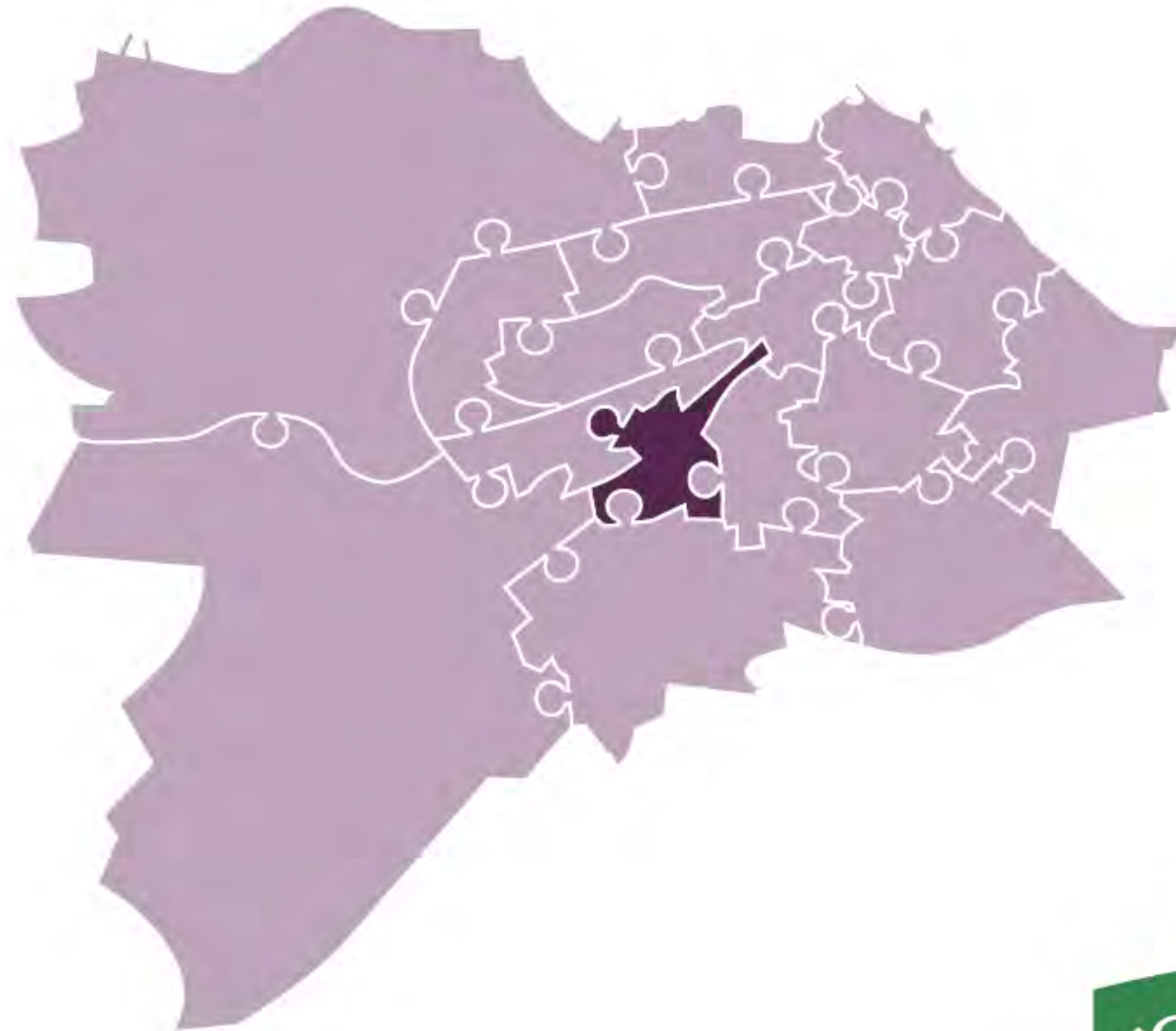


Evidence Report Place Profile

Ward 9 Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Introduction

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

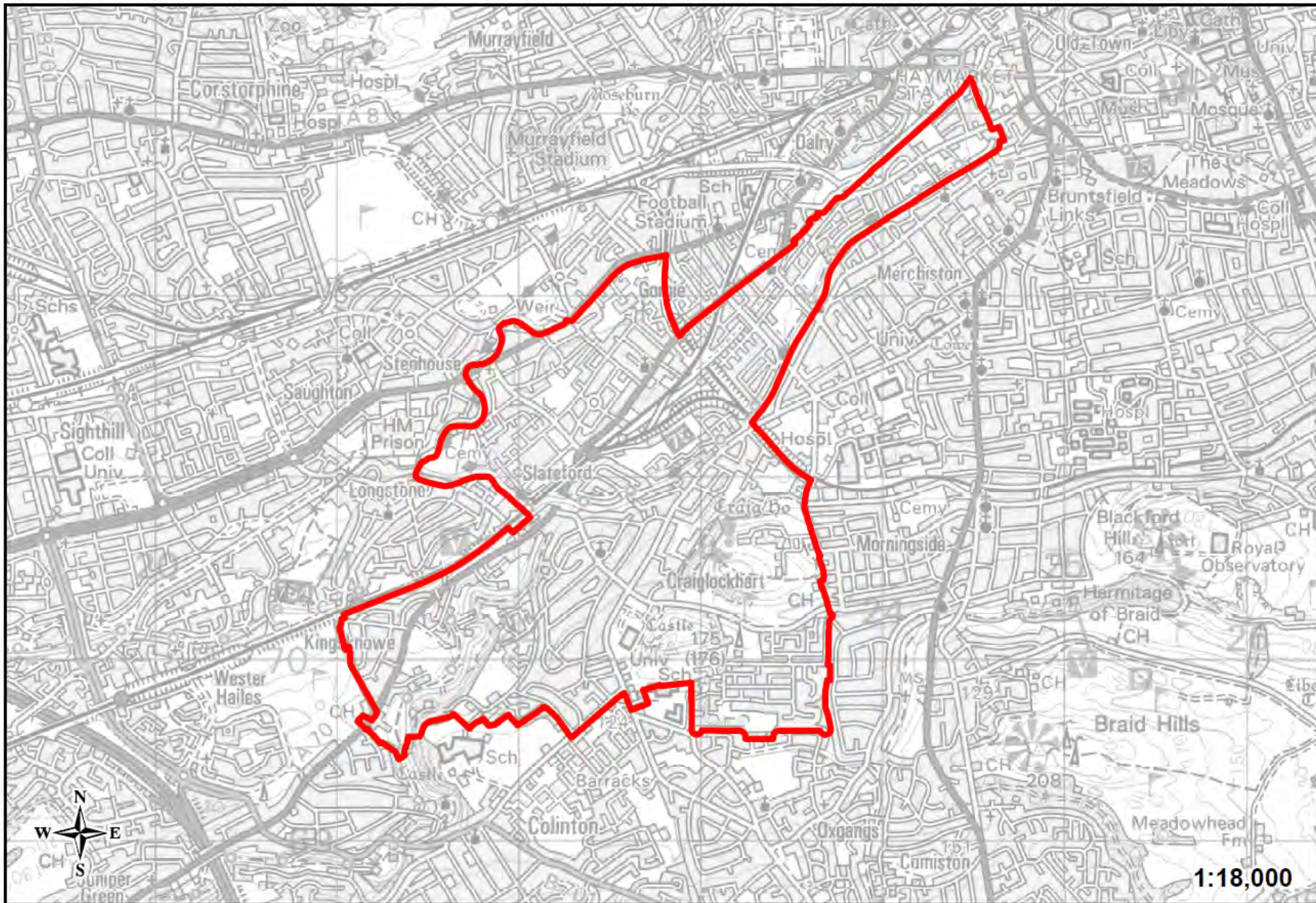
In line with NPF4 and related guidance, new Local Development Plans in Scotland need to be place-based, people-centred and delivery-focussed.

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
- Most residents are happy with their housing and housing stock broadly matches the needs of the population - There is a good variety of shops within the area - The east of the ward is within the City Centre and therefore has close proximity to numerous large employers - Education and health sectors are key employers within the ward (Edinburgh Napier University Craiglockhart and Merchiston Campuses and Royal Edinburgh Hospital) - There are some volunteering opportunities within the ward - Access to public transport is considered good along the Slateford Road-Fountainbridge corridor and the Gorgie Road corridor in the north of the ward - The ward contains some active travel routes (Union Canal Towpath, the Water of Leith and Slateford Road). - The good quality open spaces are appreciated for their biodiversity and recreational value	- Some healthcare facilities are outwith a reasonable walking distance for some residents and appointment availability is limited - In areas such as Chesser, Hutchison, Gorgie and Fountainbridge, the housing does not always meet the requirements of the population with overcrowding more likely to be reported - Access to local centres is more limited in the south of the ward - Access to public transport is poorer in parts of Craiglockhart - There is occasionally conflict between pedestrians and cyclists regarding shared spaces - Heavy traffic and parking are concerns, especially for young people who feel unsafe around high-speed traffic - Growing spaces and allotments are less common away from the Water of Leith - Surface water flooding as a result of climate change is a concern within the ward
Implications	
- Public transport improvements to increase frequency and reduce travel times could be explored and improved travel connections to larger healthcare facilities and hospitals - Opportunity to improve housing stock regarding tenancy types, affordability, energy efficiency and size - There is a need for increased community and social spaces that are welcoming and accessible - Opportunity to explore increasing learning provision for all ages - Explore initiatives to create accessible, interconnected and segregated active travel route - Improvements to public open spaces to provide accessible play facilities for all ages and support biodiversity - Explore the increasing of community growing spaces to support existing and the creation of new community growing groups	

Place

Headlines

The development of Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart Ward is rooted in the 19th century.

Fountainbridge was transformed in the 19th century to the city's main industrial area with associated tenement development. It was the terminus for the Union Canal and the location of the British Rubber Company and Fountain Brewery. As the industry closed, this has been replaced with new uses such as student accommodation, housing, offices, hotels and leisure use at Fountain Park.

Craiglockhart is an area with Easter Craiglockhart Hill and Wester Craiglockhart Hill, part of Edinburgh's 7 hills. They are the setting for a cluster of former Victorian institutions: City Hospital, City Poorhouse and Craighouse (all converted to residential use) and the Craiglockhart Hydropathic Hospital which is located on the site of the ruined medieval Craiglockhart Castle, now a Napier University campus.

To the west, there are residential areas, primarily bungalows dating from the 1950s: **Kingsknowe, Redhall** and **Craiglockhart**.

The former village of **Slateford** is crossed by the Slateford Aqueduct carrying the Union Canal and the viaduct carrying the railway line.

Slateford and **Shandon** colonies were built in the late 19th century by the Co-operative Building Company to improve the living accommodation of the working class.

Chesser was the location of the city's agricultural and wholesale operations with Chesser fruit market (now Edinburgh West Retail Park) and the Corn Exchange and slaughterhouse complex built in 1921.

Chesser and Hutchison also developed as a residential suburb with inter-war period council housing.

Shopping areas in the ward are located at Dundee Street, Ashley Terrace, Chesser Avenue and Craiglockhart.

There are two main traffic routes: A70 and Colinton Road. There are number of railway lines intersecting the ward. Slateford Rail Depot and Slateford Train Station are in the ward.

The Union Canal forms the eastern boundary of the ward up to Fountainbridge. The Water of Leith runs through the southern section of the ward creating the Colinton and Craiglockhart Dells.

The main public open spaces are Harrison Park and Dovecot Park.

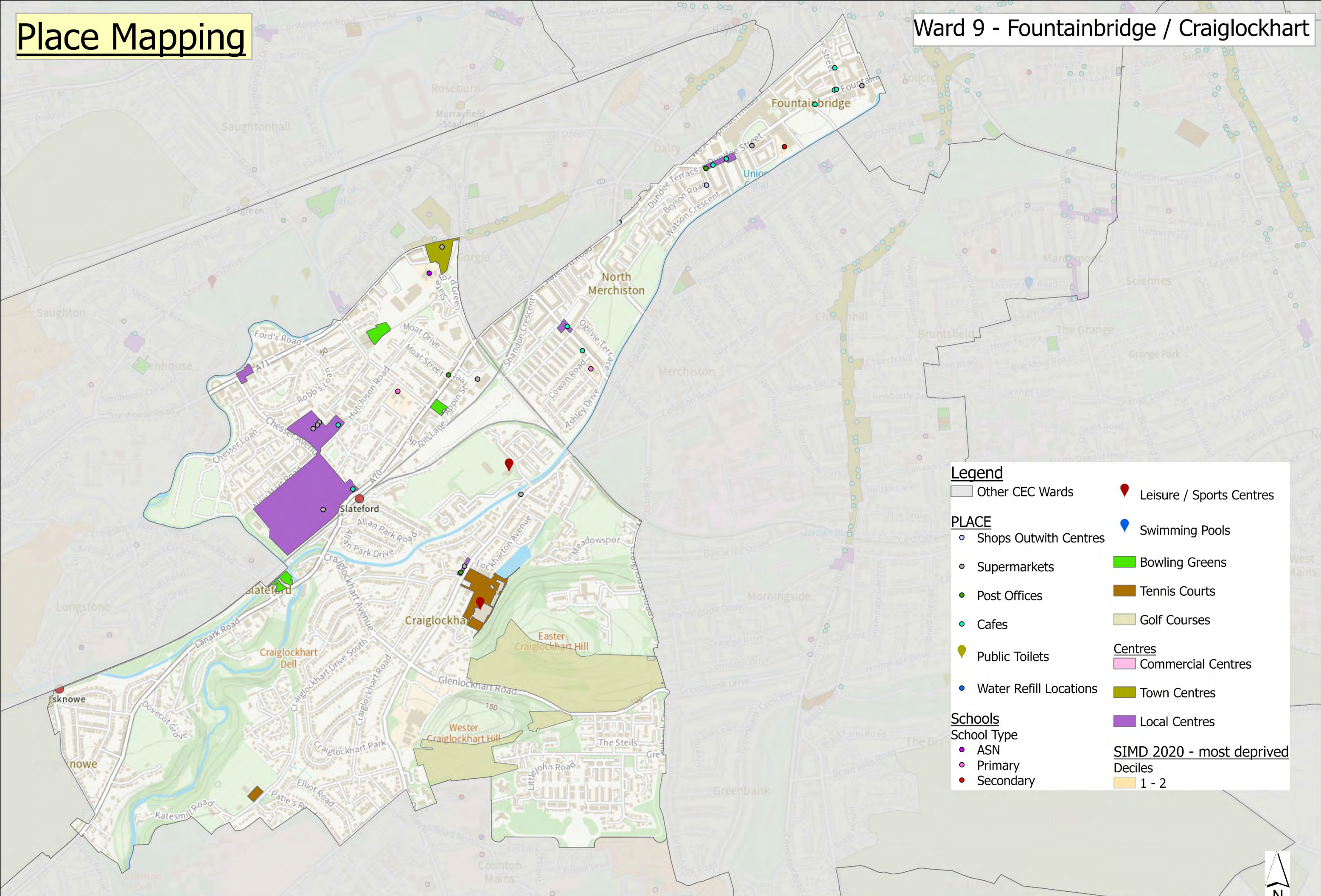
The Meggetland Sports Complex and Craiglockhart Leisure Centre are in the ward along with sports pitches connected to George Watson's College at Myreside.

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 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Legend

Other CEC Wards

PLACE

Shops Outwith Centres

Supermarkets

Post Offices

Cafes

Public Toilets

Water Refill Locations

Schools

School Type

ASN

Primary

Secondary

Leisure / Sports Centres

Swimming Pools

Bowling Greens

Tennis Courts

Golf Courses

Centres

Commercial Centres

Town Centres

Local Centres

SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

1 - 2

Culture and Community Infrastructure

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart

Legend

Other CEC Wards

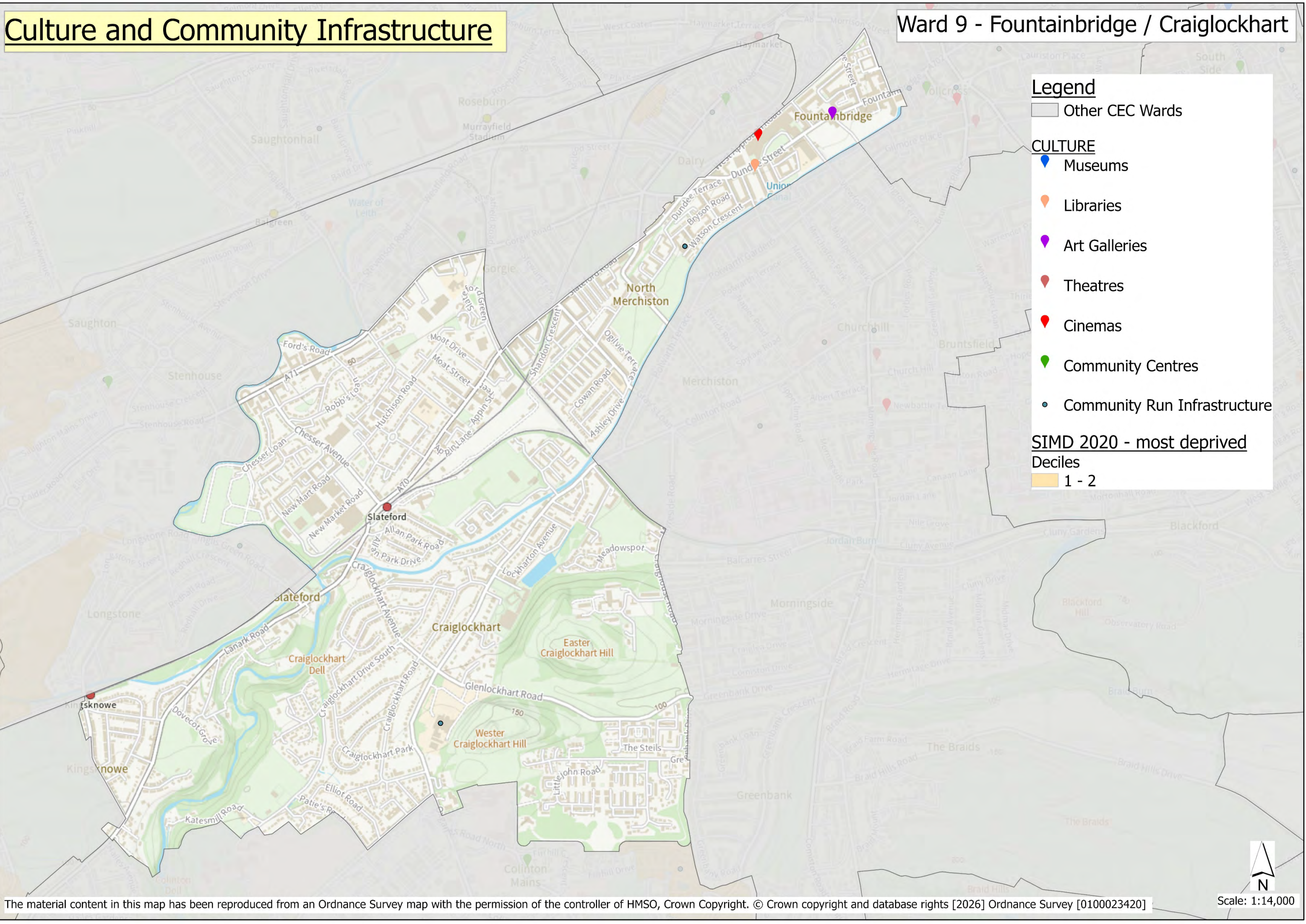
CULTURE

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

SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

1 - 2



Considerations

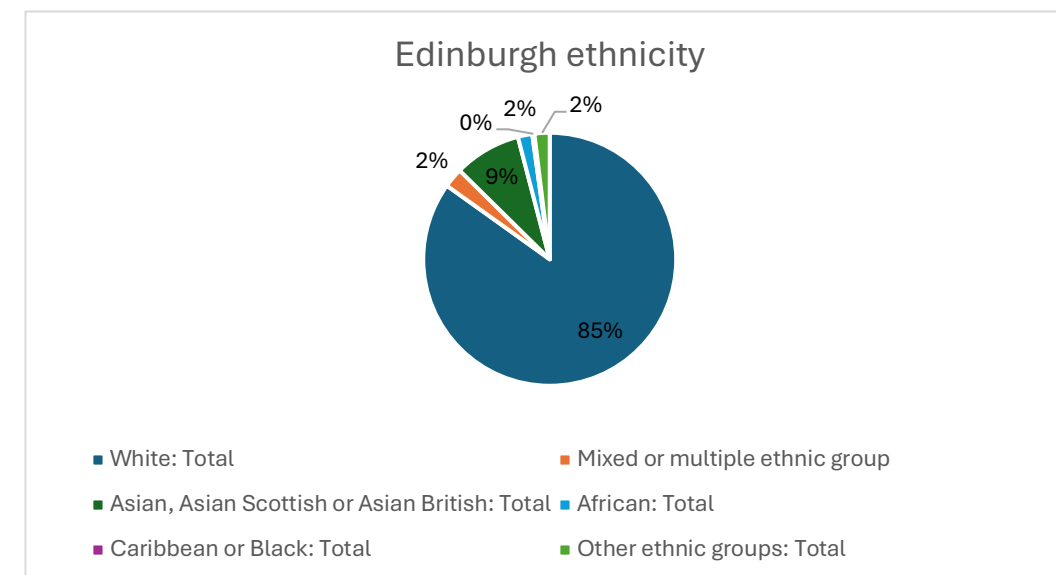
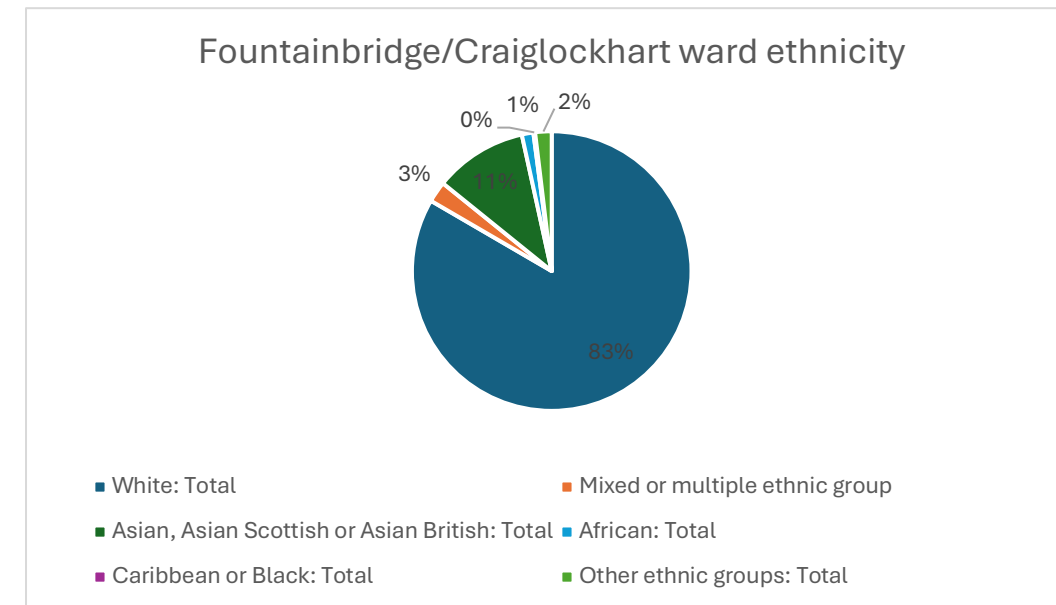
- Place mapping shows that amenities located along the local centres of Fountainbridge, Shandon and Slateford tend to align with population density and transport access. This amenity distribution results in compact neighbourhoods where mix of uses and tenements, other flatted development are common. This urban form is relatively continuous and connects to adjacent wards, particularly City Centre, Gorgie/Dalry and Morningside Wards.
- Cultural facilities and community-run cultural facilities are found mainly in the north of the ward closer to the city centre.
- Shops are felt to be good however more places to meet, like cafes or libraries are needed.
- Most people say there are some community spaces, especially parks, however more hubs and cafes needed and these need to be more welcoming, cheaper and easier to book.
- Young people said, when outside, they go to playgrounds or parks and greenspaces to hang out.

People

Demographics

- The population of Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart is 23,937 which is **4.7%** of the Edinburgh total of 514,543.
- This population is housed in 11,500 households, which is **4.8%** of the Edinburgh total of 238,944 households.
- The following sites located within the ward boundary are allocated within the adopted City Plan 2030:
 - OPP1 Dundee Street – 45 homes.
 - OPP2 Dundee Terrace – 45 homes.
 - OPP72 West Gorgie Park – 110 homes.
 - OPP74 Craiglockhart Avenue – 24 homes.
 - OPP77 Gorgie Road (East) - 469 homes.
 - H11 Watson Crescent Lane – 8 homes.
 - H73 Gorgie Road (Caledonian Packaging) - 138 homes.
 - H75 Lanark Road – 80 homes.
 - CC3 Fountainbridge (Phase 1) - 1,139 homes.
 - City Plan 2030 allocates a total 2,058 which would be a **17.5%** 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.
 - This ward is projected to grow somewhat faster than Edinburgh as a whole with this growth concentrated close to the Gorgie and Fountainbridge areas.
- The age breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - The population aged 0-15 is 2,510 which is **10.5%** of the ward population compared to **14.58%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 16-64 is 17,789 which is **74.3%** of the ward population compared to **69.5%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - The population aged 65+ is 3,647 which is **15.2%** 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 **83%** compared to **85%** for Edinburgh as a whole.
 - For the population recorded as not white, the largest groups represented are;
 - Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British (975)
 - Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British (974)
 - Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Group (593)

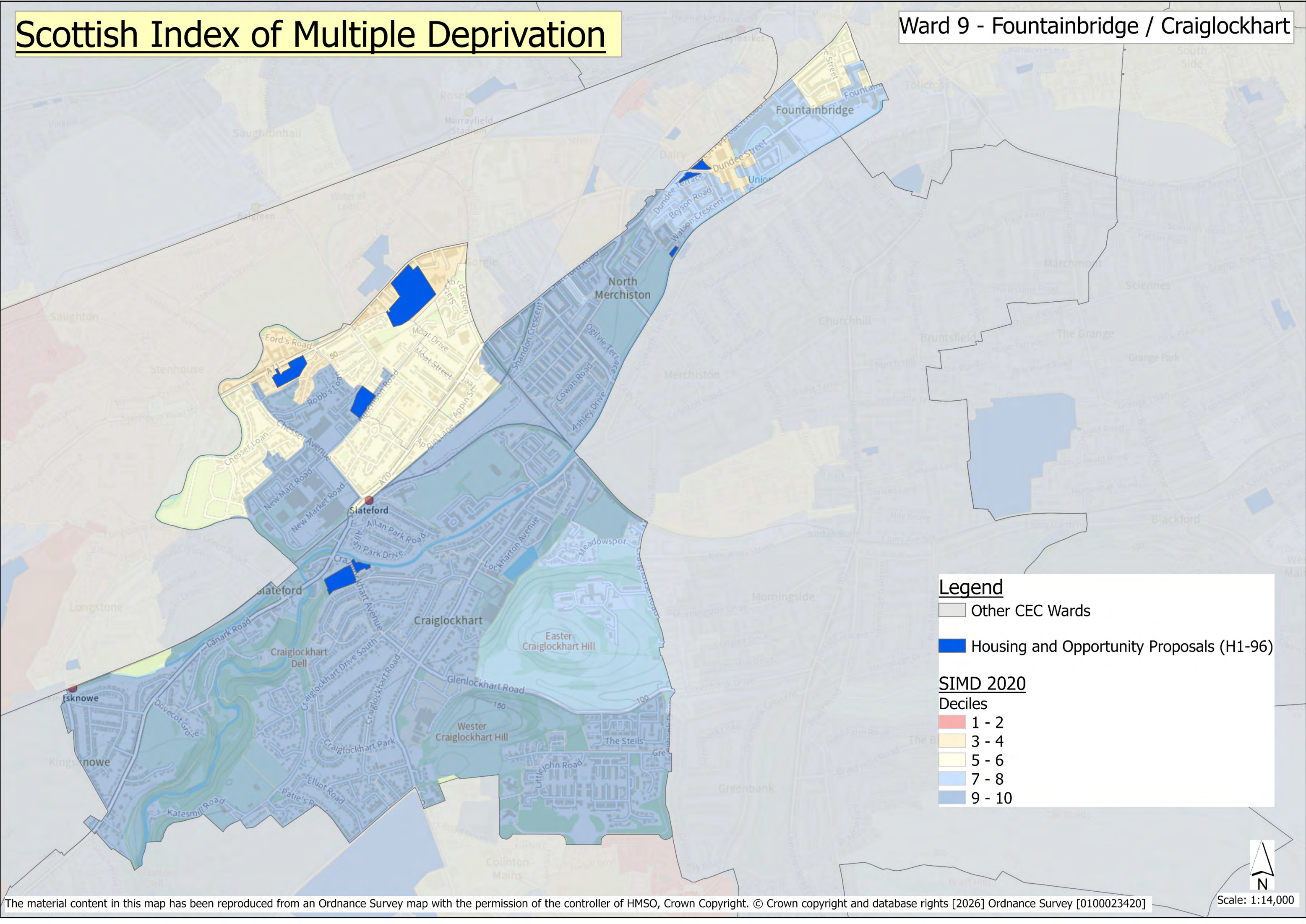


Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

- SIMD mapping below shows this as a ward with relatively little deprivation, particularly compared to the adjacent Sighthill/Gorgie Ward. Areas with a higher level of deprivation are found in the north-west part of the ward, including parts of Gorgie, Chesser, Hutchison and Slateford, contrasting with the southern half of the ward around Craiglockhart which is mostly within the 20% least deprived in Scotland.

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



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 faster than the Edinburgh average, with the growth concentrated in Chesser and Gorgie. Recent growth has been focused on Fountainbridge.
- The working age population is higher than the Edinburgh average, but the child-age population is lower and the older population is broadly in line.
- This ward has a higher level of diversity compared to the Edinburgh average, with the Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British and Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British population group having a presence here.
- This ward has relatively little deprivation, particularly compared to the adjacent Sighthill/Gorgie Ward. Areas with a somewhat higher level of deprivation are found in the north-west part of the ward, including parts of Gorgie, Chesser, Hutchison and Slateford where greater levels of growth are expected. This contrasts with the southern half of the ward around Craiglockhart which is mostly within the 20% least deprived in Scotland.
- People are quite happy with their area however they would like to see renovated and safer streets with less traffic.

Health

Demographics

- **16.9%** of the ward population reported having a long-term illness or disease, compared to **18.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **12.5%** of the ward population reported having a long-term mental health condition, compared to **11.9%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **85%** 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 **6,697**, greater than the ward population of **23,937**. 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 8400.3 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 **13.69%** 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, **26.98%** were overweight and **15.25%** 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, **32.65%** were overweight and **27.4%** 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 Colinton & Kingsknowe – Male life expectancy was **80.9 years** and female life expectancy was **83 years**.
 - Craiglockhart – Male life expectancy was **81.3 years** and female life expectancy was **84.5 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**.
 - Greenbank & The Braids – Male life expectancy was **83.5 years** and female life expectancy was **91.2 years**.

- Merchiston & Greenhill – Male life expectancy was **79.5 years** and female life expectancy was **80.8 years**.
- Morningside & Craighouse – Male life expectancy was **78.9 years** and female life expectancy was **84.4 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**.
- Stenhouse & Saughton Mains – Male life expectancy was **73 years** and female life expectancy was **78.5 years**.
- Tollcross-City of Edinburgh – Male life expectancy was **75 years** and female life expectancy was **83.9 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 particularly concentrated around Fountainbridge and Chesser.

Hot Food Takeaways

Legend

Other CEC Wards

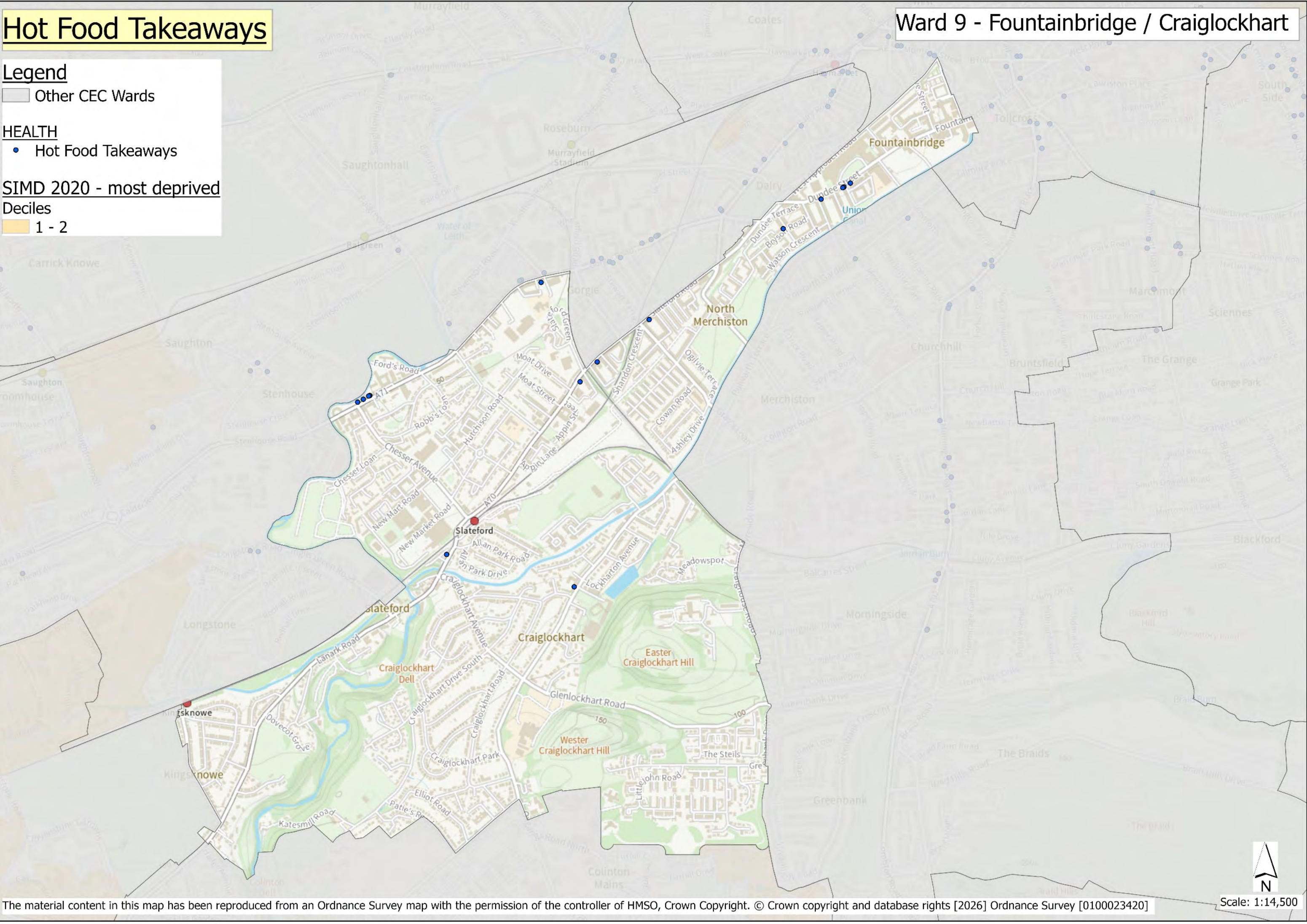
HEALTH

- Hot Food Takeaways

SIMD 2020 - most deprived Deciles

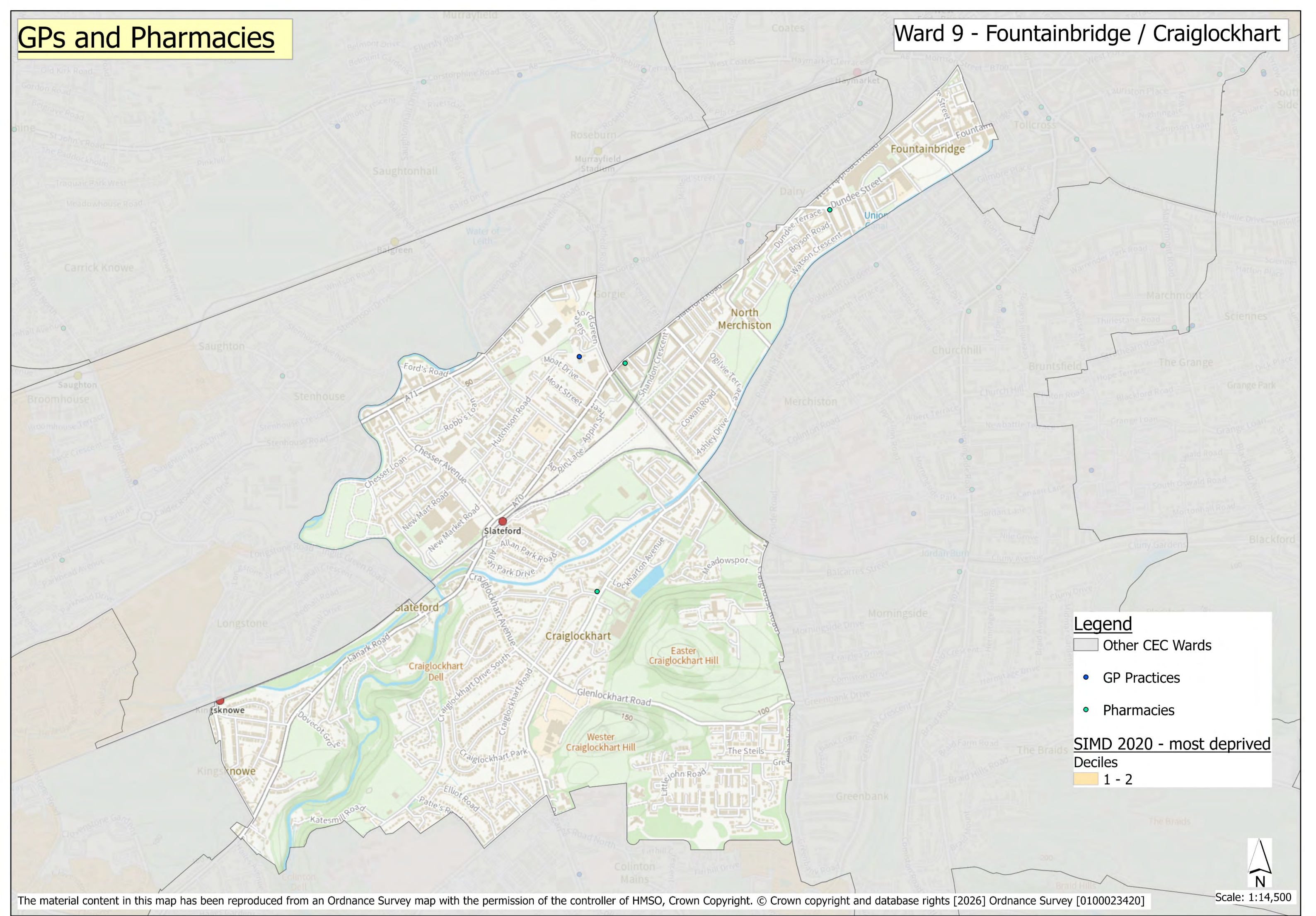
1 - 2

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



GPs and Pharmacies

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Considerations

- The percentage of people who report being in good or very good health is higher than the Edinburgh average, with a lower percentage of people having a long-term illness/disease than the Edinburgh average.
- 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 existing areas of higher population density and transport access around and adjacent to the north of the ward, with one GP practice adjacent to the south of the ward close to Colinton.
- Most people are overall happy with the health services in the area however for some these are outwith walking distance.
- People felt that it is hard to get an appointment and connections to the hospitals should be improved.

Housing

Housing type and density

- 2,959 households live in houses, which is **25.7%** compared with **36.8%** of the Edinburgh total, while 8,540 which is **74.3%**, live in flats compared with **63.2%** of the Edinburgh total. One lives in a caravan or another mobile/temporary structure.
- Although the level of flatted accommodation is higher on average than the Edinburgh total, mapping shows this to be concentrated in the north of the ward close to historic tenement and colony neighbourhoods around Hutchison, Shandon and North Merchiston and areas of more recent development in Fountainbridge.
- Population density as measured by households per hectare shows a similar split between the north and south of the ward. To the north, Hutchison, Shandon and North Merchiston showing greater levels of population density compared to Craiglockhart in the south which has a much greater proportion of households in houses.

Housing tenure and overcrowding

- The housing tenure breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **58.9%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as owned, compared to **60.1%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **11.2%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as social rented, compared to **15.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **28.8%** households in the ward report their housing tenure as private rented, compared to **23.1%** for the Edinburgh total.
- The level of owner occupation matches the Edinburgh average, but slightly fewer households live in socially rented accommodation than the Edinburgh average and mapping shows this to be concentrated in the Chesser, Hutchison, Gorgie, Shandon and Fountainbridge areas, approximately in line with areas of greater deprivation and these areas see more overcrowding.

Density (Households per Hectare)

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart

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

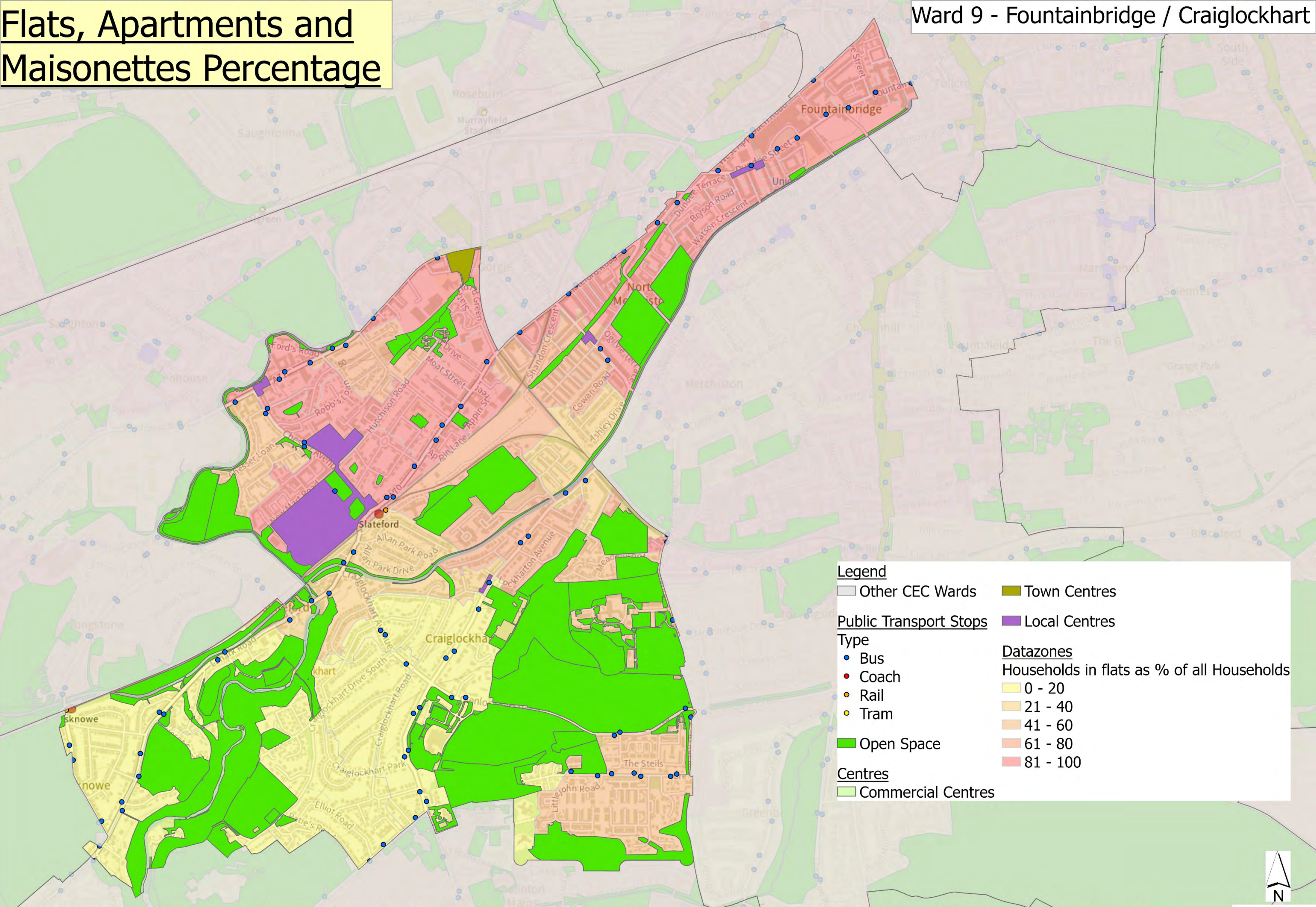
- 0 - 25
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 75
- 76 - 100
- 100+



Scale: 1:13,545

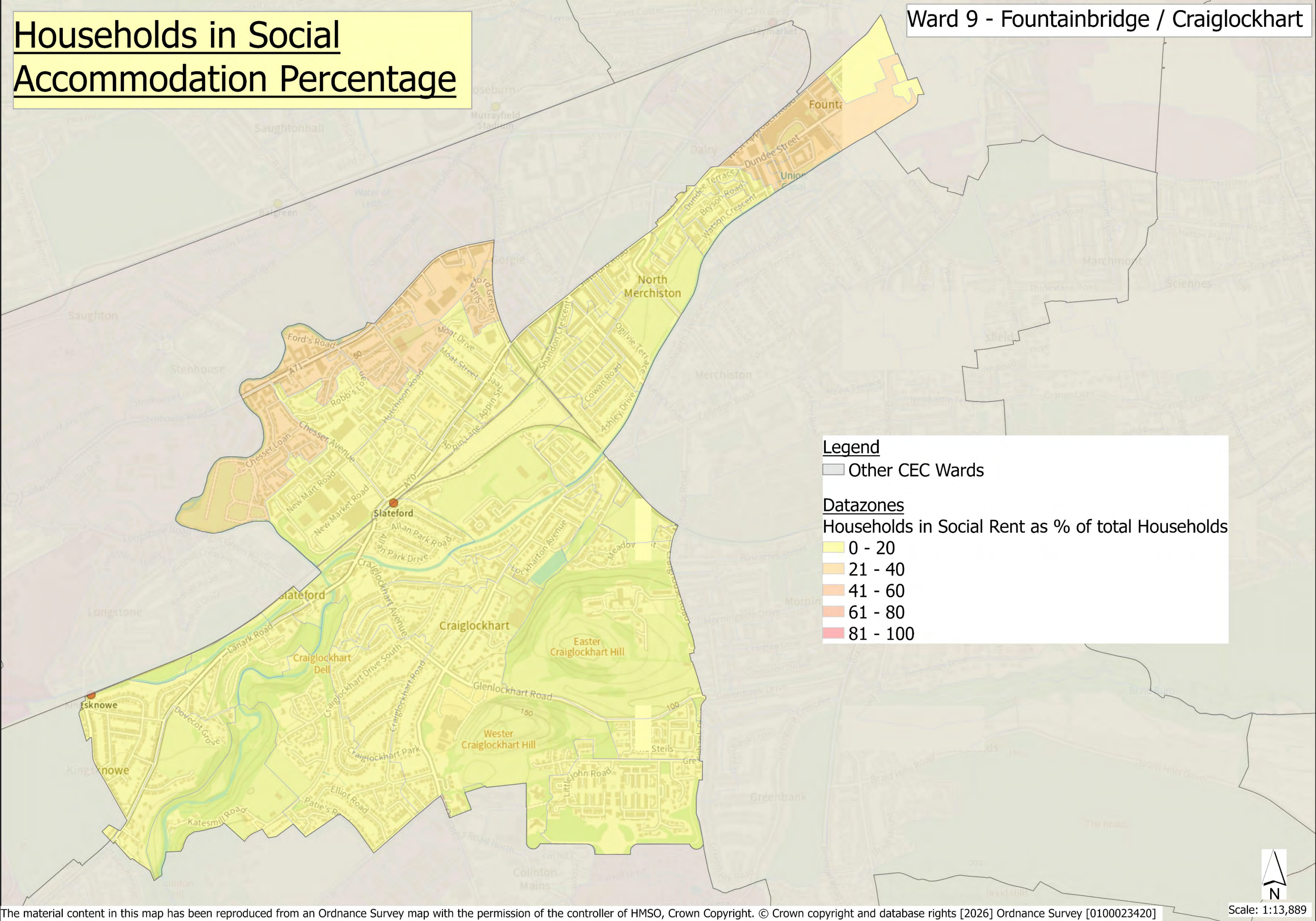
Flats, Apartments and Maisonettes Percentage

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



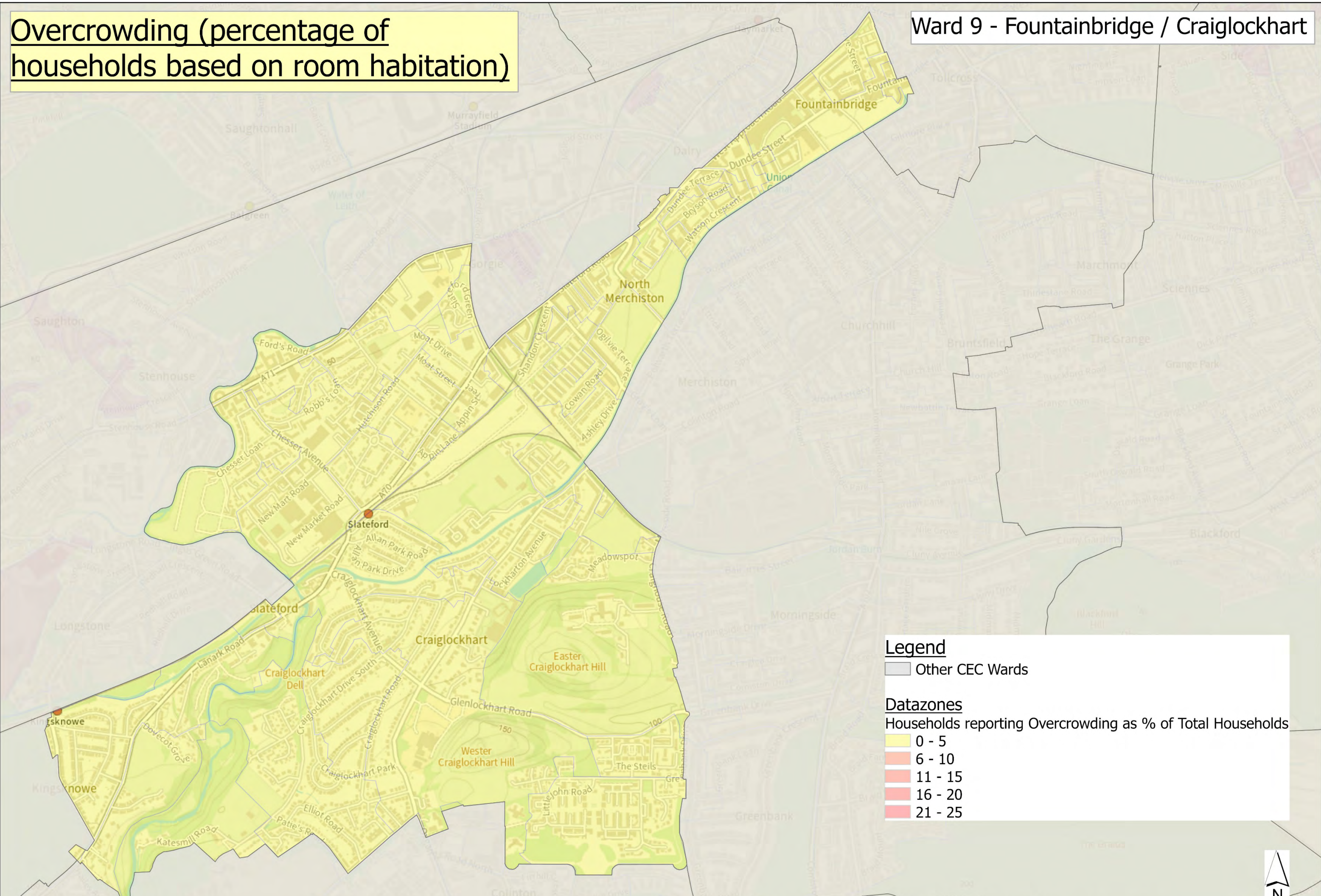
Households in Social Accommodation Percentage

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Overcrowding (percentage of households based on room habitation)

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



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 concentrated in the denser areas of Shandon, North Merchiston, Hutchison and Gorgie which were developed as dense, traditional neighbourhoods as well as Fountainbridge which is an area of recent redevelopment and regeneration, with a higher concentration of houses outwith these areas.
- Social housing is concentrated in Chesser, Hutchison, Gorgie and Fountainbridge areas and these areas are more likely to be overcrowded.
- Parts of this ward are noted for having a high number of student accommodation bedspaces, as set out in the **Student Accommodation topic paper**.
- Residents, including young people, are happy with their homes however would like to live in a bigger place or a warmer, less damp home.
- There is a good mix of housing and populations in the area however more social and affordable homes are needed.

Economy

Demographics

- The occupation breakdown of the ward is listed below:
 - **8.3%** 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.
 - **34.1%** 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.
 - **15.8%** 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.
 - **9.3%** 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.
 - **5.8%** 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.
 - **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.
 - **7.7%** 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.
 - **2.9%** 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.
 - **10.2%** 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:
 - **7.3%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as No qualifications, compared to **9.7%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **10.4%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Lower school qualifications, compared to **14.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **14.2%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Upper school qualifications, compared to **4.4%** for the Edinburgh total.
 - **3.3%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Apprenticeship qualifications, compared to **4.4%** for the Edinburgh total.

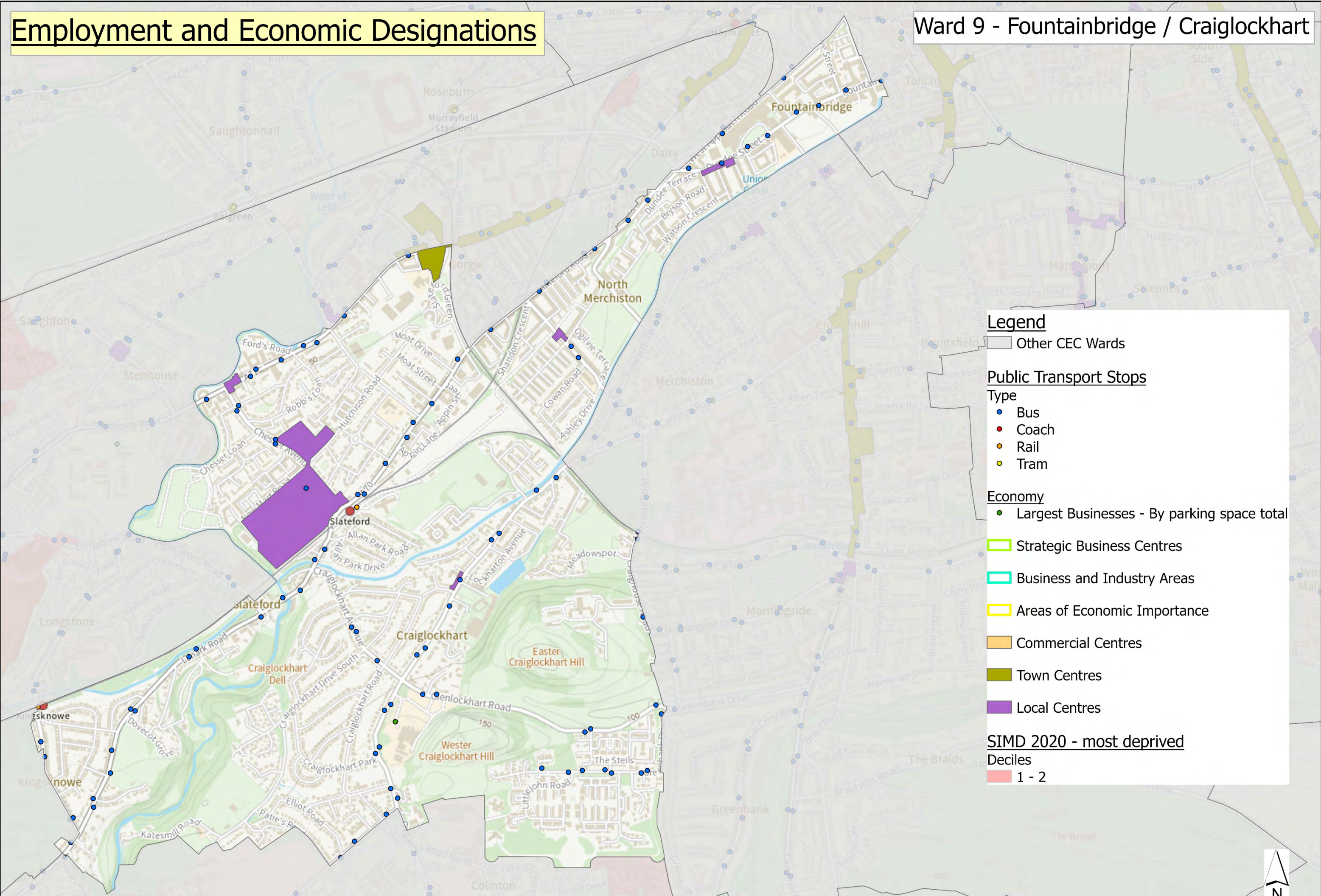
- **9.1%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Further Education and sub-degree Higher Education qualifications incl. HNC/HNDs, compared to **9.3%** for the Edinburgh total.
- **55.7%** of residents in the ward report their highest qualification level as Degree level 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 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



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

- The Fountainbridge part of the ward falls within the city centre, reflecting its proximity to the centre of the wider city region and therefore to a number of large employers.
- Within the ward, the network of centres is mainly arranged along or close to the arterial Slateford Road-Fountainbridge corridor, although part of the ward includes Gorgie/Dalry Town Centre. The south of the ward has comparatively little access to local centres reflecting its lower overall population density and accessibility.
- Key employers or institutions within or close to the ward include the Edinburgh Napier University Craiglockhart and Merchiston Campuses and the Royal Edinburgh Hospital.
- People felt there are some volunteering opportunities and noted that Heriot-Watt is in the area, however more classes are needed.

Transport

Demographics

- The breakdown of the primary method of travel to work is listed below:
 - **40.9%** of the working population report mainly working from or at home, compared to **39%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **20.7%** of the working population report driving a car or van, compared to **25.1%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **17.9%** 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.
 - **5%** of the working population report travelling by bike, compared to **3.8%** of the Edinburgh total.
 - **12.6%** of the working population report travelling on foot, compared to **12%** of the Edinburgh total.
- **59.1%** 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 around Chesser, Hutchison, Gorgie, North Merchiston and Fountainbridge, aligning with areas with higher population density, better public transport access and areas of higher deprivation.
- Use of cars for driving to work is broadly higher in the southern part of the ward close to Craiglockhart which is further from the city centre and lower in population density.

Public Transport

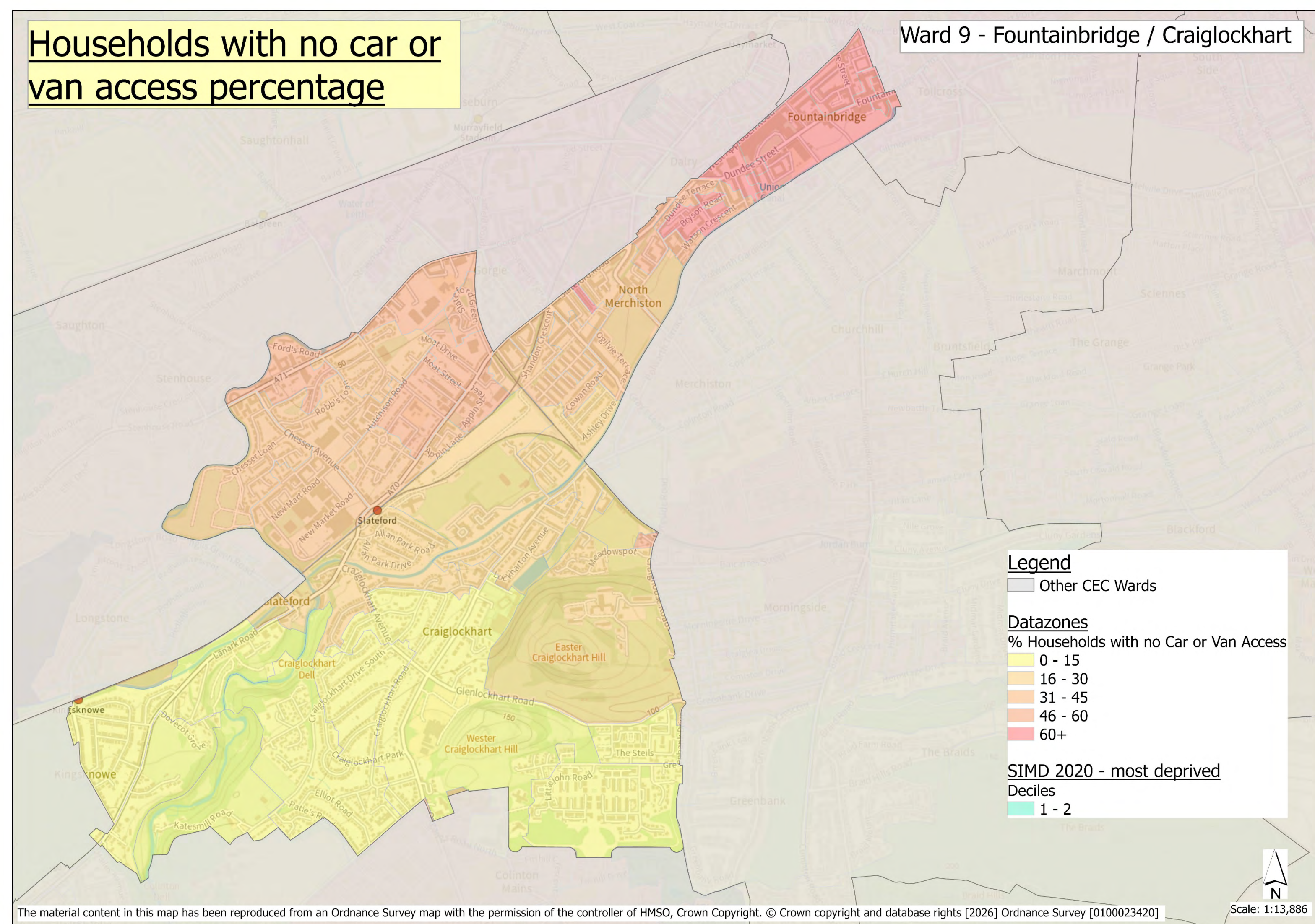
- Public Transport Accessibility Levels (PTAL) are calculated by the Council based on service patterns and stops and is mapped below from 1 (lowest level of accessibility) to 6 (the highest level). A rating of 3 or higher is considered to have a good level of access.
- Good access is concentrated along the Slateford Road-Fountainbridge corridor and the Gorgie Road corridor where this lies within the ward and parts of Craiglockhart.
- Poor access is concentrated in other parts of Craiglockhart away from public transport stops where population density tends to be lower.

Active travel

- Key active travel paths are the Union Canal Towpath and Water of Leith Walkway which provides links through and outwith the ward. In addition, there is a path along Slateford Road where some soft segregation has been provided and kept in place although this includes unprotected sections.
- The City Mobility Plan has identified projects in Fountainbridge and the Gorgie Road corridor which will reduce vehicle dominance, increase space for active travel and improve pedestrian access and sense of place in these areas. The Fountainbridge route will serve ongoing development in this area linking into the City Centre and North Edinburgh Path Network via the Roseburn-Union Canal link while providing an alternative route to a narrow section of the Union Canal Towpath towards Shandon in the east of the ward.

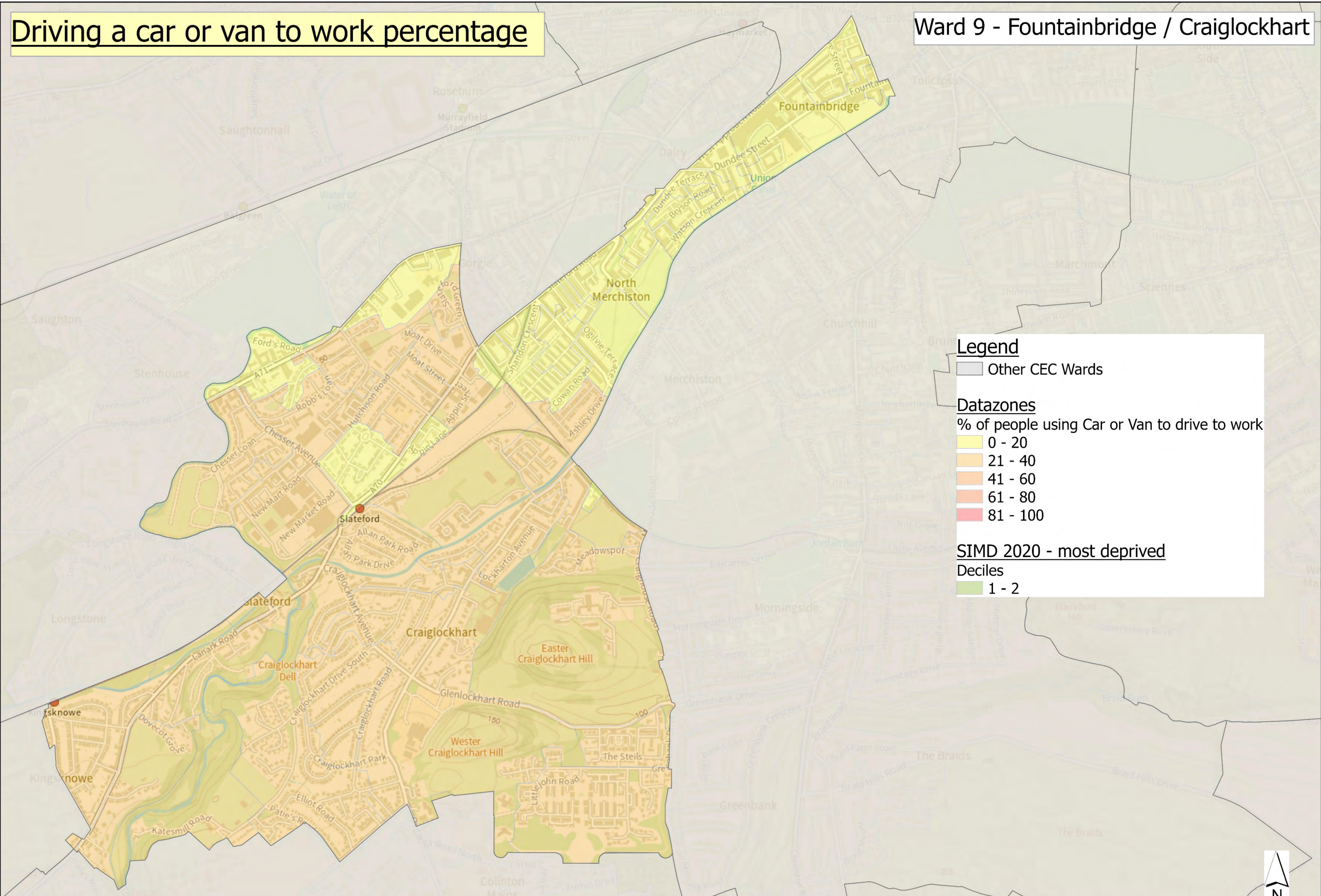
Households with no car or van access percentage

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Driving a car or van to work percentage

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



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

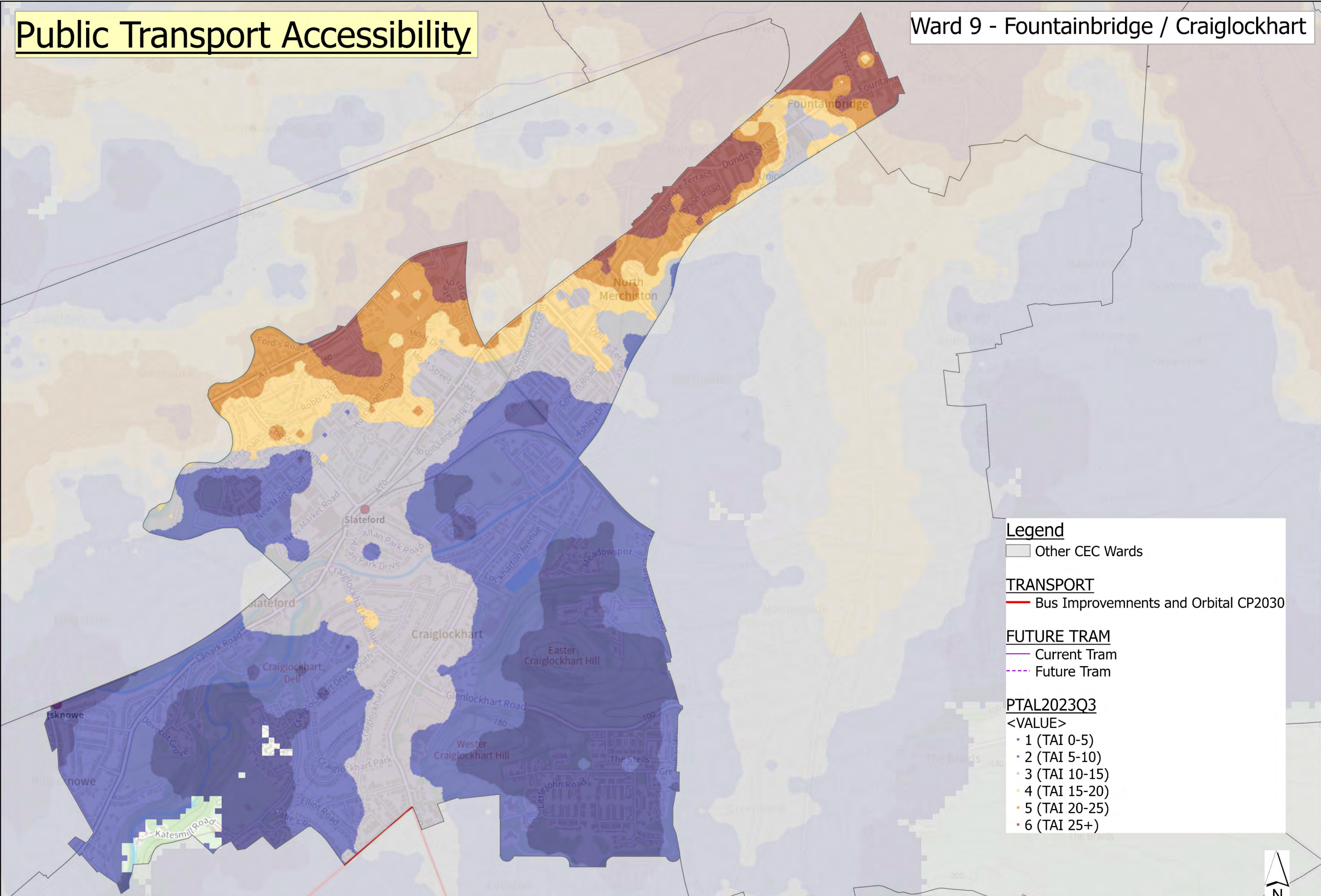
SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

- 1 - 2

Public Transport Accessibility

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Legend

Other CEC Wards

TRANSPORT

Bus Improvemnts and Orbital CP2030

FUTURE TRAM

Current Tram

Future Tram

PTAL2023Q3

<VALUE>

- 1 (TAI 0-5)
- 2 (TAI 5-10)
- 3 (TAI 10-15)
- 4 (TAI 15-20)
- 5 (TAI 20-25)
- 6 (TAI 25+)

Active Travel Mapping

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart

Legend

Other CEC Wards

Public Transport Stops

Type

- Bus
- Coach
- Rail
- Tram

Bus Improvemnts and Orbital CP2030

FUTURE TRAM

- Current Tram
- Future Tram

CMP Projects

Safe Cycling Network

SIMD 2020 - most deprived

Deciles

- 1 - 2



Scale: 1:13,890

Considerations

- A moderately higher percentage of people in the ward take public transport, walk or cycle to work compared to the Edinburgh average reflecting a lower level of car ownership, particularly in the more densely populated north of the ward.
- Areas of lower of access to a car or van broadly line up with areas of higher deprivation as well as the northern part of the ward which has a higher average population density.
- Public Transport accessibility is concentrated in the Slateford Road-Fountainbridge corridor, the Gorgie Road corridor where this lies within the ward and parts of Craiglockhart.
- City Mobility Plan improvements are proposed to be brought forward primarily along Gorgie Road and Fountainbridge providing more space for walking, wheeling and cycling and linking the City Centre to the west of the ward while providing an alternative route to the Union Canal Towpath.
- Public Transport access improvements are concentrated along the proposed route for Orbital Bus Improvements which is adjacent to the south of the ward, providing enhancements to accessibility away from the more accessible corridors close to and leading into the City Centre.
- Most people are happy with walking, wheeling and cycling in the area however pedestrians and cyclists are unhappy about often having to share the same space. Improvements to pavements and road are needed.
- Public transport is good with most ward covered by bus only. People highlighted the need to increase frequency and reduce travel times.
- People are unhappy about the traffic and parking in the area, with main roads being busy with commuters and parking often an issue. Young people say that cars going too fast make them feel unsafe.

Environment

Blue green network and biodiversity

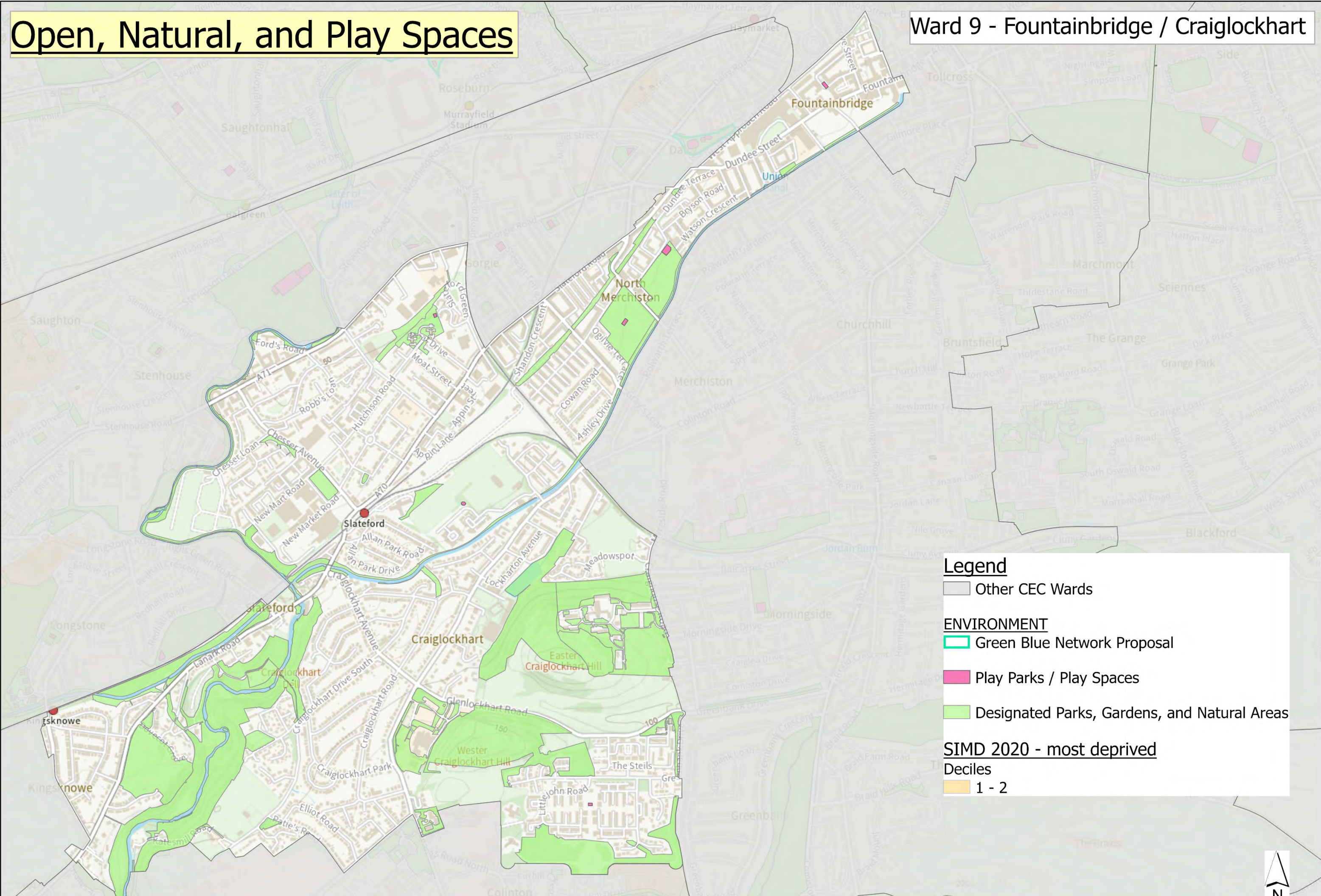
- Open spaces are well dispersed throughout the ward, with comparatively lower access to small, local open spaces in the Fountainbridge area closer to the city centre.
- Mapping has been produced showing Edinburgh's Green Blue Network at the strategic, city-wide scale. It shows infrastructure important for water management, biodiversity and recreation. It includes both local and national designations to show how they are interconnected.
- The Union Canal and Water of Leith blue green corridor form important corridors for habitats and recreation and connect through the site to other parts of the city. Craiglockhart Hill is another important open space and component of the green network.

Growing Spaces

- Growing spaces include Council-run allotments and community-run growing spaces, which are displayed above together to show opportunities for food and other growing in the ward.
- Council-run allotments are mainly found close to the Water of Leith in the west of the ward with community-run growing spaces mainly found in the north of the ward closer to areas of higher population density and deprivation.
- There is a lack of growing spaces in the south of the ward around Craiglockhart where deprivation is lower and households are more likely to live in houses.

Open, Natural, and Play Spaces

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Strategic Blue Green Network

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart

Legend

Other CEC Wards

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

Biodiversi

Low

High

RAMSAR

Priority Habitats

GBN Accessible Open Space

Enhanced Proposed Local Biodiversity Connections

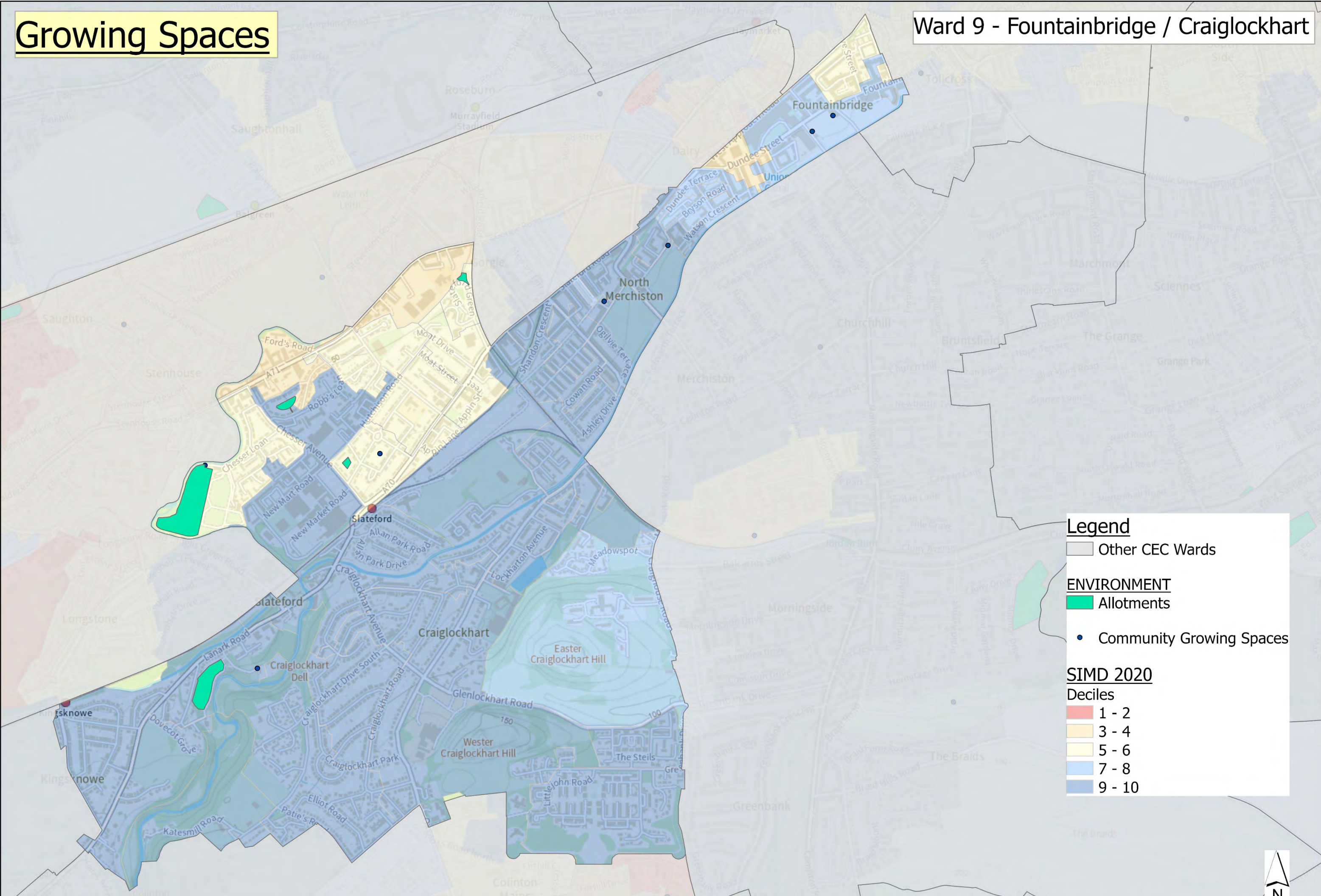
Enhanced Proposed Strategic Biodiversity Connections



Scale: 1:13,825

Growing Spaces

Ward 9 - Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart



Legend

Other CEC Wards

ENVIRONMENT

Allotments

Community Growing Spaces

SIMD 2020

Deciles

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

Considerations

- The Union Canal, Water of Leith and Craiglockhart Hill provide good access to open nature space and contribute to biodiversity.
- Opportunities for food growing are concentrated in north and west of the ward but are lower in the south-eastern portion of the ward
- Most people are happy about the nature spaces in the ward. They appreciate the diversity of the spaces and young people highlight Harrison Park as their favourite. People also appreciate the variety of ball game spaces in the area however feel these might be too expensive/inaccessible for some.
- Most would like to see more playgrounds and young people want more and better play equipment, especially for older kids.
- Surface flooding and the quantity of cars were concerns related to the climate change.
- Previous engagement supported improving biodiversity and young people would like to see more greenery.
- There are some community growing groups however more growing spaces are needed.

Appendix

This report details the consultation and engagement information utilised when creating the Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart 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 89 responses were received for the Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart Ward. Out of these, 48 were from public at large and 41 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?

- 2 Very happy
- 5 Happy
- 4 Neutral
- 2 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

If you could change one thing, comments

- Bigger place.
- Warmer, less damp.

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

- 1 Very good
- 8 Good
- 3 Neutral
- 1 Bad
- 0 Terrible

Homes in the area, comments

- **Good:** Mix of modern and well-built old development. Many properties have gardens. Mix of populations.
- **Bad/change:** More affordable and social housing. Better insulation.

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

- 3 Very good
- 6 Good
- 4 Neutral
- 0 Bad
- 0 Terrible

Shops and services, comments

- **Good:** Good range of shops and services in the area albeit larger supermarkets dominate.
- **Bad/change:** Some areas of the ward lack cafes/pubs/places to meet.

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

- 5 Yes
- 6 No
- 2 Don't know

What there is too much of, comments

- Beauty industry.

Children and Young People

Are you happy with your home (the building)?

- 32 Yes
- 8 It's OK
- 1 It's not good
- 0 It's bad

If you could change one thing, comments

- Bigger place/own bedroom.
- Change nothing.

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

- 1 Too many
- 36 Right amount
- 4 Not enough

Shops and things, comments

- Add library
- No, add nothing

Health

Public at large

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

- 1 Very good
- 8 Good
- 4 Neutral
- 0 Bad
- 0 Terrible

Healthcare facilities, comments

- **Good:** GPs, pharmacies and dentists in the area although for some it is a drive away, rather than a walk away.
- **Bad/change:** Hard to get GP appointments. Better connections to the hospitals.

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
- 3 Easy
- 7 Neutral
- 0 Difficult
- 0 Very difficult

Walk, wheeling, cycling, comments

- **Good:** Good walking and cycling routes in the area. Cycle paths available. Sometimes not enough space for cyclists and pedestrians and people prefer quieter roads where possible instead of main cycle routes.
- **Bad/change:** Conflicts between cycle and pedestrians. Better maintained pavements and cycle/road surfaces.

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

- 7 Very easy
- 3 Easy
- 1 Neutral
- 2 Difficult
- 0 Very difficult

Public transport, comments

- **Good:** Variety of transport in the area. Well served by buses.
- **Bad/change:** Most areas are served by buses only. More frequency needed and reduce time of travel.

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

- 0 Very happy
- 1 Happy
- 6 Neutral
- 4 Unhappy
- 2 Very unhappy

Traffic and parking comments

- **Good:** Generally enough parking.
- **Bad/change:** Main roads are busy with commuters. Parking is still an issue in the area.

Strategic Parking Review – Phase 1 Parking Survey (2025)

- Gathers views on parking pressures and restrictions across Edinburgh.
- Focus on Leith, Abbey Hill, and Gorgie/Shandon where new CPZs introduced.
- Identifies potential new areas for parking controls.
- Seeks views on difficulty parking near home and non-resident parking.
- Aims to guide future parking management and enforcement.

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
- Too far/ takes too long

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
- Prefer to go by car instead
- Not always on time

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?

- 11 Yes
- 5 No
- 16 Don't know
- 8 Don't care

Economy

Public at large

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

- 0 Very good
- 3 Good
- 9 Neutral
- 1 Bad
- 0 Terrible

Work, volunteering and training, comments

- **Good:** Heriot-Watt in the area. Some volunteering opportunities.
- **Bad/change:** More classes/education opportunities.

Culture

Public at large

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

- 1 Very good
- 5 Good
- 4 Neutral
- 2 Bad
- 1 Terrible

Spaces to meet people, comments

- **Good:** Depends on the part of the ward – generally there are open spaces available. Some areas have community hubs, some cafes/pubs.
- **Bad/change:** Community cafe. More community hubs and changes on how they run – cheaper and less restrictive to allow for more casual use.

How is the community space in your area?

- 2 Very good
- 5 Good
- 5 Neutral
- 0 Bad
- 1 Terrible

Community spaces, comments

- **Good:** The Village Hall is good. Church halls and parks in the area.
- **Bad/change:** Spaces if available do not feel welcoming. More community events and wider range of events.

Children and Young People

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

- Friend's house
- Playgrounds
- Parks & greenspaces near my home

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

- 21 There are plenty
- 12 There are a few
- 4 There are some, but I do not like them
- 2 Yes, but they cost too much
- 1 None that I know about

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

- Football
- Swimming
- Gaming

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

- 24 Yes
- 14 Sometimes
- 2 No
- 1 Don't know

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

- 4 Often
- 21 Sometimes
- 13 Very rarely
- 3 Never

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

- Boring/not interested
- Hard to get to

Environment

Public at large

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

- 5 Very happy
- 6 Happy
- 2 Neutral
- 0 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

Open and natural spaces, comments

- **Good:** Lots of open and natural spaces of different kinds that are looked after.
- **Bad/change:** More dog free zones.

What is the access to growing spaces like now?

- 2 Very happy
- 1 Happy
- 8 Neutral
- 0 Unhappy
- 2 Very unhappy

Growing spaces, comments

- **Good:** Some community growing groups.
- **Bad/change:** More availability.

Climate change, comments

- Flooding.

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
- 5 Happy
- 5 Neutral
- 0 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

Ball game spaces, comments

- **Good:** Tennis, football, rugby, golf, open spaces.
- **Bad/change:** Right now these can be too expensive/leased out or inaccessible.

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?

- 2 Very happy
- 2 Happy
- 5 Neutral
- 3 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

Outdoor play spaces, comments

- **Good:** There are available but not in every area.
- **Bad/change:** Much more locally needed and they are badly maintained at the moment.

Children and Young People

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

- 8 Almost every day
- 15 A few days a week
- 7 Once a week
- 8 Rarely
- 2 I don't go outdoors to play or hang out

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

- 15 Yes, there are lots
- 18 There are a few
- 6 No, there aren't enough
- 2 No, there aren't any

What is your favourite park or greenspace in Edinburgh?

- Harrison Park
- The Botanical Gardens

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
- The view

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

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

How could the places where you hang out be better?

- More and better equipment
- More things for older kids

Are the outdoor spaces you go to clean?

- 0 Very clean
- 17 Clean
- 19 OK
- 2 Dirty
- 1 Very Dirty

Outdoor play equipment

- 23 In good condition
- 6 Needs fixing
- 3 Needs cleaned/painted
- 2 Needs replacing
- 4 There is not enough or any play equipment

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

- 25 I always feel safe
- 15 I sometimes feel safe
- 1 I never feel safe

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

- Weird people
- Cars too fast

How close are you with nature?

- 6 7 (closest to nature)
- 8 6
- 13 5
- 8 4
- 4 3
- 1 2
- 1 1 (furthest away from nature)

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

- More trees/parks
- Less litter

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

- Yes, too many cars
- No/ no, it's too cold right now.

Place

Public at large

How happy are you with your area?

- 3 Very happy
- 8 Happy
- 1 Neutral
- 1 Unhappy
- 0 Very unhappy

What would you change, comments

- Less traffic.

Any other comments

- More community feel in the area.

Children and Young People

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

- A lot of potholes
- School is not modern enough and too strict

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
- [Strategic Parking Review - Phase 1 Parking Survey, The City of Edinburgh Council, September 2025](#)