expectancy was **76.2 years** and female life expectancy was **79.1 years**.
- Shandon – Male life expectancy was **79.7 years** and female life expectancy was **85.6 years**.
- Slateford & Chesser – Male life expectancy was **75 years** and female life expectancy was **82.5 years**.
- South Gyle – Male life expectancy was **83.9 years** and female life expectancy was **86.9 years**.
- Stenhouse & Saughton Mains – Male life expectancy was **73 years** and female life expectancy was **78.5 years**.
- The Calders – Male life expectancy was **70.3 years** and female life expectancy was **77.8 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**.
- Sighthill local centre has three takeaways and one betting shop, and this represents 28% of all units. The centre is very small and therefore clustering is more obvious despite the percentage.
- 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 the index, Broomhouse and Stenhouse fall within the top 20% priority areas lacking access, affecting the communities close to it which have higher levels of deprivation.
- Hot food takeaway uses are concentrated mainly in Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre as well as in local centres in Stenhouse and Sighthill.

Hot Food Takeaways

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

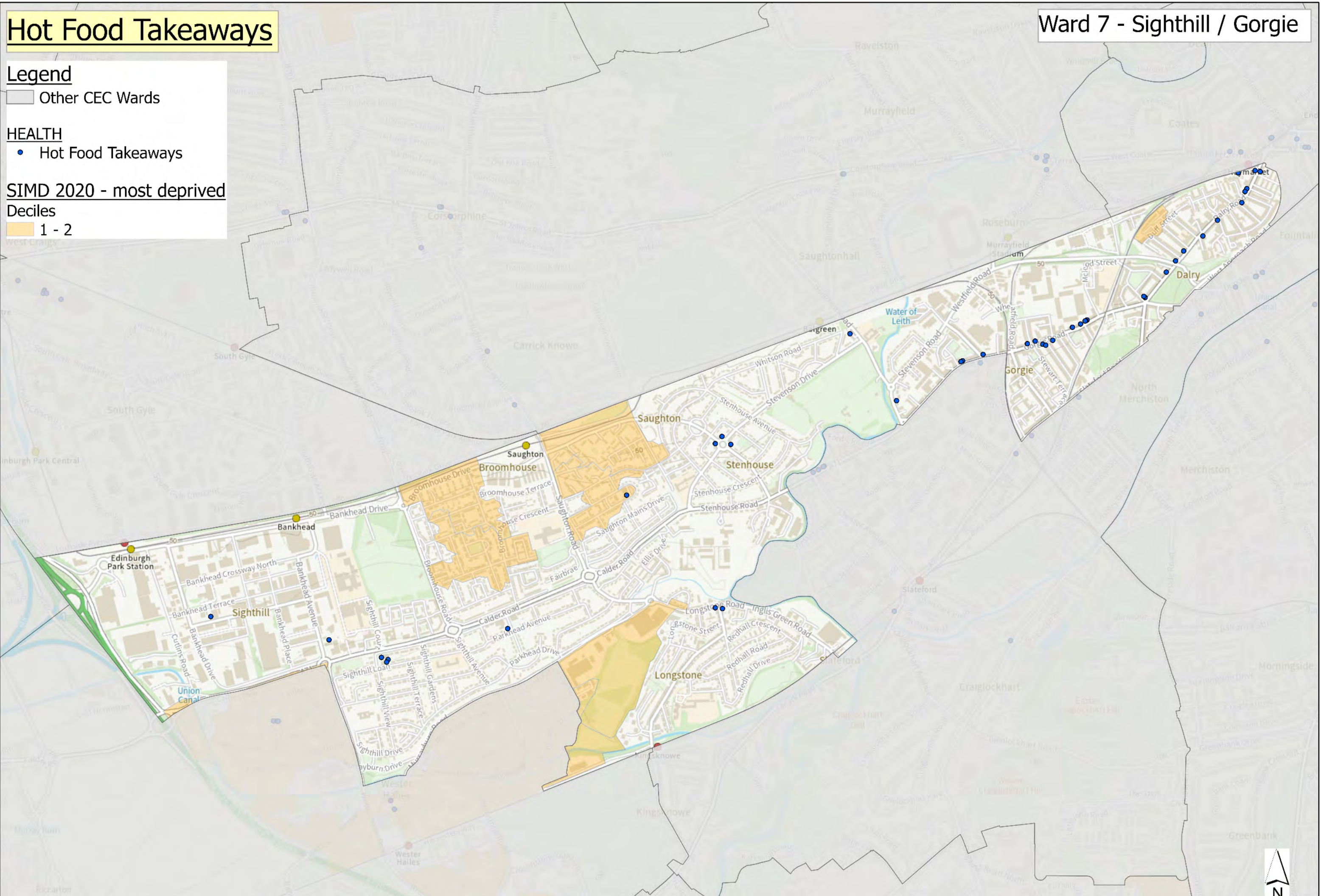
Other CEC Wards

HEALTH

- Hot Food Takeaways

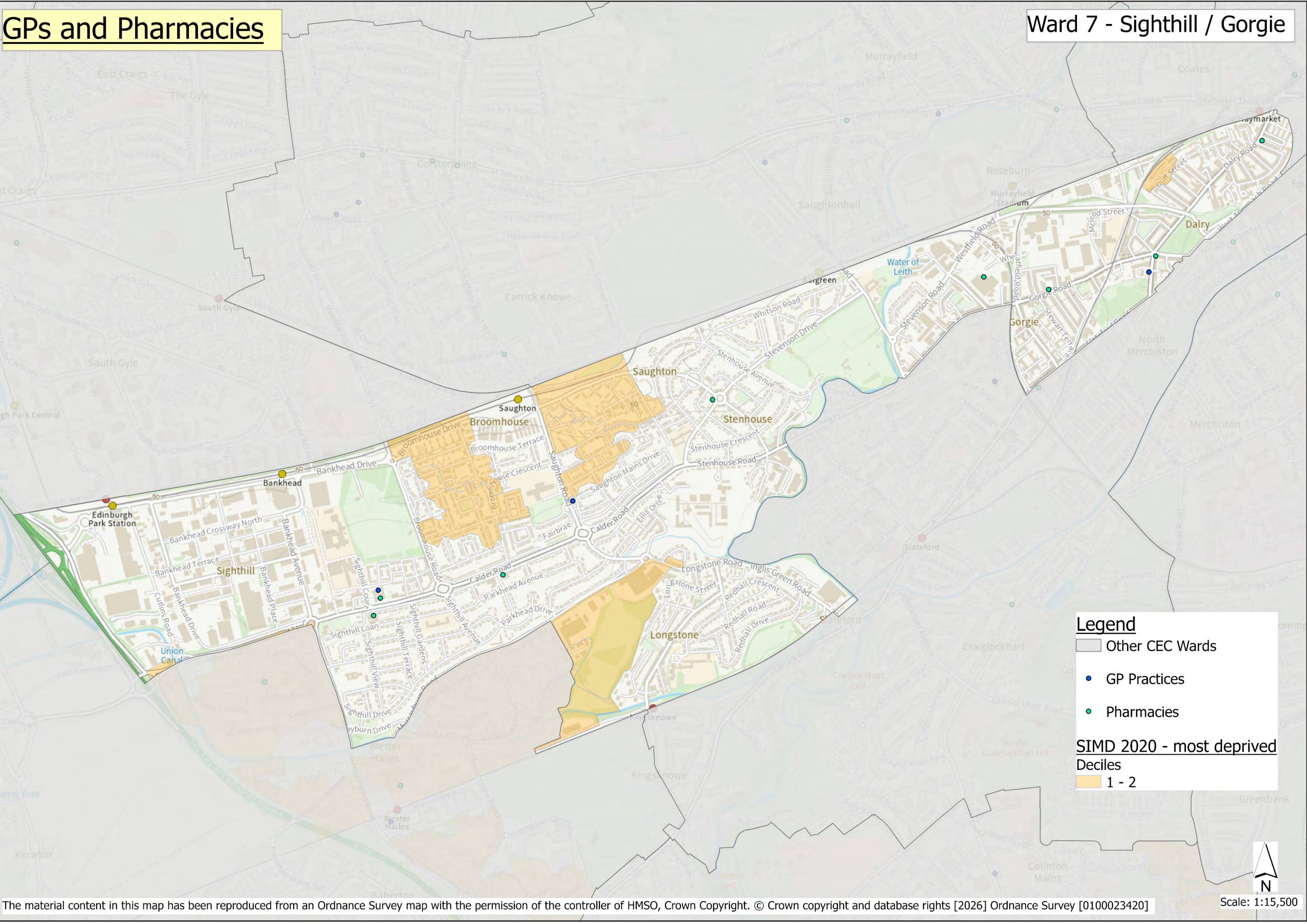
SIMD 2020 - most deprived Deciles

1 - 2



GPs and Pharmacies

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Considerations

- The percentage of people who report being in good or very good health is lower than the Edinburgh average, with a similar percentage of people having a long-term illness/disease.
- The percentage of people who report having a long-term mental health condition is higher than the Edinburgh average.
- The location of health facilities largely follows the existing Calder Road-Gorgie Road corridor which has greater accessibility.
- Previous consultations showed that safer streets, active routes and good outdoor facilities believed to promote health and wellbeing; noise, traffic and narrow pavements were linked to stress.
- Some people report being unable to register at a local practice due to capacity, although it was felt that the existing GPs, dentists and pharmacies were within walking distance.

Housing

Housing type and density

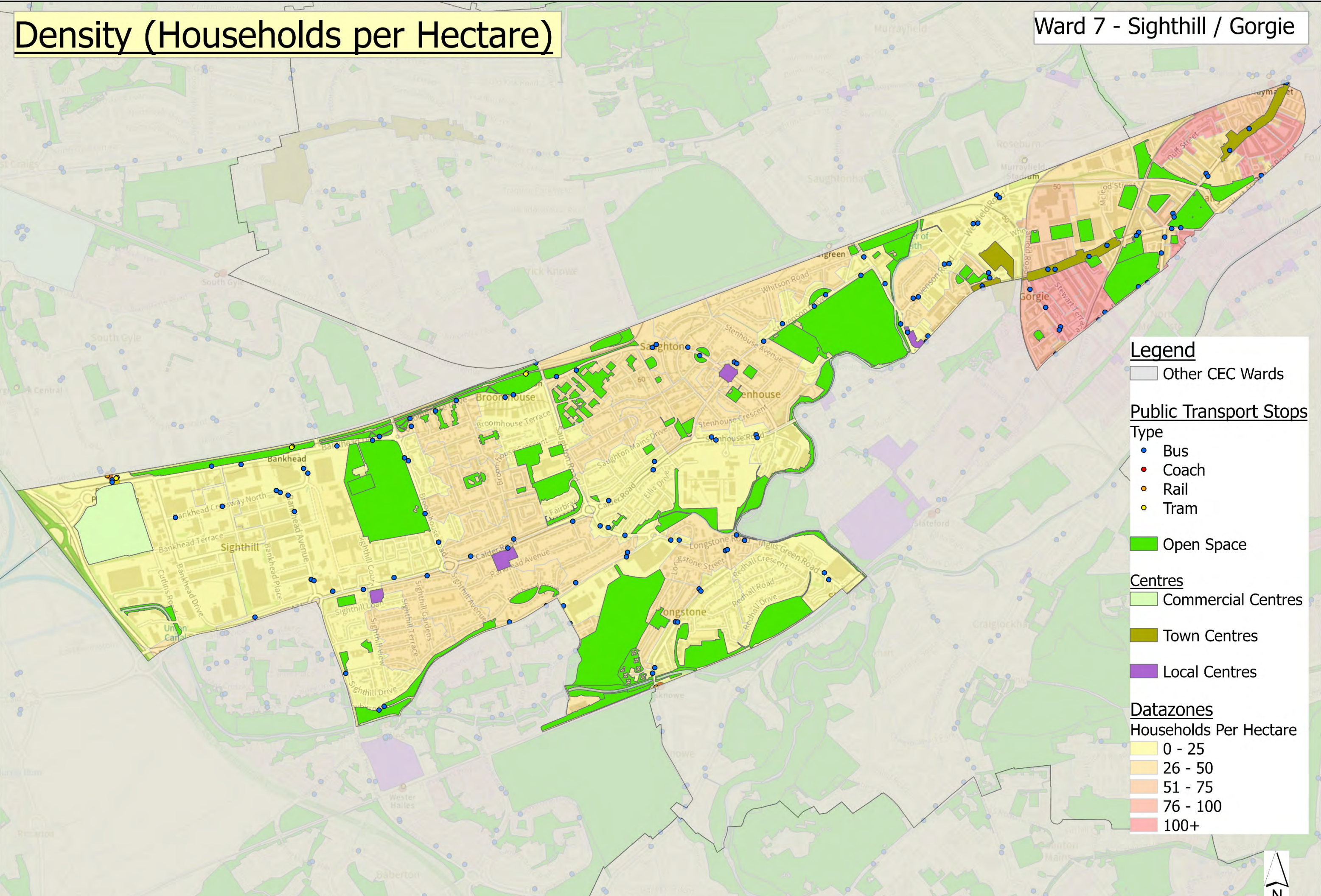
- 2,904 households live in houses, which is **18.7%** compared with **36.8%** of the Edinburgh total, while 12,741 which is **81.4%**, live in flats compared with **63.2%** of the Edinburgh total. 9 live in a caravan or another mobile/temporary structure.
- The level of flatted accommodation is higher on average than the Edinburgh total and mapping shows this to be mostly spread around the ward, although with an emphasis on dense tenement areas of Gorgie and Dalry.
- Population density as measured by households per hectare is higher in the east of the ward, in the areas closer to the city centre (Gorgie and Dalry). However, some areas built as post-war public housing in the west of the ward have higher densities than surrounding areas.

Housing tenure and overcrowding

- The housing tenure breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **44.8%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as Owned, compared to **60.1%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **19.4%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as Social Rented, compared to **15.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **34.6%** 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 lower than the Edinburgh average, with more households living in socially and privately rented accommodation than the Edinburgh average. The mapping shows socially rented accommodation to be concentrated in the central and western parts of the ward, specifically in areas between Sighthill and Balgreen built as post-war public housing and retaining much of this type of housing.
- The level of overcrowding as measured by census reporting the number of people within occupiable rooms per household is higher in areas between Sighthill and Balgreen.

Density (Households per Hectare)

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Legend

Other CEC Wards

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+

Legend

Other CEC Wards

Town Centres

Public Transport Stops

Type

Bus

Coach

Rail

Tram

Centres

Commercial Centres

Datazones

Households in flats as % of all Households

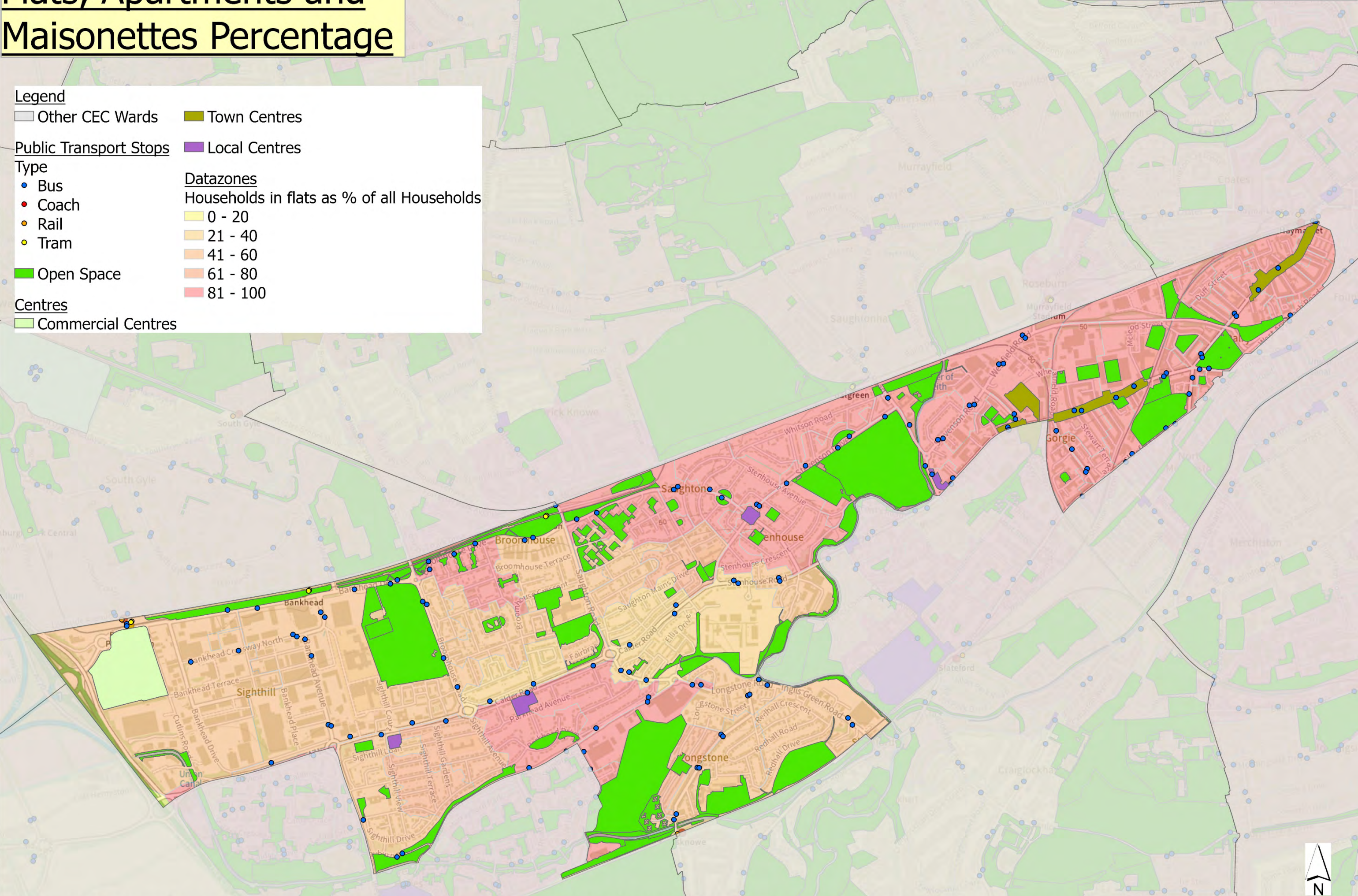
0 - 20

21 - 40

41 - 60

61 - 80

81 - 100



Households in Social Accommodation Percentage

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

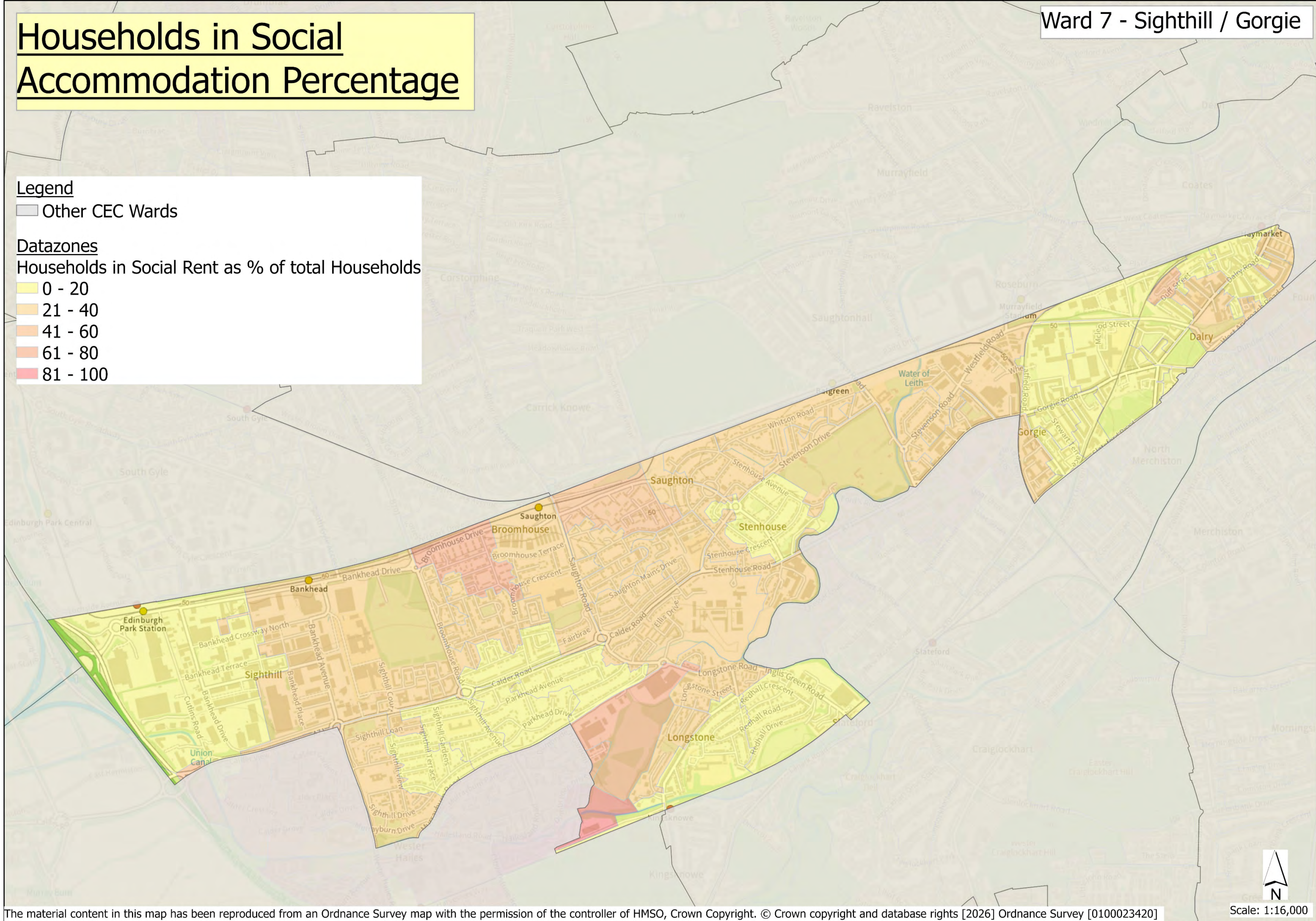
Legend

Other CEC Wards

Datazones

Households in Social Rent as % of total Households

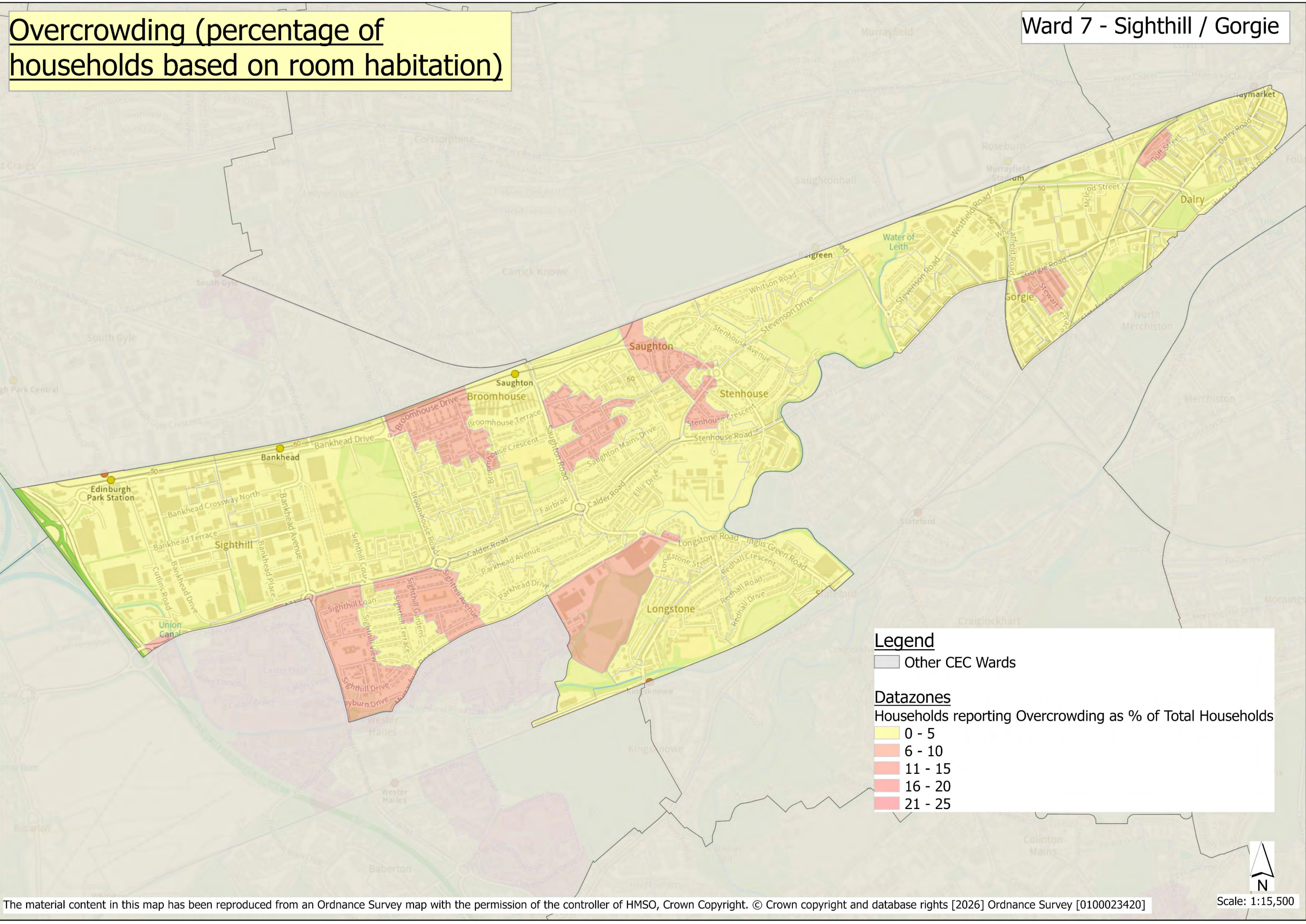
- 0 - 20
- 21 - 40
- 41 - 60
- 61 - 80
- 81 - 100



Scale: 1:16,000

Overcrowding (percentage of households based on room habitation)

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Legend

Other CEC Wards

Datazones
Households reporting Overcrowding as % of Total Households

- 0 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 15
- 16 - 20
- 21 - 25

Considerations

- Flatted accommodation is spread around the ward, with the areas in the west built as post-war public housing, and areas in the east comprised mainly of tenements.
- The density is higher in the east of the ward and is roughly aligned with Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre and is higher closer to the city centre.
- Social housing is concentrated in areas between Sighthill and Balgreen built as post-war public housing and retaining much of this type of housing. These areas are more likely to be overcrowded.
- Engagement shows that most people feel happy about their house. Some respondents would like to live in a bigger place or in a house with a garden, not a flat. Some would like for their home to be less cold/damp. In general, the need for more good quality, affordable and well-maintained housing was felt.
- Previous consultations showed support for improvements to existing housing and more attention to public spaces adjacent to housing, rather than focus on specific building types.

Economy

Demographics

- The occupation breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **5.4%** 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.
 - **23.2%** 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.
 - **14.6%** 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.
 - **9.6%** 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.
 - **8.3%** 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.
 - **9%** 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.
 - **9.7%** 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.
 - **5.8%** 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.
 - **14.5%** 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:
 - **12.9%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as No qualifications, compared to **9.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **18.2%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Lower school qualifications, compared to **14.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **11.2%** 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.

- **11%** 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.
- **41.3%** 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 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

Other CEC Wards

Public Transport Stops

Type

- Bus
- Coach
- Rail
- Tram

Economy

- Largest Businesses - By parking space total

Strategic Business Centres

Business and Industry Areas

Areas of Economic Importance

Commercial Centres

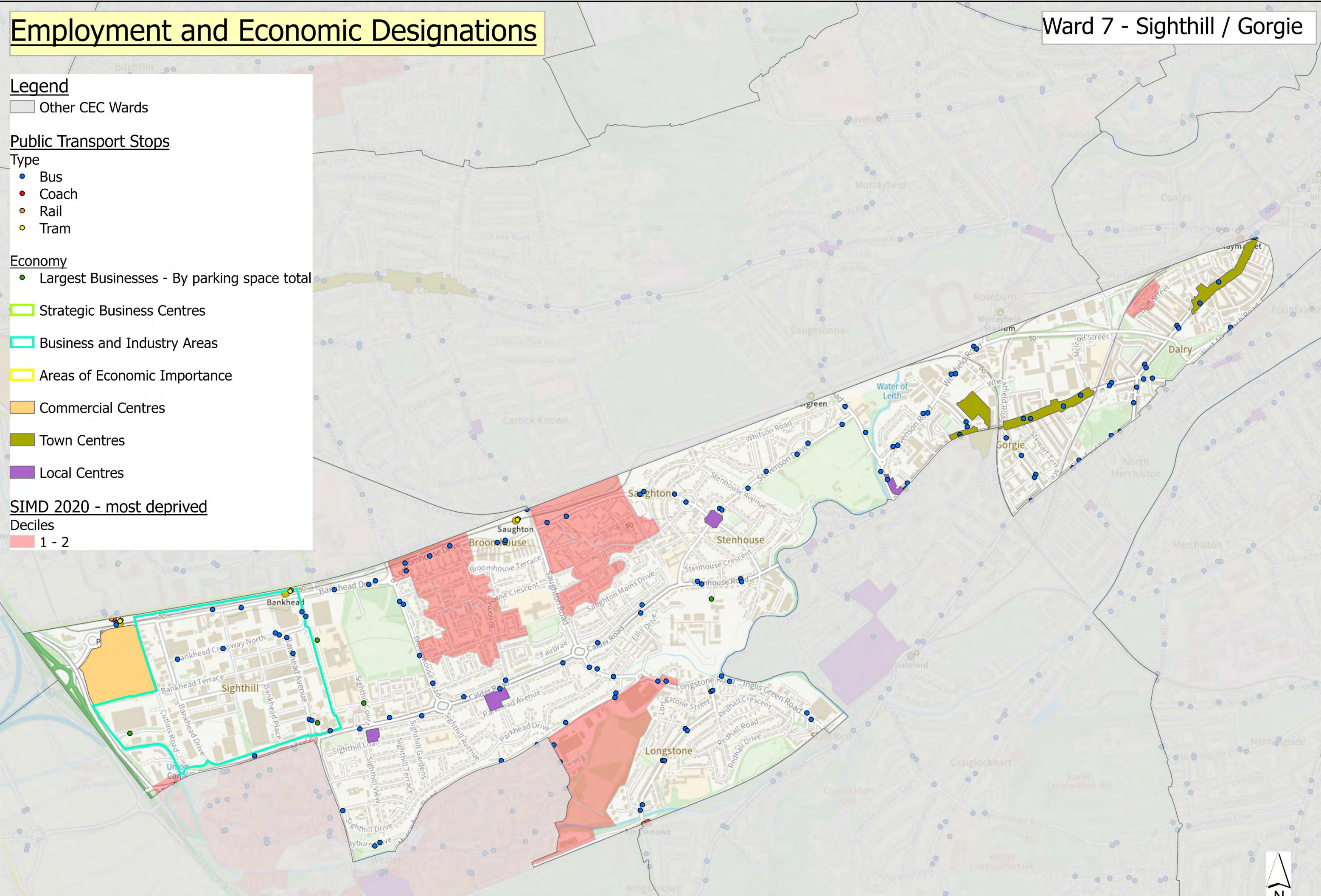
Town Centres

Local Centres

SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

1 - 2



Considerations

- In the west of the ward areas designated for strategic business, business and industry can be found at Sighthill, Edinburgh Park and South Gyle. Adjacent to the east of the ward can be found the city centre which is the regional economic centre. Transport connections between the two run via the Edinburgh Tram line, as well as the major Calder Road-Gorgie Road-Dalry Road corridor which has a network of town and local centres along or close to it.
- During engagement, it was felt that there are some volunteering opportunities in the area but more investment in the local economy is needed.
- Previous engagement showed the need to recognise the importance of Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre for the economy of the ward.

Transport

Demographics

- The breakdown of the primary method of travel to work is listed below:
 - **36.1%** of the working population report mainly working from or at home, compared to **39%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **22.7%** of the working population report driving a car or van, compared to **25.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **22.8%** 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.
 - **2.7%** of the working population report travelling by bike, compared to **3.8%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **12.2%** of the working population report travelling on foot, compared to **12%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **47.9%** 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 well spread around the ward, reflecting greater levels of deprivation in the west and greater population density in the tenement areas in the east of the ward.
- Use of cars for driving to work is broadly higher in the western part of the ward which is farther from the city centre and is lower in population density.

Public Transport

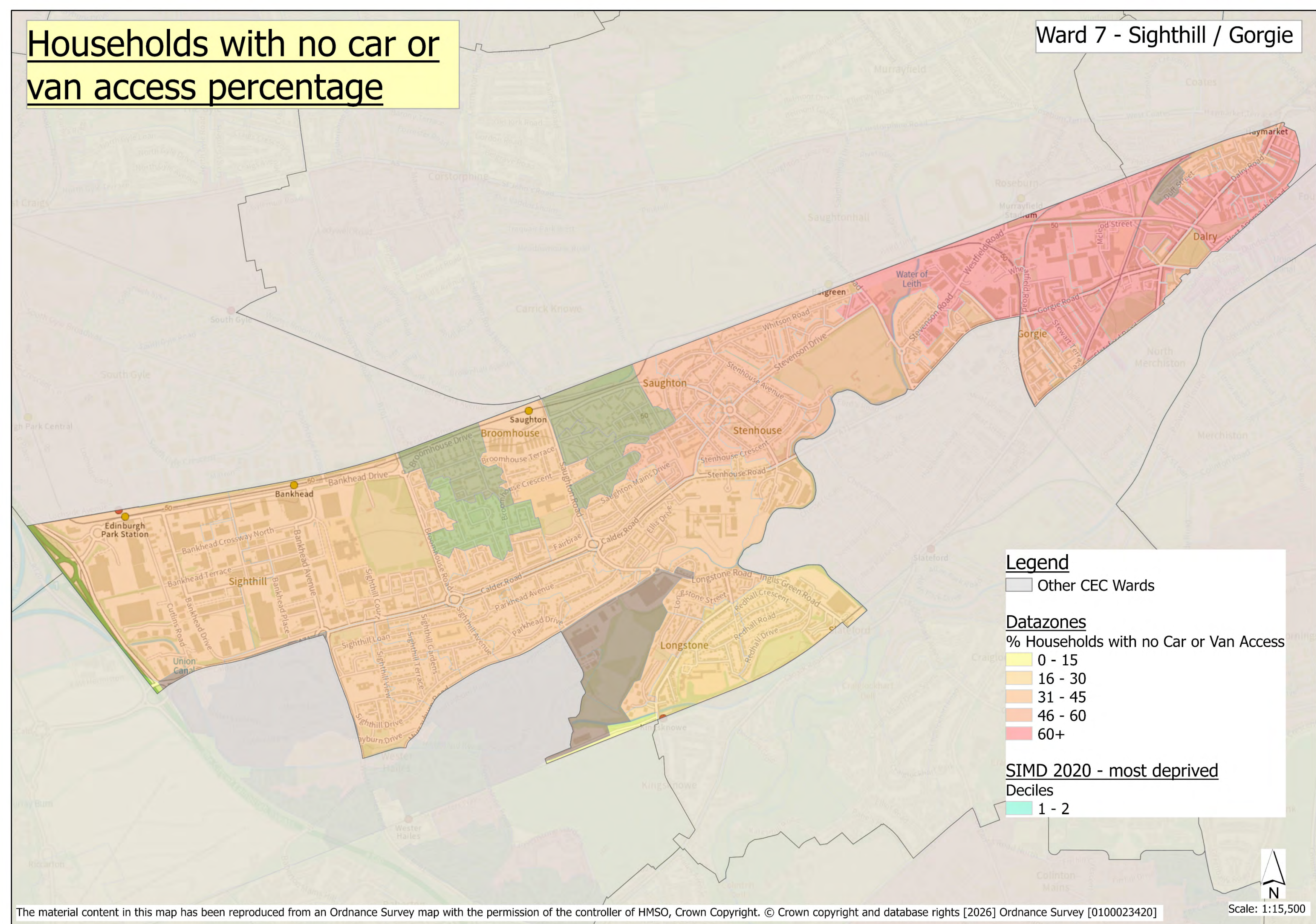
- Public Transport Accessibility Levels (PTAL) are calculated by the Council based on service patterns and stops and is mapped below from 1 (lowest level of accessibility) to 6 (the highest level). A rating of 3 or higher is considered to have a good level of access.
- Good access is concentrated along the Calder Road-Gorgie Road-Dalry Road corridor which is a major transport corridor leading into the city centre from the west. There is also good access close to the tram stops at the northern boundary of the ward.
- Poor access is concentrated in the south of the ward away from the main corridor.

Active travel

- Key active travel paths are Sighthill Quiet Route and the recently completed Roseburn-Union Canal connection. These provide connections beyond the ward via The North Edinburgh Path Network and Union Canal.
- City Mobility Plan has identified projects which will reduce vehicle dominance, increase space for active travel and improve pedestrian access and sense of place in these areas. Improvements are proposed along the main Calder Road-Gorgie Road-Dalry Road corridor, along the Edinburgh Tram line and as part of the West Edinburgh Connections project.

Households with no car or van access percentage

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Driving a car or van to work percentage

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

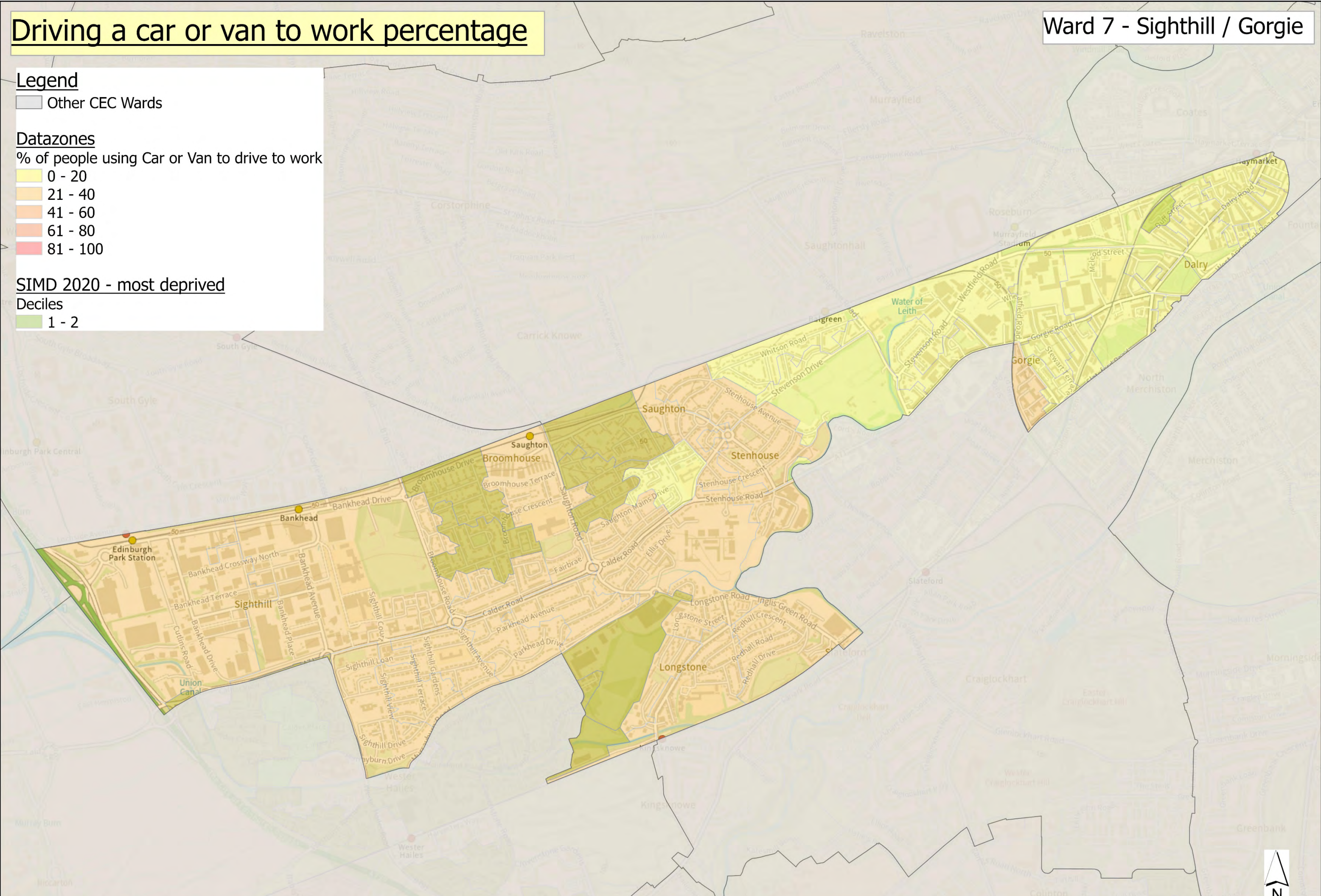
Legend
Other CEC Wards

Datazones
% of people using Car or Van to drive to work

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

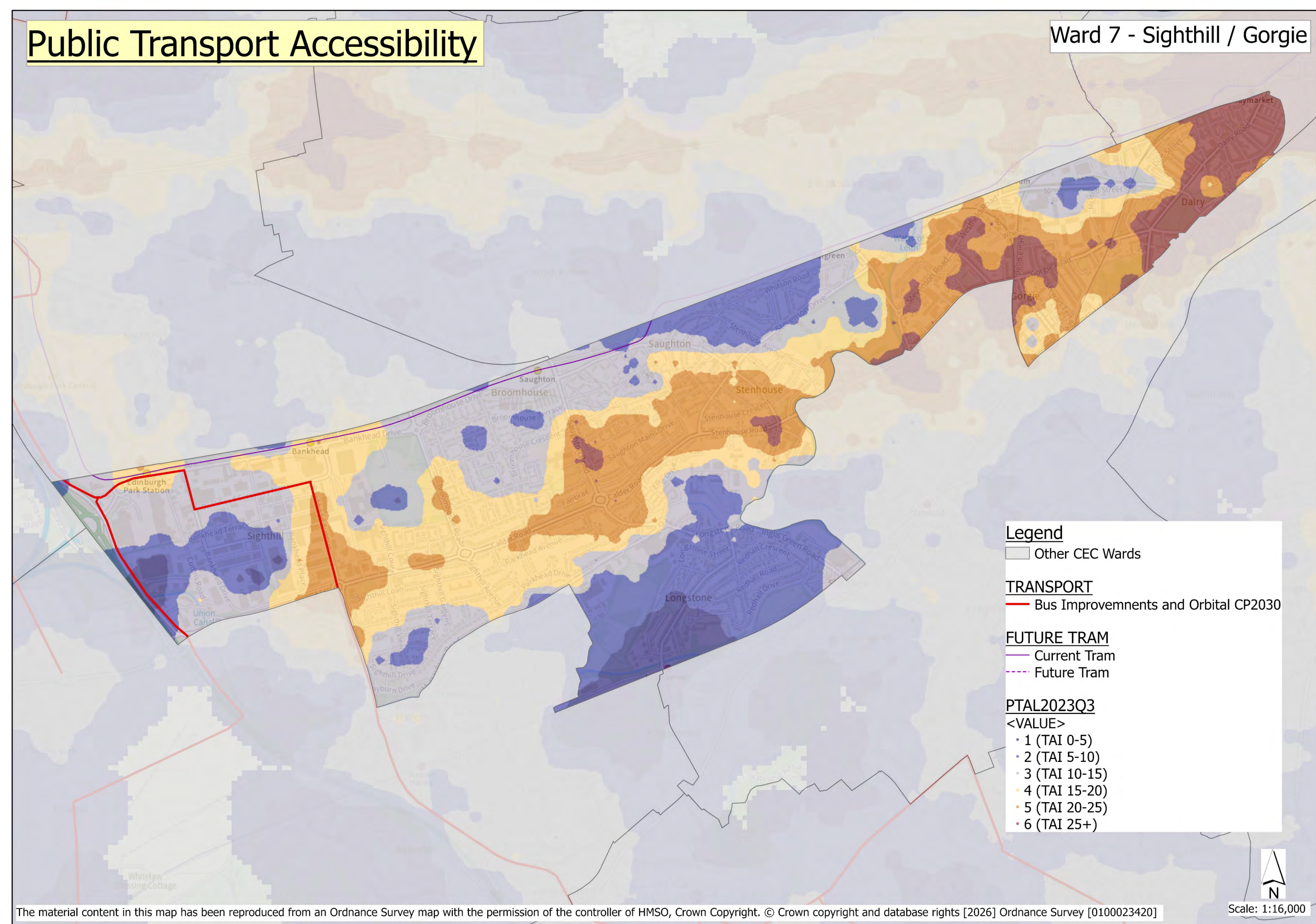
SIMD 2020 - most deprived
Deciles

1 - 2



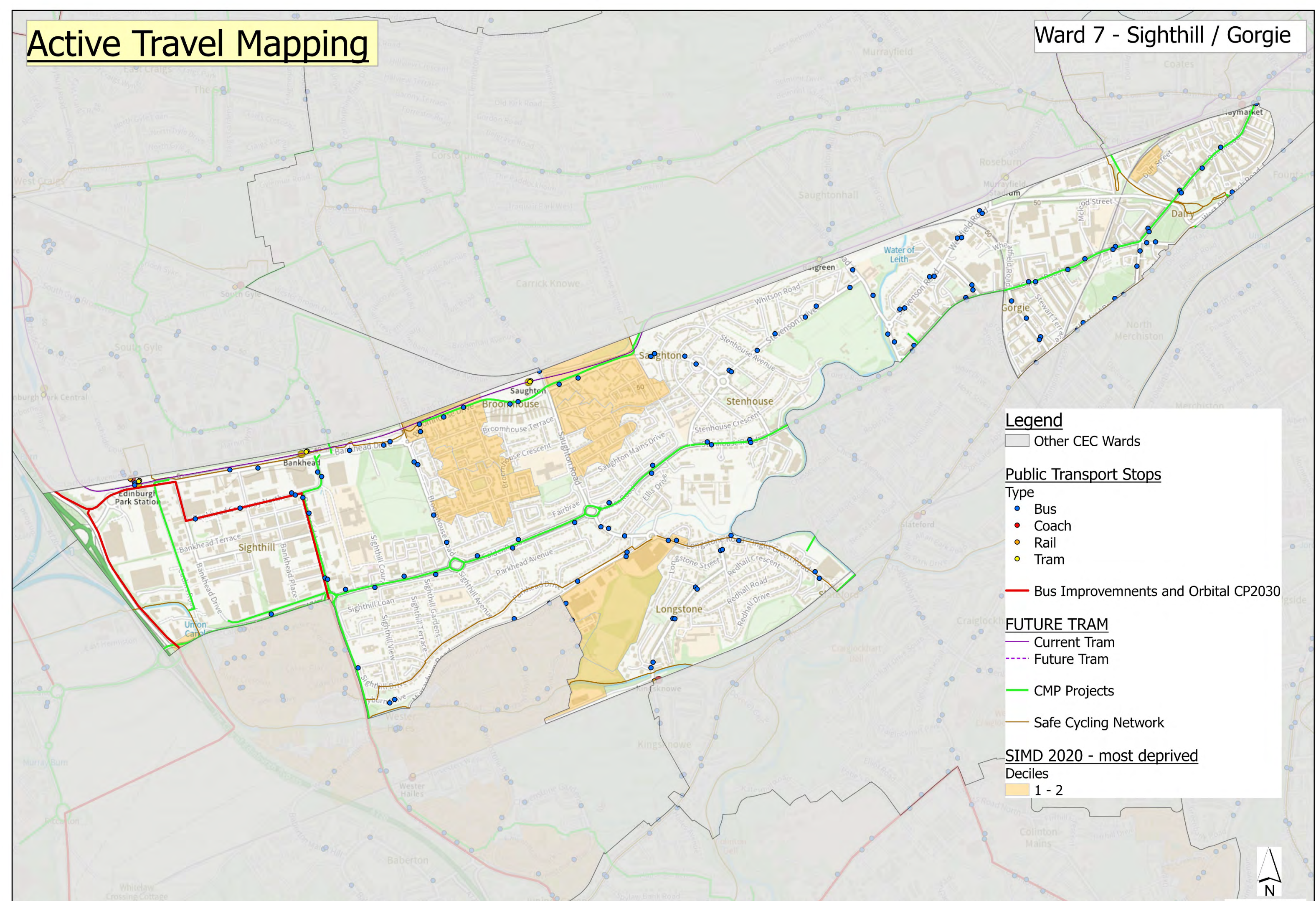
Public Transport Accessibility

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Active Travel Mapping

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Considerations

- A higher percentage of people in the ward take public transport to work compared to the Edinburgh average whilst driving, walking and cycling remain broadly lower with a lower level of car ownership.
- Areas with lower access to a car or van broadly line up with areas of higher deprivation in the west of the ward as well as the eastern part of the ward which has a higher average population density.
- Public transport access is concentrated along the Calder Road-Gorgie Road-Dalry Road corridor, a major transport corridor leading into the city centre from the west, and alongside Edinburgh Tram stops in the north of the ward.
- City Mobility Plan improvements are proposed to be brought forward primarily along the key Calder Road-Gorgie Road-Dalry Road corridor, the tram line as well as the wider West Edinburgh connections which will complement orbital public transport access improvements in the west of the city to improve connections between allocated areas for growth and existing employment sites.
- Previous and current engagement showed that there is too much traffic in the area and the parking availability is limited.
- Walking, wheeling, cycling improvements such as wider pavements and segregated cycle lanes are strongly supported.
- Respondents hold a positive view of the transport in the area, especially buses, although it is felt that more routes that do not go through/to the city centre are needed, which in turn could be linked with a feeling that the travel times are too long.

Environment

Green blue network and biodiversity

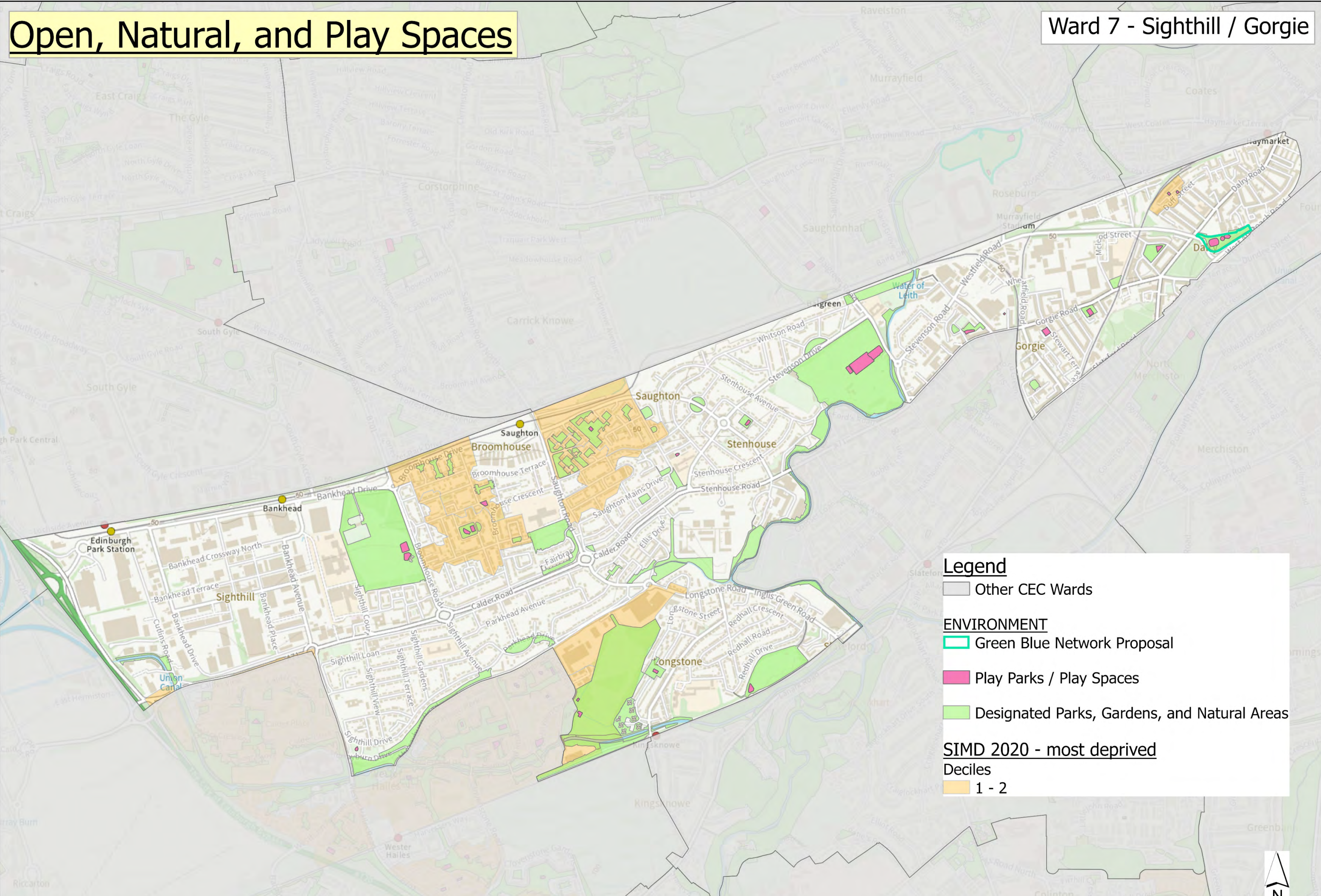
- Open spaces are well dispersed throughout the ward.
- Mapping has been produced showing Edinburgh's Green Blue Network at the strategic, city-wide scale. It shows infrastructure important for water management, biodiversity and recreation. It includes both local and national designations to show how they are interconnected.
- Saughton Park, the Union Canal and the Water of Leith form large parts of the green blue network here and of primary importance for recreation, nature and the character of Edinburgh. These form parts of important corridors connecting around and outside of the ward.

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 found in various locations in and adjacent to Broomhouse, Saughton, Stenhouse and Longstone close to the centre of the ward. This pattern corresponds with the areas of public housing development planned in the post-war period to include allotment spaces. Community-run growing spaces are concentrated in the western part of the ward in various locations but generally corresponding with the areas of greater deprivation.
- There are fewer growing spaces in the densely populated east of the ward, although several growing spaces within and close to the ward boundary are present.

Open, Natural, and Play Spaces

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie



Legend

Other CEC Wards

ENVIRONMENT

Green Blue Network Proposal

Play Parks / Play Spaces

Designated Parks, Gardens, and Natural Areas

SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

1 - 2

Strategic Blue Green Network

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

Other CEC Wards

Wetland Network

ENVIRONMENT

Green Blue Network Proposal

Biodiversity Network

Protected Habitats

Blue Network

Blue Opportunity Areas

Key River Corridor

OS Rivers

Waterbodies

Tidal Water

Wetland

Wetland HotSpot

GBN Ranking Biodiversity Point data

Biodiversi

Low

High

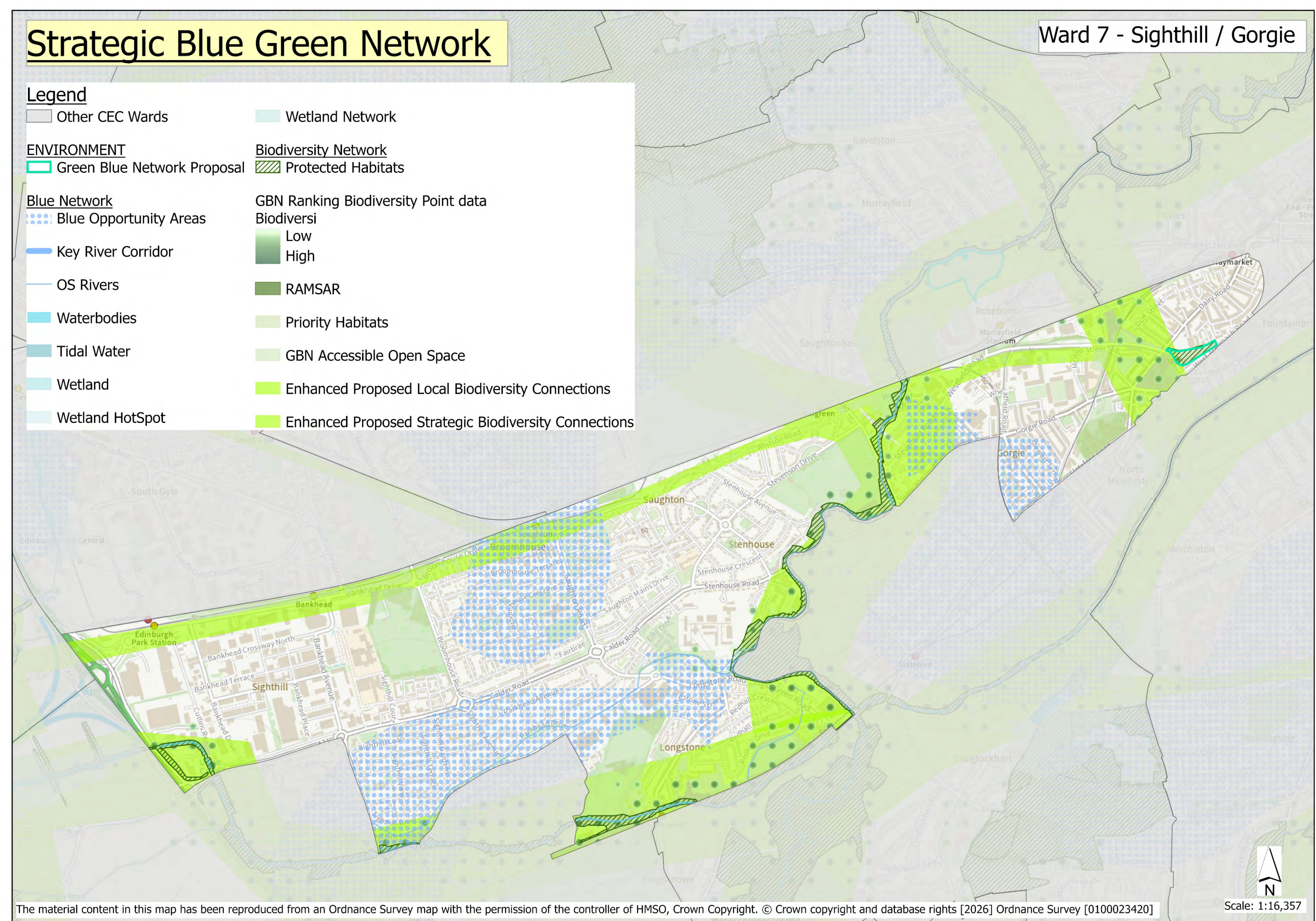
RAMSAR

Priority Habitats

GBN Accessible Open Space

Enhanced Proposed Local Biodiversity Connections

Enhanced Proposed Strategic Biodiversity Connections



Growing Spaces

Ward 7 - Sighthill / Gorgie

Legend

Other CEC Wards

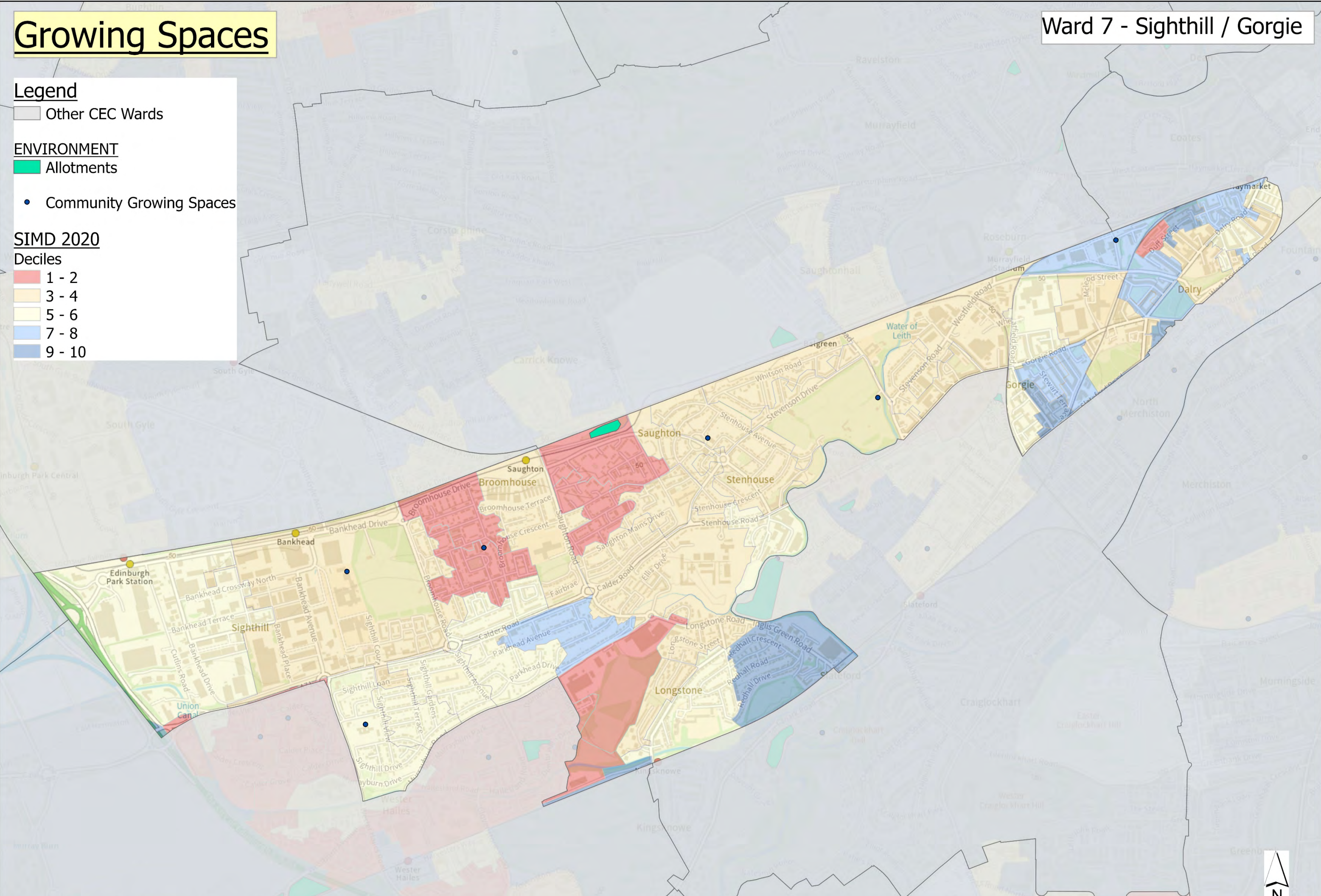
ENVIRONMENT

- Allotments
- Community Growing Spaces

SIMD 2020

Deciles

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



Considerations

- Saughton Park, the Union Canal and the Water of Leith form large parts of the green blue network here and of primary importance for recreation, nature and the character of Edinburgh. These form parts of important corridors connecting around and outside of the ward.
- Opportunities for food growing are well dispersed around the ward but more common in areas developed as post-war public housing. Overall people feel there are not enough of these in the ward.
- Most residents are happy with open and natural spaces in the ward, however they would like it to be cleaner, safer, better maintained and with better sport and play facilities.
- The most common concern relating to climate change was surface flooding. Residents, including young people, supported decarbonising the city.
- Previous engagement showed support for greener streets and improvement to public realm.
- Young people highlighted Saughton Park and Harrison Park as being popular. They would like local parks to have better play equipment and more things to do. They also want to see more trees and flowers in the area and less litter.

Appendix

This report details the consultation and engagement information utilised when creating the Sighthill/Gorgie 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 270 responses were received for the Sighthill/Gorgie Ward. Out of these, 31 were from public at large and 239 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?

- 7 Very happy
- 13 Happy
- 7 Neutral
- 2 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

If you could change one thing, comments

- Bigger place/house not flat.
- Warmer, less damp/cold.

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

- 4 Very good
- 10 Good
- 8 Neutral
- 5 Bad
- 1 Terrible

Homes in the area, comments

- **Good:** Well-built tenements of good quality (although not always maintained)
- **Bad/change:** Rent is too expensive and more good quality housing needed. Existing housing stock is poorly maintained, often have issues with damp etc.

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

- 7 Very good
- 16 Good
- 5 Neutral
- 0 Bad
- 1 Terrible

Shops and services, comments

- **Good:** Good range of stores and services. In walking distance or close by bus.
- **Bad/change:** Road is of bad quality. Promote bus/cycle, reduce motor traffic accessing stores. More banks, libraries, bigger variety in general is needed in the western parts of the ward.

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

- 10 Yes
- 17 No
- 1 Don't know

What there is too much of, comments

- Vape shops. Unhealthy food shops

Dalry Living Well Locally Engagement (2024): Young people focused less on housing itself and more on how streets, parks and facilities around homes affect daily life.

Children and Young People

Are you happy with your home (the building)?

- 36 Yes
- 21 It's ok
- 2 It's not good
- 0 It's bad

If you could change one thing, comments

- Having my own bedroom/bigger place
- Being in a house, not a flat/own garden

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

- 1 Too many
- 46 Right amount
- 11 Not enough
- 1 None

Shops and things, comments

- Not enough hospitals
- Too many barbers

Reimagining Murrayburn, Hailesland and Dumbryden – People and Places Design

Proposals (2022): Considers improvements to residential environments through better layout, safety and connections. Focus on enhancing quality of life around existing housing rather than major new housing delivery.

Health

Public at large

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

- 2 Very good
- 9 Good
- 11 Neutral
- 4 Bad
- 3 Terrible

Healthcare facilities, comments

- **Good:** GPs, dentists, pharmacies generally in walking distance.
- **Bad/change:** Very hard to get appointments. Some can't register with a local practice due to its capacity.

Reimagining Murrayburn, Hailesland and Dumbryden – People and Places (2021–2022):

Promotes healthier neighbourhoods through safer streets, active travel and better public spaces. Improved walkability and access to local facilities support physical and mental wellbeing.

Children and Young People

Tynecastle High School Workshops (2023): Busy traffic, noise and narrow pavements were linked to stress and discomfort.

Transport

Public at large

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

- 6 Very easy
- 8 Easy
- 7 Neutral
- 2 Difficult
- 2 Very difficult

Walk, wheeling, cycling, comments

- **Good:** Walking is good. Some segregated cycle paths help (Roseburn, Union Canal). Wheeling is ok with some problematic areas.
- **Bad/change:** No segregated cycle lanes on the roads and too much motor traffic. Dropped kerbs and better accessibility. Pavement and road maintenance.

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

- 10 Very easy
- 16 Easy
- 1 Neutral
- 2 Difficult
- 0 Very difficult

Public transport, comments

- **Good:** Great buses. Train station and tram nearby.
- **Bad/change:** More affordable. More routes apart from to/from City Centre. Some of the routes (1, 8, 9, 23 and 27) are not wheelchair accessible.

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

- 1 Very happy
- 7 Happy
- 5 Neutral
- 7 Unhappy
- 9 Very unhappy

Traffic and parking comments

- **Good:** CPZ made it possible to park near own house – very positive.
- **Bad/change:** Too much traffic and parking in the area still. Big events at Murrayfield and other venues cause additional problems.

Strategic Parking Review – Phase 1 Parking Survey (2025): Gathered views on parking pressure, availability and restrictions across the ward. Identified concerns around difficulty parking near homes and impacts of non-resident parking. Evidence to inform future parking controls and enforcement.

Reimagining Murrayburn, Hailesland and Dumbryden – People and Places (2021–2022):

Identified need for safer, clearer walking and cycling routes between homes, schools and shops. Emphasis on traffic calming, pedestrian priority and improved connections to public transport.

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?

- No, nothing
- Prefer to travel by public transport/ car
- I don’t have a bike, scooter etc.

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
- Takes too long

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?

- 18 Yes
- 2 No
- 28 Don’t know
- 9 Don’t care

Tynecastle High School Workshops (2023):

- Young people described streets around Gorgie Road, McLeod Street and Ardmillan Terrace as busy, stressful and unsafe.
- Clear requests for safer crossings, wider pavements, segregated cycle lanes and School Streets near schools.

Dalry Primary School Engagement (2022–2023): Children raised concerns about traffic speed, parking near school entrances and difficulty crossing roads safely.

Dalry Living Well Locally Engagement (2024): Children and young people supported changes that reduce car dominance and improve walking and cycling routes.

Economy

Public at large

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

- 1 Very good
- 5 Good
- 15 Neutral
- 5 Bad
- 3 Terrible

Work, volunteering and training, comments

- **Good:** Some volunteering opportunities.
- **Bad/change:** More investment/opportunities.

Children and Young People

Dalry Living Well Locally – School & Youth Engagement (2023–2024): Young people highlighted the importance of local shops, cafés and facilities as places they use daily rather than as employment spaces.

Tynecastle High School 20 Minute Neighbourhood Workshops (2023): Students linked a lively local area to feeling safer and more welcoming, especially around school routes.

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
- 9 Neutral
- 6 Bad
- 2 Terrible

Spaces to meet people, comments

- **Good:** Parks, cafes, restaurants and bars.
- **Bad/change:** More spaces, esp. free, accessible and safe for people of different backgrounds.

How is the community space in your area?

- 1 Very good
- 8 Good
- 13 Neutral
- 4 Bad
- 2 Terrible

Community spaces, comments

- **Good:** Lots of green spaces. Some areas have a community centre/library/classes space.
- **Bad/change:** More community spaces. Advertising the existing ones.

Children and Young People

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

- Friend's house
- Shopping centres
- Playgrounds

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

- 26 There are plenty
- 20 There are a few
- 3 There are some, but I do not like them
- 3 Yes, but they cost too much
- 5 None that I know about

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

- Football, basketball
- Dance, art

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

- 41 Yes
- 13 Sometimes
- 2 No
- 1 Don't know

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

- 3 Often
- 24 Sometimes
- 22 Very rarely
- 8 Never

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

- Boring/not interested
- No idea what there is
- No one to go with

Dalry Living Well Locally – School Engagement (2023–2024): Children valued having places to meet friends safely near home and school.

Tynecastle High School Workshops (2023): Students identified lack of youth-friendly spaces and asked for areas to sit, socialise and spend time after school.

Environment

Public at large

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

- 4 Very happy
- 13 Happy
- 8 Neutral
- 3 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

Open and natural spaces, comments

- **Good:** Good number of spaces nearby.
- **Bad/change:** Make them cleaner, better-maintained, safer.

What is the access to growing spaces like now?

- 1 Very happy
- 3 Happy
- 13 Neutral
- 7 Unhappy
- 4 Very unhappy

Growing spaces, comments

- **Good:** Some but few in the area.
- **Bad/change:** More of them – waiting list is too big.

Climate change, comments

- Surface flooding.
- Decarbonise city – insulation, less cars, recycling etc.

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.?

- 3 Very happy
- 10 Happy
- 9 Neutral
- 6 Unhappy
- 1 Very unhappy

Ball game spaces, comments

- **Good:** Several parks with these in the area.
- **Bad/change:** Some areas too far from these. Bigger variety of sports in existing (tennis court, basketball, etc).

How happy are you with the number of green and open spaces for children and young people to play and hang-out around in your area?

- 4 Very happy
- 10 Happy
- 8 Neutral
- 6 Unhappy
- 1 Very unhappy

Outdoor play spaces, comments

- **Good:** Some good parks.
- **Bad/change:** Not safe due to traffic/anti-social behaviour. Badly maintained.

Reimagining Murrayburn, Hailesland and Dumbryden – People and Places (2021–2022): Proposals include more greenery, improved public spaces and better-quality streets. Emphasis on improving local environmental quality and neighbourhood character.

Children and Young People

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

- 24 Almost every day
- 14 A few days a week
- 7 Once a week
- 10 Rarely
- 3 I don't go outdoors to play or hang out

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

- 20 Yes, there are lots
- 25 There are a few
- 9 No, there aren't enough
- 2 No, there aren't any

What is your favourite park or greenspace in Edinburgh?

- Saughton Park
- Harrison Park

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

- It is fun
- It is close to home
- Wildlife / nature

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

- Bad weather/too dark in winter
- I don't have time
- Hard to organise meeting up with friends

How could the places where you hang out be better?

- More equipment, more stuff to do
- Fix equipment and clean

Are the outdoor spaces you go to clean?

- 1 Very clean
- 16 Clean
- 33 OK
- 6 Dirty
- 2 Very Dirty

Outdoor play equipment

- 25 In good condition
- 11 Needs fixing
- 9 Needs cleaned/painted
- 7 Needs replacing
- 6 There is not enough or any play equipment

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

- 33 I always feel safe
- 24 I sometimes feel safe
- 1 I never feel safe

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

- People smoking/drinking/offering to buy
- Dark
- Teenagers

How close are you with nature?

- 13 7 (closest to nature)
- 6 6
- 14 5
- 15 4
- 6 3
- 2 2
- 1 1 (furthest away from nature)

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

- More flowers, trees, plants
- Less litter

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

- No/don't know
- Yes – too many cars, animals are going extinct, younger people won't experience the earth we do.

Tynecastle High School Workshops (2023): Students wanted more trees, planting, benches and street greening to make streets feel calmer and more welcoming.

Dalry Living Well Locally Engagement (2024): Greener streets and better-quality public spaces were seen as important for comfort and enjoyment.

Place

Public at large

How happy are you with your area?

- 0 Very happy
- 19 Happy
- 7 Neutral
- 2 Unhappy
- 1 Very unhappy

What would you change, comments

- Cleaner and safer streets. Less traffic. Better maintained pavements and roads.

Any other comments

- Problems with criminals. Lots of dog poo on the streets.

Children and Young People

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

- Can you please help make transportation easier in West Craig's
- I don't know if there is any club at my community, I don't know where to go and were to find
- More free spaces for young people to meet/hang out

Dalry Primary School Engagement (2022): Children supported ideas for school streets, safer public spaces and community-focused 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
- [Dalry - Living Well Locally, The City of Edinburgh Council, January 2024](#)
- [Reimagining Murrayburn, Hailesland & Dumbryden, The City of Edinburgh Council, April 2022](#)
- Tynecastle High School Workshops, February 2023
- Dalry Primary School Engagement, December 2022