Craiglockhart Community Council
Local Place Plan

Shape the Future of Craiglockhart

Prepared from the community consultation • 338 survey respondents

Report Date: 31 July 2026

Executive Summary

A Clear Mandate, Not a Crisis

Craiglockhart is widely regarded as a highly desirable place to live. **The consultation does not point to fundamental problems** — instead it highlights a clear, well-evidenced set of practical improvements that would have the greatest impact on residents' everyday experience.

The data backs this up on three counts:

95.8%

report being Happy or Very Happy

living in Craiglockhart — satisfaction is the baseline, not the problem, based on 336 survey respondents.

Source: Q4

26.1%

name road & pavement condition as the single most important change

stand out issue - mentioned more than double any other answer, out of 264 respondents who named their single choice improvement.

Source: Q9

739

open-ended responses analysed

across every free-text question in the survey — the same handful of themes recur no matter how the question is framed.

Source: Q6–Q9 combined

Note: Every figure in this report has been re-derived and spot-checked directly against the raw survey data.

Table of Contents

A. Introduction

- Background
- “Shape the Future of Craiglockhart” Survey
- Key Questions
- Next Steps

B. The Context

- Who Responded

C. Question by Question Response

- Topic Prioritisation : Source Q5
- Key Themes & Recommended Improvements Outlined : Source Q6 & Q8
- Single Choice Improvement : Source Q9

D. What Matters Most

E. Suggested Strategy

F. Possible Priorities

- Priorities 1-4 : Infrastructure & Movement
- Priorities 5-7 : Place & Partnership

G. Conclusion

A · Introduction

Background

The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) have asked community councils across Edinburgh to submit a ”Local Place Plan” (LPP) by September 2026, outlining a community’s vision and proposals for their area. In turn, CEC intend to use LPPs when preparing their City Plan 2040 and how each area develops in the future. To understand local needs and concerns important to people in Craiglockhart (please refer to Appendix A), Craiglockhart Community Council (CCC) decided to deploy a questionnaire approach using the SurveyMonkey platform to enable people to capture their feedback on local issues and recommend improvements. The CCC survey was titled “Shape the Future of Craiglockhart”.

”Shape the Future of Craiglockhart” Survey

The questionnaire was promoted via the CCC website, the CCC mailing list, public noticeboards and venues, as well as a door-to-door flyer mailing exercise across 3026 addresses (provided by CEC) in February 2026. These communications encouraged people to feedback on local issues and recommend improvements using the short questionnaire hosted on the SurveyMonkey platform as well as offering a hard copy option. A survey response rate of around 11% (338/3026), typical for other surveys, was achieved by the 14 March 2026 closure date: the views expressed in this report are based on these responses.

Key Questions

This report uses the survey feedback received by CCC, with a special emphasis on the responses to the following free-text questions:

Q5 What priority would you give to improve the following for people living or working in Craiglockhart? *NOTE: Please prioritise each topic listed …*

Q6 For the topics in Q5. you rated "HIGH / ESSENTIAL" what improvement(s) would you like to see? *NOTE: Leave the box blank if there are no improvements …*

Q7 Thinking about the topics listed in Q5. is there anything, another topic, that we haven't asked you to consider that's reallyimportant to your quality of life, living or working in Craiglockhart? *NOTE: If you answer "No" please go to Q9 next*

Q8 Only if you answered "Yes" in Q7. tell us what improvement(s) you would like to see? *NOTE: Leave the box blank if there are no improvements …*

Q9 If you could only change ONE thing in Craiglockhart what would it be? *NOTE: Maybe choose from one of the improvements you've told us under Q6. or Q8.*

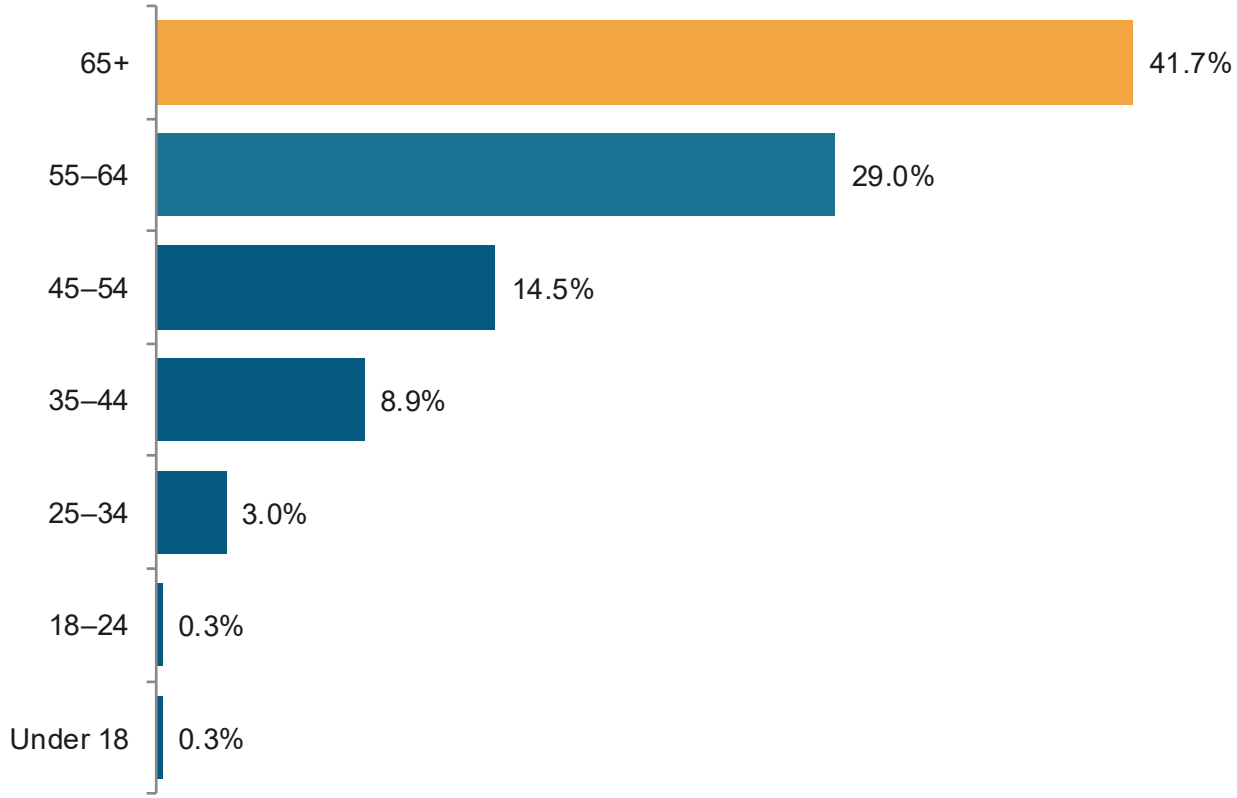
Next Steps

Taking a holistic picture of the responses to the above questions, the report highlights improvement themes and what seems to matter most to respondents, as well as strategies and possible priorities for change. The content of this report, in full, will form the LPP submission by CCC to CEC.

B · The Context

Source Q1 & Q4

Age Distribution



70.7% of respondents are aged 55+
Note: 2.3% of respondents preferred not to give their age

Quality of Life & Engagement

95.8%

report being Happy or Very Happy living in Craiglockhart

0.9%

report being Unhappy;
0% Very Unhappy

Reading: this is a well-established, satisfied community weighing in on refinements — not fixing a broken area.
Note: 3.3% of respondents recorded a Neutral rating

C · Question-by-Question Results | Source : Q5

Topic Prioritisation for improvement – High/Essential ranking below is based on selection by respondents

#	TOPIC	HIGH / ESSENTIAL	MEDIUM / IMPORTANT	LOW / SECONDARY	NOT IMPORTANT AT THE MOMENT
1	**Neighbourhood Safety** Personal and household security during the day and at night	**72%**	21%	5%	3%
2	**Public Transport** Ease to get to where you need or want to by bus, tram or train	**70%**	20%	6%	4%
3	**Green and Natural Spaces** Parks, woodlands, fields, hills, canals and rivers, pathways, etc.	**69%**	20%	7%	4%
4	**Primary Healthcare** Access to first contact, routine health (GPs, dentists, pharmacists) for common illnesses and prevention	**67%**	24%	5%	3%
5	**Moving Around** Pleasant and safe routes to walk, cycle or wheel to the places you want to go to	**61%**	28%	6%	4%
6	**Traffic Management** Flow of vehicles on roads that is safe, reduces congestion, avoids rat runs, and optimises movement	**60%**	31%	7%	2%
7	**Shops and Services** Availability of schools, nurseries, post office, post box, cash point, food, cafes, eating out, takeaway, etc.	**50%**	41%	6%	3%
8	**Look & Feel of Craiglockhart** Sense of identity and place, unique character, visibility of Craiglockhart's history, landmarks and cleanliness	**43%**	40%	13%	4%
9	**Parking Pressure** Demand from outside Craiglockhart (commuters, tradespersons, students, etc.) for limited parking spaces	**35%**	32%	25%	9%
10	**Play Areas** Outdoor spaces and playgrounds for children and young people to play and spend time together	**35%**	38%	16%	11%
11	**Sports and Fitness** Outdoor spaces for ball games, indoor sports and fitness facilities	**34%**	41%	19%	7%
12	**Community Places** Mix of spaces and opportunities to meet up with friends and other people	**30%**	45%	21%	4%

C · Question-by Question Results | Source : Q6 & Q8

Key Themes & Recommended Improvements Outlined - 1/2

Note: % represents the % of total responses - each survey response typically stated more than one recommended improvement

1. Parking – 33%

- Student parking on Colinton Road, also spilling into residential streets
- Commuters adding to parking pressures affecting residential streets
- Myreside Rd drop off for school or sports events – weekdays and weekends
- Calls to introduce/ extend Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) or residents' permit area
- General on-street parking restrictions and enforcement
- Park & ride facility suggestions
- Neighbour friction arising from existing restrictions
- A minority dissenting view opposing permit schemes as unfair

2. Bus routes & service — 27.2%

- More frequent buses and for 7 days: especially routes to Morningside (e.g. 45 & 36 bus)
- Better-staggered timetables to avoid clustering (e.g. 10 & 27 bus)
- Improved links to transport hubs & trams (Haymarket, City Centre)
- Better links across neighbourhoods (e.g. hospital, Murrayfield, Corstorphine) – avoid having to go into the city centre
- Electronic information board at all stops
- General maintenance/protection of existing good service levels

3. Rat-running / traffic speed / traffic volume & congestion — 27.0%

- Reduce cut-through traffic e.g. between Craiglockhart Ave. and Colinton Rd.
- Extend 20mph speed limit
- Traffic calming measures (speed bumps, their placement/effectiveness questioned)
- Scheduling of road closures & works to reduce congestion
- Congestion hotspots: Glenlockhart Road, Lanark/Slateford Road, Craiglockhart Ave, Colinton Road and Myreside Road
- Traffic light timing/ filters at key road junctions – e.g. Glenlockhart Road, Craiglockhart Avenue and Colinton Road

4. Road surface / potholes — 23.0%

- General road repair and resurfacing requests from motorists and cyclists
- Safety framing — potholes linked to cyclist danger
- Enforcement/accountability ideas (fining causers of damage)
- Prioritisation of major roads for repair
- Maintenance programme published

5. Cyclist / e-bike / canal path conduct — 21.2%

- Safer separation of cyclists and pedestrians on the canal towpath
- E-bike/e-scooter speed and antisocial behaviour concerns (e.g. pavements & greenspaces, as well as canal path and Craiglockhart & Colinton Dell)
- Widen the canal path
- Signage and shared-path etiquette requests
- Calls for licensing/accountability for unsafe cycling
- Asks ranging from pedestrian priority over cyclists to 'bike free' path(s)

6. GP / healthcare access — 19.8%

- Easier appointment booking (the 8am phone system specifically)
- Greater appointment availability generally
- Support for existing local practices, but frustration with access process
- More positive perception towards Colinton and Firhill Medical practices compared to Allermuir Health Centre (i.e. Craiglockhart Medical Group)
- Availability of NHS dentist

7. Pavement condition / weeds — 18.8%

- General pavement repair, often bundled with road repairs by respondents
- Uneven surfaces
- Weed clearance at path/ street edges
- Widen pavements for the benefit of all users e.g. Craiglockhart Ave.
- Extend safe pedestrian road crossings
- Public realm neglect (markings, signage, cleanliness) tied in

8. Green / natural spaces — 16.9%

- Protection from development (e.g. the Dell, Paties Road green park)
- Upkeep and repairs of paths, trails bridges (e.g. the Dell, Craiglockhart Hill)
- Speed of repairs carried out
- Rolling maintenance programme
- Improved accessibility -wheelchair/ pram
- More outdoor seating
- Street greening proposals (planters, rain gardens)
- 'LNR' status of Wester Craiglockhart Hill
- Community stewardship suggestions
- Less litter / community litter pick up

C · Question-by-Question Results | Source: Q6 & Q8

Key Themes and Recommended Improvements Outlined - 2/2

Note: % represents the % of total responses - each survey response typically stated more than one recommended improvement

9. Café / pub / community hub — 15.9%

- A local café, coffee shop, or pub as the central specific ask
- A proper community hub/centre, framed as something neighbouring areas have and Craiglockhart lacks
- Use of existing spaces (halls, courts) for community/charitable activity

10. Play facilities / play parks — 14.8%

- A dedicated children's playpark, Paties Road Recreation Ground repeatedly named
- Criticism of existing provision (Meggetland) as too small or poorly maintained
- General cross-generational gathering space framing

11. Police / policing visibility — 11.4%

- More visible foot patrols, not just car-based presence
- Faster police response times
- Novel service ideas (police "surgery"/drop-in model)
- Shared-path user education

12. Graffiti — 7.1%

- Proactive, regular removal rather than reactive response

13. Litter / bins / cleanliness — 6.6%

14. Roadworks coordination — 6.6%

- Bin provision and emptying frequency (litter)
- Area looks uncared for and untidy (cleanliness)
- Better advance notice and council/utility coordination (roadworks)
- Reinstatement quality after utility digs

15. Cycle lanes: infrastructure — 5.8%

A genuinely divisive theme based on survey responses:

… some respondents wanted more dedicated/segregated cycle lanes/ routes, ‘active travel‘ routes maintained & extended, clearer road markings and demarcation of cycle lanes

… in contrast other respondents considered Covid introduced measures no longer appropriate, want existing lanes & infrastructure / bollards removed - citing road congestion and low lane usage

16. Break-in / theft — 3.7%

- Car theft and attempted break-ins in specific pockets

17. EV charging — 0.8%

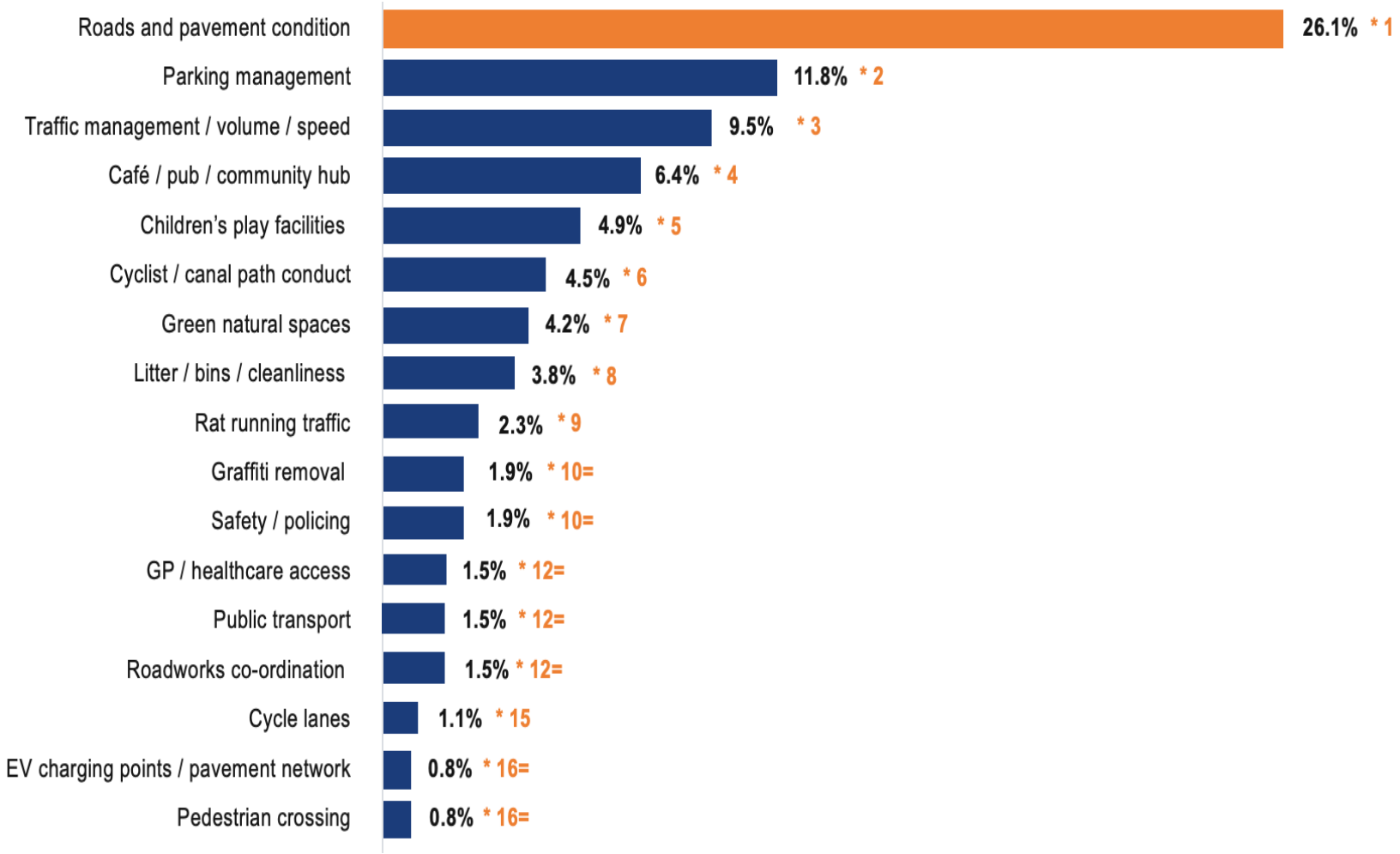
- Niche but specific improvement: kerb-integrated home charging points / infrastructure

Note: 303 and 75 residents responded to Q6 and Q8, respectively

C · Question-by Question Results | Source : Q9

Single Choice Improvement – Breakdown

264 responses to Q9: "If you could only change ONE thing, what would it be?" - Forcing a single choice gives the clearest hierarchy of preference in the whole survey.



26.1%

… of respondents chose road surface quality, often combined with pavement condition, as the ONE thing they'd change — over double the runner-up improvement of parking @ 11.8%.

This ranking provides an additional evidence base for the seven recommended priorities that follow.

Note: A further 15.9% (42 of 264 residents) raised individual, one-off concerns not captured by a shared theme - e.g. local employment opportunities, fewer large cars (SUVs), reduce car use, reduce traffic noise, install lights at Paties Rd pavilion, mend canal railings, don't redevelop Redford Barracks, upgrade Meggetland, more grocers, take the top off new speed bumps in Colinton, etc.

C · Question-by-Question Results | Source : Q9

Single Choice Improvement - At a Glance

Road surfaces & pavement condition is the highest single No.1 change priority for 26.1% of respondents

Road surface quality dominated responses but it was often mentioned in conjunction with pavement condition. The next, runner up, theme was 'parking management' at 11.8%, in the single-choice question

Source: Q9 (No.1 change priority)

Parking, traffic management, volumes & speed, and rat running are the No.1 change priority for 23.6% (combined)

Parking 11.8% (≠2), traffic management/ volume/ speed 9.5% (≠3), rat-running 2.3% (≠9) — moving around and traffic management outrank every other type of category for change across the survey.

Source: Q9

Safety, buses, green spaces and GPs lead the wider prioritisation

Topics rated High/Essential need for change:

- *Neighbourhood Safety - 72% (≠1)*
- *Public Transport - 70% (≠2)*
- *Green & Natural Spaces - 69% (≠3)*
- *Primary Healthcare - 67%. (≠4)*

Source: Q5 (rated need for change)

Buses and GP access rated High/Essential for 70% and 67%, but each are No.1 change priority for under 2%

Public transport is the No.1 priority for 1.5% and healthcare for 1.5% — both are widely valued in their current form rather than being singled out for wholesale change.

Source: Q5; Q9

Parking is No.1 change priority for 11.8%, but is 9th of 12 areas rated High/Essential to improve

35% (≠9) rate Parking Pressure High/Essential to change, and it draws the highest Low/Secondary change priority share of any other area (25%) — could suggest it's an intense concern for a minority rather than a shared one.

Source: Q9; Q5

A cafe-hub or playpark is the No.1 change priority for 11.3% (combined)

Cafe, pub or hub 6.4% (≠4) and children's play facilities 4.9% (≠5) - the wider prioritisation rates Community Places the lowest High/Essential priority area @ 30% but the highest Medium/Important priority area @ 45%. For Play Areas the equivalent priority share is 35% and 38%.

Source: Q9; Q5

D · What Matters Most

Theme, Evidence & Strategic Implication

Roads & Pavements

What residents told us:
Poor road surfaces, often bundled with the condition of pavements, dominates the consultation.

Strategic implication:
Visible investment in resurfacing/maintenance delivers the greatest perceived improvement.

THE DATA
61% rate Moving Around High/Essential - 5th of 12 - with 26.1% picking road surfaces and pavements as their No.1 change priority. Road surfaces/ potholes and pavement condition/ weeds had a 23.0 % (≠4) and 18.8% (≠7) improvement response rate, respectively
Source: Q5, Q9 (No.1 priority), Q6 & Q8

Traffic & Parking

What residents told us:
Traffic congestion, speed, rat-running and parking remain persistent, related, concerns.

Strategic implication:
Develop an integrated parking and traffic management approach.

THE DATA
60% rate Traffic Management High/Essential - 6th of 12 – with 23.6% (combined) of people picking parking, traffic mgt, volumes & speed, and rat running as their No.1 change priority. Traffic congestion, speed & rat-running, and parking achieved a 27.0% (≠3) and 33% (≠1) improvement response rate, respectively
Source: Q5; Q9, Q6 & Q8

Neighbourhood Safety

What residents told us:
Residents highlight canal towpath, as well as Craiglockhart & Colinton Dell, behaviour, speeding and anti-social behaviour.

Strategic implication:
Targeted interventions with partners and clearer enforcement.

THE DATA
72% rate Neighbourhood Safety High/Essential 1st of 12 — but 1.9% rate it their No.1 change. However, 4.5% (≠6) picked cyclist/ canal path conduct as their No.1 change priority – with Cyclist / e-bike / canal path conduct getting a 21.2% (≠5) improvement response rate
Source: Q5; Q9, Q6 & Q8

D · What Matters Most

Theme, Evidence & Strategic Implication

Community Life

What residents told us:
Strong appetite for a café or local meeting place.

Strategic implication:
Explore opportunities to create a community destination.

THE DATA
75% (combined) rate Community Places High/Essential and Medium/Important on a need for change basis. A cafe or hub is rated No.1 change priority for 6.4% (≠4), and a café / pub / community hub recorded a 15.9% (≠9) improvement response rate
Source: Q5, Q9 (No. 1 priority), Q6 & Q8

Green Environment

What residents told us:
Protect valued green spaces while improving maintenance.

Strategic implication:
Balance environmental protection with investment in public spaces.

THE DATA
69% rate Green & Natural Spaces High/ Essential for improvement — 3rd of 12 - and No.1 change priority of 4.2%. (≠7) . Green / natural spaces also secured a 16.9% (≠8) improvement response rate
Source: Q5, Q9, Q6 & Q8

Healthcare

What residents told us:
Access to GP appointments remains difficult.

Strategic implication:
Continue advocacy with NHS and health partners.

THE DATA
67% rate Primary Healthcare High/Essential - 4th of 12 – GP / healthcare access recorded a 19.8% (≠6) improvement response rate, and No.1 change priority for 1.5% (≠12=)
Source: Q5, Q6 & Q8, Q9

Bus Network

What residents told us:
Retain existing good service but increase frequency and better links

Strategic implication:
Assess customer requirements, existing routes & transport linkages

THE DATA
70% rate Public Transport High/Essential for change - 2nd of 12 - Bus routes & service had a 27.2% (≠2) improvement response rate with 1.5% (≠12=) picking it as their No.1 change priority
Source: Q5, Q9, Q6 & Q8

E · Suggested Strategy

Four Threads Running Through the Data

Infrastructure First

Residents consistently prioritise improvements they experience daily over transformational projects.

THE DATA: *Road surfaces/potholes was the top single-change pick, often mentioned alongside pavement condition by 26.1% (combined) of respondents and largest overall theme for change @ 41.8% (combined).*

Source: Q9; Q6 & Q8

Create a Stronger Heart

Beyond infrastructure, a repeatedly voiced ask for places to meet — strong as an unprompted request rather than a rated priority.

THE DATA: *Cafe/hub: No.1 change priority for 6.4% and mentioned in 15.9% of improvement responses; Community Places rated lowest of 12 on a High/Essential need for change.*

Source: Q9; Q6–Q9 combined; Q5

Protect What Already Works

Residents value Craiglockhart's green character and quality of life; future investment should enhance, not fundamentally change, these strengths. Two other themes with a similar 'protect' ask by respondents included: bus services and GP/ healthcare access.

THE DATA: *95.8% happy/very happy; Green & Natural Spaces ranks 3rd of 12 topics based on a 69% rating of High/Essential need for change.*

Source: Q4; Q5

Focus on Visible Delivery

Many priorities are highly visible — tangible progress on a small number of them will disproportionately lift public confidence.

THE DATA: *Paties Road named 14x as the play-park site; canal conduct raised in 21.2% of suggestions with specific safety detail.*

Source: Q6–Q9 combined

F · Possible Priorities

Priorities 1–4: Infrastructure & Movement

1 Launch a visible programme of road and pavement improvements.

The single highest-conviction ask in the entire survey.

WHY?
41.8% (combined) rating for improvement – with 26.1% (combined) naming this as the single most important change — more than double any other ask.
Source: Q6 & Q8, Q9

2 Develop a coordinated traffic, parking and rat-running strategy.

Interdependent, related, concerns which cannot be viewed or tackled effectively in isolation - taken together parking *(e.g. students/commuters/Myreside Rd drop off),* traffic management, congestion, speed and rat-runs is the clear second-tier issue to be addressed.

WHY?
50.8% raised parking directly (154/303); 41 mentions tie it to Napier/students – with 23.6% (combined) picking parking, traffic mgt, volumes & speed, and rat running as their No.1 change priority.
Source: Q6, Q9

3 Improve safety and shared use along the Union Canal towpath and Dell.

A specific, well-evidenced concern mainly directed at the canal towpath with additional mention of the Dell — not general crime.

WHY?
Consistent theme mentioned throughout the survey; 108 combined mentions of cyclist/e-bike conduct vs. 19 for break-ins — nearly 6x more.
Source: Q6–Q9

4 Extend the frequency and timing of bus services and linkages.

Protect this highly valued service, heavily relied upon by the community – yet opportunities exist to enhance it, as well as creating a better integrated public transport network. *(e.g. a re-opened South Suburban Railway (South Sub), links with the existing trams network).*

WHY?
90% (combined) rated Public Transport High/Essential and Medium/Important for improvement – 1.5% pick it as a No.1 change priority yet it is the second highest mention of improvement responses @ 27.2%
Source: Q5; Q9, Q6 & Q8

F · Possible Priorities

Priorities 5–7: Place & Partnership

5

Explore delivery options for a local café or community hub.

The most consistent specific request anywhere in the data.

WHY?
75% (combined) rated Community Places High/Essential (last) and Medium/ Important (top) for improvement. Raised in 15.9% of improvement responses and the No.1 change for 6.4% of residents.
Source: Q5, Q6 & Q8, Q9

6

Protect and enhance green spaces and children's play facilities.

A genuinely popular, specific, and low-controversy ask.

WHY?
Green Spaces ranked 3rd of 12 topics on a need to change (69%). Paties Road named 14x for a play park; Play facilities/ play parks had total responses for improvement at 14.8%, and was rated High/Essential and Medium/ Important for improvement by 73% (combined)
Source: Q5; Q6–Q9 combined

7

Continue working with healthcare partners on primary care access.

Widely felt, but residents themselves don't see it as a local fix.

WHY?
67% rate Primary Healthcare High/Essential on a need to change — 4th of 12 — yet 1.5% pick it as their No.1 priority for change. Similar to bus services it is highly valued and heavily relied upon by the community.
Source: Q5; Q9

G · Conclusion

The consultation provides a clear mandate for practical improvements

Members of the community who responded to the “Shape the Future of Craiglockhart” survey (c11% households, with around 70% of the respondents aged 55+) are asking for practical improvements that enhance daily life while protecting the qualities that already make Craiglockhart an attractive place to live.

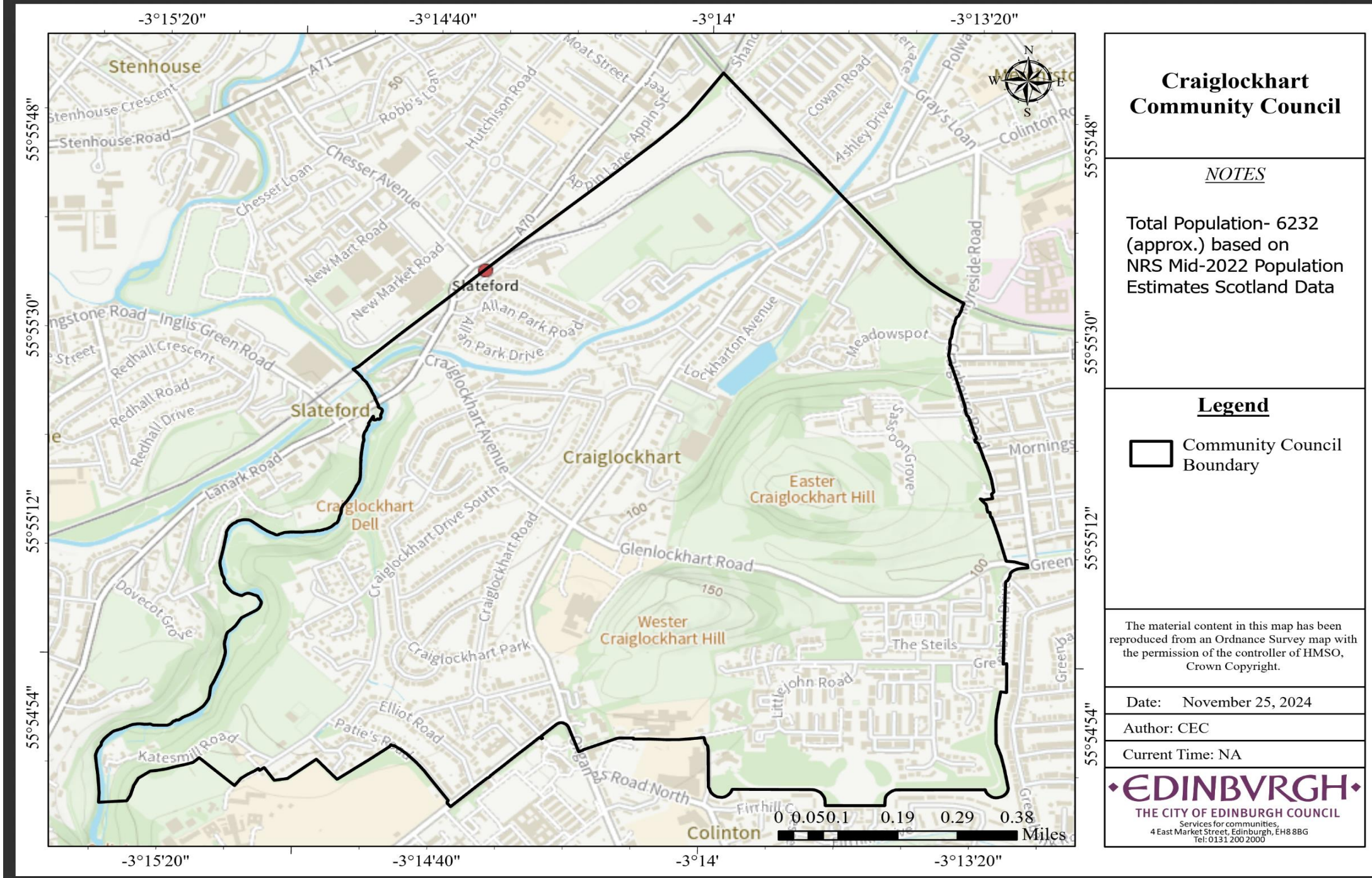
Prioritising infrastructure *(roads & pavement condition),* movement *(parking, traffic management & rat-running, canal towpath & Dell conduct and bus services),* places *(community hub, greenspace and children’s play facilities)* and partnerships *(primary care access)* responds directly to the strongest, best-evidenced themes in the consultation.

Except for one genuinely polarising theme, cycle lanes – infrastructure, the opinions expressed by respondents across the survey are consistent, making sense together without contradicting each other.

Finally, to everyone who took the time to complete the survey and share their views on so many different topics - **thank you.**

Nick Stewart – Chair, Craiglockhart Community Council

Appendix A



Craiglockhart Community Council

NOTES

Total Population- 6232 (approx.) based on NRS Mid-2022 Population Estimates Scotland Data

Legend

Community Council Boundary

The material content in this map has been reproduced from an Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the controller of HMSO, Crown Copyright.

Date: November 25, 2024

Author: CEC

Current Time: NA

EDINBVRGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
Services for communities,
4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG
Tel: 0131 200 2000