



APPENDICES

STRATEGIC PLAN - HOLYROOD PARK

SEPTEMBER 2024



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA



APPENDIX A
POPULATION

SECTION I

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

This appendix provides an analysis of the characteristics of residents living close to Holyrood Park, Edinburgh. Four catchment areas were defined, based on journey times from the Park's 19 exits to ensure a broadly accurate picture of local audiences and park users.

HOLYROOD PARK RESIDENT CATCHMENTS

The four catchment areas include the population living within a short travel time from the perimeter of Holyrood Park. The catchment areas are based on approximate 'Walking Times' and 'Cycling Times' from Holyrood Park, and are defined as follows:

- 5M (minute) walking time, as shown in Figure 1
- 5M (minute) cycling time¹ / 15M walking time, as shown in Figure 2
- 10M (minute) cycling time, as shown in Figure 3
- 15M (minute) cycling time, as shown in Figure 4

All data comes from Experian's Location Analyst service, which draws from their most recent datasets in each case.²

1. The 5 minute cycling time also approximately equates to 15 minutes of walking, therefore whenever '5M cycling catchment' is used in this report, including graphs, it is also interchangeable with a '15 minute walking catchment'

2. For example, Economic Activity statistics come from Experian's current year estimates and are based on Census Data from the Office for National Statistics.



Figure 1: 5M Walking Catchment

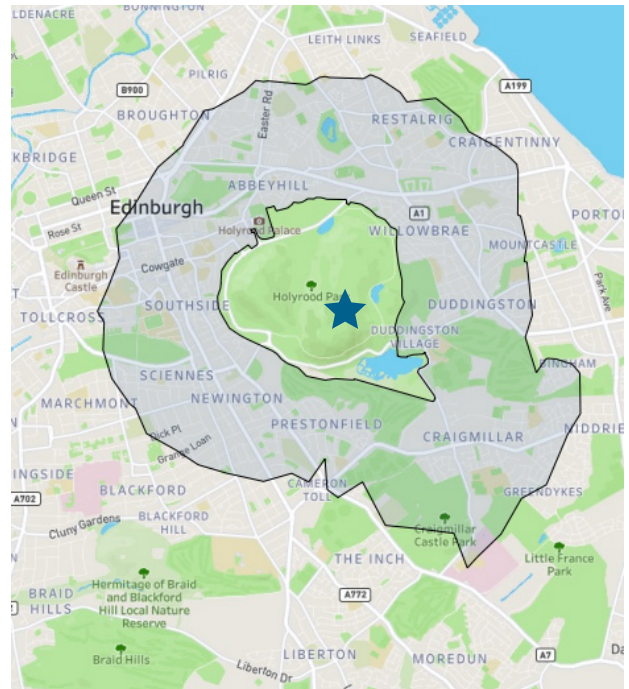


Figure 2: 5M Cycling / 15M Walking Catchment

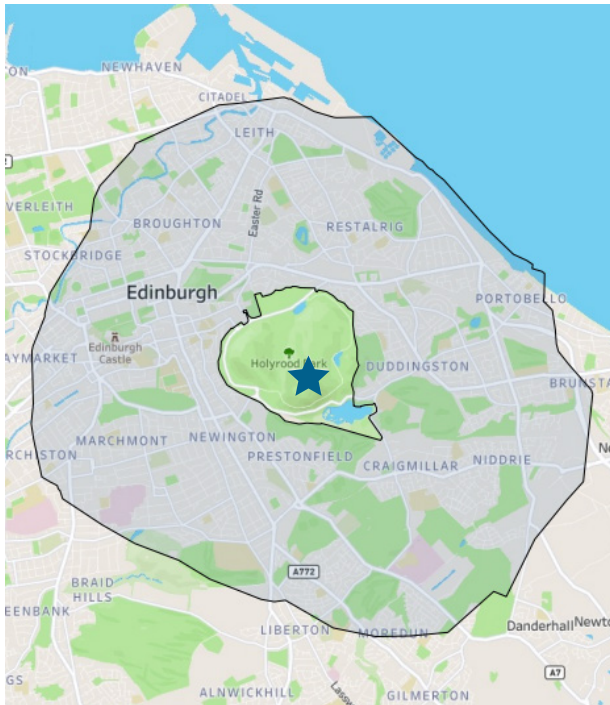


Figure 3: 10M Cycling Catchment

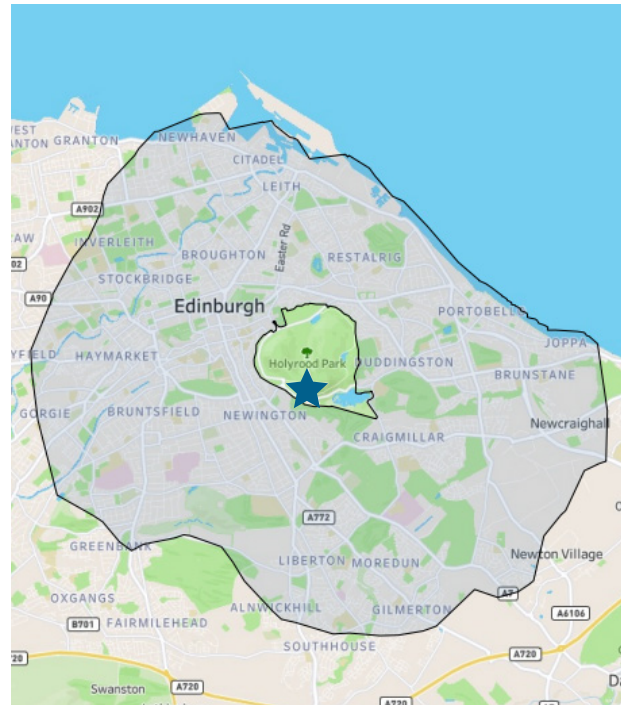


Figure 4: 15M Cycling Catchment

SECTION 2 ANALYSIS

In total, there are 5.6 million residents in Scotland, with 317,185 in the 15M Cycling Catchment; 219,948 residents in the 10M Cycling Catchment; 89,272 residents in the 5M Cycling Catchment (also known as 15 minute walking time) and 38,852 residents in the 5M Walking Catchment.

The analysis below considers the index of a particular characteristic in relation to the population of Scotland as a whole, in order to highlight any identifying features of surrounding populations. An index value of 0 indicates that a given category is in line with the Scottish average, while a positive value indicates overrepresentation and a negative value, underrepresentation.

Population Change

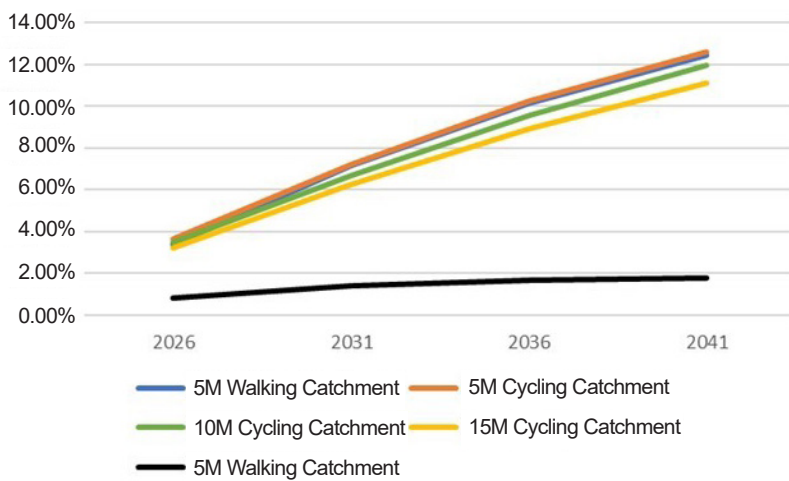


Figure 5: Projected Population Change in % Compared to Scottish

The above graph looks at the projected population change across the four catchment areas and Scotland as a base. It is based on previous rates of population growth. All of the catchment areas have over projected rates of growth across the next two decades. The catchment areas closest to Holyrood Park are projected to grow at a slightly faster rate than those further away.

Age

Figure 6 shows that the closest three catchment areas (especially the 5M walking catchment) have a much higher proportion of 20 to 24 and 25-34 year olds than Scotland as a whole. There is also an overrepresentation of 15-19 year olds in the 5M walking catchment.

On the other hand, both children and residents over the age of 45 are under-represented in all local catchment areas compared to the Scottish average.

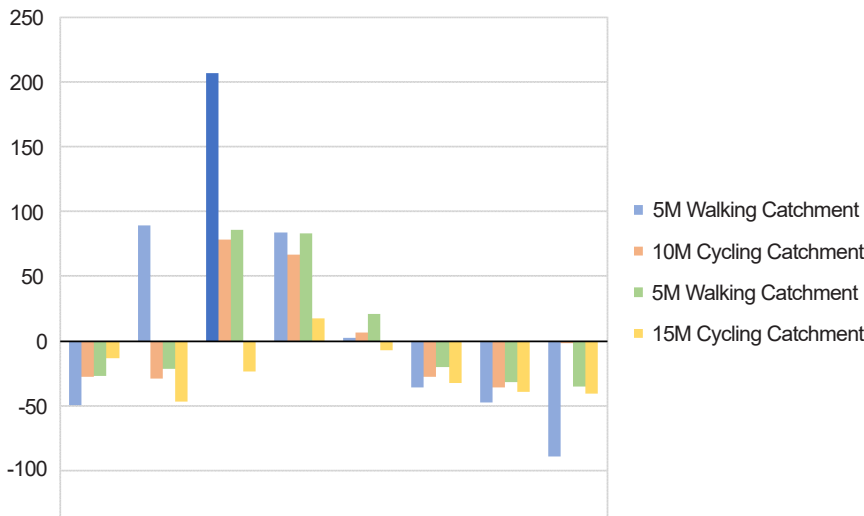


Figure 6: Age variance above/below the Scottish average

As shown in Figure 7, this is likely linked to a high number of students from the surrounding University campuses near Holyrood Park e.g. The University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Napier University. In the 5M walking catchment area, 17% of the population are full time students – almost three times higher than the Scottish average.

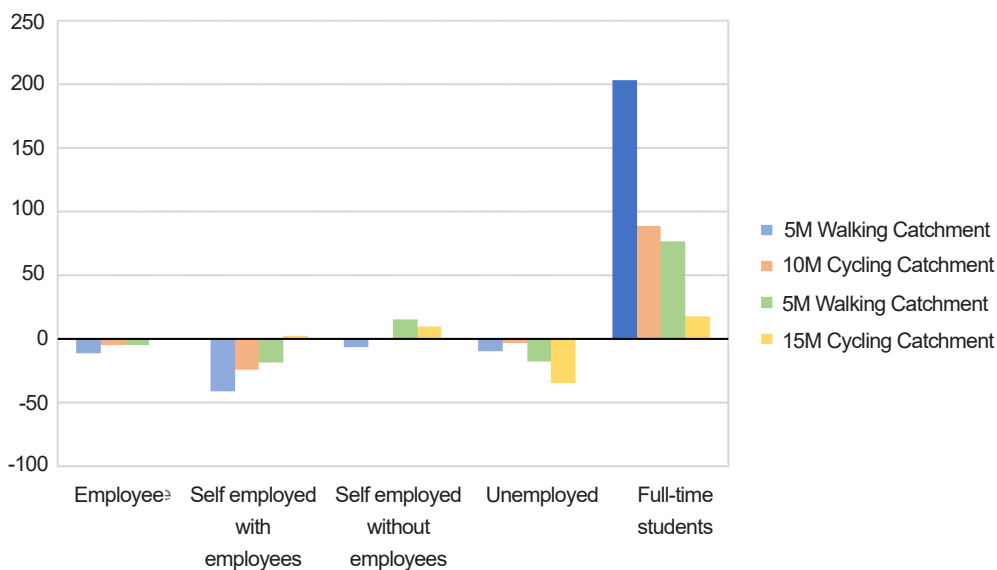
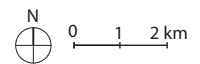
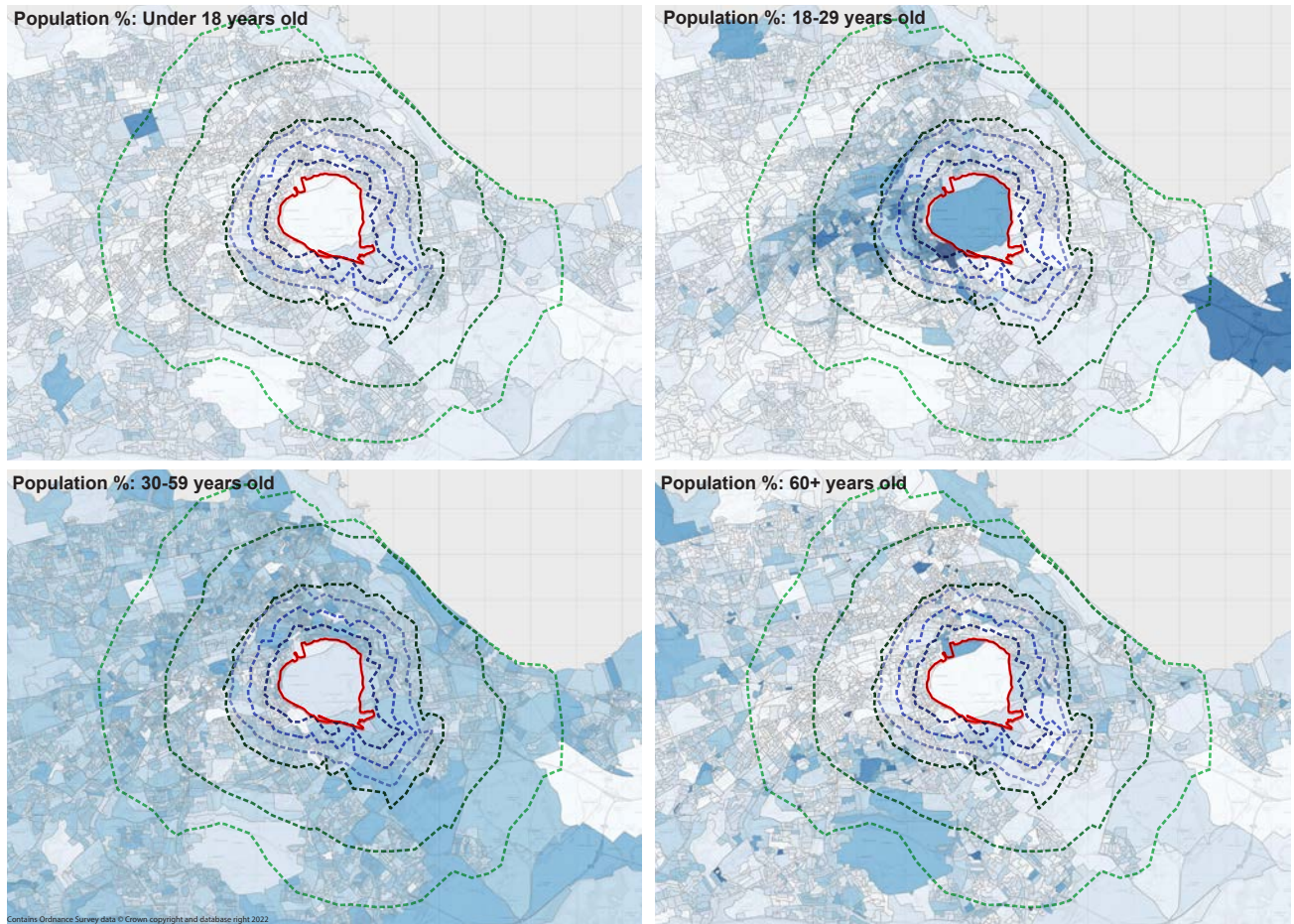


Figure 7: Economically active variance above/below the Scottish average

Figure 8: Age of Population



Socio-Economic Background

The data relating to the wider catchment areas (10M cycling catchment and 15M cycling catchment) show that there is an overrepresentation of higher level working professional groups in the extended local area (see Figure 9).³ In a general sense, all catchment areas have larger proportions of the highest AB and C1 socio-economic groups, and conversely fewer C2 and DE groups than the Scottish average.

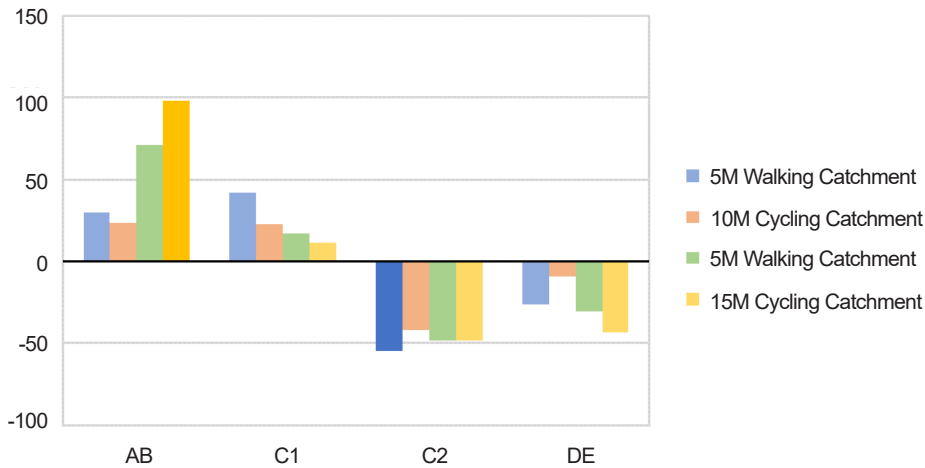


Figure 9: Social grade variance above/below Scottish average

The 5M cycling / 15M walking area has only a marginally higher AB social grade index than the Scottish national average – this impact is more pronounced in the widest catchment areas.

The furthest catchment area (15 cycling catchment) is home to a higher proportion of affluent residents, with a significantly larger overrepresentation of those earning £150,000 or more. All catchment areas contain higher proportions of residents earning £40,000 or more, and fewer earning less than this figure, than the Scottish average.

The majority (56%) of residents of the closest 5M walking catchment area record earnings within the middle income brackets of £30,000-£59,000. This shows that the immediate catchment to Holyrood Park in a general sense are middle income and generally become more affluent the further out.

3. AB includes higher and intermediate managerial, administrative, or professional occupations, C1 and C2 includes supervisory or junior managerial roles, as well as skilled manual workers, while DE includes semi-skilled, unskilled, or unemployed individuals.

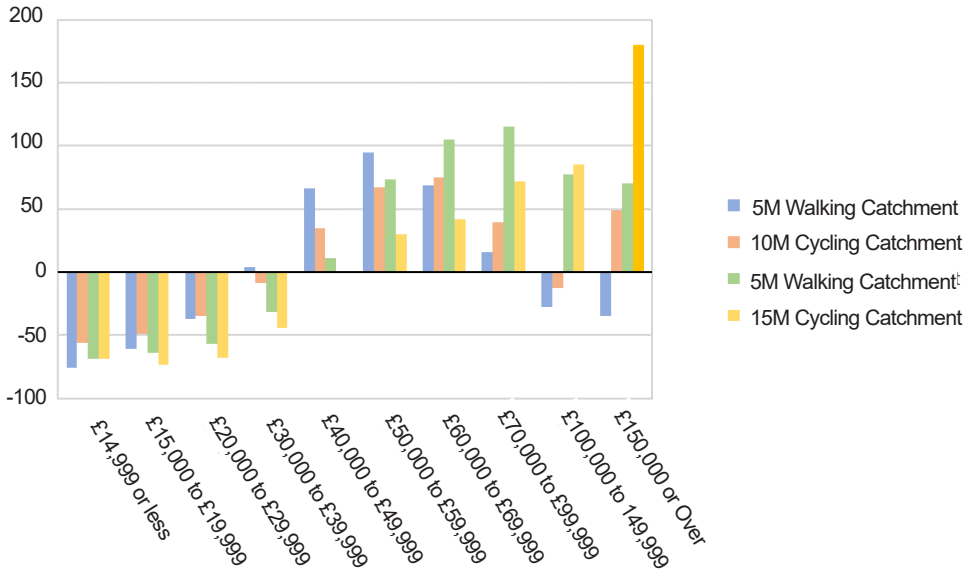


Figure 10: Household income variance above/below Scottish average

Figure 11 shows the catchments' households generally have a lower owner occupation rate compared to Scotland, with the households furthest from Holyrood Park having the highest owner occupation rates out of the four catchment areas. The catchments' households generally have a higher private rented rate compared to Scotland, with the households closest to Holyrood Park having higher private rented rates compared to those further out.

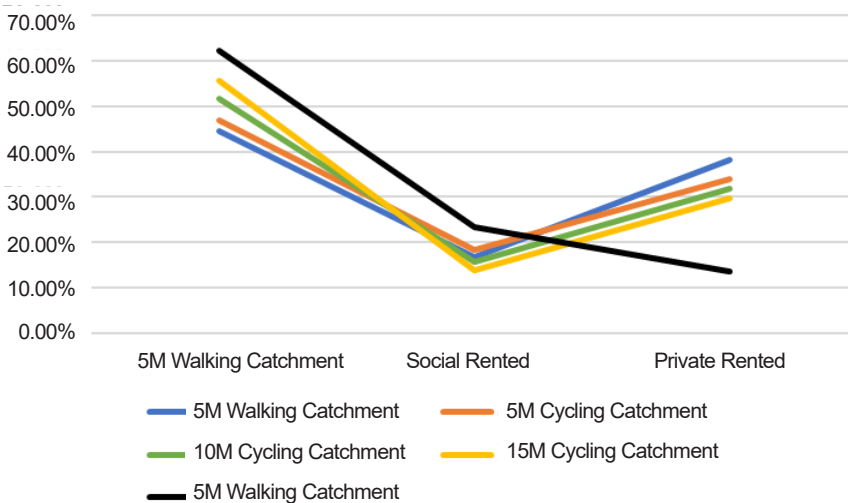


Figure 11: Household Tenure Type

ETHNICITY

Figure 12 generally shows that the catchment areas are ethnically diverse compared to the Scottish base. Populations closest to the park are most diverse, with the 5 minute walk-time catchment particularly so, and further catchments slightly less diverse (albeit still far higher than national averages).

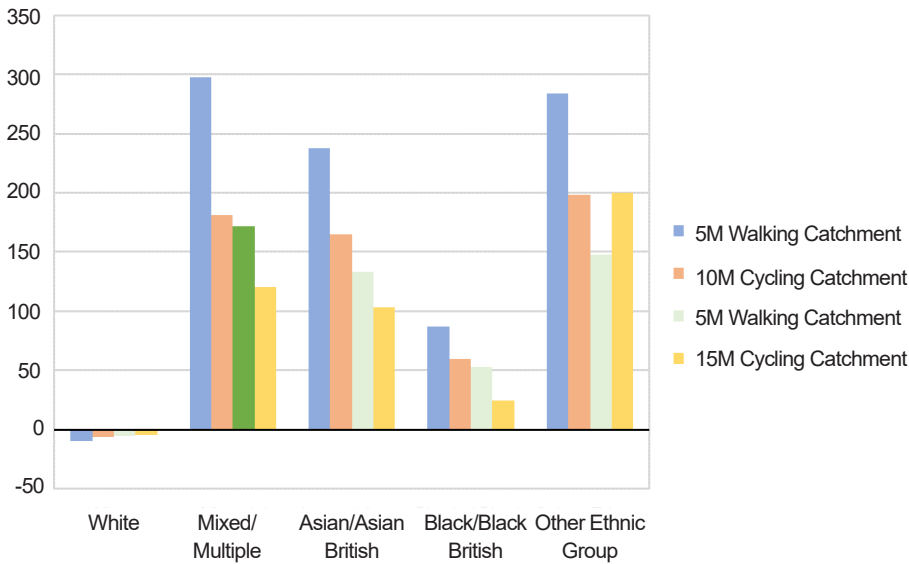
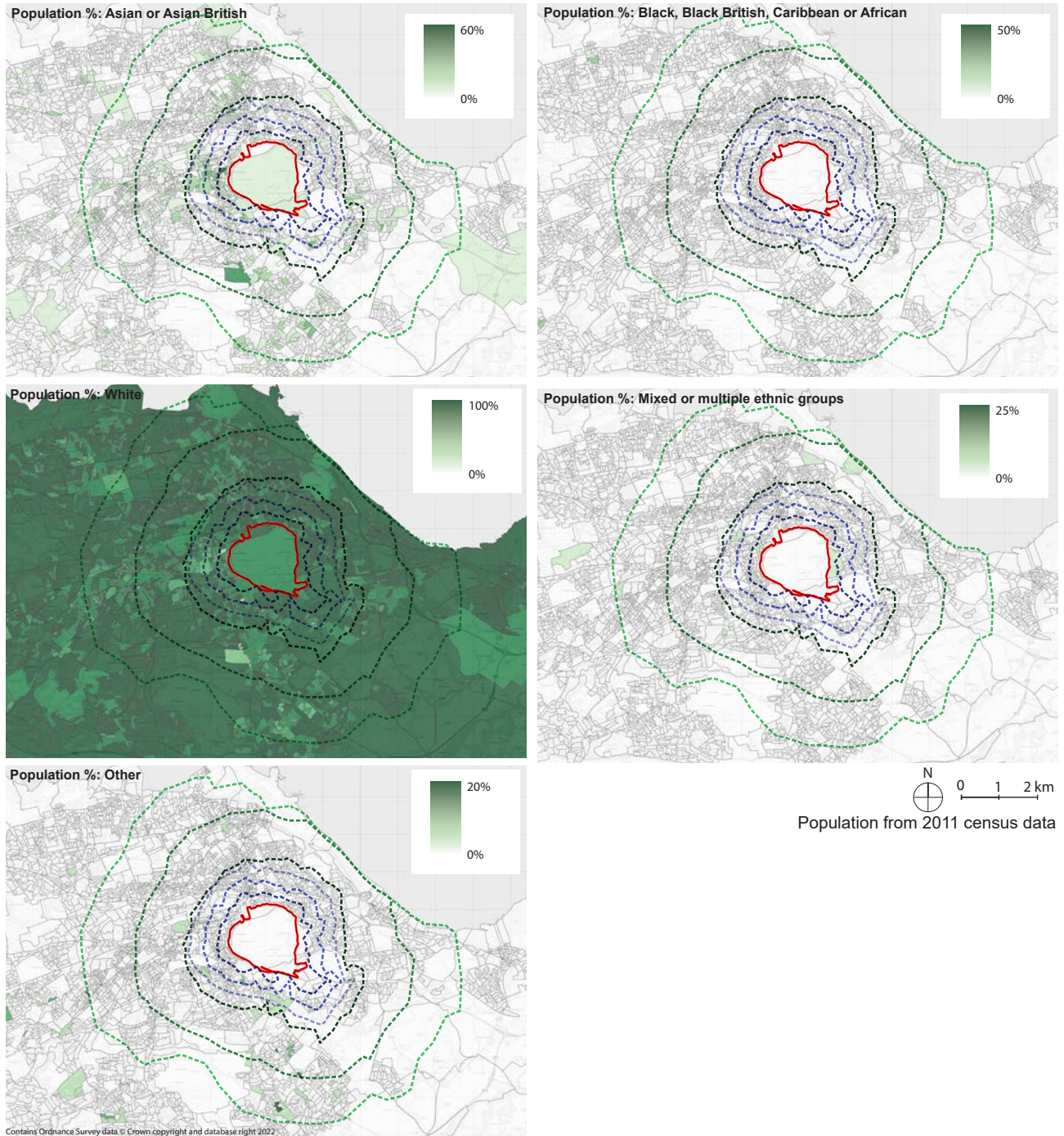


Figure 12: Ethnicity variance above/below Scottish average

Figure 13: Ethnicity of Population



Holyrood Park (Properties in Care Boundary)

Walking time		Cycling time	
	5 minutes		5 minutes
	10 minutes		10 minutes
	15 minutes		15 minutes

MOSAIC classification

We utilise the MOSAIC classification system to gain more nuanced information about the types of people who live in an area. MOSAIC is a consumer classification system which segments the population into 15 groups that help to analyse an individual's likely behaviour and interests.

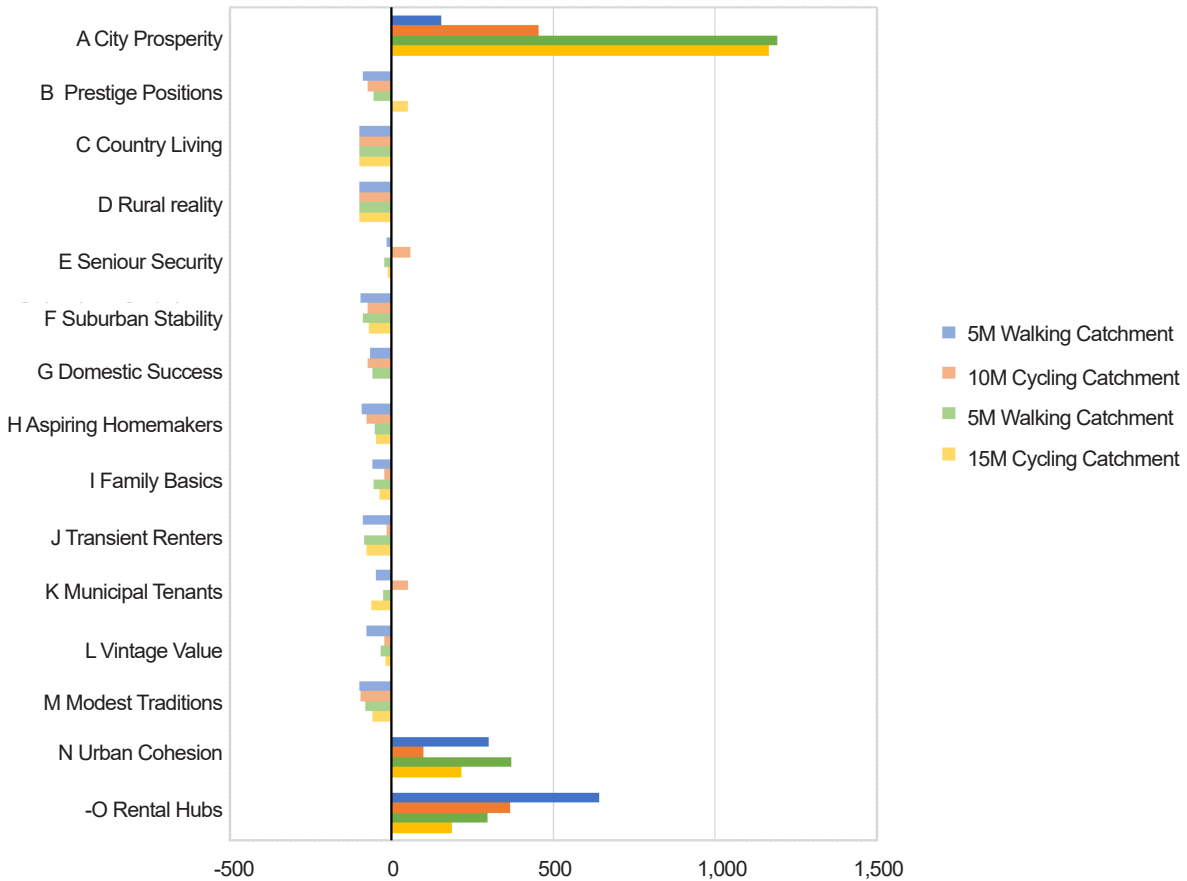


Figure 14: MOSAIC profile variance above/below Scottish average

The table below adds further detail, focussing on the most overrepresented MOSAIC groupings as a whole across the four catchment areas:

MOSAIC group	Key Characteristics	Financial Profile
City Prosperity	Young working aged childless professionals High income earning group Tend to live in high value flats in urban areas Career-oriented High tech-homes	High annual income Above average discretionary income
Rental Hubs	Young singles and home sharers without children Transient population, renting flats Likely to be full time students Career-oriented High internet and social media usage	Average annual income Below average discretionary income
Urban Cohesion	Middle aged homeowners typically living in terraced houses Read news, shop online and watch TV	Average annual income Below average discretionary income

Figure 15: Most Overrepresented MOSAIC categories

Figure 14 and Figure 15 show that within the catchment area closest to Holyrood Park (5M Walking catchment), 'Rental Hubs' is the most overrepresented MOSAIC group when compared to the Scottish national average. This area also has a high overrepresentation of 'Urban Cohesion'.

The most overrepresented MOSAIC groupings for more distant catchment areas are 'City Prosperity' and 'Rental Hubs'.

Despite the fact that the 5M cycling / 15M walking catchment also has a marginal overrepresentation of 'City Prosperity' and the 10M and 15M cycling catchments have a moderate overrepresentation of 'Rental Hubs' and 'Urban Cohesion', overall the catchments closer to Holyrood Park are more transient and relatively less affluent than those furthest away. This is reflected in lower household incomes and fewer residents owning their own homes closer to Holyrood Park.



APPENDIX B
POLICY AND
STRATEGIC DRIVERS
CONTEXT

INTRODUCTION

This appendix provides further detail on the wider policy and strategic drivers context for the Strategic Plan and Holyrood Park. It highlights a range of relevant considerations, but is not exhaustive.

LIST OF RELEVANT POLICY AND STRATEGIC DRIVERS/LEGISLATION

Legislative Context

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT LEGISLATION:

- Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014
- Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2011
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- Scheduled Monument Consent Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION:

- Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011
- The Conservation (Natural Habitats Etc) Regulations 1994
- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019
- Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

OTHER LEGISLATION:

- The Parks Regulations Acts 1872 to 1974
- The Holyrood Park Regulations 1971 (as amended 2001 and 2005)
- National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)
- Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act of 1997
- The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019
- Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- Scottish Land Commission, Community Engagement
- Equalities Act 2010
- Relevant Health and Safety legislation
- Roads Traffic Acts

National Context

- The National Performance Framework (based on UN Sustainable Development Goals)
- Place Principle
- Historic Environment Policy for Scotland
- Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme, 2019-2024
- Biodiversity Strategy (consultation)
- Land Reform in a Net Zero Nation (consultation)
- Scotland Outlook 2030 – Responsible tourism for a sustainable future
- Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation

Local Context

- Edinburgh City Plan 2030
- Edinburgh Open Space Strategy
- Edinburgh's Thriving Green Spaces Vision and Strategy (draft)

Historic Environment Context

- ‘Our Past, Our Future’ (Scotland’s new strategy for the historic environment).
- Historic Environment Policy for Scotland
- Heritage for All: HES Corporate Plan 2022 Onwards
- HES Climate Action Plan
- NatureScot and HES Landscape Position Statement and Action Plan
- HES Responsible Tourism Framework (consultation closed 30 November 2022)
- Climate Ready HES
- Green Recovery Statement for Scotland’s Historic Environment
- Skills Investment Plan for Scotland’s historic environment sector

LIST OF RELEVANT POLICY and STRATEGIC DRIVERS/LEGISLATION

Plan/Policy	Vision/Aims/Objectives	Implications
<p>Scottish Government’s National Performance Framework and its National Outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures that public bodies regard the Scottish Government’s National Performance Framework and its 11 National Outcomes in carrying out their functions • Outcomes reflect the values and aspirations of the people of Scotland 	<p>Future sustainable development of Holyrood Park, as with any other initiatives, should align with the framework and outcomes particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health – by providing opportunities for activity and access to nature • Environment – by providing a high quality natural and historic environment with access for people • Communities – by providing access to greenspace, volunteering opportunities and engagement in decision making • Economy – by providing skills training and employment opportunities <p>Future sustainable development should also make use of the National Indicators</p>

Plan/Policy	Vision/Aims/Objectives	Implications
Edinburgh City Plan 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy for shaping and informing planning decisions for Edinburgh over plan period and beyond • Ambitions to become a “sustainable and net zero city” • Leading the action for change across the city by identifying key actions to improve resilience, enhance biodiversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 • Contains the Council’s main sustainability and well-being drivers which are also relevant to approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park 	<p>Places an emphasis for future management on Net Zero contributions, community resilience and the health and wellbeing of its communities. All areas that Holyrood Park can significantly contribute to</p> <p>Provides strong protection for the natural environment, historic environment, green belt and open space qualities of Holyrood Park, which will limit development opportunities</p> <p>Highlights new regeneration and growth to the south-east of Holyrood Park and in the City Centre – providing new communities for the Park to serve</p> <p>Focused on providing a mobile city where car’s are not required with greater active travel and connectivity</p>
Historic Environment Policy for Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-statutory statement directing national and local level decision making that affects the historic environment • Policies focused on recognitions, care, sustainable management • Aids the delivery of the vision and aims within Our Place in Time (see below) • Six key policies centred around understanding ad recognition, managing change and working together • Monitored by HES inn collaboration with other parties over a ten year period up to 2029 	<p>Establishes a requirement to ensure that change is managed in a manner that incorporates historic environment conditions and safeguards the historic environment</p> <p>Encourages and focusses on the need for collaboration and community involvement</p> <p>Supports activities that promote health and well-being</p> <p>Encourages the delivery of economic impacts (direct and indirect)</p>

Plan/Policy	Vision/Aims/Objectives	Implications
Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scotland's first strategy for the historic environment Vision for the historic environment to be values, understood, cared for, protected, enjoyed and enhanced Emphasises the historic environment as at the heart of a flourishing and sustainable Scotland Focus on historic environment being protected for future generations and as a strong contributor to wellbeing Ambition to make the historic environment more relevant to more people 	<p>Encourages and focusses on collaboration to deliver outcomes</p> <p>Encourages knowledge sharing</p> <p>Supports a holistic and sustainable approach to the management of the historic environment</p> <p>Provides clear direction for encouraging participation and for tourism outcomes</p>
Edinburgh's Thriving Green Spaces Vision and Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership led project to develop an innovative 30-year strategy for managing Edinburgh's green spaces more sustainably. Development of robust funding model to support to Council's Parks and Greenspaces Service Ambitions to improve how the Council works with communities and partners Project ran from 2019 to 2022 supported by a Future Parks Accelerator grant Project delivered off eight workstreams aiming to 'revolutionise the city's green spaces' 	<p>Strategy has identified and quantified the health, well-being and climate benefits of green space in Edinburgh. This excluded Holyrood Park, but the data strengthens the case for investment in the Park as a community asset</p> <p>Provides opportunities for strengthening the wider green infrastructure network in the city through partner working</p> <p>Lessons learned likely to influence approach to future management of Holyrood Park</p>
HES Corporate Plan - Heritage for All: 2022 Onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Corporate Plan focuses on public benefit and tangible outcomes and links their priorities to the Scottish Government's National Outcomes Promotes an aspirational vision for Scotland's historic environment that is "...cherished, understood, shared and enjoyed with pride, by everyone." Outcomes include the historic environment making a real difference to people's lives, is looked after, protected and managed for future generations, has a broader contribution to the economy and people, inspires creativity, and is championed by a high-performing organisation through effective governance, operations and resources 	<p>Development and management of Holyrood Park has potential to support all five of the Plan's outcomes to differing degrees. It particularly has the potential to support Outcome 1: <i>The Historic Environment makes a real difference to people's lives</i>, Outcome 2: <i>The Historic Environment is looked after, protected and managed for generations to come; and to degree</i> Outcome 3: <i>The Historic Environment makes a broader contribution to the economy of Scotland and its people</i></p>

Plan/Policy	Vision/Aims/Objectives	Implications
		<p>The Plan highlights HES's ambition to make the historic environment more relevant to national priorities as well as local communities – and Holyrood Park addresses both agendas</p> <p>It highlights the need to grow and evidence economic impact as well as attract investment</p>
<p>Edinburgh Open Space Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to protect, look after and expand the city's network of green open spaces • Highlights Edinburgh's green spaces as important to the City's health, wildlife and economy • Seeks to create new green spaces as the City grows for benefits to people and wildlife and to prepare for changes to the climate 	<p>Located within the Strategy's North East Locality Action Plan</p> <p>The audit on which the strategy is based classifies Holyrood Park as primarily for public access and recreation</p> <p>Supports evidence for value of Holyrood Park in terms of health and wellbeing benefits for communities</p>
<p>NatureScot and HES Landscape Position Statement and Action Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out a shared vision and approach of NatureScot and HES for managing change in Scotland's landscapes • Vision for Scotland's landscapes to be vibrant and resilient, inspire and benefit everyone, and as a vibrant assets in tackling climate change. Also to provide a strong sense of place and identity and fostering wellbeing and prosperity • Three areas of work are identified include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Talking about landscape and its range of benefits (2) Engaging more local communities and other stakeholders in helping shape future landscape change (3) Strengthening the role of landscape approaches in the planning, management and design of built development and other land uses 	<p>Approach and areas of work are considered to align with the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park</p> <p>Reinforces focus on community involvement and need for a balanced approach across a range of factors in landscape planning and management</p>

NATIONAL CONTEXT

This appendix provides further detail on the wider Policy and Strategic context for the Strategic Plan and Holyrood Park. It highlights a range of relevant considerations, but is not exhaustive.

The National Performance Framework and UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 places a duty on public bodies such as HES to have regard to the Scottish Government’s National Performance Framework and its National Outcomes in carrying out their functions.

To help achieve its Purpose, the Framework sets out [11 National Outcomes](#) that reflect the values and aspirations of the people of Scotland, and are aligned with the [17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) (UN SDGs) as listed below:



The Framework also includes a set of [National Indicators](#) for measuring Scotland’s progress against the National Outcomes in terms of social, economic and environmental wellbeing.

For each National Outcomes the Framework sets out a Vision. The following have been identified as the four key outcomes relevant to shaping the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park:

- **Health – we are healthy and active (UN SDG 3, 5, 10 and 12)**

- We regard the health of all our people as being of upmost importance. Consequently, we live long, healthy and active lives regardless of where we come from. We are all able to access world class, appropriate and free/affordable health, social care and dental services. We cherish and protect the NHS as a force for good in our lives and provide the necessary investment and planning to ensure our health and social care systems are viable over the long term.
- We prioritise health and wellbeing at national and local government levels and actively implement healthy public policy. We use evidence intelligently to continuously improve and challenge existing healthcare models. Our approach is integrated, preventative and person-centred. We are focused on resolving needs in order to achieve positive health, care and wellbeing outcomes.
- We implement a whole system approach to health and wellbeing which targets harmful health behaviours early on and from different angles. We have revolutionised our food culture and prioritise affordable, healthy food and local food production. We have addressed the availability of unhealthy food options and are combatting food and drink industry facilitation of ill-health. We have developed a healthier, responsible attitude to smoking, alcohol and drug use. We are active and have widespread engagement with sport and exercise. Our awareness of mental health and suicide has resulted in more immediate, comprehensive and successful support for those in need.

- **Environment – we value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment (UN SDG 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15)**

- We regard the health of all our people as being of upmost importance. Consequently, we live long, healthy and active lives regardless of where we come from. We are all able to access world class, appropriate and free/affordable health, social care and dental services. We cherish and protect the NHS as a force for good in our lives and provide the necessary investment and planning to ensure our health and social care systems are viable over the long term.
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- **Communities – we live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe (UN SDG 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11)**

- Our communities are pleasant places to live where everyone has a warm, appropriate, efficient and affordable home. We value excellent and innovative design and are committed to sustainable planning and transport. We believe that access to greenspace, nature and other leisure activities positively enhances our lives and health. We have high quality, affordable and accessible public services and facilities that positively enhance our lives. We focus our investment on deprived communities and disadvantaged rural areas.
- We live in friendly, vibrant and cohesive communities which value diversity and support those in need. We are encouraged to volunteer, take responsibility for our community and engage with decisions about it. Our communities are resilient, safe and have low levels of crime.
- Our older people are happy and fulfilled and Scotland is seen as the best place in the world to grow older. We are careful to ensure no-one is isolated, lonely or lives in poverty or poor housing. We respect the desire to live independently and provide the necessary support to do so where possible. We recognise that older people have particular needs around financial advice, mobility and transport, home improvements, heating, technology and the internet which require

additional support.

- **Economy – we have a globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy (UN SDG 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 12)**
 - We have a strong, dynamic and productive economy which creates wealth and employment across Scotland. Our economy is competitive and we have good international trade, investment and export networks. We are considered an attractive place to do business.
 - Our economy is inclusive and focused on improving the lives of all our people. We ensure the benefits of economic growth, wealth and opportunities are fairly shared. Access to labour markets and jobs is evenly shared between us. Our sustainable economic growth is not achieved at the expense of our social interests or those of the environment. As such, our economy is ecologically accountable as well as socially responsible. We regard the green economy and our rich ecological capital as a valuable development opportunity and actively progress advancements in these areas.

Historic Environment Policy for Scotland

The [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland](#) is a non-statutory statement directing national and local level decision making that affects the historic environment. With policies focusing on recognition, care and sustainable management, it aids in the delivery of the vision and aims of Our Place in Time.

Six key policies for managing the historic environment are centred around understanding and recognition, managing change, and working together. It will be monitored by HES in collaboration with other parties over a ten-year period until 2029.

Place Principle

The [Place Principle](#) was adopted by Scottish Government and COSLA to help '*overcome organisational and sectoral boundaries*' and to take a more collaborative approach to place's services and assets to achieve better outcomes for people and communities. It commits to strengthening the co-ordination and integration of all place-based activity and '*a collaborative, place-based approach with a shared purpose to support a clear way forward to call services, assets and investments which will maximise the impact of their combined resources.*'

The Place Principle requests that '*all those responsible for providing services and looking after assets in a place need to work and plan together, and with local communities, to improve the lives of people, support inclusive and sustainable economic growth and create more successful places.*'

Climate Ready Scotland: Scottish Climate Change Adaption Programme, 2019-2024

[Climate Ready Scotland](#) is a five-year programme (2019-2024) developed by Scottish Government to prepare Scotland for climate change related challenges. The programme takes an outcomes-based approach, derived from both the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Scotland's National Performance Framework. The programme's seven outcomes are summarised below:

- **Outcome 1: Our communities are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe in response to the changing climate**
 - Each place should be planned, designed, and managed to suit the needs and aspirations of the people who live there and includes how communities can be equipped with the knowledge and tools to adapt to climate change and empowered to do so.
- **Outcome 2: The people in Scotland who are most vulnerable to climate change are able to adapt and climate justice is embedded in climate change adaptation policy**
 - Engaging and empowering those most vulnerable to climate change and recognising the impacts on health and social care and how this is likely to disproportionately affect those already more vulnerable.
- **Outcome 3: Our inclusive and sustainable economy is flexible, adaptable and responsive to the changing climate**
 - Focusing on the natural environment that forms a large base for businesses and supporting how they might adapt to climate change. Also focused on manufacturing, services and wider economy and impacts on capital, labour, and supply chains and how Scottish businesses can harness opportunities as the climate changes.
- **Outcome 4: Our society's supporting systems are resilient to climate change**
 - Ensuring that Scotland's networks and services are resilient as the climate changes, including the supply networks of energy, water, communications (including digital), roads, and rail, and the service delivery areas of government, health and emergency services.
- **Outcome 5: Our natural environment is valued, enjoyed, protected and enhanced and has increased resilience to climate change**
 - A healthy natural environment is vital to society, the economy and the functioning of our natural systems. Ecosystem services encompass the contributions of ecosystems to human well-being. They are typically split into four categories: regulating, supporting, cultural and provisioning. The four types of ecosystem services have been split across two Natural Environment Sub-Outcomes. The regulating and supporting services are considered under the first Sub-Outcome, the cultural services are considered under the second Sub-Outcome, while the provisioning services are being considered within the Economy Outcome (Outcome 3).
- **Outcome 6: Our coastal and marine environment is valued, enjoyed, protected and enhanced and has increased resilience to climate change**
 - As in Outcome 5, Outcome 6 uses an ecosystem services approach. The regulating and supporting services are considered under the first Coastal and Marine Sub-Outcome, the cultural services are considered under the second Sub-Outcome, while the provisioning services are being considered within the Economy Outcome (Outcome 3).
- **Outcome 7: Our international networks are adaptable to climate change**
 - Focusing on Scotland's food supply networks, contribution to international governance, (managing potential international instability as a result of climate change), and Scotland's adaptable, open and connected economy. To show continued leadership in adapting to climate change.

Biodiversity Strategy

The Biodiversity Strategy signals the Scottish Government's ambitions to end biodiversity loss by 2030, and restore / regenerate biodiversity by 2045 and provides a framework for prioritising and coordinating actions and investments towards this goal. The Strategy (draft version out for consultation as of November 2022) provides a starting point to achieving the strategic vision which is as follows:

'By 2045 we will have substantially restored and regenerated biodiversity across our land, freshwater and seas. Our natural environment of plants, animals, insects, aquatic life and other species will be richly diverse, thriving, resilient and adapting to climate change. Everyone will understand the benefits from and importance of biodiversity and will play their role in the stewardship of nature in Scotland for future generations.'

Land Reform in a Net Zero Nation: Consultation Paper

The [Land Reform in a Net Zero Nation](#) is a Scottish Government policy currently at consultation stage (Consultation Paper only available as of November 2022). The intention is that the policy focuses on large-scale landholdings, and in general, would not apply to smaller landholdings and family farms. The Ministerial Foreword of the Consultation Paper states that:

The core aims of the Scottish Government's land reform policy are set out clearly in the Land Rights and Responsibilities Statement and are:

- *to increase diversity of landownership;*
- *to bring about changes in land use; and*
- *to create more opportunities for communities to engage in decision making about the land around them, and share in the benefits it brings.*

Scotland Outlook 2030 – Responsible tourism for a sustainable future

The [Scotland Outlook 2030](#) is a strategy that sets out a shared vision for tourism in Scotland, developed through an equal partnership and focusing on how tourism will benefit every person who lives in Scotland, visits Scotland and works in Scotland. Launched on 4th March 2020, the strategy provides the following to achieve its ambition:

The Vision – We will be the world leader in 21st century tourism.

The Mission – Together we will grow the value and positively enhance the benefits of tourism across Scotland by delivering the very best for our visitors, our businesses, our people, our communities and our environment.

Key Priorities – Our passionate people, our thriving places, our diverse businesses, our memorable experiences.

Our Commitments – For each of our key priorities we have an agreed set of commitments. These commitments will ensure that we deliver on our vision to be the world leader in 21st century tourism.

Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation

[Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#) is called 'Delivering Economic Prosperity' and sets out the economic priorities and actions needed for improving the economy over the next ten years to achieve the government's vision of a wellbeing economy. The Ministerial Forward of the Strategy states that:

This strategy is about delivering the best economic performance possible for Scotland within the current constitutional constraints. It takes decisive steps towards the creation of a wellbeing economy, and drives a green economic recovery to meet our climate and nature targets while ensuring we maximise the benefits as part of a just transition.

LOCAL CONTEXT

This appendix provides further detail on the wider Policy and Strategic context for the Strategic Plan and Holyrood Park. It highlights a range of relevant considerations, but is not exhaustive.

Edinburgh City Plan

Edinburgh's City Plan 2030 sets out the strategy for shaping development and informing planning decisions in the City over the plan period and beyond. The proposed plan is due to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval in 2022.

At an Edinburgh level, the City Plan 2030 has taken account of the Council's main sustainability and well-being drivers for change, which are also relevant to shaping the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park.

With regards to "Becoming a sustainable and net zero city", the City Plan 2030 states:

Becoming a sustainable and net zero city

Addressing climate change is at the heart of City Plan 2030. Edinburgh must become more resilient and adaptive to future climate shocks including managing the environmental impacts of climate change, particularly from more extreme weather events, sea level rise, food risk and erosion.

The City must also be part of a green recovery by being proactive in reversing biodiversity loss and maximising the wider benefits of nature through improving greenspaces and food growing opportunities as well as the accessibility of these spaces to enhance physical and mental wellbeing.

*The **draft 2030 Climate Strategy** is leading the actions for change across Edinburgh by identifying what actions the city needs to take to improve resilience as well as achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.*

It is important for the city to play its part in reducing emissions and sequester carbon where possible to help meet targets set by the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 for Scotland to achieve a 75% reduction in all greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2045. City Plan aims to help deliver the Council's commitment to net-zero by 2030. The strategy and policies set out in City Plan 2030 are designed to design in climate resilience and biodiversity enhancement to deliver a 'climate ready city'.

*The **City Mobility Plan** and our **City Centre Transformation Strategy** aim to change the future way we move around our city and our city centre. Edinburgh's Low Emissions Zone is due to be enforced from June 2024 and will be an important part of improving the city air quality. Together with City Plan 2030, our City Mobility Plan will widen travel choice and reinforce the national sustainable travel hierarchy that promotes walking, wheeling, cycling, public transport and car sharing in preference to single occupancy car use. This will enable us to meet our target for a reduction in car kilometres by 20% and for people to travel with zero emissions by net zero transport infrastructure. The City of Edinburgh's traffic management plans are feeding into Local Place planning initiatives.*

*The **Vision for Water Management in the City of Edinburgh** sets out key principles of how the city should manage its water environment, considering the increasing severity and complexity of challenges facing Edinburgh arising from the climate emergency. Work is on-going with **Edinburgh's Nature Network** and the **Green Blue Network project**, with these showing the benefit of the City of Edinburgh and its new development being served by a coordinated network of multifunctional green blue infrastructure.*

Edinburgh's Open Space Strategy reviews the distribution, quality, types and accessibility of Edinburgh's open space and play areas as well as identifying opportunities to improve provision and access to these. The **Edinburgh Biodiversity Action Plan** raises awareness of the City's biodiversity and the opportunities for positive actions to protect and enhance this. These reflect national objectives set out in the **Scottish Forestry Strategy 2019-2029**, **Scottish Biodiversity Strategy** and the **Scottish Pollinator Strategy 2017-2027**.

With regards to "Wellbeing and equalities", the City Plan 2030 states:

Wellbeing and equalities

Improving wellbeing and health outcomes is a vital part of ensuring sustainable communities, particularly in ensuring equality of these outcomes for different groups and spatially across the city.

*The **Improvement Service and Public Health Scotland's 'Place and wellbeing: integrating land use planning and public health in Scotland'** document places emphasis on the role of Local Development Plans working in partnership with public health practitioners.*

The strategy proposals and policies set out within City Plan 2030 take a place-based approach to deliver greater equality in health, wellbeing and sustainability outcomes through the delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Edinburgh Open Space Strategy

The [Edinburgh Open Space Strategy 2016-2021](#) (approved 2016) aims to protect, look after and expand the city's network of green open spaces. Holyrood Park is located within the Open Space Strategy's [North East Locality Action Plan 2017](#).

The Strategy highlights that well cared for and well-connected green spaces matter for the City's health, wildlife and economy. The Strategy seeks to create new green spaces as the city grows to help people get to know each other, grow food, play, keep fit, see nature and get around by foot and by bike. Existing parks will also be improved and made wildlife friendly, helping the city to be ready for changes to the climate. Under-used spaces could be turned into community gardens and allotments by local groups, with cemeteries and burial grounds enhanced.

The Open Space Strategy 2016-2021 is based on the [Edinburgh 2016 Open Space Audit](#) of both Council and non-Council owned/managed urban open spaces. The Audit classifies the 216.56ha of natural/semi-natural greenspace within Holyrood Park managed primarily for public access and recreation by HES as "Semi-Natural Park", and the 17.59ha of playing fields within Holyrood Park also managed by HES are classified as "Public Park and Garden".

Edinburgh's Thriving Green Spaces Vision and Strategy

As part of Edinburgh's 2050 City Vision, the City of Edinburgh Council led a partnership-based project¹ to develop an innovative 30-year strategy for managing Edinburgh's green spaces in a more sustainable way, by developing a robust funding model to support the Council's Parks and Greenspaces Service and improve how the Council works with communities and partner organisations.

Supported by a Future Parks Accelerator grant², the [Edinburgh's Thriving Green Spaces Project](#) ran from June 2019 until March 2022. The aim of the project was to understand how green spaces need to change to benefit Edinburgh and help it become an exemplary city for wellbeing, quality of life, heritage and quality of greenspaces. The project was delivered across the following eight workstreams, which collectively are considered to have the potential to revolutionise the city's green spaces:

- (1) **People** – *We will strengthen the relationship between people and place by encouraging and supporting residents, tourists and businesses to engage more with their local green spaces and contribute to their upkeep and enhancement. To do this we will work with the public and other stakeholders to explore the needs and aspirations for Edinburgh's parks and green spaces and together develop plans for how to achieve our collective vision for Edinburgh's parks and green spaces.*
- (2) **Space** – *In promoting health and wellbeing, food growing, active travel, recreation, play, and outdoor learning we are collaborating with a variety of stakeholders to maximise the multi-use and accessibility of greenspaces. We are analysing and improving how we audit our public greenspaces to inform maintenance and design plans. We will engage with local communities to help them develop Local Place Plans.*
- (3) **Operations** – *We will develop an operational model which will deliver clear benefits to the city. Therefore, we will be considering what operational model we need to have in place to enable us to deliver our Thriving Green Spaces vision. We will also be determining how our future green and blue spaces should be governed, and in particular how the citizens of Edinburgh can be more involved in the strategic decision-making and operation of these spaces. Critically, we will be developing a sustainable funding model which will protect our green and blue spaces and allow them to be developed so we can maximise the benefits they can deliver now and in the long term.*
- (4) **Ecology** – *We will create an Ecological Coherence Plan (ECP) for Edinburgh using the [Ecological Coherence Protocol](#). Working collaboratively with key organisations, we will bring together expert knowledge to map the habitat network and ecosystem services³ across the city. By combining all this information with practical on the ground considerations, we will identify opportunities to provide multiple benefits for both people and nature. We are also working to develop a Natural Capital Account (NCA) for Edinburgh. This will put a financial value on the several benefits we receive from our greenspaces and provide an evidence-based analysis of the economic and social benefits of investing in our greenspaces. All this work will influence the future development of the city and help us to make better informed decisions. It will also build a case for generating cross-sectoral funding and will ensure that our green and blue spaces are recognised as fundamental to delivering the [Edinburgh 2050 Vision](#) of a sustainable, biodiverse and healthy city.*
- (5) **Technology** – *We will analyse our green spaces with potential for renewable energy sources to power park structures or surrounding built infrastructure. Through pilot projects we will introduce new technologies to augment existing service delivery, realise operational efficiencies and bring about social and environmental benefits. In the process, we will be linking into Edinburgh's techno-expertise, unlocking investment, and better connecting people to their green spaces.*

1. The project partners are: City of Edinburgh Council (lead partner); Greenspace Scotland; Scottish Wildlife Trust; Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust; University of Edinburgh; and the Edinburgh Green Space Forum

2. The National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Trust Future Parks Accelerator grant provides funding for local authorities to enable them to develop bold/innovative financial and management solutions for their green spaces against a backdrop of financial uncertainty.

3. Ecosystem services are the benefits provided for people by nature from healthy and functioning ecosystems. Examples of these benefits include clean air, improved mental and physical wellbeing, and natural pollination of plants.

- (6) **Finance** – *In creating new relationships between the private, public and third sector, we will explore fresh ideas that cut across and remove existing policy and delivery silos, building a sustainable financial model which enables us to realise a direct financial return from our assets and services and ensures that our green spaces are properly resourced for current and future generations. In addition, we will be assessing our service’s operational model and structure to find opportunities for efficiency and quality improvements.*
- (7) **Governance** – *We will instigate a new model of governance for our green spaces which will give users and other stakeholders greater opportunities to advocate for and influence their care and management. Throughout the project and thereafter we will work alongside, and share outcomes with, other bodies and across sectors to build knowledge and better influence relevant policies and decision making at the local authority, Scottish Government and UK levels*
- (8) **Learning and Sharing** – *Through carrying out and learning from our research and pilot studies, workshop events, collaborating with our partners, and gathering robust baseline information across the city we will have an informed vision and strategy for Edinburgh’s Thriving Green Spaces which we can share with other local authorities.*

The Value of Edinburgh’s Parks

The [Value of Edinburgh’s Parks](#) study found that an investment of £9,684,000 in parks and greenspaces provided and maintained by the City of Edinburgh Council’s Parks and Greenspace Service between 2013-2014 generated multiple social, economic and environmental benefits for the City’s residents valued at £114,191,000 – a Social Return on Investment of around £12 for every £1 invested by the Council. The cost benefit ratio varies from 1:7 for a “natural heritage park”⁴ (such as the Hermitage of Braid and Blackford Hill Local Nature Reserve) to 1:17 for a “large premier park”⁵ (such as the Princess Street Gardens).

A separate study for the [Pentland Hills Regional Park](#) calculated a Social Return on Investment of around £9 of social, economic and environmental benefits for every £1 invested from the partner local authorities (City of Edinburgh, Midlothian and West Lothian Councils) in providing countryside and visitor management services for the Regional Park between 2011-2012.⁶

City of Edinburgh Council has recently launched a draft Vision and Strategy for their greenspaces “Edinburgh’s Thriving Greenspaces 2050” (October 2022). The strategy articulates the value of the green infrastructure in Edinburgh setting out that a “Natural Capital Account” by Vivid Economics estimated that Edinburgh Council’s parks and greenspaces generate benefits of £174m per year, with mental wellbeing and physical health benefits being estimated at c. £22 per visit (combined); with further amenity and carbon benefits on top of that.

We are not aware of any similar study having been undertaken for Holyrood Park at this time. Understanding the value of the social, economic and environmental benefits for the City’s residents generated from investment in Holyrood Park would be beneficial for negotiating future core funding settlements from Scottish Ministers, and in supporting the business case for capital funding bids.

4. Natural Heritage Park is defined by the City of Edinburgh Council as a ‘semi-natural green space usually large and featuring hills or woodland which maintains biodiversity.’

5. A Natural Heritage Park is defined by the City of Edinburgh Council as a ‘semi-natural green space usually large and featuring hills or woodland which maintains biodiversity.’

6. A Regional Park is defined as ‘an extensive area in the countryside in which existing land uses continue, but are managed on a consensual basis to enable public access and to protect local landscapes’ that offer the opportunity ‘to integrate recreation with other activities, to undertake wider landscape and habitat management and to promote the area for the benefit of residents and visitors’.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT CONTEXT

Our Place in Time: The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland

The Scottish Government's [Our Place in Time](#) is Scotland's first strategy for the historic environment and was published in 2014. It sets out the following vision for the future of the historic environment:

Scotland's historic environment is understood and valued, cared for and protected, enjoyed and enhanced. It is at the heart of a flourishing and sustainable Scotland and will be passed on with pride to benefit future generations.

The strategy sets out four aims as follows:

- **Understanding – By investigating and recording** our historic environment to continually develop our knowledge, understanding and interpretation of our past and how best to conserve, sustain and present it.
- **Protecting – By caring for and protecting** the historic environment, ensuring that we can both enjoy and benefit from it and conserve and enhance it for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations.
- **Valuing – By sharing and celebrating** the richness and significance of our historic environment, enabling us to enjoy the fascinating and inspirational diversity of our heritage.

Five working groups are currently supporting the delivery of the strategy including Heritage Tourism Group, Volunteering Group, Climate Change Group, Built Heritage Investment Group, Skills and Expertise Group.

A new strategy for Scotland's historic environment is being consulted on until 20 February 2022. This strategy will succeed Our Place in Time.

HES Corporate Plan

- The [HES Corporate Plan - "Heritage for All: 2022 Onwards"](#) is a key driver for shaping the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park. The Plan promotes an aspirational vision for Scotland's historic environment that is "... *cherished, understood, shared and enjoyed with pride, by everyone.*" Drawing on earlier work, the Park's potential to support the Corporate Plan's five outcomes is summarised below:
- **Outcome 1: The Historic Environment makes a real difference to people's lives** – future management of the Park should make a tangible difference to people's lives in terms of increased wellbeing (health, happiness and life satisfaction), increased engagement with more and a greater diversity of people, and increased integration into city place-making activities.
- **Outcome 2: The Historic Environment is looked after, protected and managed for generations to come** – management of the Park should ensure its cultural and natural significance is sustainably managed, including championing delivery of the HES Climate Action Plan (see below) and protecting the environment through enhancing biodiversity and improving sustainability.
- **Outcome 3: The Historic Environment makes a broader contribution to the economy of Scotland and its people** – management of the Park should ensure potential economic benefits to the City of Edinburgh are recognised and enhanced in terms of its role as a venue for events, supporting health and well-being, and supporting tourism.
- **Outcome 4: The Historic Environment inspires a creative and vibrant Scotland** – future management could aim to ensure that the Park's intangible value as a place of creative inspiration, events and inclusive learning and outdoor recreation activities continue to be recognised, and the Park's visitor experience enhanced in innovative ways.

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- **Outcome 5: The Historic Environment is cared for and championed by a high-performing organisation** – effective governance, operational structures, resources and funding requirements will need to be in place to meet this outcome, including the potential to increase partnership working and funding, implement new ways of working and increase the diversity of income sources.

HES Climate Action Plan

The [HES Climate Action Plan 2020-25](#) sets out how HES aims to harness the power of Scotland's history to foster positive behaviour change and increase resilience to climate change, by making changes in the way the organisation protects and operates some of Scotland's most recognisable places and landmarks. The Plan identifies 7 key themes that are a focus for climate action by HES between 2020–2025 and beyond, which are applicable to all historic properties in its care. These are:

- **Climate impacts and adaptation** – *We will continue to research and monitor the effects of climate change on the historic environment. The more we know, the better we can help it to adapt.*
- **Energy and carbon management** – *We will accelerate our energy efficiency and carbon management efforts in line with the Scottish Government's ambitious new emissions reduction targets.*
- **Circular economy** – *We will work towards zero waste operations, in which we maintain, repair, upgrade, repurpose, reuse and recycle everything we use in a continual loop.*
- **Sustainable tourism** – *We will give our visitors the right facilities, infrastructure and information to lessen the environmental impact of visits. As we continue to widen access to the historic environment, we will ensure that we grow in a responsible way.*
- **Sustainable procurement** – *We will ensure that the goods and services we procure add value socially or environmentally. We will continue to support the wider use of sustainable materials and construction techniques.*
- **Biodiversity** – *We will maintain the ecological value of our sites by embedding biodiversity and landscape management into all relevant decision making.*
- **Sustainable travel** – *We will reduce the impact of staff commuting and business travel by promoting low-carbon travel and alternatives to travel. We will also provide more sustainable options for visitor travel to our sites*

The above climate action themes are also considered to be a key driver for shaping the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park.

NatureScot and HES Landscape Position Statement and Action Plan

NatureScot and HES are the lead natural and historic environment bodies in Scotland and have statutory roles in the conservation, management and sustainable use of landscape resources. Published in 2019, the [Position Statement](#) sets out a vision and approach of NatureScot and HES for managing change in Scotland's landscapes and in promoting enjoyment and understanding. The shared vision for Scotland's landscapes is:

All Scotland's landscapes are vibrant and resilient. They realise their potential to inspire and benefit everyone. They are positively managed as a vital asset in tackling climate change. They continue to provide a strong sense of place and identity, connecting the past with the present and people with nature, and fostering wellbeing and prosperity.

To deliver this vision, three areas of work, with sub-areas, have been identified within the Action Plan:

(1) **Talking about landscape and its range of benefits**

- *Understanding landscape change - we will work together on the Landscape Monitoring Programme.*
- *Valuing Landscapes - we will work together to promote the benefits and value that landscape provides.*
- *Celebrating landscapes - we will work together to help promote Scotland's landscapes and the work done to look after them*

(2) **Engaging more local communities and other stakeholders in helping shape future landscape change**

- *Engaging people - we will work together to enable more people to say what they value about their landscapes and how they should change in future.*
- *Investing in landscapes - we will work together to make the case for greater investment in landscapes.*

(3) **Strengthening the role of landscape approaches in the planning, management and design of built development and other land uses**

- *National Policy and Strategy - we will develop more joint working on relevant policy and strategy with implications for landscape.*
- *Special landscapes - we will continue to work on developing shared approaches to our most valued landscapes.*

The above areas of work are also considered to align with the approach to future sustainable management of Holyrood Park.

Further plans and statements

The following are also relevant:

- HES Responsible Tourism Framework (consultation closed 30 November 2022)
- Climate Ready HES
- Green Recovery Statement for Scotland's Historic Environment
- Skills Investment Plan for Scotland's historic environment sector



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
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