

NOTICE OF MEETING
MIDLOTHIAN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM
JOINT MEETING WITH THE MIDLOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD

Venue: Committee Room, Midlothian House

Date: Thursday 3rd March 2016

Time: 1-3pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Alcohol Focus Scotland Presentation – alcohol availability in Midlothian
3. Updated Profile of Alcohol Related Harm in Midlothian
4. 2015 Public consultation results
5. Midlothian Overprovision statement
6. Any Other Business
7. Date of next meeting

Statistical Profile

Alcohol Related Harm in Midlothian

February 2016

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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

Alcohol is widely used for socialising and relaxing, and when taken in moderation, presents few problems to the individual or wider community. However with alcohol now 54% more affordable in the UK than it was in 1980¹, the latest Scottish Health Survey (2014) found that nearly 1 in 4 men (23%) and 1 in 6 (17%) women drink at harmful or hazardous levels¹. Alcohol consumption not only has health consequences to the individual, but also to their families and our wider communities, evident in antisocial behaviour, crime, child and adult protection, and a wide range of social problems.

The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 makes provision for regulating the sale of alcohol, and for regulating licensed premises and other premises on which alcohol is sold², in order to deliver on its five licensing objectives:

- Preventing crime and disorder;
- Securing public safety;
- Preventing public nuisance;
- Protecting and improving public health; and
- Protecting children from harm

The five licensing objectives support action linked to the evidence that, as a result of increased availability and reduced costs, we are as a society consuming too much alcohol. The more we drink the more health and social problems there are; in the home, in the street, to communities, families and individuals. With this, policies are required which support a whole population approach to alcohol consumption, not just targeted at dependent drinkers or those drinking at harmful levels. Such an approach requires all those with an interest in health, children and families and community safety to work together in a coordinated manner.

Section 7 of the Act (presented overleaf) stipulates that each Licensing Board must produce a licensing policy statement that includes the extent of overprovision of licensed premises, or licensed premises of a particular description, in any locality within the Board's area.

¹ defined as men drinking more than 21 units per week and women drinking more than 14 units per week

7 Duty to assess overprovision

- (1) Each licensing policy statement published by a Licensing Board must, in particular, include a statement as to the extent to which the Board considers there to be overprovision of—
 - (a) licensed premises, or
 - (b) licensed premises of a particular description,in any locality within the Board's area.
- (2) It is for the Licensing Board to determine the "localities" within the Board's area for the purposes of this Act.
- (3) In considering whether there is overprovision for the purposes of subsection (1) in any locality, the Board must—
 - (a) have regard to the number and capacity of licensed premises in the locality, and
 - (b) consult the persons specified in subsection (4).
- (4) Those persons are—
 - (a) the appropriate chief constable,
 - (b) such persons as appear to the Board to be representative of the interests of—
 - (i) holders of premises licences in respect of premises within the locality,
 - (ii) persons resident in the locality, and
 - (c) such other persons as the Board thinks fit.
- (5) In this section, references to "licensed premises" do not include references to any premises in respect of which an occasional licence has effect.

In March 2014 a statistical profile on the availability of alcohol within Midlothian's localities, and the level of harm caused by alcohol within those localities was compiled for the Midlothian Licensing Board, which informed the Licensing Statement. Within the profile evidence was presented which identified Dalkeith as an area overprovided by alcohol. A public consultation was held from the 4th – 30th April 2014 where the alcohol profile and summary document were placed on the Midlothian Council website alongside a set of survey questions. The public consultation resulted in 28 responses. As a result in September 2014, based on the profile and the results of the consultation, the Licensing Board agreed that Dalkeith is overprovided. At the Licensing Board on 15th September 2015, the Board considered a letter from the Licensing Forum which requested that the Board clarify their approach to approving license extensions in the overprovided area. As a result of the discussion held, it was agreed that a further public consultation on overprovision be held, to inform the 2016 review of the Licensing Policy Statement, including overprovision. In February 2016 an updated profile was requested by the Board, which will be used to inform work on the updated Overprovision Policy.

Aim and Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Midlothian Licensing Board and Forum with statistical information relating to alcohol availability, consumption and related harm, across

public health and safety, as well as social and economic harm to our local communities. Using data on demographics, alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour, alcohol related health statistics and the density of licensed premises. This profile will be used in the development of an alcohol overprovision policy for Midlothian.

Methodology

Data within this profile has been collated from a number of sources, including Police Scotland crime records, NHS data, Midlothian Council and J Division Liquor Licensing Departments, as well as open source research. All data sources are referenced fully throughout the document.

The aim of this profile is not to attribute crime/disorder/health issues to a single licensed premise in a community, but rather to inform the licensing board with evidence of overprovision within general areas of the local authority. It is a source of 'best evidence' on the impact of alcohol on society, health and local economy linked to the provision of licensed premises located within the community, rationalised against population distribution.

Localities

Section 7 of the Licensing Act stipulates that it is for the Licensing Board to determine the "localities" within its area for the purposes of the Act. Localities used within this profile are Intermediate Geography areas, which are groupings of data zones with similar social characteristics and have populations of between 2,500 and 6,000 household residents. There are 22 intermediate geographies in Midlothian. Intermediate geographies changed in 2011 from 20 to 22 when the data zone boundaries were redrawn.

Maps illustrating all 22 intermediate geographies are provided in Appendix 1.

2. THE EVIDENCE: ALCOHOL AVAILABILITY AND ALCOHOL RELATED HARM

There is a good evidence base that evidences the link between alcohol outlet density and alcohol-related harm³. A study by CRESH² 2014 found strong correlations between alcohol outlets and health, in that neighbourhoods with higher numbers of alcohol outlets had significantly higher alcohol-related death rates (more than double those with the fewest outlets). Further, alcohol-related hospitalisation rates were significantly higher in neighbourhoods with the most alcohol outlets⁴.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) conclude that reducing the number of outlets selling alcohol is an effective way to reduce alcohol-related harm⁵. A literature review of fifty-nine studies carried out by Popova et al. (2009) on the availability of alcohol and outlet hours of day of sale found that restricting the availability of alcohol is an effective measure to prevent alcohol-attributable harm, more specifically it has an impact on one or more of the three main outcome variables – alcohol consumption, drinking patterns and damage from alcohol⁶.

Reid-Howie Associates⁷ conducted a review of the impact of licensing initiatives and found literature to suggest that extended licensing hours may be linked to increased problems with alcohol-related crime and disorder. Some evidence was found of a link between the number of alcohol outlets and levels of alcohol-related problems, with data to suggest that limiting the number of outlets may have an effect on alleviating problems. Further where initiatives relating to the control of general availability of alcohol in Scotland were identified, they were generally considered successful.

Research by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism suggests that greater monopoly controls over alcohol sales, lower outlet numbers and reduced outlet densities, and limited hours and days of sale can effectively reduce alcohol sales, use and problems⁸.

Alcohol misuse in adolescence is harmful to developing bodies and brains and has countless health consequences including alcohol poisoning, liver damage, appetite changes, weight loss/gain, and sleep disturbance⁹. A study by Young et al (2013) which looked at the association between alcohol use among 15 year old adolescents and their proximity to alcohol outlets found that adolescents living close (within 200m) to an off sales outlet were more likely to drink frequently as were adolescents living in areas with many nearby off-premises outlets¹⁰.

² Centre for Research on Environment, Society and Health

Further research by Coghill (2011) uncovered a statistically significant link between the density of off-licensed premises and alcohol-specific hospital admissions in young people under 18-years-old per 100,000 population, which suggests the greater the availability of alcohol, the greater the risk of young people suffering alcohol-harm¹¹.

Alcohol is inextricably linked to crime and disorder. A review of US literature found that density and presence of off-sale outlets has been shown to contribute to the levels of assault. In the UK there is a link between alcohol and disorder however the route of obtaining that alcohol is unclear¹². Matthews et al (2006) in his study of young people aged 10-17 years found that those who drank alcohol once a week or more committed a disproportionate volume of crime¹³. The research highlights that whilst there is little evidence that off-licence density contributes to the levels of general disorder, it is clear that there is a relationship between overall alcohol sales and disorder related offending¹⁴.

3. ALCOHOL AVAILABILITY IN MIDLOTHIAN (AS AT FEBRUARY 2016)

Licensed Premises in the Midlothian Area

Analysis of time series data demonstrates that the number of liquor licenses (**including** private members clubs) increased over the last six years in Midlothian, from 188 in 2006/07, to 208 in 2014/15¹⁵. The number of on sales increased from 103 to 141, and off sales from 59 to 67. Data from 2014/15 provides that Midlothian has a lower rate of licenses in force per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over compared to the national average (30.68 Midlothian, 38.55 Scotland)¹⁶.

Please note that to allow for the most accurate comparison and assessment of over provision in the area, data on the number and location of licensed premises was obtained from Midlothian Licensing Department, accurate at February 2016, as opposed to national data quoted above which contains private members clubs and cannot be interrogated at Intermediate Geography level.

As at 16 February 2016, there are a total of 156 alcohol licenses in the Midlothian local authority area, made up of 89 on sales, and 67 off sales. The figure of 156 licensed premises does not include provisionally licensed premises which are by definition not in effect and

therefore cannot be considered as part of the over-provision exercise. Also excluded from this figure are occasional licences and members clubs which are exempted from the assessment of overprovision by sections 7(5) and 125(2)(a) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 respectively.

Figures 1 and 2 provide a breakdown of licensed premises by Intermediate Geography area and rates of licensed premises (both on and off sales) per rate of 10,000 people aged 18 years and over. In Midlothian there are 38 convenience stores, and 29 pubs with food, which make up the largest percentage of licensed premises (24.4% and 18.6% respectively). Licensed premises were then mapped by intermediate geography, with the following findings drawn:

All Licensed Premises

- Midlothian has a rate of licensed premises (both on and off sales), of 23.0 per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. There is considerable variation between areas of Midlothian in terms of rates of both on and off sales.
- There are ten localities that sit above the Midlothian average for rates of licensed premises per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. **Dalkeith** has the highest rate of licensed premises, at 74.2 premises per 10,000 population. **Straiton** has a similarly high rate of licensed premises at 63.9, followed by **Penicuik Southeast** at 44.7.
- The remaining localities which sit above the Midlothian average are **Shawfair** (rate of 37.2), **Loanhead** (35.7), **Bonnyrigg North** (30.4), **Gorebridge and Middleton** (28.7), **Rural South Midlothian** (26.4), **North Gorebridge** (23.5), and **Thornycroft** (23.1).
- All other localities sit below the Midlothian average of 23.0 licensed premises per 10,000 population, aged 18 years and over.

Off Sales:

- Midlothian has a rate of 9.9 off sales per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over.
- The highest rate of off sales per head of population is observed in the **Straiton** locality (rate of 44.2), followed by **Dalkeith** (21.8).
- Several other localities have a rate higher than that of Midlothian, namely **Loanhead** (19.5), **Gorebridge and Middleton** (17.9), **Mayfield** (13.8), **Bonnyrigg North** (13.0), **Penicuik Southeast** (12.8), and **Newtongrange** (12.3).

- All other localities sit below the average of 9.9 off sales per 10,000 population, aged 18 years and over.

On Sales:

- For on sales licensed premises, Midlothian has an average rate of 13.1 premises per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over.
- The highest rate of on sales is observed in the **Dalkeith** locality (52.4), followed by **Penicuik Southeast** (32.0), and **Shawfair** (30.4).
- There are several other localities which have rates of on sales higher than that of the average for Midlothian, namely **Straiton** (19.7), **Pentland** (19.4), **Rural South Midlothian** (17.6), **Bonnyrigg North** (17.4), **Loanhead** (16.2), and **Thornycroft** (13.2),
- All other localities sit below the average of 13.1 on sales per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over.

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Intermediate Geography	No. of Persons over 18 yrs	Total No. Licensed Premises	Rate of Licensed Premises (per 10,000 population over 18 years)	No. of On Sales	Rate of On Sales (per 10,000 population over 18 years)	No. of Off Sales	Rate of Off Sales (per 10,000 population over 18 years)
Midlothian	67793	156	23.0	89	13.1	67	9.9
Bonnyrigg North	4607	14	30.4	8	17.4	6	13.0
Bonnyrigg South	3797	5	13.2	2	5.3	3	7.9
Dalkeith	2290	17	74.2	12	52.4	5	21.8
Easthouses	2213	1	4.5	0	0.0	1	4.5
Eskbank	3855	8	20.8	5	13.0	3	7.8
Gorebridge and Middleton	2787	8	28.7	3	10.8	5	17.9
Loanhead	3079	11	35.7	5	16.2	6	19.5
Mayfield	3617	7	19.4	2	5.5	5	13.8
Newbattle and Dalhousie	5177	6	11.6	5	9.7	1	1.9
Newtongrange	3265	4	12.3	0	0.0	4	12.3
North Gorebridge	2124	5	23.5	3	14.1	2	9.4
Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian	4826	9	18.6	6	12.4	3	6.2
Penicuik East	2136	2	9.4	1	4.7	1	4.7
Penicuik North	2782	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Penicuik Southeast	3129	14	44.7	10	32.0	4	12.8
Penicuik Southwest	3088	1	3.2	1	3.2	0	0.0
Pentland	2061	4	19.4	4	19.4	0	0.0
Roslin and Bilston	2670	3	11.2	1	3.7	2	7.5
Rural South Midlothian	2273	6	26.4	4	17.6	2	8.8
Shawfair	2958	11	37.2	9	30.4	2	6.8
Straiton	2034	13	63.9	4	19.7	9	44.2
Thornycroft	3025	7	23.1	4	13.2	3	9.9

Figure 1: Breakdown of Licensed Premise Type in Midlothian by intermediate Geography

Note: Cells shaded red are double the Midlothian average, those in orange are above the Midlothian average

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Settlement Area	Bingo Hall	Convenience store	Hotel / Bed & Breakfast	Large Off licence (incl Supermarket)	Night Club	Other	Petrol Station	Pub	Pub with Food	Restaurant	Snooker Club	Takeaway	Visitor Attraction	Total	Members Clubs (not inc)
Bonnyrigg North		3	1	2				2	3	2		1		14	5
Bonnyrigg South		3	1						1					5	2
Dalkeith	1	3	1	2	1			2	4	2	1			17	2
Easthouses		1												1	2
Eskbank		1	1	2		1			1	2				8	5
Gorebridge and Middleton		5						1	1	1				8	1
Loanhead		3		1				1	2	1	1	2		11	4
Mayfield		4		1					2					7	1
Newbattle and Dalhousie			1	1				1	1	1			1	6	1
Newtongrange		4												4	1
North Gorebridge		1		1						3				5	1
Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian		1	2			1	1		1	2		1		9	2
Penicuik East				1						1				2	0
Penicuik North														0	0
Penicuik Southeast		2	2	2				1	3	2	2			14	5
Penicuik Southwest									1					1	0
Pentland								1		2			1	4	1
Roslin and Bilston		1	1	1										3	4
Rural South Midlothian		2				1			2	1				6	3
Shawfair		1	2	1					5	2				11	2
Straiton		1	1	6		1	1		1	2				13	0
Thornycroft		2		1				1	1	2				7	0
Midlothian	1	38	13	22	1	4	2	10	29	26	4	4	2	156	42

Figure 2: Breakdown of Licensed Premise Type by Intermediate Geography

4. HEALTH: ALCOHOL RELATED HARM IN MIDLOTHIAN

Alcohol and Health

There is clear scientific evidence that alcohol consumption leads to a wide range of health harms¹⁷. Over 60 diseases or conditions can be caused by drinking alcohol¹⁸, including heart disease, stroke, liver disease and cancer, all of which are linked to long-term alcohol consumption.

In January 2016 the UK Chief Medical Officer proposed new guidelines on alcohol consumption. At the core is a new weekly guideline that it is not safe to exceed 14 units of alcohol weekly, for men and women, and that units should be spread over 3 or more days. No numerical guideline limit is proposed for single occasional drinking but instead to limit the level and pace of drinking, and avoiding risky places and activities.¹⁹

Alcohol Consumption and Dependence

Alcohol sales provide the best estimate of population levels of consumption. Analysis of the most recent data suggests that 10.7L of pure alcohol was sold per adult in Scotland in 2014; the large majority (72%) was sold through off-sales, which is the highest market share since recording began in 1994²⁰. Therefore it is accurate to say that the majority of drinking takes place at home with alcohol purchased from off sales.

In terms of alcohol pricing, in 2014 the average price of 1 unit of alcohol sold through off sales was 52 pence. This was unchanged from 2013 and is the first time since 2007 that there has not been an annual increase²¹. Further, 2014 was the first year in five years that the amount of alcohol sold per adult in Scotland did not reduce.

The latest Scottish Health Survey (2014) found that nearly 1 in 4 men (23%) and around 1 in 6 women (17%) drink at harmful or hazardous levels; defined as men drinking more than 21 units per week and women drinking more than 14 units per week.

A ScotPHO publication in 2014 on alcohol-related primary care consultations provides that there were two and a half times more patients consulting for alcohol misuse in the most deprived quintile compared with the least deprived quintile²². In 2011 research commissioned by Midlothian and East Lothian Drugs and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP) reported eleven

datazones in Midlothian as having significantly higher than average levels of alcohol consumption; eight as significantly higher than average levels of hazardous consumption (above recommended levels) and three with significantly higher than average levels of harmful consumption (35+ units/week for women and 50+units/week for men). Areas were Dalkeith, Lasswade, Roslin and Penicuik. The areas showing hazardous consumption are among the least deprived 10% of datazones in Scotland. In contrast, the areas with high estimated levels of problem drinking are highlighted in a further four areas close to the areas of Penicuik and Dalkeith with high estimated levels of alcohol consumption with a further two in Newtongrange and Mayfield. Four of these areas are in the third most deprived decile, with one in the sixth. *Please note this research is based on 2001 datazones of which there were 20, datazone boundaries were altered slightly in 2011.*

Alcohol Consumption Among Young People

As well as setting a pattern for later life, alcohol misuse in adolescence is harmful to developing bodies and brains and has countless health consequences including alcohol poisoning, liver damage, appetite changes, weight loss/gain, and sleep disturbance²³. There is a relationship between adolescent alcohol use and mental health problems; adolescents are likely to be more vulnerable than adults to both subtle brain damage and long lasting cognitive deficits following alcohol exposure²⁴.

In 2013 SALSUS (Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance use Survey) found that the proportion of pupils in Midlothian who had ever had an alcoholic drink was lower than the national average (67% of 15 year olds in Midlothian compared with 64% nationally). The Midlothian figure showed a 15% decrease from the previous study in 2010.

Of the 15 year olds who had ever drunk alcohol 10% said they had been 'drunk' more than 10 times. Compared to the 2010 survey this showed an 11% decrease (statistically significant). Of those pupils who had ever drunk alcohol, 8% of 15 year olds and 7% of 13 year olds reported they usually drink at least once a week. Compared to the 2010 survey this showed a 13% decrease (statistically significant) for 15 year olds and 5% for 13 year olds.

A survey of pupils who had 'ever drunk alcohol' were asked:

- Whether they had bought or tried to buy alcohol from a shop, supermarket or off-licence in the last 4 weeks; 4% (8) of 15 years olds and 2% (2) of 13 year olds answered 'yes' they had.

- Whether they had bought or tried to buy alcohol from a pub, bar or club in the last 4 weeks; 1% (1) of 13 year olds and 4% (8) 15 year olds answered yes they had.
- Whether they had got someone else to buy alcohol for them in the last 4 weeks; 36% (36) of 13 year olds and 50% (100) 15 year olds answered yes they had²⁵.

This data is relevant in terms of the availability of alcohol within the community that in particular 15 year olds can access. It also supports the change over time as to where young people acquire their alcohol, with a shift away from purchases from pubs, clubs, off licenses and supermarkets, and more young people now purchasing their alcohol from friends and relatives.

Among both 13 and 15 year olds the usual location for drinking alcohol is at home (67% of 13 year olds and 49% of 15 year olds). This shows the challenge in changing parental attitudes to the use of alcohol by young people with 50% of 15 year olds saying they usually drink at home.

In 2015 Police Scotland recorded 149 incidents where members of the public had reported young people under the influence of alcohol or young people found by police under the influence/in possession of alcohol – on average 2 calls each weekend and a rate of 149 calls per 10,000 population aged 8-17 years.

Young people when under the influence of alcohol often engage in low-level ASB in the form of noise nuisance and vandalism and can be intimidating to local residents, customers and shopkeepers in the vicinity of where they loiter. This is in addition to other health issues and risk taking behaviour catalysed by alcohol consumption, such as vomiting, risk of sustaining an injury, sexual promiscuity, and aggressive behaviour²⁶.

Seven of Midlothian's localities sit above the average of 149 alcohol related youth calls and ASB per 10,000 population aged 8 -17 years. **Eskbank** has the highest rate of alcohol-aggravated youth calls, at 521 calls per 10,000 population, followed by **Dalkeith** with a rate of 516 per 10,000 population. **Thornycroft** has a rate of alcohol related youth calls of 267 followed by **Mayfield** at a rate of 262. The remaining localities that sit above the Midlothian average for alcohol-fuelled youth calls are **Loanhead** (213), **Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian** (176), **Newtongrange** (162), and **Bonyrigg North** (151).

Alcohol Related Hospital Stays

In 2014/15 the rate of alcohol related hospital stays for Midlothian was 576.6 per 100,000 population. This is lower than the national figure of 671.7.

Time series data illustrates that the number of alcohol related hospital stays²⁷ in Midlothian has remained relatively stable between 2009/10 and 2014/15, with slight increases observed between 2011/12-2012/13 and 2013/14-2014/15. In 2014/15 the rate of alcohol-related hospital stays in Midlothian was higher than the three-year average (2011/12-2013/14) of 536.4.

Midlothian trend varies slightly to the Scotland trend in that nationally the rate of alcohol related hospital stays has remained at a relatively stable rate between 2009/10 and 2014/15 (difference of -9.4 per 100,000 population), whereas the national rate has experienced a year on year decrease between 2009/10 and 2014/15 (-99.8 per 100,000 population) – a percentage difference of -1.7% compared to -12.9% nationally. *Figure 3* below provides an illustration of time series data for alcohol related hospital stays for Midlothian and Scotland over the last 10 years.

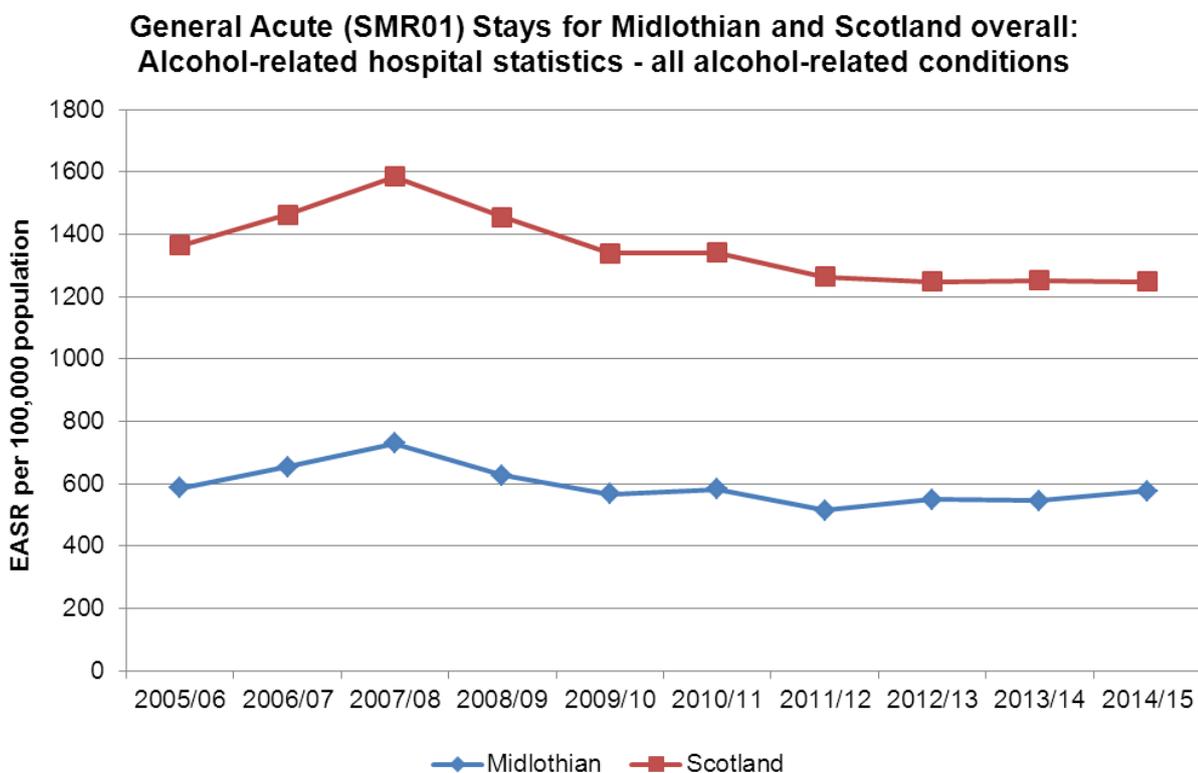


Figure 3: General acute inpatient and day case discharges with an alcohol-related diagnosis in any position: 2005/06 to 2014/15 - European Age Standardised Rate per 100,000 population.

Alcohol Related Hospital Discharges

Data was obtained from the NHS on alcohol related hospital discharges for January – December 2015 (in which a diagnosis code associated with alcohol use was coded in any diagnosis position). In 2015 there were 451 alcohol related hospital discharges for Midlothian, at a rate of 66.5 per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over.

In 2015 there were 451 alcohol related hospital discharges for Midlothian, at a rate of 66.5 per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. Ten of Midlothian's localities sit above the average including **Thornycroft** (rate of 112.4 discharges per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over), **North Gorebridge** (103.6), and **Dalkeith** (100.4). The remaining localities that sit above the Midlothian average are Mayfield (85.7), Bonnyrigg North (91.2), Penicuik Southeast (86.3), Loanhead (84.4), Newtongrange (82.7), Easthouses (67.8), and Penicuik Southwest (71.2).

Alcohol Related Deaths

The definition of alcohol related deaths is harmonised across the UK and is based on the underlying cause of death; i.e. the disease or injury which initiated the chain of morbid events leading directly to death. However, these estimates do not include all deaths that might reasonably be attributed to alcohol, in that they exclude deaths where an alcohol related condition was recorded as a contributory factor but was not selected as the underlying cause. Also the figure does not include deaths due to alcohol related accidents (other than accidental alcohol poisoning) and assaults, cancers which are partly attributable to alcohol, etc.

NHS research evidences alcohol as a contributory factor in fifty-three health conditions, nineteen of which are defined as wholly attributable to alcohol consumption and thirty-four that are partly attributable to alcohol consumption – conditions range from stomach cancer and strokes to assaults and road deaths²⁸. Further Durkin et al (2010) found that using only underlying causes of death in alcohol-related mortality-data undoubtedly underestimates the true picture of alcohol-related harm²⁹ and should be borne in mind when viewing alcohol related death figures.

In 2014 there were 10 alcohol related deaths in Midlothian³⁰ with a five-year average (2010-2014) of 12³¹. The average age-standardised death rate for the five-year aggregate 2010-

2014 was 14.20 deaths per 100,000 population, which compares favourably with the average Scotland rate of 23.09 deaths³².

Time series data illustrates that alcohol related deaths have shown a downward trend over the last 10 years across Midlothian (2002-06 average 25.26 deaths per 100,000 population). The national picture is similar with the death rate from alcohol conditions decreasing year on year; 2002-06 average 32.12 falling to 23.09 or 2010-14).

Figure 4 below presents a full illustration of time series data over the last nine years for Midlothian and Scotland³³.

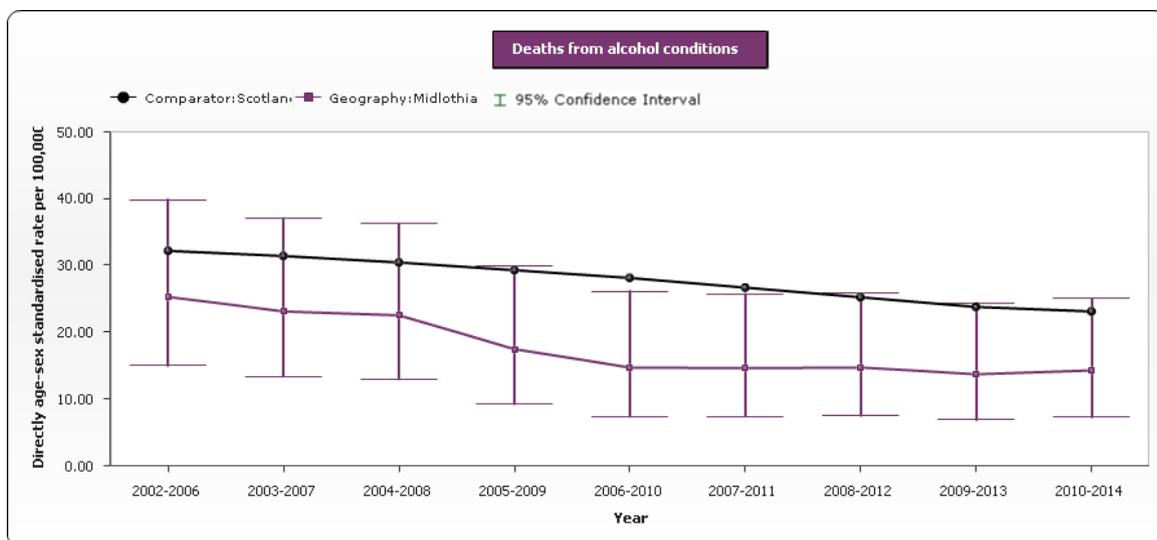


Figure 4: Comparison of Midlothian and Scotland Deaths from alcohol conditions 2002-2014 – 5 year rolling average number and directly age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population

It should be noted that drinking at home is now becoming more common than drinking in licensed premises, also people will often travel a few miles to purchase their alcohol (e.g. someone residing in Gorebridge may travel to a large supermarket in Eskbank and purchase their alcohol within their weekly grocery shop). Secondly, the effects of alcohol misuse often take time to develop, with harm usually emerging after a number of years³⁴ and by then a number of serious health problems can have developed – including liver problems, reduced fertility, high blood pressure, increased risk of various cancers and heart attack (some of the more harmful effects of regularly drinking more than the recommended levels)³⁵. This suggests that alcohol related illnesses and deaths relate to long-term alcohol misuse and that the provision of alcohol in an area is not necessarily a factor. Further this highlights that the

distribution of licensed premises in a locality and the pattern of alcohol-related harm is not a simple one.

5. SAFETY: ALCOHOL RELATED CRIME AND DISORDER

Data on alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour was obtained from Police Scotland crime recording system (UNIFI) using the one year date period of 1 January 2015 – 31 December 2015.

Alcohol Fuelled Violence and Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)³⁶

Findings from the Crime Survey of England and Wales 2013/14 (CSEW) found that victims perceived the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol in 53% of violent incidents measured, with alcohol particularly prevalent in violent crime between strangers (64%). Where the victim sustained an injury these were typically more severe in incidents of alcohol-related violence compared with other violent incidents³⁷.

In 2015 there were 1914 crimes of violence and ASB recorded by police in Midlothian, 482 (25%) were tagged with the aggravator 'alcohol related' – a rate of 71 crimes per 10,000 population. *Please note that the aggravator tag is not a mandatory field to be completed within the crime report and therefore it is possible that the true figure is greater than that reported.* An audit of Scottish Emergency Departments in 2006 indicated that at least 70% of all assaults presented to emergency departments may be alcohol-related³⁸. Further, research indicates that between 33% and 80% of assault victims who require treatment in Emergency Departments do not report the assault to the police³⁹. In light of this research it is likely there is significant intelligence gap surrounding alcohol related violent crime across Midlothian's communities.

Police recorded 271 alcohol fuelled violent crimes in Midlothian in 2015 (19 serious violent crime and 252 minor assaults). A further 211 ASB offences were reported to police in the form of breach of the peace, urinating, threatening or abusive behaviour, racially aggravated conduct, drunkenness etc.

Seven of Midlothian's localities sit above the average of 71 alcohol related crimes of violence and ASB per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. **Dalkeith** has the highest rate of alcohol aggravated crimes, at 384 crimes per 10,000 population, followed by **Thornycroft** with

a rate of 169 per 10,000 population. **Bonnyrigg North** has a rate of alcohol aggravated crime of 89.0 followed by **Mayfield** at a rate of rate of 86.0. The remaining localities that sit above the Midlothian average for alcohol-fuelled crime are **Eskbank** (80.0), **Newtongrange** (77.0), and **Gorebridge and Middleton** (75.0).

Drink Driving

There were 71 offences of drink driving recorded in Midlothian in 2015⁴⁰. In the last 8 years the number of recorded crimes of drink driving has fell considerably, from 139 in 2006 to 71 in 2015 (-48.9%).

Interrogation of Police recorded vehicle accidents in Midlothian identified 15 accidents in the last 3 years where alcohol had been a contributory factor (5 serious injury and 10 minor injury).

Offenders

A Scottish Prisons Survey carried out in 2013 found that just less than half of prisoners reported being drunk at the time of their offence (45%). One in five reported that drinking affected their ability to hold down a job (21%) and over one third of prisoners admitted that their drinking affected their relationship with their family (35%)⁴¹.

As part of the 2013 survey, prisoners were asked about their alcohol use prior to going to prison. Three quarters of prisoners drank alcohol, with a fifth doing so four or more times a week (21%). On a typical day when they are drinking, nearly half of prisoners said that they would drink 10 or more drinks (43%).

The same survey conducted with young offenders found over two thirds of offenders (68%) reported being drunk at the time of their first offence⁴². A quarter (25%) of young offenders stated they drink alcohol four or more times a week and on a typical day when they are drinking, over half (54%) said that they would drink 10 or more drinks.

Neighbourhood Concerns Linked to Alcohol Misuse

Recent consultation and engagement with Midlothian's communities highlighted the impact that alcohol and drug misuse have on the wider community. In a consultation exercise in 2014 47% of respondents ranked alcohol misuse as a high priority for Midlothian⁴³.

6. SOCIAL: HARM CAUSED BY ALCOHOL MISUSE

This profile has already highlighted the harm caused to the individual by alcohol misuse, and to the wider community in the form of alcohol fuelled violence, crime and antisocial behaviour. However alcohol related harm also impacts on many others, in particular children and other family members, friends, and co-workers. A national study by Alcohol Focus Scotland found that 1 in 2 people reported being harmed as a result of someone else's drinking, with those who experienced harm reporting a lower life satisfaction compared to others. The study also found that people under 35 years old are four times more likely to experience harm from others in a public setting (street, public space, cars, workplace). Also, those who know heavy drinkers are more likely to experience harm from others in private settings (home, family, neighbours, private parties)⁴⁴.

The study which also looked at people's experience of harm to others highlighted several findings, one of which being the stress and burden of living with a problem drinker has on family harmony and can result in relationship problems, tension, arguments, unpredictability and chaotic lifestyles.

Of the 725 crimes of domestic abuse recorded by police in Midlothian during 2015, a quarter had an alcohol aggravator attached suggesting that either the perpetrator and/or victim was under the influence of alcohol at the time the crime took place.

Child Protection

Parental alcohol misuse can have a significant impact on a child's quality of life, causing fear, worry and uncertainty for children. Research by ChildLine found that a disproportionately large number of calls received by children in Scotland were concerned about a significant other person's drinking. Further children provided accounts of multiple negative impacts

associated with harmful parental drinking including severe emotional distress, physical abuse and violence and a general lack of care, support and protection⁴⁵.

In 2013 MELDAP commissioned a Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse (CAPSM) Needs Assessment. The report estimated 1500 children in Midlothian live with parents/guardians whose alcohol use is potentially problematic. The report also estimated there are 10 children born every year in Midlothian with foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), indicating there are 180 infants, children and young people up to the age of 18 living with FASD in Midlothian⁴⁶.

Children's Social Work Statistics for 2014 show the rate of Child Protection Case Conferences where parental alcohol misuse has been identified for children on the register is slightly better in Midlothian than the national average 4.0 per 10,000 children aged under 18 years compared to national average of 6.2⁴⁷.

Accidental Dwelling Fires³

Analysis of accidental dwelling fires in 2015 found 8 fires in the home where 'impairment due to suspected drugs/alcohol' was classed as a contributory factor in the fire. Four fires occurred in Dalkeith/Woodburn, 2 in Penicuik, 1 in Mayfield, and 1 in Loanhead.

Homeless Presentations

In Midlothian during 2014/15 there were 575 homeless presentations. The number of presentations caused by alcohol/drug dependency is 16, however it is unclear exactly how accurate this figure is due to lack of monitoring of this indicator. Also there are questions surrounding the use of this indicator and when it would be relevant (e.g. because an individual misuses alcohol does not necessarily mean it has caused them to be homeless).

³ *Note this analysis is based on unverified data extracted from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Incident Recording System and is subject to change after finalisation and reclassification of incidents therefore should not be quoted as an official statistic.*

7. ECONOMIC: COST OF ALCOHOL RELATED HARM IN MIDLOTHIAN

In 2010 the Scottish Government produced a profile - 'The Societal Cost of Alcohol Misuse in Scotland for 2007', which estimated a total cost of £3.6bn. Using the national research methodology Alcohol Focus Scotland produced local area profiles estimating the cost of alcohol-related harm at a local authority area level.

It is estimated that the total cost of alcohol harm to Midlothian is £27.14 million. This is made up of:

Health Service ⁴⁸	£3.44m
Social Care ⁴⁹	£4.84m
Crime ⁵⁰	£10.57m
Productive Capacity ⁵¹	£8.28m

Note that this cost does not include wider social costs that estimate the value of non-paid work and intangible social costs associated with people who experience premature mortality from alcohol-related diseases. As these costs are hard to estimate accurately they have been excluded from the overall total, but are believed to be somewhere in the range of £9.48m-£17.40m for Midlothian.

In terms of cost per head of population, Alcohol Focus Scotland estimate the total cost of alcohol harm to be £335 per person in Midlothian. Note again this is not inclusive of wider social costs as described above. Including these costs increases the local authority area cost per head to £500 in 2010/11.

A comparison was carried out with East Lothian, where the total cost of alcohol harm is £26.77m, which equates to £370,000 less than Midlothian. Alcohol harm in East Lothian has a cost per head of £275, which is £60 less per head than in Midlothian.

A comparison to other local authority areas in the Lothian and Scottish Borders and other areas in Scotland is provided below:

Local Authority	Total Cost (Million)	Cost per Head
Midlothian	£27.14	£335
East Lothian	£26.77	£275
West Lothian	£60.15	£349
Scottish Borders	£30.5	£270

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Edinburgh	£221.28	£455
Inverclyde	£35.4	£444
Renfrewshire	£72.23	£424
Moray	£33.31	£380
East Dunbartonshire	£25.5	£244
Scotland	£3,555.7	n/a

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8. **Summary Comparison Tables of Alcohol Provision and Alcohol Related Harm in Midlothian by Intermediate Geography**

Intermediate Geography	Intermediate Geography Code	No. of Persons over 18 yrs	Total No. Licensed Premises	No. On Sales	No. Off Sales	Alcohol Related Violence + ASB ⁵²	Alcohol Related Youth Calls	Alc Related Hosp Discharges ⁵³	Accidental Dwelling Fires
Midlothian		67793	156	89	67	482	149	451	8
Bonnyrigg North	S02002061	4607	14	8	6	41	9	42	0
Bonnyrigg South	S02002060	3797	5	2	3	15	2	22	0
Dalkeith	S02002066	2290	17	12	5	88	13	23	2
Easthouses	S02002068	2213	1	0	1	15	4	15	1
Eskbank	S02002063	3855	8	5	3	31	26	14	0
Gorebridge and Middleton	S02002072	2787	8	3	5	21	5	16	0
Loanhead	S02002059	3079	11	5	6	17	9	26	1
Mayfield	S02002069	3617	7	2	5	31	13	31	0
Newbattle and Dalhousie	S02002062	5177	6	5	1	24	13	30	0
Newtongrange	S02002070	3265	4	0	4	25	7	27	0
North Gorebridge	S02002071	2124	5	3	2	14	1	22	0
Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian	S02002067	4826	9	6	3	19	12	26	1
Penicuik East	S02002054	2136	2	1	1	6	4	11	0
Penicuik North	S02002055	2782	0	0	0	6	2	9	0
Penicuik Southeast	S02002052	3129	14	10	4	20	4	27	1
Penicuik Southwest	S02002053	3088	1	1	0	13	3	22	1
Pentland	S02002056	2061	4	4	0	5	4	7	0
Roslin and Bilston	S02002057	2670	3	1	2	6	1	14	0
Rural South Midlothian	S02002051	2273	6	4	2	8	1	8	0
Shawfair	S02002064	2958	11	9	2	13	2	16	0
Straiton	S02002058	2034	13	4	9	7	1	9	0
Thornycroft	S02002065	3025	7	4	3	51	13	34	1

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Rates per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over

Intermediate Geography	Rate of Licensed Premises	Rate of On Sales	Rate of Off Sales	Alcohol Related Violence + ASB	Alc Related Youth Calls (rate per 10,000 under 8-17 yrs)	Alc Related Hosp Discharges	Accidental Dwelling Fires
Midlothian	23.0	13.1	9.9	71	149	66.5	1.2
Bonnyrigg North	30.4	17.4	13.0	89	151	91.2	0
Bonnyrigg South	13.2	5.3	7.9	40	34	57.9	0
Dalkeith	74.2	52.4	21.8	384	516	100.4	9
Easthouses	4.5	0.0	4.5	68	92	67.8	5
Eskbank	20.8	13.0	7.8	80	521	36.3	0
Gorebridge and Middleton	28.7	10.8	17.9	75	99	57.4	0
Loanhead	35.7	16.2	19.5	55	213	84.4	3
Mayfield	19.4	5.5	13.8	86	262	85.7	0
Newbattle and Dalhousie	11.6	9.7	1.9	46	124	57.9	0
Newtongrange	12.3	0.0	12.3	77	162	82.7	0
North Gorebridge	23.5	14.1	9.4	66	29	103.6	0
Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian	18.6	12.4	6.2	39	176	53.9	2
Penicuik East	9.4	4.7	4.7	28	120	51.5	0
Penicuik North	0.0	0.0	0.0	22	46	32.4	0
Penicuik Southeast	44.7	32.0	12.8	64	114	86.3	3
Penicuik Southwest	3.2	3.2	0.0	42	73	71.2	3
Pentland	19.4	19.4	0.0	24	125	34.0	0
Roslin and Bilston	11.2	3.7	7.5	22	26	52.4	0
Rural South Midlothian	26.4	17.6	8.8	35	36	35.2	0
Shawfair	37.2	30.4	6.8	44	46	54.1	0
Straiton	63.9	19.7	44.2	34	39	44.2	0
Thornycroft	23.1	13.2	9.9	169	267	112.4	3

Note: Cells shaded red are double the Midlothian average, those in orange are above the Midlothian average

9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This statistical profile provides the Midlothian Licensing Board and Forum with a picture of alcohol availability and alcohol related harm within Midlothian's localities. It presents a wide range of data and information that will assist the board in the development of the Licensing Overprovision Statement. Key findings are presented below:

- There is clear evidence that alcohol outlet density is linked to alcohol related harm, and that a reduction in density would lead to a reduction in both health and alcohol related crime and disorder.
- There are ten localities that sit above the Midlothian average for rates of licensed premises per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. **Dalkeith** has the highest rate of licensed premises, at 74.2 premises per 10,000 population. **Straiton** has a similarly high rate of licensed premises at 63.9, followed by **Penicuik Southeast** at 44.7. The remaining localities which sit above the Midlothian average are **Shawfair** (rate of 37.2), **Loanhead** (35.7), **Bonnyrigg North** (30.4), **Gorebridge and Middleton** (28.7), **Rural South Midlothian** (26.4), **North Gorebridge** (23.5), and **Thornycroft** (23.1).
- Several areas across Midlothian are identified as having considerably higher than average levels of alcohol consumption – in particular **Dalkeith**, **Lasswade**, **Roslin** and **Penicuik**.
- In 2014/15 the rate of alcohol-related hospital stays for Midlothian residents was higher than the three-year average with a rate of 576.6 per 100,000 population (three-year average rate 536.4). This varies slightly to the national trend where alcohol related hospital stays have decreased year on year (12.9% decrease between 2009/10 and 2014/15; Midlothian change –1.7%).
- In 2015 there were 451 alcohol related hospital discharges for Midlothian, at a rate of 66.5 per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. Ten of Midlothian's localities sit above the average including **Thornycroft** (rate of 112.4 discharges per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over), **North Gorebridge** (103.6), and **Dalkeith** (100.4).
- A quarter of violence and disorder offences are alcohol related, the same is true for crimes of domestic abuse. Seven of Midlothian's localities sit above the average of 71

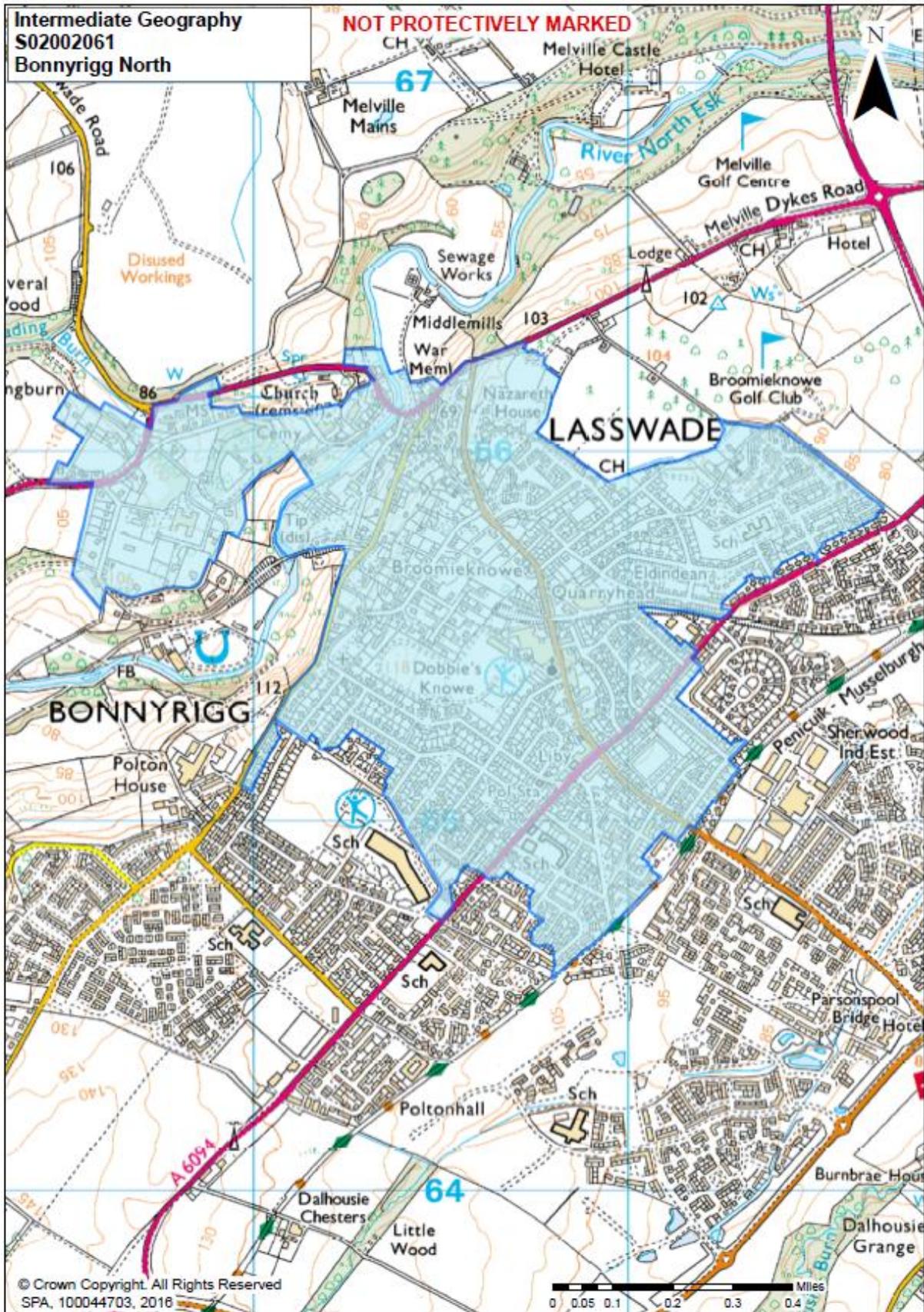
alcohol related crimes per 10,000 population aged 18 years and over. **Dalkeith** has the highest rate of alcohol aggravated crimes, at 384 crimes per 10,000 population, followed by **Thornycroft** with a rate of 169 per 10,000 population. **Bonnyrigg North** has a rate of alcohol aggravated crime of 89.0 followed by **Mayfield** at a rate of rate of 86.0. The remaining localities that sit above the Midlothian average for alcohol-fuelled crime are **Eskbank** (80.0), **Newtongrange** (77.0), and **Gorebridge and Middleton** (75.0).

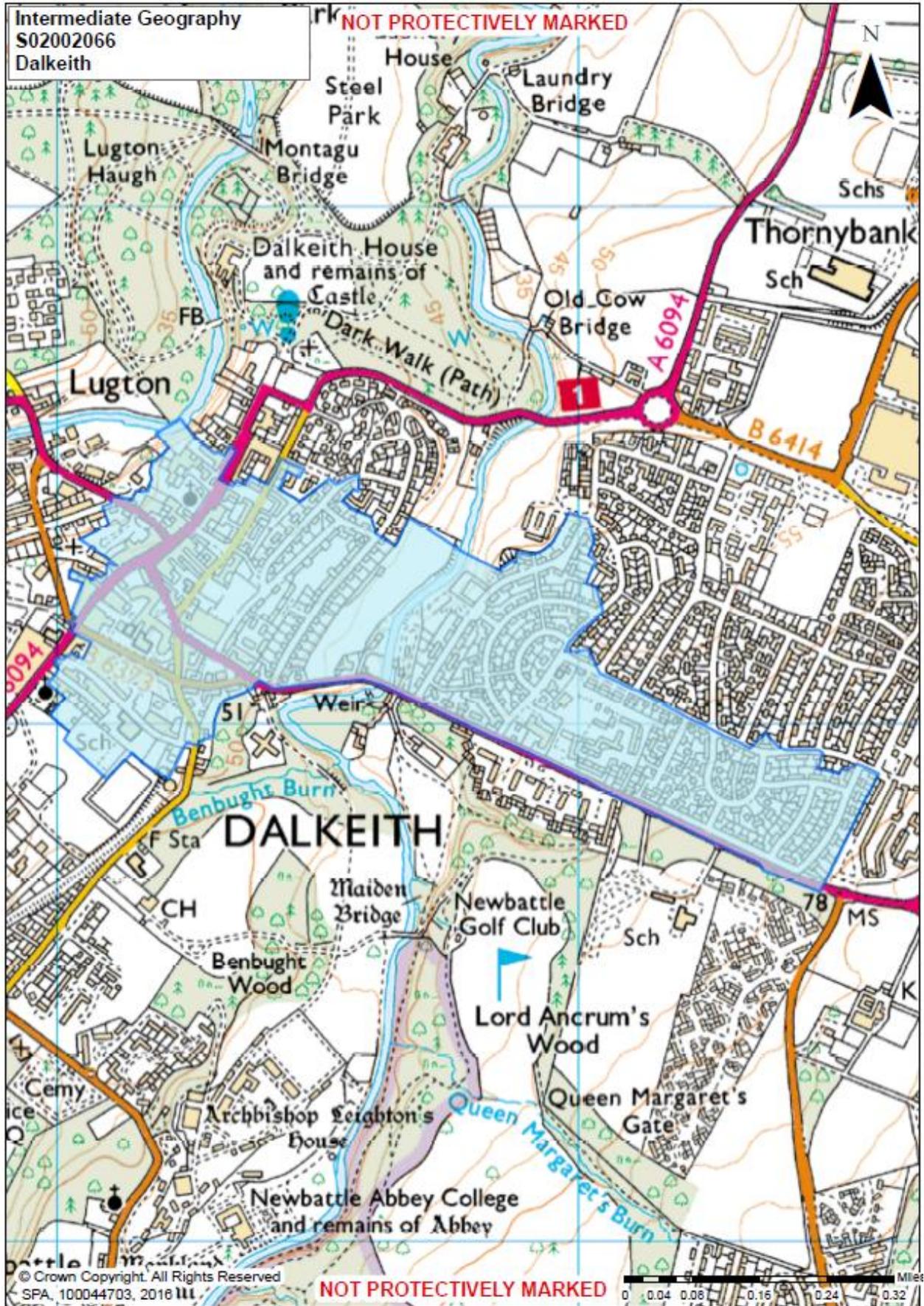
- Evidence from the prison population strengthens the link between alcohol and crime/disorder, with just under half of adult prisoners and two-thirds of young offenders reporting being drunk when they committed the offence.
- Police Scotland receive on average 2 calls each weekend from members of the public reporting young people under the influence of alcohol. Seven of Midlothian's localities sit above the average of 149 alcohol related youth calls and ASB per 10,000 population aged 8 -17 years. **Eskbank** has the highest rate of alcohol-aggravated youth calls, at 521 calls per 10,000 population, followed by **Dalkeith** with a rate of 516 per 10,000 population. **Thornycroft** has a rate of alcohol related youth calls of 267 followed by **Mayfield** at a rate of 262. The remaining localities that sit above the Midlothian average for alcohol-fuelled youth calls are **Loanhead** (213), **Pathhead and Rural East Midlothian** (176), **Newtongrange** (162), and **Bonyrigg North** (151).
- Alcohol misuse is a community priority; with 47% of Midlothian residents ranking Alcohol Misuse as a high priority for community planning partners to address (2014 Survey on Community Planning Priorities).
- Alcohol related harm is also observed across a wide range of other social problems, including domestic abuse and in the protection of Midlothian's children.
- The total cost of alcohol harm to Midlothian is estimated at £27.14 million each year.

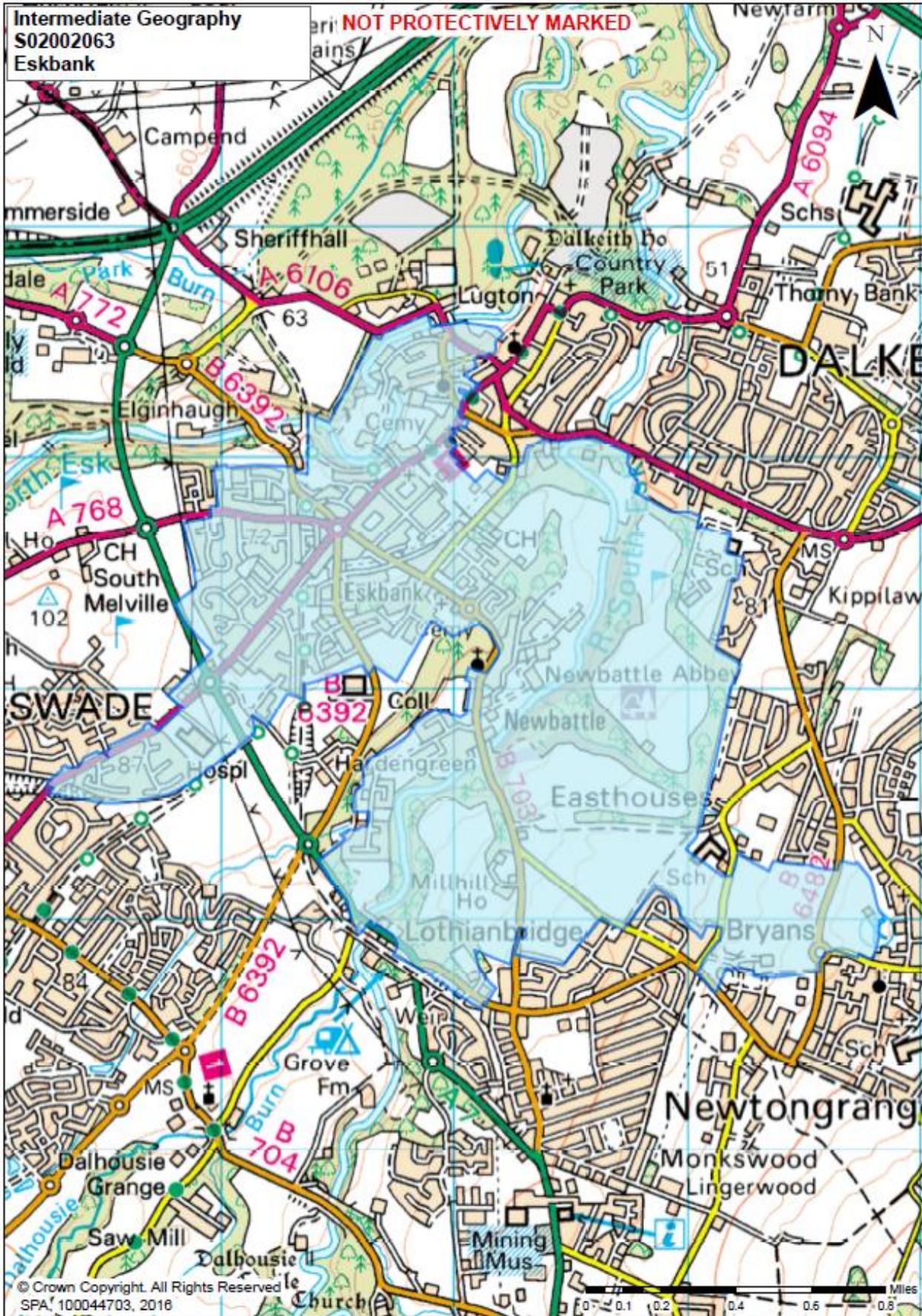
Specific Recommendations for consideration by the working group / board:

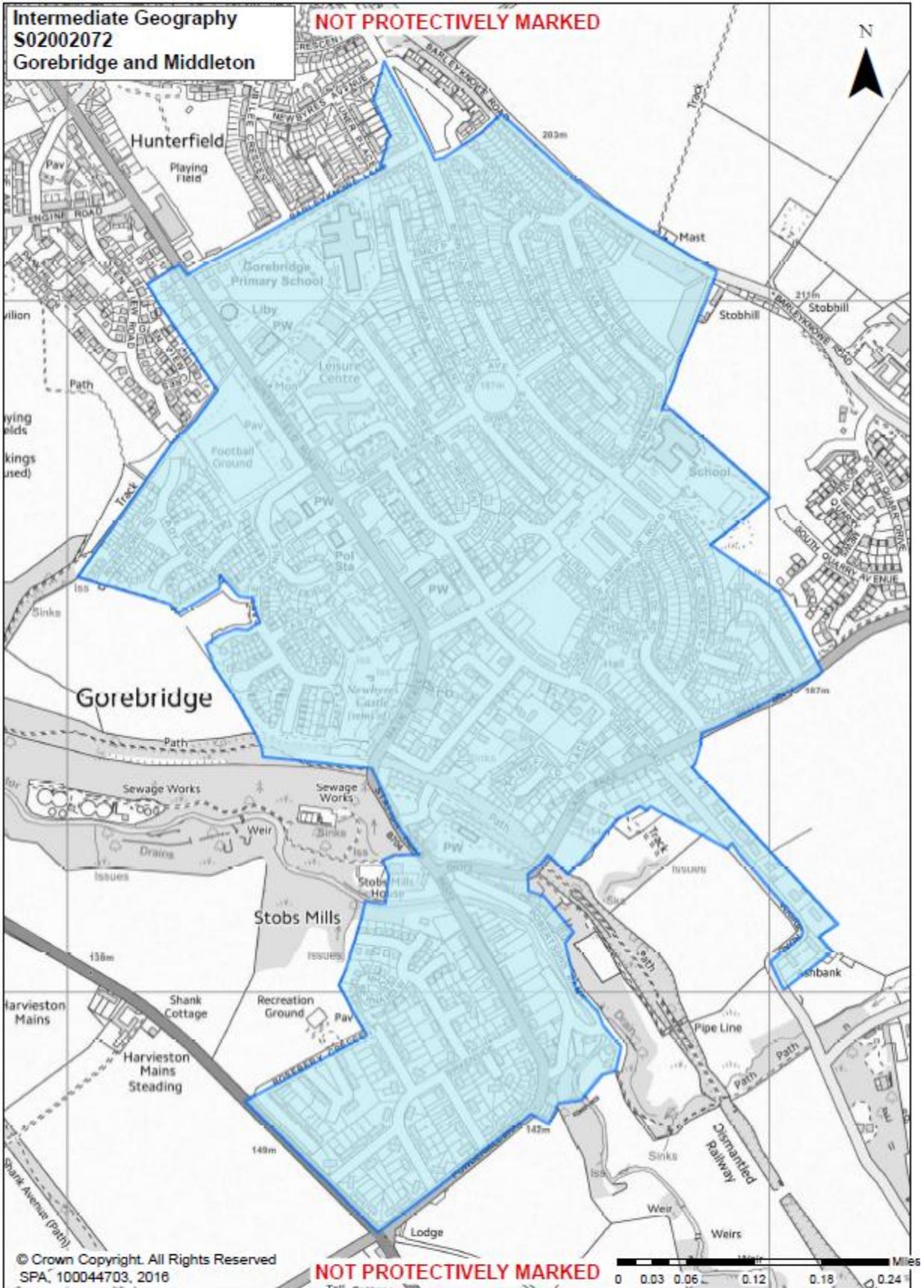
- Based on the data and information provided in the profile, it is the responsibility of Licensing Board to determine if there is overprovision of alcohol in Midlothian.

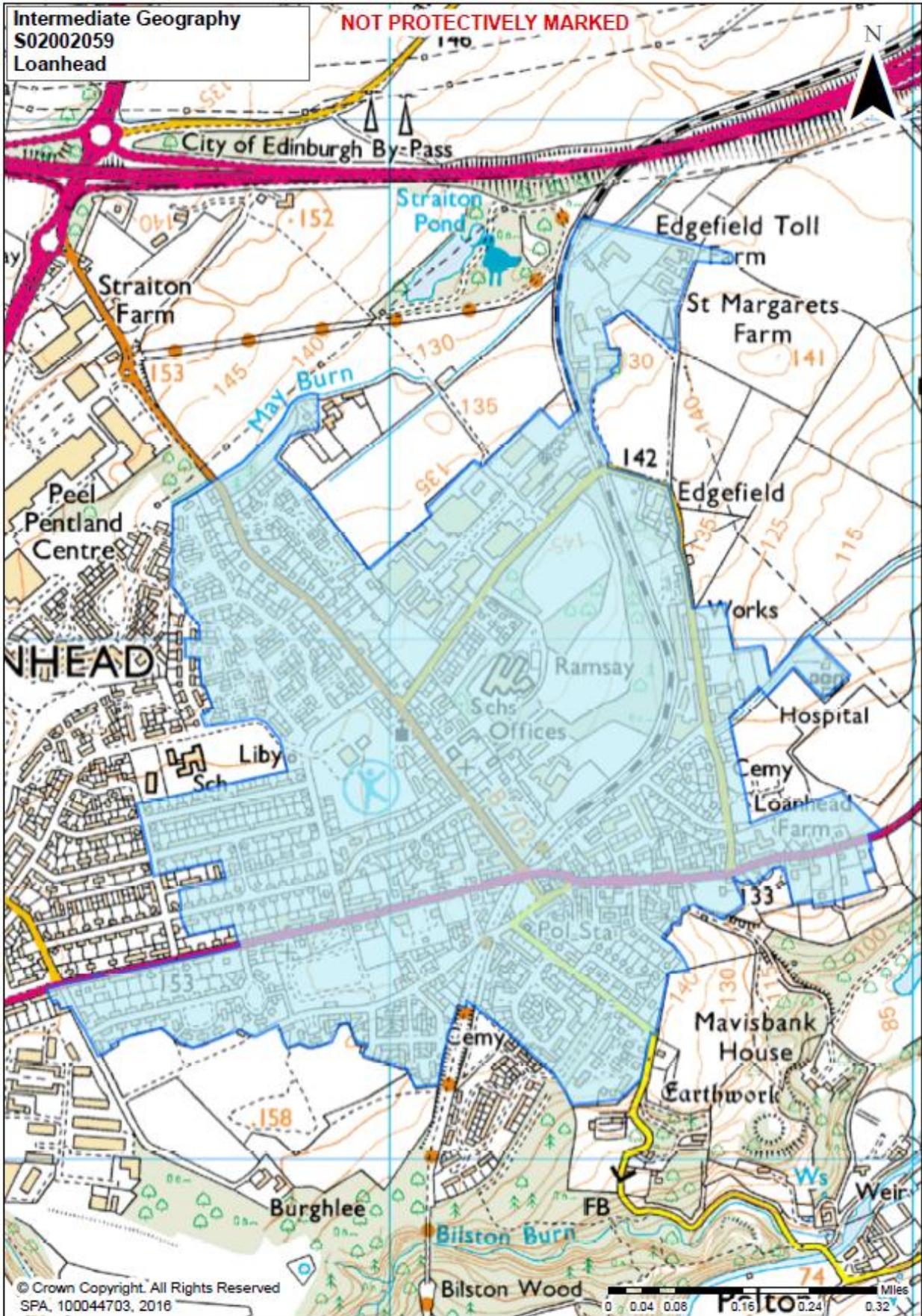
Appendix 1: Maps of Midlothian and Intermediate Geographies

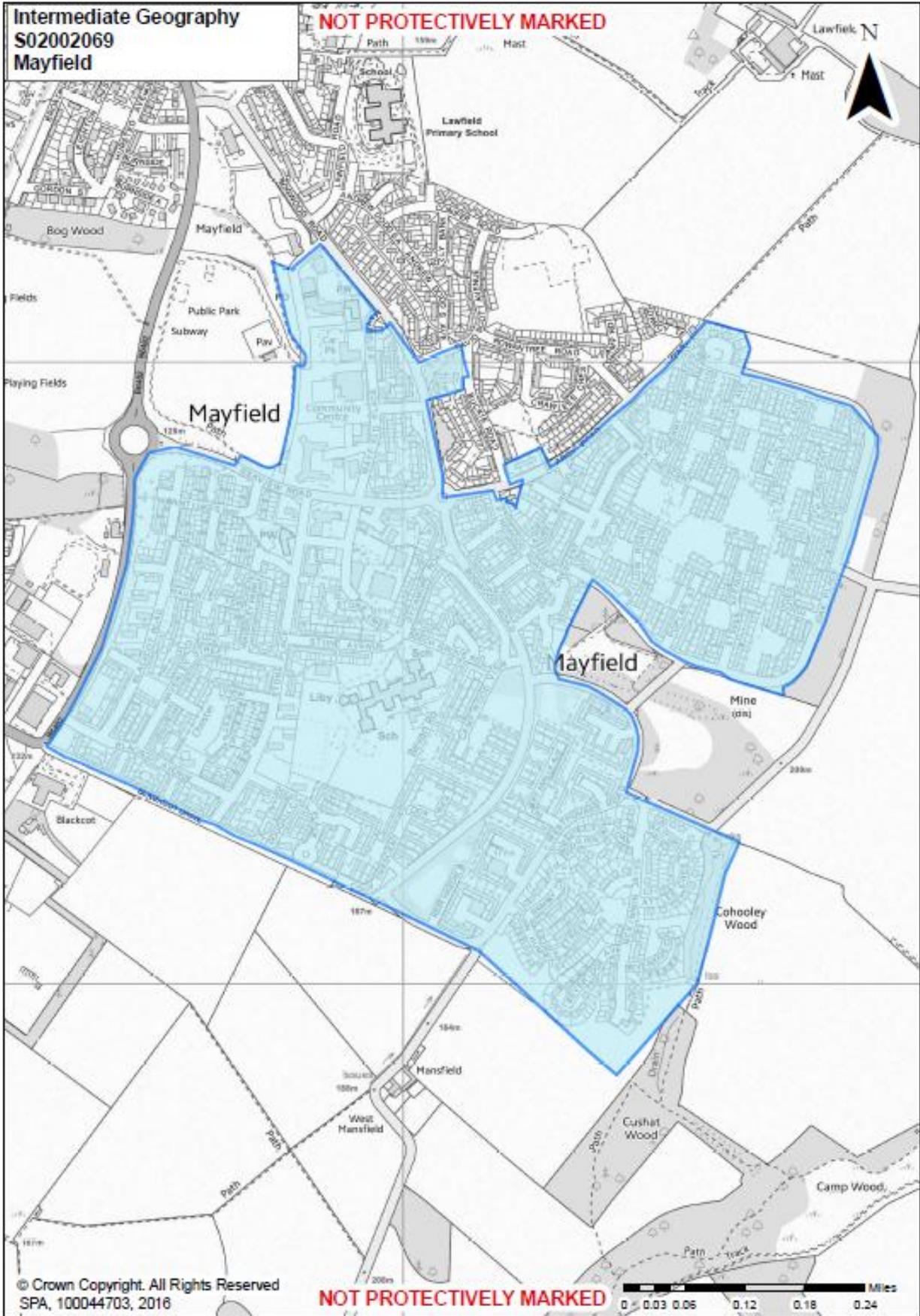


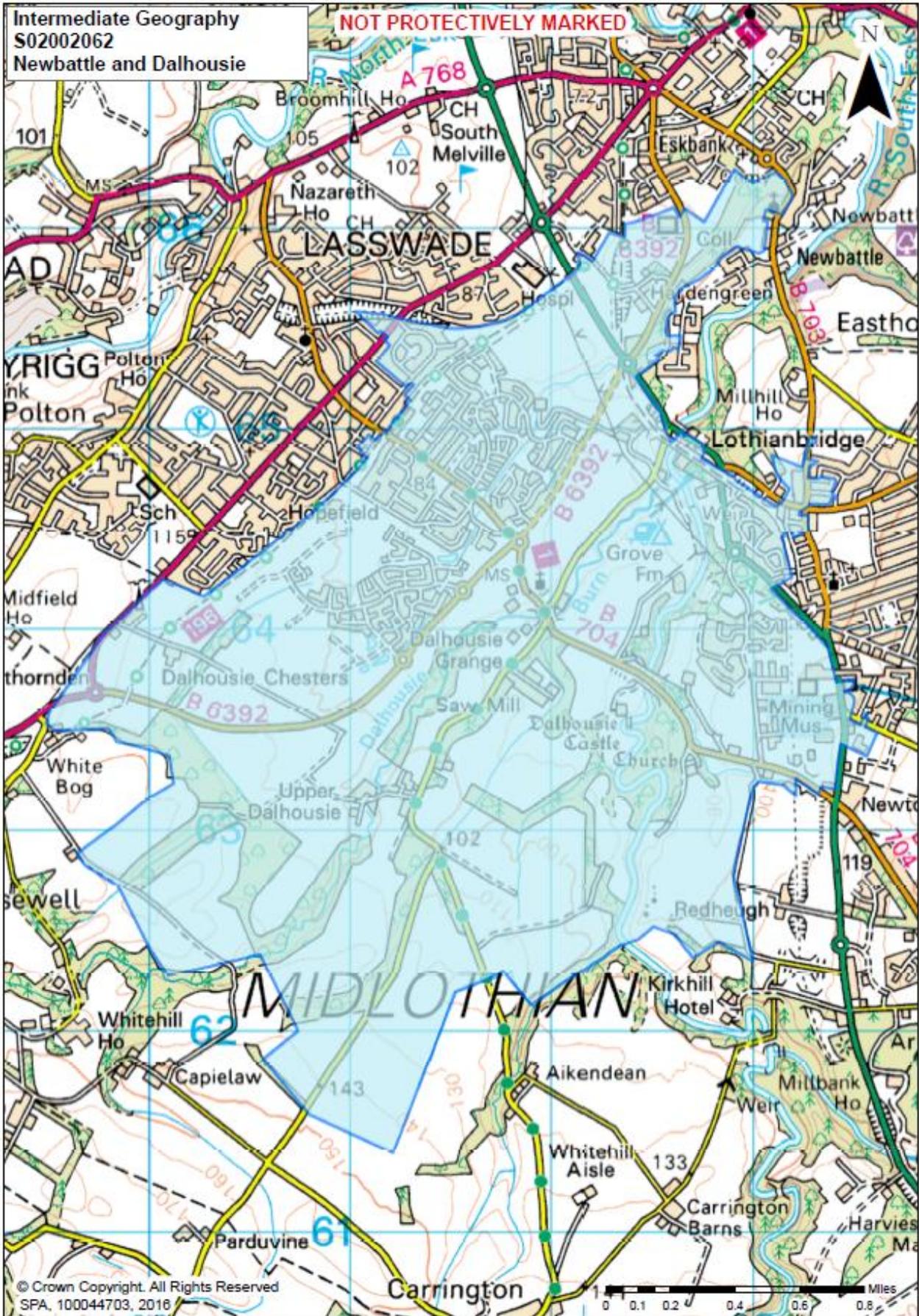


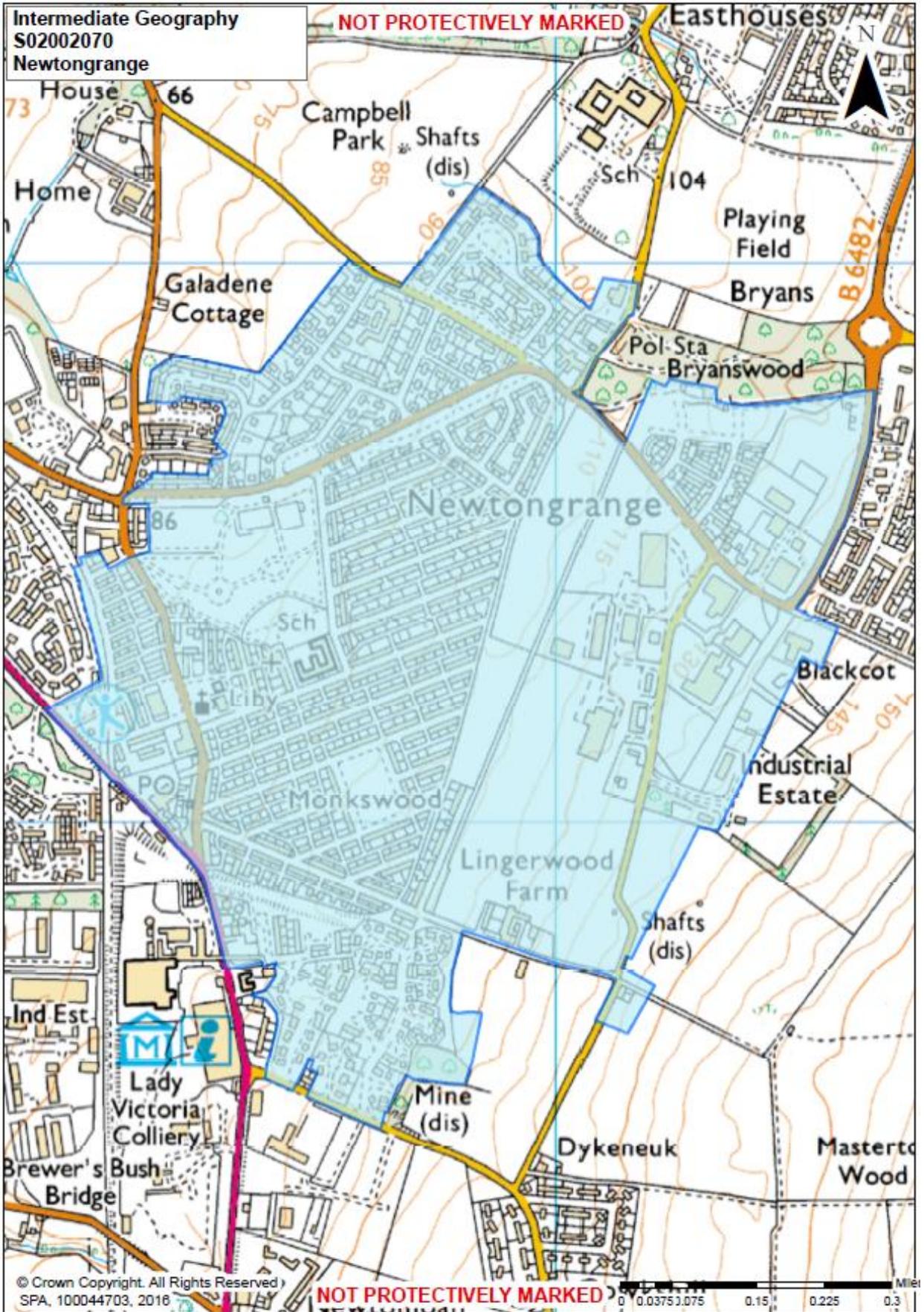


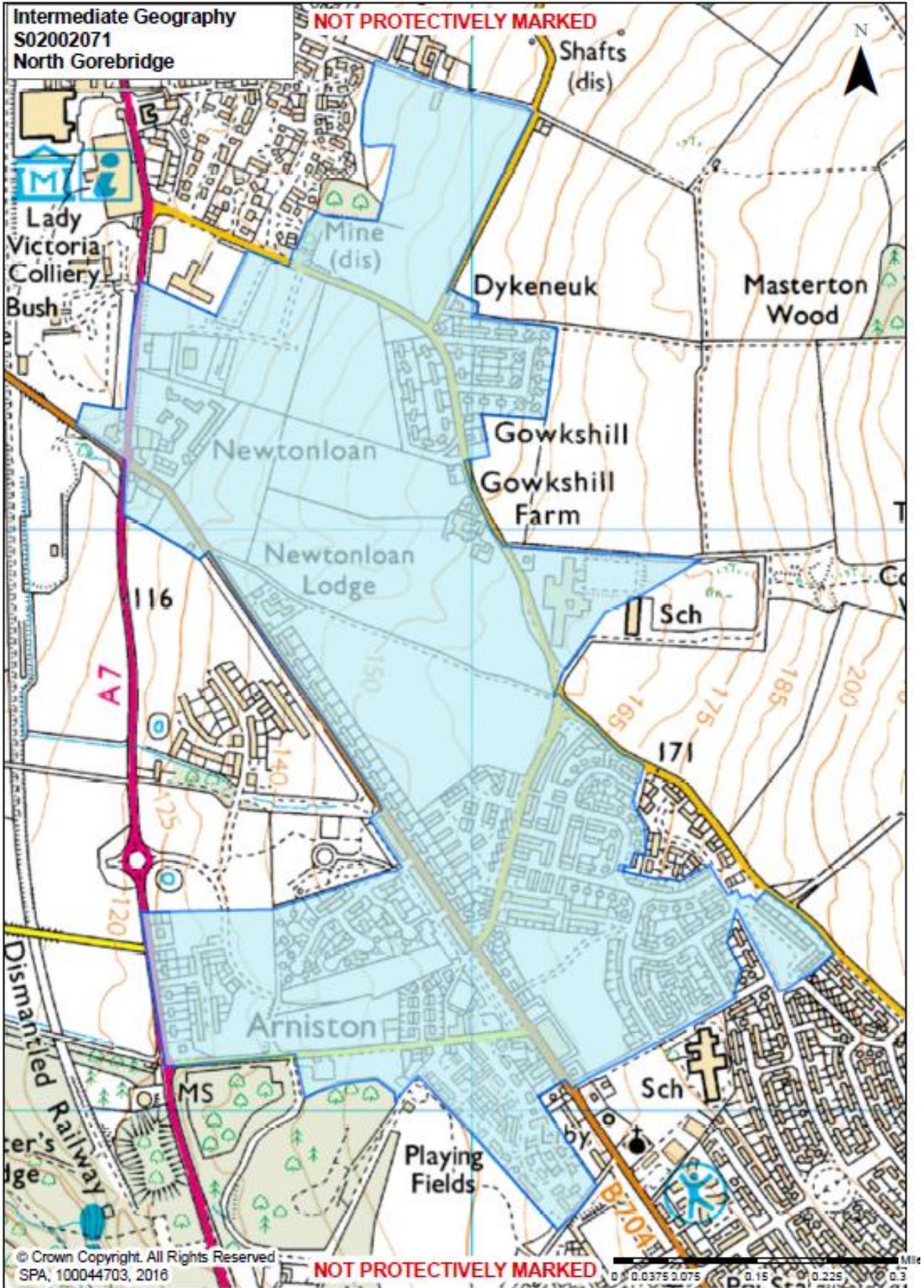


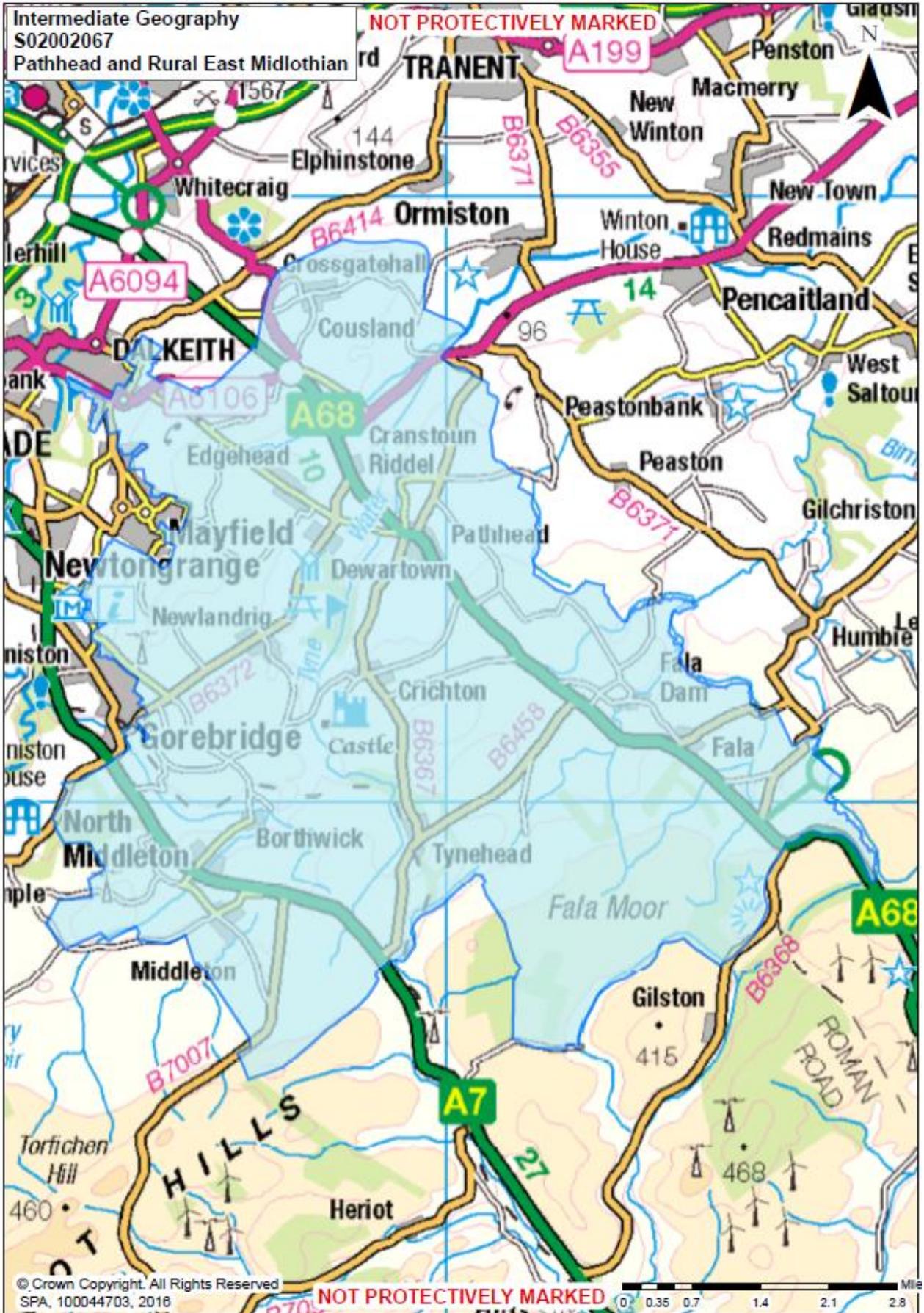


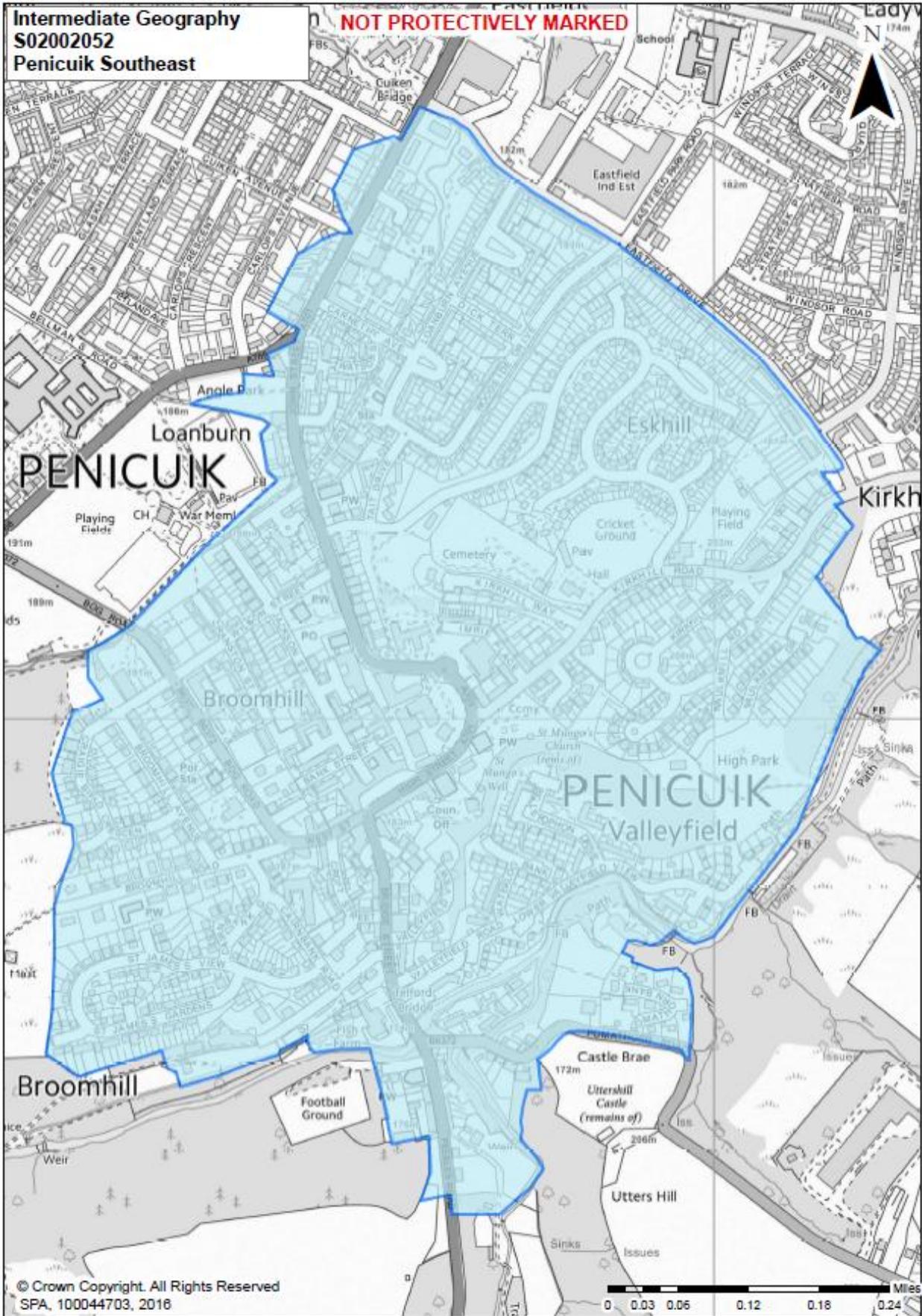


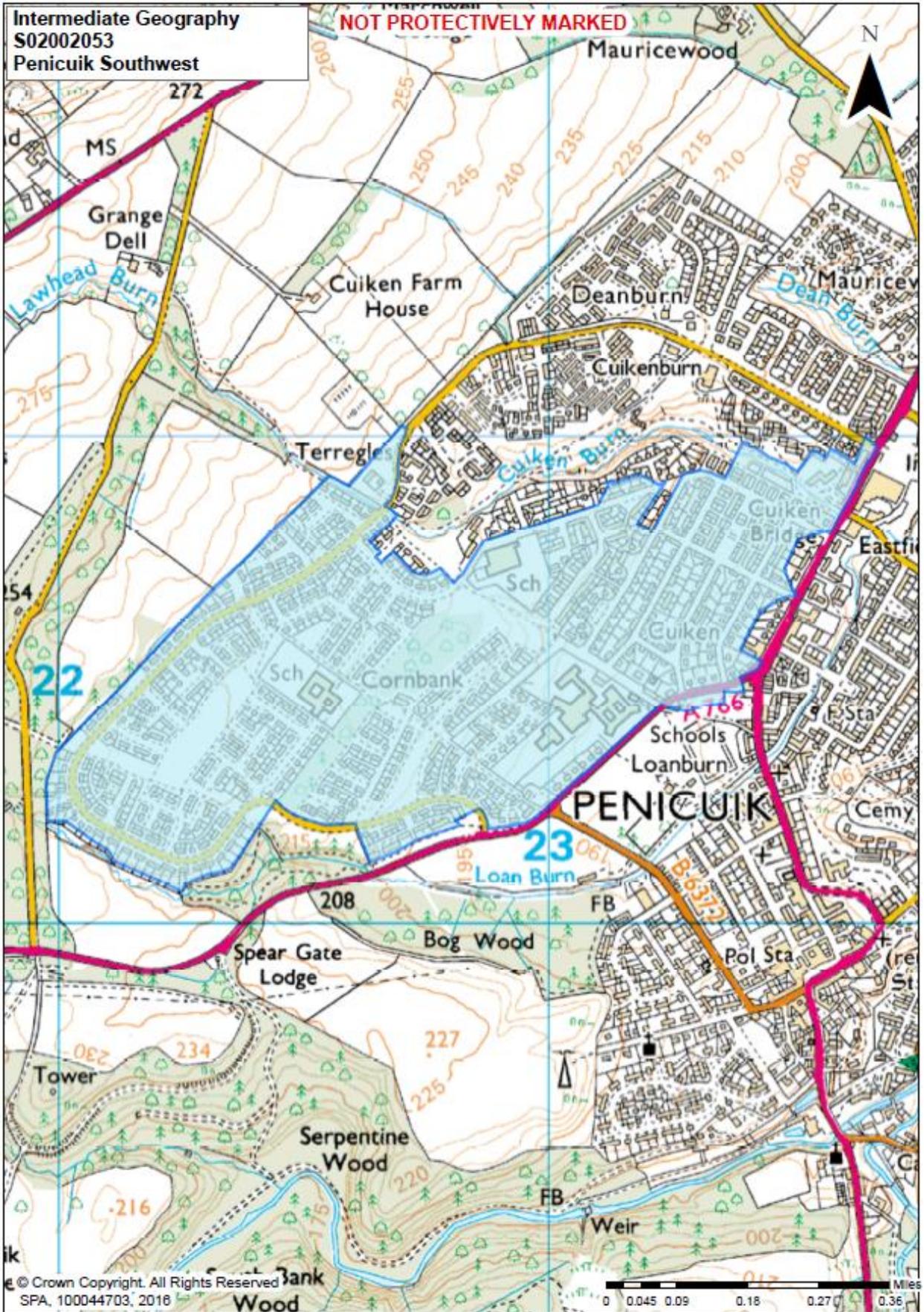




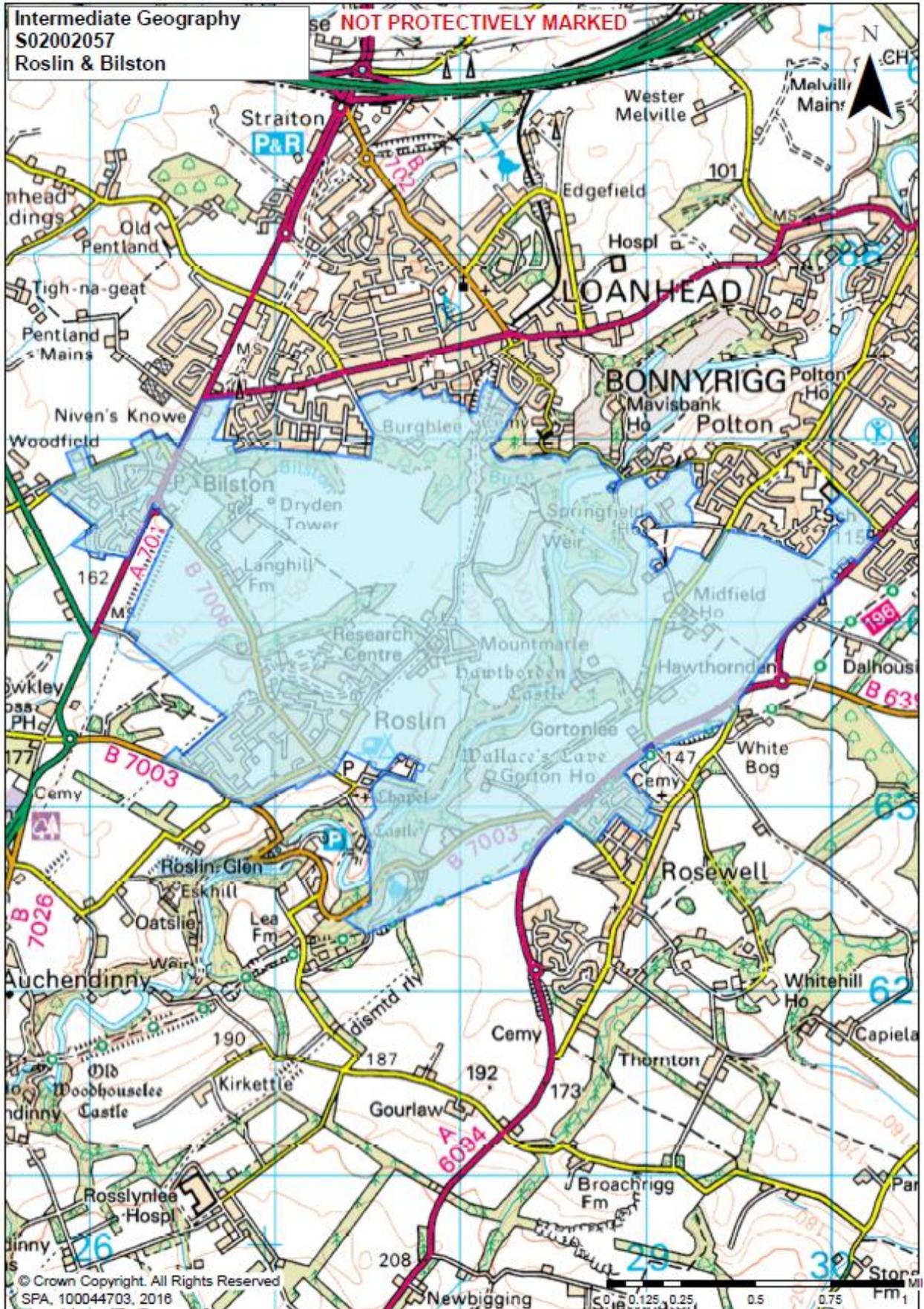


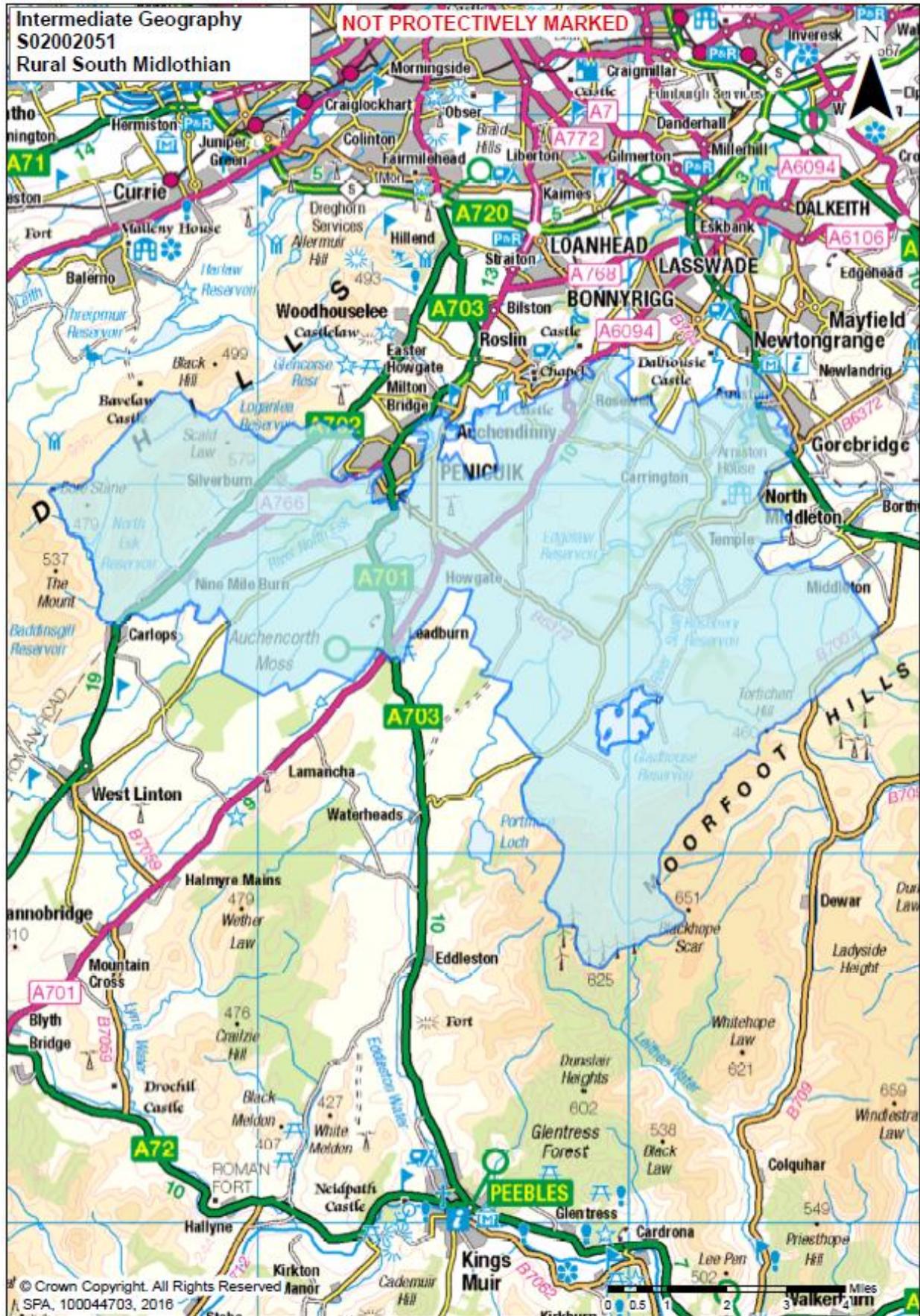


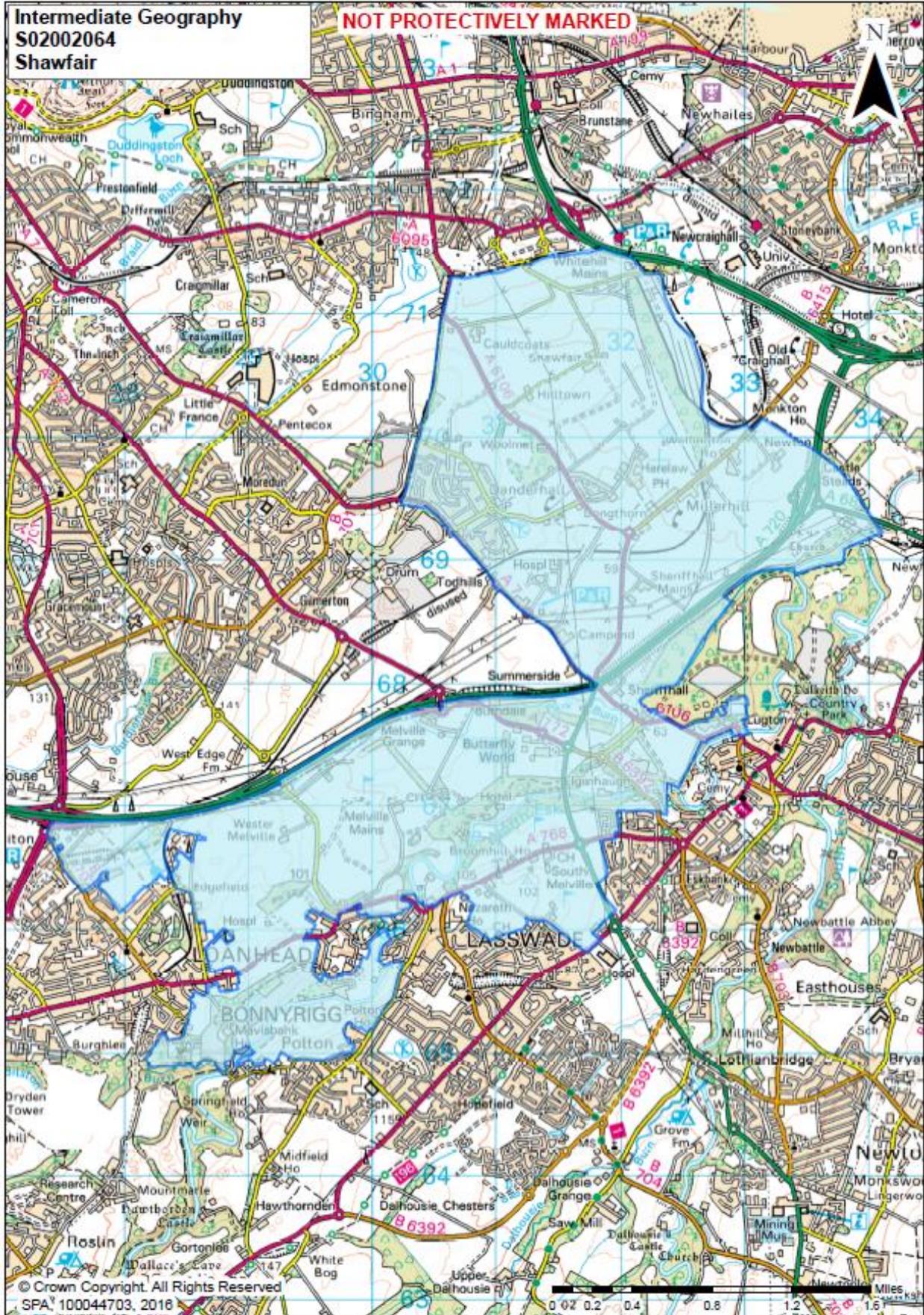


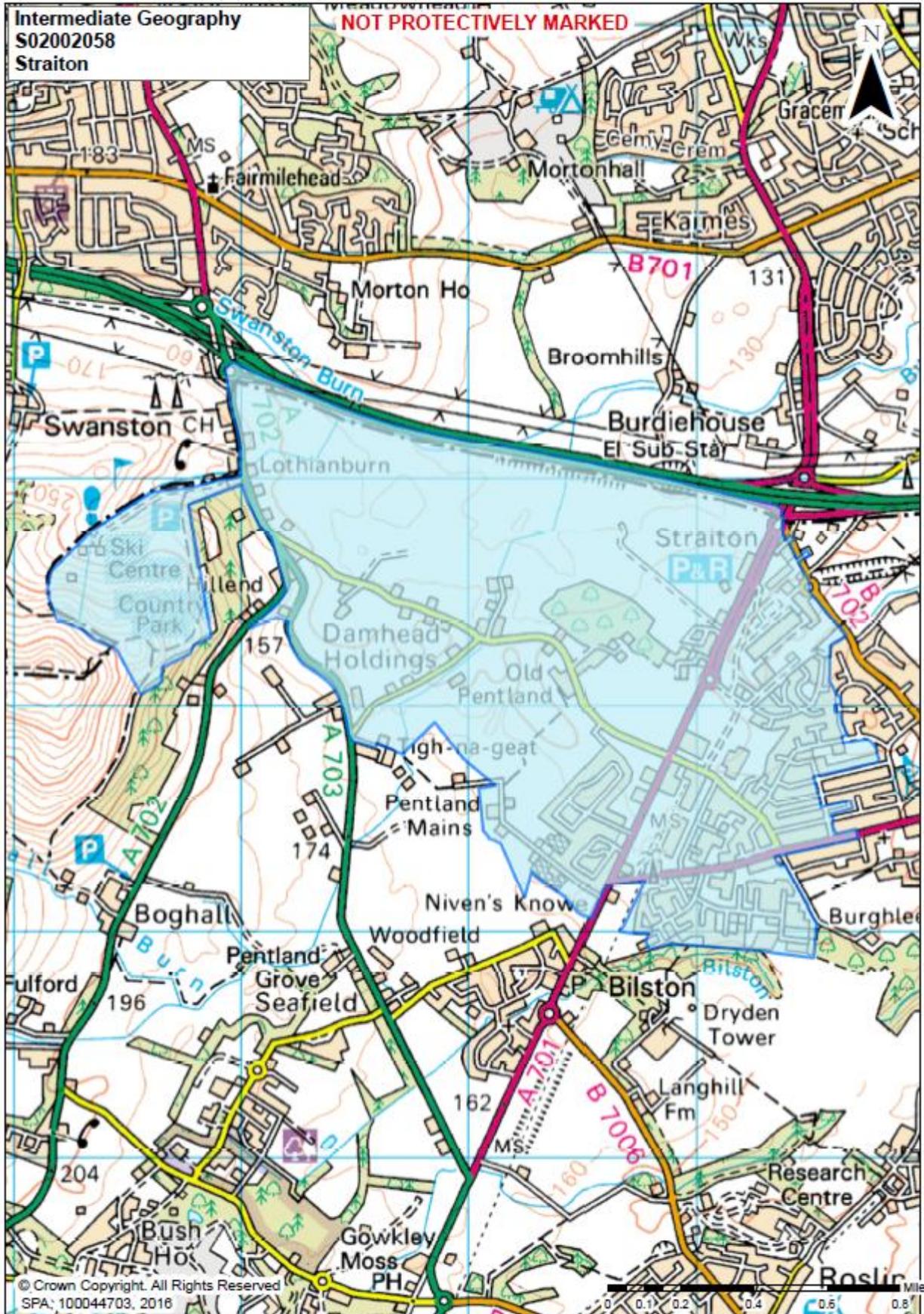












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²⁶ Newbury-Birth, D., Gilvarry, E., McArdle, P., Ramesh, V., Stewart, S., Walker, J., Avery, L., beyer, F., Brown, N., Jackson, K., Lock, C., McGovern, R., Kaner, E., (2008), *Impact of Alcohol Consumption on Young People: A Review of Reviews*. Accessed on 21/02/16 12:24 at [https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/downloadableDocs/Review%20of%20existing%20reviews%20\(Full\).pdf](https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/downloadableDocs/Review%20of%20existing%20reviews%20(Full).pdf)

²⁷ ISD Scotland. Information is based on Financial years, 1st April to 31st March. A hospital stay, also described as a continuous inpatient stay (CIS), is an unbroken period of time that a patient spends as an inpatient or day-case. During a CIS a patient may have numerous episodes as they change consultant, significant facility, speciality and/or hospital. Provisional; figures for 2014/15 are provisional and based on data as submitted up until the end of August 2015, estimated to be 98% complete. Due to a change in administrative system NHS Highland has a larger lag in SMR01 data submission than other boards and therefore their numbers of stays for the last quarter of 2014/15 are up to 25% lower than could be anticipated. <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Drugs-and-Alcohol-Misuse/Publications/data-tables.asp?id=1493#1493> Accessed on 19/02/15 14:48

²⁸ *Alcohol attributable mortality and morbidity: alcohol population attributable fractions for Scotland*, Grant, Springbett and Graham, ISD 2009. <http://www.scotpho.org.uk/alcoholPAFreport>

²⁹ Durkin, A., Connolly, S., & O'Reilly, D. (2010). Quantifying alcohol-related mortality: Should alcohol-related contributory causes of death be included? *Alcohol Alcohol*, 45(4), 374–378.

³⁰ National Records of Scotland (NRS) reports on a definition of alcohol related deaths harmonised across the UK, based on the underlying cause of death; ie. the disease or injury which initiated the chain of morbid events leading directly to death. However, these estimates do not include all deaths which might reasonably be attributed to alcohol. They exclude deaths where an alcohol related condition was recorded as a contributory factor but was not selected as the underlying cause. A broader definition of an alcohol related death includes all deaths for which where there is any mention on the death certificate of an alcohol related condition. Data

relating to both definitions are presented in Alcohol Statistics Scotland, 2009, published by Information Services Division of NHS Scotland.

³¹ Alcohol Related Deaths, taken from national Records of Scotland Accessed at <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/alcohol-related-deaths/tables> Accessed 19/02/16 16:00

³² ScotPHO Online Health and Wellbeing Profile Tool v1.10, Deaths from alcohol conditions, Accessed at <https://scotpho.nhsnss.scot.nhs.uk/scotpho/profileSelectAction.do> 19/02/2016 16:09

³³ *ibid*

³⁴ <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/alcohol/Pages/Effectsofalcohol.aspx>

³⁵ <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/alcohol/Pages/Effectsofalcohol.aspx>

³⁶ Group 1 and Group 6 crimes as recorded on UNIFI Crime Recording System

³⁷ Office for National Statistics (2015), Chapter 5: Violent Crime and Sexual Offences - Alcohol-Related Violence. Accessed on 19/02/16 17:06 at http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171776_394516.pdf

³⁸ *Harmful Drinking Two: Alcohol and Assaults*, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland, 2006

³⁹ Centre for Public Health <http://www.cph.org.uk/optimising-the-use-of-nhs-intelligence-in-local-violence-prevention-and-measuring-its-impact-on-violence/> Accessed 19/02/16 17:30

⁴⁰ SOHD codes 301001, 301002, 301003, 301004; not including failure to provide breath sample

⁴¹ Carnie, J. Broderick, R., and McCoard, S. (2014) *Prison Survey 213: 14th Series*. Scottish Prison Service.

⁴² McCoard, s., Broderick, R. and Carnie, J. (2014) *Male Young Offenders 2013: 14th Survey Bulletin*. Scottish Prison Service.

⁴³ Midlothian Community Planning Partnership, 2014, Midlothian Moving Forward, Panel Survey Report: Survey on Community Planning Priorities, Summary Report.

⁴⁴ Hope, A., Curran, J., Bell, G. & Platts, A. (2013). *Unrecognised and under-reported: the impact of alcohol on people other than the drinker in Scotland*. Glasgow, Scotland: Alcohol Focus Scotland. www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk

⁴⁵ Wales, A., Gillan, E., Hill, L., and Robertson, F., Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems [SHAAP]; ChildLine Scotland (2009) *Untold damage: children's accounts of living with harmful parental drinking*. Edinburgh: Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems [SHAAP]

⁴⁶ Create Consultancy, 2013. *Assessment of Need of Services for Children and Families Affected by Parental Substance Misuse (CAPSM)*

⁴⁷ ScotPHO Online Profile Tool Alcohol Profile (Mid and East Lothian ADP) Available at <https://scotpho.nhsnss.scot.nhs.uk/scotpho/spineChartAction.do>

⁴⁸ Health service costs in Midlothian include hospital admissions, A&E attendances, ambulance journeys, outpatient attendances, alcohol services, prescription costs and GP consultations.

⁴⁹ Social Care costs are calculated based on the estimated level of social work caseload due to problem alcohol use, community service orders and probation orders related to alcohol, and care home expenditure for people with alcohol addictions.

⁵⁰ Crime costs in Midlothian include alcohol-specific offences such as drink-driving and drunkenness.

⁵¹ costs cover the estimated cost of alcohol use to the economy in the form of presenteeism (being present at work, but performance negatively affected by alcohol consumption), absenteeism, unemployment and premature mortality.

⁵² Note that analysis at Intermediate Geography level is based on 476 crimes as opposed to 482 as in 6 crimes the exact location could not be determined (e.g. an assault that occurred onboard a bus travelling from Loanhead to Penicuik).

⁵³ This data refers to hospital discharges in 2015 (January 1st - December 31st) in which a diagnosis code associated with alcohol use was coded in any diagnosis position. ICD-10 codes used are: E244, E512, F10, G312, G621, G721, I426, K292, K70, K860, O354, P043, Q860, R780, T510, T511, T519, X45, X65, Y15, Y573, Y90, Y91, Z502, Z714, Z721 (see ICD-

10 sheet for descriptions). Source: ISD Linked data file *Please note that this analysis comes from a LIVE System - if this analysis were to be re-run at a later date the figures may be subject to change.



Midlothian Licensing Overprovision Statement review – 2015 consultation results

Report by Rosie Kendall, Community Safety Manager

1 Purpose of Report

This report summarises the results of the 2015 public consultation on alcohol overprovision.

2. Background

Section 7 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 requires each Licensing Board to include in their licensing policy statement a statement as to the extent to which the Board considers there to be overprovision of licensed premises, or licensed premises of a particular description in any locality within the Board's area. It is for the Board to determine the 'localities' within its area for the purposes of the act.

2014 public consultation

In 2014, the Licensing Forum produced a profile of alcohol misuse and a public consultation was held from the 4th – 30th April 2014. As part of the consultation the Midlothian alcohol profile and summary document were placed on the Midlothian Council website alongside a set of survey questions. 28 responses were received. As a result, in September 2014 the Licensing Board agreed that Dalkeith is overprovided, based on the profile and the results of the consultation. The full 2014 overprovision statement is attached as Appendix 2.

2015 public consultation

At the Licensing Board on 15th September 2015, the Board considered a letter from the Licensing Forum which requested that the Board clarify their approach to approving license extensions in the overprovided area. As a result of the discussion held, it was agreed that a further public consultation on overprovision be held, to inform the 2016 review of the Licensing Policy Statement, including overprovision.

The public consultation ran from the 26th October – 26th November 2015. As part of the consultation the Midlothian alcohol profile, summary document and updated information for Dalkeith were placed on the Midlothian Council website alongside a link to an online survey monkey questionnaire. The following stakeholders were made aware of the consultation:

- All licensed premises in Midlothian
- Community Councils
- The Federation of Community Councils
- The Community Planning partnership, including all thematic groups
- The local health board
- Police Scotland
- Licensing solicitors

- Voluntary agencies
- Major companies in Midlothian
- Council and partner members of staff

Paper copies including freepost envelopes were placed in:

- Libraries
- Council receptions
- Dentists
- Doctors surgeries
- Educational establishments

Publicity included:

- Midlothian Council Facebook page
- Midlothian Council Twitter
- Midlothian Council website
- Partner facebook/ twitter accounts
- Midlothian Advertiser
- Press release
- Advertisements in the MARC building, Dalkeith miners
- Community Planning Groups
- Publication on local residents social media pages

A £50 prize was offered to members of the public as an incentive to participate

Summary results

Full consultation results are attached as appendix 1. Key points include:

- 337 responses were received. This included 278 members of the public, 15 license holders, and 44 people representing a particular organisation
- 64.4% of those responded stated that they most commonly buy alcohol from a supermarket.
- 66.7% of those responding stated that it takes them less than 10 minutes to travel to purchase alcohol.
- 61.2% of those responding said they are most likely to consume alcohol at home/ at a friends/family house
- Most people responding stated that they feel that the number of licensed premises in their area and the hours they are open is about right
- 31.3% of those responding stated that they have been a victim of alcohol related crime or antisocial behaviour
- More people responding feel Dalkeith is overprovided for on sales (43.5%), off sales (42.1%) and both (36.6%) than those stating it is not.
- When looking at other areas, the highest proportion of people felt that each area is not overprovided, with the exception of Dalkeith.

4 Report Implications

4.1 Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Risk Implications

Failure to produce an overprovision statement would be contrary to section 7 of the licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

4.3 Policy Implications

Strategy

This report links to the Midlothian Single Plan long term outcome 'Ensuring Midlothian is a safe place to live work and visit'. It closely relates to the Community Safety & Justice Partnership's Identified very high priority of alcohol and drug misuse

Consultation

This report details the results of the 2015 public consultation on alcohol overprovision.

Equalities

An equalities impact assessment has not been required in connection with this report.

Sustainability

There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

5 Recommendations

The Forum and Board are invited to:-

- (a) Discuss the results of the public consultation

8th January 2016

Report Contact:

Rosie Kendall

Tel No: 0131 271 6654

Background papers:

Appendix 1: Midlothian Licensing overprovision statement 2015 Public Consultation report

Appendix 2: Midlothian Licensing overprovision statement 2014

Appendix 1

Midlothian Licensing overprovision statement 2015 Public Consultation report

1. Background

At the Licensing Board on 15th September 2015 the Board considered a letter from the Licensing Forum which requested that the Board clarify their approach to approving license extensions in the overprovided area. As a result of the discussion held it was agreed that a further public consultation on overprovision be held, to inform the 2016 review of the Licensing Policy Statement, including overprovision.

2. Consultation

The public consultation ran from the 26th October – 26th November 2015. As part of the consultation the Midlothian alcohol profile, summary document and updated information for Dalkeith were placed on the Midlothian Council website alongside a link to an online survey monkey questionnaire. The following stakeholders were made aware of the consultation:

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- Press release
- Advertise in MARC building, Dalkeith miners
- Community Planning Groups
- Publication on local residents social media pages

A £50 prize was offered to members of the public as an incentive to participate

3. Results

Questions 1,2 and 3

337 responses were received. This included 278 members of the public, 15 license holders, and 44 people representing a particular organisation. Organisations included:

- Midlothian Health and Social Care partnership
- NHS Lothian Health Promotion Service/ NHS Lothian
- Police Scotland
- Primary and secondary Schools
- Community Councils
- Midlothian and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership
- MIDSAFE
- Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority

238 (70.62%) of those responding stated that they lived in Midlothian. The top 3 areas responding were:

- 41 (19.62%) - Dalkeith
- 26 (12.44%) - Mayfield
- 23 (11%) - Bonnyrigg South

Questions 4, 5 and 6 - Alcohol purchase and consumption habits

Respondents were asked questions about their alcohol purchase and consumption habits:

- 64.4% of those responded stated that they most commonly buy alcohol from a supermarket.
- 66.7% of those responding stated that it takes them less than 10 minutes to travel to purchase alcohol.
- 61.2% of those responding said they are most likely to consume alcohol at home/ at a friends/family house

Where do you most commonly buy alcohol?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Supermarket	64.4%	150
Smaller shop	3.0%	7
Pub/Club	15.5%	36
Restaurant	3.0%	7
Online	1.3%	3
Do not purchase alcohol – please skip to question 6	9.0%	21
Other	2.1%	5
Rather not say	1.7%	4
	answered question	233
	skipped question	104

How long does it take you to travel to purchase alcohol?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 10 minutes	66.7%	142
10-30 minutes	25.8%	55
30-60 minutes	1.9%	4
Not applicable	4.2%	9
Rather not say	1.4%	3
<i>answered question</i>		213
<i>skipped question</i>		124

Where are you most likely to consume alcohol?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
At home/ at a friends/family house	61.2%	142
In a pub/club	24.6%	57
In a restaurant	5.2%	12
Do not consume alcohol	7.3%	17
Other	0.9%	2
Rather not say	0.9%	2
<i>answered question</i>		232
<i>skipped question</i>		105

Questions 7 and 8 - Alcohol availability

Most people responding stated that they feel that the number of licensed premises in their area and the hours they are open is about right

Do you think there are too few/enough/too many premises in your area?				
Answer Options	too many	about right	too few	Response Count
Licensed Restaurants	16	138	55	209
Pubs	55	125	24	204
Clubs	27	116	41	184
Large supermarkets	32	147	20	199
Smaller licensed shops	63	119	19	201
Other premises	11	96	18	125
overall	31	107	12	150
Don't know	7	15	5	27
<i>answered question</i>				218
<i>skipped question</i>				119

What do you think about the hours licensing premises are open in your area?

Answer Options	Open too long	Just right	Not long enough	Response Count
Licensed Restaurants	4	177	11	192
Pubs	56	129	10	195
Clubs	57	104	15	176
Large supermarkets	35	149	10	194
Smaller licensed shops	38	135	9	182
Other premises	11	106	3	120
overall	15	104	3	122
Don't know	6	22	4	32
answered question				216
skipped question				121

Question 9 Crime and ASB

31.3% of those responding stated that they have been a victim of alcohol related crime or antisocial behaviour

Have you ever been a victim of alcohol related crime or antisocial behaviour? E.g. alcohol related noise, disorder, violence		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	31.3%	68
No	65.4%	142
Prefer not to say	3.2%	7
answered question		217
skipped question		120

Question 10 - Comments about alcohol availability

78 comments were received:

Underage drinking: A strong perception among respondents was the level of underage drinking that takes place throughout the Dalkeith area with the primary source of alcohol being off-licenses. Proxy purchasing was described as common place in the area, with youths loitering outside off-licenses asking passers-by to purchase alcohol on their behalf. It is thought to be easier for youths to be sold alcohol in small off-licenses than in supermarkets.

“need to tighten up on availability of alcohol to youths - waiting outside smaller shops asking people to buy alcohol & cigarettes for them”

“The biggest problem is small grocer shops...underage drinkers try & purchase alcohol (and) also ask adults to buy for them... is a huge problem in local communities at the moment”

“My 15 year old often tells of her peers being able to go into shops and purchasing alcohol or getting adults to purchase it for them”

Several respondents speak first hand of being approached by under-agers to purchase alcohol for them. Several suggestions were made on how to tackle underage drinking in the

area, primarily tighter regulations and checks on small businesses, and educating young people on the harm caused by alcohol.

Cheap Booze: Linked to underage drinking, a primary theme raised by respondents was the number of licensed premises selling alcohol at low prices – “*too easy to access ‘pocket money’ price drinks*”, “*too easy to buy cheap alcohol from off license premises, including supermarkets.*” Respondents describe alcohol as too readily available and at too low pricing, making it too easy for individuals to source. Several respondents mentioned the inappropriate location of alcohol in supermarkets such as next to children’s diluting juice and near checkouts.

“(alcohol should be) restricted to one aisle only and preferably at the end rather than in the middle ...just about everyone going to the checkout has to go through it”

“Dalkeith and the surrounding area is saturated with licensed premises”

Lack of stringent licensing legislation / enforcement: A recurring theme was relaxed licensing legislation around hours of sale, number of alcohol licenses granted, volume of alcohol sold per customer and lack of ‘checks’ carried out in regard to underage drinking and proxy purchasing.

Several respondents suggested how licensing hours should be limited:

“change licensing laws on a Sunday in particular to 12 noon till 6...week days 12 noon till 8 in small stores/shops”

“in such a small area like Dalkeith, having an availability of alcohol until 2 a.m. at weekends seems to promote the idea to drink as much as you can until the bar closes”

Enforcement of the licensing laws in regards to serving people who are incapacitated was raised by a number of respondents, in regards to both on and off sales:

“when I was in my addiction I found it too easy to purchase alcohol, and the shops were too keen to allow me to purchase alcohol, even if I was intoxicated”

Links to violence, antisocial behaviour and vandalism: A theme present through a number of responses was the correlation between alcohol misuse and antisocial behaviour. Respondents highlight issues with noise associated with the night-time economy; shouting, swearing, fighting and others the victim of reckless acts of vandalism caused by individuals under the influence.

“There is a direct link between availability of alcohol, alcohol consumption and violence/anti-social behaviour. What kind of community do we want Midlothian to be?”

“The annual gala day (Hunter and lass) gets pubs an extended license...(this) sends a message that the day for families is a day for drinking, as does the beer tent for the hunter in the field at the end of the parade . We have had regular violent incidents in the evening of this event, mostly due to alcohol overconsumption”

Secondary themes recognised within responses were the need for a change in social attitudes towards alcohol, in particular educating the public and young people on the harm caused by alcohol. Changing people's attitudes towards alcohol, in the main reducing overconsumption and 'drinking to get drunk', was highlighted although it was accepted this will be a significant challenge.

Question 11 - Dalkeith

More people responding stated they feel Dalkeith is overprovided for on sales (43.5%), off sales (42.1%) and both (36.6%) than those stating it is not.

Based on the 2012-13 profile of alcohol misuse (and summary table) and the updated data for Dalkeith, do you think that Dalkeith is overprovided for:				
Answer Options	Yes	No	Don't know	Response Count
On Sales (where you can consume alcohol on the premises)	94 (43.5%)	64 (29.6%)	58	216
Off sales (where you buy alcohol to consume elsewhere)	91 (42.1%)	58 (26.9%)	67	216
Both	79 (36.6%)	59 (27.3%)	78	216
Please provide comments regarding your above answer(s)				69
answered question				216
skipped question				121

69 comments were submitted:

Overprovided: The primary theme which ran through responses was that Dalkeith is overprovided for alcohol. Many respondents comment on the ease of purchasing alcohol in the Dalkeith area and the high number of on and off sales within walking distance:

"There are 5 pubs in Dalkeith centre....and there are at least 5 shops that sell alcohol within the same space"

It was recognised by a number of respondents that the number of off sales outweighs the number of on sales. Several respondents mentioned the number of pubs/clubs that have had to close in recent years, suggesting the area was subject to overprovision in the past. The number of off sales however is deemed to have increased over time:

"Dalkeith has less pubs and clubs than it has ever had but it has an increase in the number of off sales premises"

"There are too many smaller shops selling alcohol"

Underage drinking: The saturation of off licenses and sale of 'cheap booze' in the area is perceived to correlate with underage drinking and alcohol related harm. The ease in purchasing alcohol, available from a choice of competing outlets, is thought to make it easier for people to binge drink and cause harm to themselves or others. Antisocial behaviour was also highlighted as being linked to cheap booze and underage drinking.

“the availability to purchase alcohol is certainly relating to the increase in anti social behaviour in my local area and the majority appear to be teenagers under the influence of alcohol....”

“Far too many that contribute to anti social behaviour, poverty and illness”

Evidence: Several respondents mentioned the statistical evidence between alcohol overprovision and alcohol related harm, and how ‘cheap booze’ bought in off licenses and the number of off sales in the area has links to alcohol-related harm.

“CRESH data shows that the number of alcohol outlets is double the national density at 11.4/sq km compared to 5.5/sq km nationally. The density figure for Dalkeith is more than three times the Midlothian figure of 3.0/sq km. Alcohol related deaths are higher for Dalkeith than the rest of Midlothian”

“There is strong evidence that alcohol availability is associated with alcohol related harm. There is also evidence that the most effective way to reduce alcohol-related harm is to reduce affordability, availability and the attractiveness of alcohol”

Education and social attitudes to alcohol: Several respondents put the onus not on provision of licensed premises in an area, but on the individual and on society’s attitude towards alcohol:

“It’s a drinking culture that is the problem, not the number of places where alcohol can be bought”

“(alcohol) is seen as an integral part of Scottish life; used to celebrate, commercialise and socialise. However it is increasingly evident that our relationship with alcohol has become unbalanced”

A view shared by several respondents was that people will obtain alcohol regardless of the number of premises available *“if they have to travel further they will just stock up and buy more!”* Educating the public on harm caused by alcohol was a recommendation made by a number of respondents – *“work to help prevent individual over provision is needed, not cutting back on pubs/clubs”*.

Question 12 - Other Midlothian areas

Respondents were asked, based on the evidence provided and your own view, please state whether you feel that the following areas are either overprovided, for on sales, off sales of both (please select one option for each area):

Answer Options	overprovided			Not overprovided			Total
	for off sales	for on sales	for Both	for on sales	for off sales	For both	
Bonnyrigg North	12	7	35	5	2	57	118
Bonnyrigg South	11	8	32	4	2	57	114
Dalkeith	18	13	57	7	4	41	140
Easthouses	7	5	17	6	8	67	110
Eskbank	7	2	17	8	6	78	118
Gorebridge & Middleston	11	3	22	9	3	63	111
Loanhead	7	7	42	5	1	57	119
Mayfield	15	4	30	5	3	56	113
Newbattle & Dalhousie	4	3	18	8	3	73	109
Newtongrange	10	5	21	10	3	66	115
North Gorebridge	8	5	18	7	2	65	105
Pathhead and Rural East	3	7	11	6	2	74	103
Penicuik East	10	4	31	7	3	59	114
Penicuik North	9	4	35	8	3	60	119
Penicuik Southeast	11	6	40	7	3	53	120
Penicuik Southwest	9	3	36	7	1	60	116
Pentland	6	2	14	8	1	73	104
Rural South Midlothian	5	4	12	7	1	80	109
Shawfair	3	6	14	7	1	74	105
Thornybank	4	3	13	6	1	77	104
Please provide comments regarding your above answer(s):							59
answered question							183
skipped question							154

59 comments were received:

Overprovision of alcohol throughout Midlothian was highlighted by a number of respondents, with specific areas highlighted being Dalkeith, Loanhead and Penicuik. It was agreed in general there were pockets of overprovision, with off sales highlighted as most overprovided in the area.

“for Penicuik in General alcohol is readily available within every 200metres”

“On Clerk Street Loanhead (there are) 2 shops that sell alcohol... 4 pubs on the same road... takeaways (that) sell alcohol.... additionally...Costco, Sainsburys, Asda, M&S, and some smaller shops that sell alcohol in Straiton. We are not just serving our community we are providing enough liquor for the South Side of Edinburgh”

“Most town centers have too many options of where to purchase alcohol”

In addition to overprovision, several respondents highlighted that it is not only overprovision through the number of licensed premises, but also **the overprovision of alcohol to one individual** that creates harm –

“I don't think that it is a matter of over provision but rather overselling to people who are already drunk”

“If people wish to buy alcohol, they will find it no matter what - even if that means travelling to a pub or off-license. People don't tend to buy alcohol on impulse.”

Evidence: A common theme raised within responses was the statistical evidence that shows the correlation between availability of alcohol and alcohol related harm, with recommendations suggested such as reducing the provision of alcohol in overprovided areas and the idea that this will *“bring a much needed change in drink culture”*.

Appendix 2: 2014 Alcohol overprovision statement

Section 7 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 requires each Licensing Board to include in its policy statement: a statement as to the extent to which the Board considers there to be an overprovision of:-

- (a) licensed premises, or
 - (b) licensed premises of a particular description,
- in any locality within the Board's area.

The Board acknowledges the work carried out by and on behalf of the Midlothian Licensing Forum by way of a multi agency short life working group which has undertaken an assessment of overprovision and produced a report entitled Alcohol Misuse in Midlothian 2012-13. This report has formed a useful evidence base and the Board will have regard to the report in determining applications.

The Board, having considered data regarding rates of alcohol related police incidents, alcohol related hospital admissions and information regarding the number, type and capacity of licensed premises in all areas of Midlothian, and having regard to the evidence of a correlation between the density of outlets and alcohol related problems, has concerns about the level of provision in the following locality:

- Dalkeith

The extent of the Dalkeith locality is shown in the Appendix to this policy statement.

This particular locality has particularly high rates of alcohol related hospital admissions per 10,000 population and of alcohol related police incidents when compared to other areas within Midlothian and Scotland as a whole together with the highest rate of licensed premises per 10,000 population in Midlothian. Taking these factors into account, the Board considers that there should be a rebuttable presumption against the grant of an application for a new premises licence or the increase in capacity of an existing premises licence within the Dalkeith locality.

Each application in the Dalkeith locality still requires to be determined on its own merits and there may be exceptional cases where an applicant can demonstrate that the grant of an application or the variation of an existing licence to increase capacity within the locality would not undermine the licensing objectives. The Board will expect applicants to provide robust and reliable evidence to support their application sufficient to demonstrate that the grant of their application would outweigh the presumption against grant in terms of this Overprovision Statement. The Board would expect to be addressed on each of the Licensing Objectives.

If an existing licence in the relevant locality ceases to be in force, this will not necessarily mean that there is capacity for a new licence in that locality. The locality has been identified as currently subject to overprovision and this may continue to be the case should a number of existing licences cease to be in force. Each application will be considered in the context of the statistics available to the Board at the time of the application.