

14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

# Pride in Place

## Wester Hailes

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Edinburgh South West  
Neighbourhood  
Recommendation



**Dr Scott Arthur MP**  
*Serving the Communities of Edinburgh South West*

## Foreword

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Wester Hailes is a community with a powerful sense of identity. It is a place where people look out for one another, where creativity thrives despite hardship, and where community spirit endures even through the toughest of times. Yet it is also a community that has faced more than its fair share of challenges. Years of underinvestment, the loss of shared spaces, and the ongoing pressures of the cost-of-living crisis have all taken a toll on local confidence and opportunity. It has the lowest levels of median income in Edinburgh and the highest proportion of children in low-income families.

This funding proposal is the result of genuine collaboration between local councillors, community organisations, and residents who understand these challenges best. Together, we have worked to demonstrate a plan that reflects the reality of life in Wester Hailes today, focused not just on physical regeneration, but on rebuilding the social connections that allow a community to flourish. Uniquely among the Edinburgh Pride in Place neighbourhoods under consideration, Wester Hailes has a **Local Place Plan**, and the desire to see it implemented has been a constant in my discussions with stakeholders. Accordingly, implementation of the multiple initiatives within the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan is at the core of this submission.

I have come to know Wester Hailes well, through my time as a Councillor and now as its MP, but also as a volunteer, chatting and working with local residents. Helping out at the Hailes Quarry Park junior parkrun, as I do on most of my Sundays, has given me a real sense of what makes this area special. Every week, I see people giving their time freely to make their neighbourhood healthier and more welcoming. That spirit of determination and care runs through every part of this bid.

I am proud to serve Wester Hailes, not least because it is similar to where I grew up. It has the people, the ideas, the collaborative spirit, energy, and the will to build a better future; what it lacks is the sustained investment to make that possible. The Pride in Place Fund offers a rare opportunity to match the ambition of the people who live here with the resources they need to succeed. With the right support, it can become a place where people thrive, embodying the pride, resilience, and potential that this programme was designed to celebrate.

**Dr Scott Arthur MP**

Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West





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## Background

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On 25 September 2025, the UK Government announced that its Pride in Place Programme (PIPP) Phase 2 would include £280 million to be shared among 12 Scottish local authorities, targeting areas that could benefit most from regeneration projects<sup>1</sup>. The Pride in Place Impact Fund will be governed by local authorities, which will select the projects to benefit, working in conjunction with a Neighbourhood Board composed of relevant stakeholders.

The City of Edinburgh has been allocated £20 million, to be awarded to suitable projects in a neighbourhood within the city. Eligible areas from which the neighbourhoods can be drawn were identified by the UK Government based on deprivation measures and population. Areas are: Murrayburn, Clovenstone, the Calders, and Wester Hailes (Edinburgh South West); Oxfords, Colinton Mains, and Firrhill (Edinburgh South West); Gracemount, Southside, Burdiehouse, Hyvots, and Gilmerton (Edinburgh South); Niddrie, Broomfield, Magdalene, and the Christians (Edinburgh East and Musselburgh); and Granton South and Wardieburn, Muirhouse, West Pilton, Granton and Royston Mains (Edinburgh North and Leith).

The successful neighbourhood will be selected by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Questionnaires have been issued to assist in neighbourhood selection. The City of Edinburgh Council has committed to responding to the questionnaires with quantitative and qualitative data covering the eligible areas identified by the UK Government without expressing a preference, while local MPs have undertaken to submit responses supporting a neighbourhood in their constituency.

Having liaised with local stakeholders, Dr Scott Arthur MP has determined that of the two neighbourhoods in his Edinburgh South West constituency, Wester Hailes is best prepared to develop and support suitable projects within the required timeframe. These projects will also benefit the Oxfords, Colinton Mains, and Firrhill neighbourhood through existing local transport links. Accordingly, the questionnaire response in support of Wester Hailes in this document is the only submission by Dr Scott Arthur.

The UK Government stated that it intends the Pride In Place Fund **“to fund the types of changes people have said they want to see.”** Local groups in Wester Hailes have been telling Dr Arthur very clearly the projects they want to see, projects already identified in the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan, projects they all agree will significantly help neighbourhood regeneration. Local groups are mobilised to deliver on these projects, they lack only the funding. Their wants are fully reflected in this document.

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<sup>1</sup> [Pride in Place investment for Scottish neighbourhoods](#)

# Section 1

## 1. Suggested name for proposed neighbourhood

The name should clearly communicate the proposed neighbourhood area in a way that would be recognised and easily understood by local residents.

### Proposed Neighbourhood Name:

Wester Hailes

### Reasoning

The proposed Wester Hailes neighbourhood incorporates the area within the three Intermediate Zones (IZs) of Murrayburn and Wester Hailes North (1 in Photo 1); The Calders (2 in Photo 1); and Clovenstone and Wester Hailes (3 in Photo 1). Each of these IZs has been proposed for consideration by the UK Government for Pride in Place funding as each conforms to the 'high need' definition.<sup>2</sup> Together they form one contiguous neighbourhood with a population of 11,093 people.<sup>3</sup> This submission is based on the neighbourhood boundaries established by these three IZs (see Photo 1).

Within the Wester Hailes neighbourhood are the seven communities of the Calders, Westburn, Hailesland, Harvesters, Clovenstone, Dumbryden and Murrayburn (see Photo 2). Some communities are separated by main roads or greenspaces, but all are closely connected through shared characteristics, services, and infrastructure.

**Photo 2: Wester Hailes Neighbourhood**

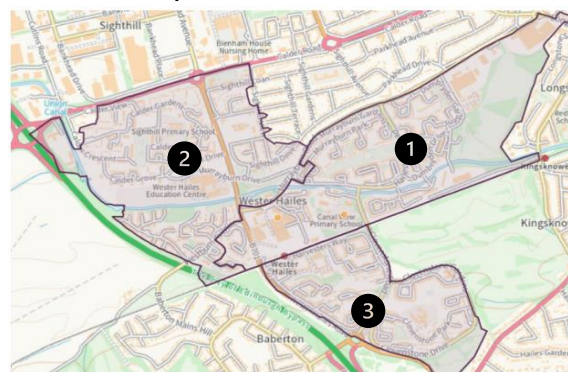


Source: Wester Hailes Local Place Plan

including a cinema, public services including the Wester Hailes Library, and transport links.

'Wester Hailes' is the name most widely recognised by local residents and external bodies to describe the collective area encompassing its seven distinct communities. The ratified

**Photo 1: Incorporated Intermediate Zones**



Source: City of Edinburgh Council Pride in Place

Multiple elements of common infrastructure reinforce the sense of a single interconnected neighbourhood. Wester Hailes High School includes all seven communities in its catchment area, and the Wester Hailes train station links the neighbourhood to central Edinburgh. The Westside Plaza represents a shared local centre, providing a focal point to all seven communities for access to shops, amenities

<sup>2</sup> Pride In Place Programme Presentation for Councillors, City of Edinburgh Council

<sup>3</sup> Based on UK Government supplied population figures for each Intermediate Zone (Oct 2025)



and current Local Place Plan (2022)<sup>4</sup> recognised as the blueprint for community-led regeneration in the area, also adopts 'Wester Hailes' as the moniker for the neighbourhood - with the active support of multiple local organisations and stakeholders.

For these reasons, 'Wester Hailes' is the most appropriate and recognisable name for the proposed neighbourhood area.

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<sup>4</sup> [Wester Hailes Local Place Plan — Wester Hailes Community Trust](#)

## Section 2

### 2. Existing government support targeted at the proposed neighbourhood

Please provide an outline of any pre-existing government programmes targeted at regeneration or community support in this area. e.g. SG's Empowering Communities Programme.

### Outline

As an area of significant and lasting deprivation, Wester Hailes has attracted a range of government-funded programmes. The focus of this investment has been on housing, the delivery of new residential blocks and the retrofitting of existing housing stock, much of which was built in the 1970s. In response to Question 2, while Wester Hailes's housing stock has received government investment and its residential capacity has grown, it must be highlighted that investment in the infrastructure essential to ensure social cohesion has failed to keep pace. As a result, the Wester Hailes neighbourhood continues to lack community spaces, particularly spaces with community ownership and influence. It also lacks infrastructure to link communities to neighbourhood spaces.

### Pre-existing Funding Summary

The Mixed Tenure Improvement Service, led by the City of Edinburgh Council with Scottish Government funding through the *Energy Efficiency: Area-Based Funding*, has upgraded the energy efficiency of 180 residential blocks (see 1 in Table 1).<sup>5</sup> Complementing this, through the Scottish Government's *Affordable Housing Supply Programme*, the City of Edinburgh Council in partnership with developers are delivering over 150 new, affordable, energy-efficient homes across multiple sites in Wester Hailes (see 2 in Table 1) including the construction of residential blocks at Murrayburn Gate (see photo 3).<sup>6</sup>

Photo 3: Visualisation of development at Murrayburn Gate



Source: City of Edinburgh Council Planning Portal

Housing grants have also been awarded to the local social landlord, Prospect Community Housing, contributing towards the development and acquisition of the new residential properties at Clovenstone Close (see 3 and 4 in Table 1).<sup>7</sup>

In recent years educational infrastructure has also seen investment with the Scottish Government's *Learning Estate Investment Programme* providing a new Passivhaus-standard Wester Hailes High School to replace the original building, constructed in the late

<sup>5</sup> [Wester Hailes regeneration – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Building affordable homes – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

<sup>7</sup> Information provided by Prospect Community Housing contact to Office of Scott Arthur MP

1970s (see 5 in Table 1).<sup>8</sup> Due for completion in 2026, the new school building will expand capacity to 800 students, providing improved educational facilities, wellbeing resources, and newly established access to the Union Canal to enhance the sport curriculum.<sup>9</sup>

In contrast to housing and education, Wester Hailes has seen limited funding towards community-based and community-led projects. Nonetheless, there have been some funding successes. The Scottish Government's *Aspiring Communities Fund* supported both Prospect Community Housing and With Kids to deliver projects focused on tackling poverty, unemployment, youth development and social isolation (see 6 in Table 1).<sup>10</sup> Awarded in 2018, this funding stream finished in 2020. The *Investing in Communities Fund* further promoted participatory regeneration through grants to WHALE Arts and About Youth for the delivery of creative placemaking, youth development, and the facilitation of social enterprise (see 7 in Table 1).<sup>11</sup> WHALE Arts also benefitted from the Scottish Government *Pathways Pre-Start Fund* which facilitated the delivery of workshops to support local entrepreneurs (see 8 in Table 1).<sup>12</sup>

The *Making Places Initiative* through the Scottish Government (see 9 in Table 1) enabled the Wester Hailes Community Trust to engage residents in developing a redesign of the Westside Plaza, laying the groundwork for inclusion in the community-led Local Place Plan.<sup>13</sup> Similarly, the Calders Resident Association was awarded funding to commission a business proposal for the redevelopment of the former janitors house next to a local primary school into a new community centre (see 10 in Table 1).<sup>14</sup> Funding has **not** been made available to actually realise either of these projects.

At the UK level, the *Shared Prosperity Fund* has been granted to Wester Hailes Growing Communities to deliver a new resident-designed outdoor play area and communal greenspace, aimed at strengthening social cohesion, youth engagement, and wellbeing (see 11 in Table 1).<sup>15</sup>

## Conclusion

While Wester Hailes has seen investment through government programmes, the vast majority of investment has been dedicated toward housing and education. Based on the estimated grant value figures in Table 1, only around 1% of the some £69 million<sup>16</sup> directed toward Wester Hailes in recent years has gone to community support or social infrastructure development (items 6-11 in Table 1).

Wester Hailes needs funding commitments for the building of social infrastructure. This is essential, both for the benefit of its current population and the influx of new residents as additional housing developments are completed.

<sup>8</sup> [Wester Hailes regeneration – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Edinburgh planning: Wester Hailes High School to be demolished and replaced with education 'superblock'](#)

<sup>10</sup> [Aspiring Communities Fund: approved projects - gov.scot](#)

<sup>11</sup> [Investing in Communities Fund - round 2 2023 to 2026: approved awards - gov.scot](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Pathways Pre-Start Fund: funded programmes - gov.scot](#)

<sup>13</sup> [Making Places initiative 2017-2018: list of successful projects - gov.scot](#)

<sup>14</sup> [Help Shape a New Community Asset - Digital Sentinel](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Greenway Adventure Playground : Wester Hailes Growing Communities](#)

<sup>16</sup> Total sum of identified grant values in Table 1





Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

**Table 1: Pre-existing Government Funding Schemes in Wester Hailes (2017-2025)**

	Funding Stream Title	Funding Body	Awarded To	Grant Value	Purpose	Status
Housing	1 <b>Energy Efficiency: Area-Based Scheme</b>	Scottish Government	City of Edinburgh Council	£3.2 million	Improve housing conditions and energy efficiency across 180 residential blocks through building upgrades	Completed (2025)
	2 <b>Affordable Housing Supply Programme</b>	Scottish Government	City of Edinburgh Council	Est £12 million	Delivery of over 150 new, high quality, energy efficient housing units across parts of Wester Hailes.	In Progress (Delivery Phase 2024-25)
	3 <b>Ukrainian Long-Term Resettlement Fund</b>	Scottish Government	Prospect Community Housing	Part of £5.5 million grant funding	Support the development of the new residential blocks at Clovenstone Close, with the commitment to providing a proportion of units to Ukrainian families.	Completed (2025)
	4 <b>National Acquisition Programme</b>	Scottish Government	Prospect Community Housing	£2.4 million	Supported the purchase of some of the new properties at Clovenstone Close to house nominations from the City of Edinburgh Council's Homelessness Prevention Team	Completed (2025)
Education	5 <b>Learning Estate Investment Programme</b>	Scottish Government	City of Edinburgh Council	Est. £45 million	Deliver a new Passivhaus-standard secondary school to replace existing Wester Hailes High School building.	In Progress (Completion expected in 2026)
Support	6 <b>Aspiring Communities Fund</b>	Scottish Government	1. Prospect Community Housing 2. With Kids	1. £245,740 2. £103,417	1. Tackle deprivation levels and inequalities created by food insecurity 2. Family and children's wellbeing support, targeting household experiencing social exclusion	Completed (2020)
	7 <b>Investing in Communities</b>	Scottish Government	1. WHALE Arts 2. About Youth	1. £332,494 2. £105,822	1. Creative placemaking, social enterprise support, local cultural programming. 2. Provide youth work, mentoring, and community engagement in the Calders	In Progress (Delivery Phase 2023-26)
	8 <b>Pathways Pre-Start Fund</b>	Scottish Government	WHALE Arts	£54,173	Launch a new social entrepreneurial project focused on empowering entrepreneurs and small local business owners	Completed (2024)
Other	9 <b>Making Places Initiative</b>	Scottish Government	Wester Hailes Community Trust	£20,000	Development of a community-led design for improvement proposals to Westside Plaza Civic Square	Completed (2020)
	10 <b>Scottish Land Fund</b>	Scottish Government	Murrayburn and Hailesland Community Park Association	£15,000	Development of a community-led design for the Greenway as a Community Park	Completed (2021)
	11 <b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</b>	UK Government	Calders Resident Association	£12,000	Commissioned a business plan proposing redesigns of the former janitor house into a community hub	Completed (2022)
	12 <b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</b>	UK Government	Wester Hailes Growing Communities	£234,000	Development of a high-quality outdoor adventure playground designed and managed with residents	In Progress (Delivery by Spring 2026)

Box in red highlights the limited non-housing related grants – the largest in the £245-340k range



## Section 3

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### **3. Organisations involved in community-led regeneration**

*Please provide information on any organisations working with the community to deliver regeneration projects and community owned assets within the proposed area - e.g. Community Development Trusts, Community Councils.*

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### **Overview**

Wester Hailes benefits from a well-established and highly collaborative third sector, with several community organisations actively contributing to regeneration and community ownership. Working closely with residents, these groups are delivering projects that enhance local wellbeing, strengthen social connections, and promote sustainable development.

In our response to Question 3, we characterise a diverse range of organisations and projects, offering an overview of the vibrant initiatives and community assets that currently exist in Wester Hailes as well as demonstrating the strong culture of collaboration that underpins the area's third sector.

### **Social Regeneration and Community Ownership**

**Prospect Community Housing**, a charity and registered social landlord, manages around 900 affordable homes in the neighbourhood. The organisation also plays an active role in local wellbeing through initiatives such as the *Warm and Well Initiative*, which supports tenants in reducing energy bills and tackling fuel poverty.

Promoting equality and inclusion, **SCOREscotland's** aims include challenging racism and ensuring minority ethnic communities are fully included in all aspects of civic life. Their initiatives build bridges across communities, fostering cohesion and multi-cultural connection.

There is a strong focus on health and wellbeing, with organisations such as **The Health Agency**, providing dedicated support to tackle poverty, health inequality, and social isolation. Established over 25 years ago, the agency provides preventative and intervention services to over 2,000 residents each year, acting as a vital lifeline for those facing health and social challenges. Their work ensures that local people have the information, advice, and support to improve their physical, mental, and social wellbeing.

Youth-focused organisations such as the **Wester Hailes Youth Agency** (established in 1997) and **The Wee Haven Youth Project** (founded 2019) provide crucial support to young people, offering safe spaces, emotional support, advice, and a range of recreational activities. **About Youth** (established 2016), delivers youth work across South West Edinburgh, including Wester Hailes, through street work, group sessions, and targeted projects, ensuring young people have positive opportunities and support networks. Complementing this, **Big Noise Wester Hailes** uses music as a transformative tool for young people, helping children develop confidence, teamwork, and ambition through participation in a symphony orchestra.

## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

For older residents, the **Dove Centre** provides a dedicated service that helps older people remain active and independent. Its services include social activities and practical assistance. The Dove Centre also operates *Dove Transport*, an affordable and accessible transport service for Edinburgh-wide community groups.

The **Wester Hailes Community Trust** (WHCT, 1 in Table 2) has taken a coordinating role in the development of the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan (2022). WHCT has a demonstrable track record of delivering meaningful, community-led projects that improve local amenities, as well as embodying a long-standing culture of partnership working that has become a defining strength of the Wester Hailes third sector.

**Wester Hailes Growing Communities** (WHGC) is a relatively new community anchor organisation. Established in 2017, they seek to use local greenspace to support individual and community wellbeing. They have established three large community gardens which they manage as outdoor community centres, as well as delivering a 'School Farm' project at two local primary schools. WHGC is also in the process of acquiring a site through community asset transfer to build a community centre (2B in Table 2). The project has planning permission, and the site will be transferred in December 2025. Additionally, WHGC is in the course of building a new adventure playground, to be completed in March 2026 (see 2C in Table 2), which will provide an innovative model for community participation in the planning, development, and management of other play spaces across Wester Hailes.

Other key stakeholders include the **Calders Regeneration Trust** (3 in Table 2) and **WHALE Arts** (4 in Table 2). Both have long and successful histories of working with other community organisations - sharing resources, knowledge, and streamlining signposting to provide consistent and impactful support to the Wester Hailes community. This was particularly important during Covid, when organisations were able to work flexibly together to provide services in areas the council had withdrawn from.

WHALE Arts, a social enterprise founded in 1992, has been vital in fostering creativity and inclusion in Wester Hailes through hosting a wide variety of cultural activities and events that bring residents together, building community resilience and identity. Acting as an anchor organisation, this social enterprise helps other organisations to form and can provide support for asset transfers, improving community regeneration and ownership.

Building on the strong culture of collaboration, the **Wester Hailes Community Forum** has recently been established to facilitate neighbourhood-wide partnership and coordination. The Forum brings together local community-based groups, organisations and the City of Edinburgh Council, acting as a collective mechanism for collaboration among third sector and public services in Wester Hailes, with a core aim to support the WHCT coordinate implementation of the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan.

Table 2 outlines some of the key community organisations, local initiatives in which they are involved, and the corresponding positive 'Social Impact' these initiatives have been making and could make in the future should they proceed to fruition. It highlights the broader social, environmental, and wellbeing benefits these projects provide, through encouraging resident participation and developing social cohesion across the neighbourhood.

**Table 2: Organisations Delivering Community Ownership and Stewardship in Wester Hailes**

Lead Organisation	Project	Description	Social Impact
<b>1</b> <b>Wester Hailes Community Trust</b>	(A) Local Place Plan (Registered 2022)	Leading the coordination of the Local Place Plan in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council	Social Capital; Community Regeneration; Collaboration
	(B) Mobility Hub (2024)	A community-led space designed to support local active travel, resource sharing, and promote climate-friendly living.	Wellbeing; Community Cohesion; Resilience
	(C) Wester Hailes Rail Station Adoption (2024)	Community adoption of Rail Station, enabling long-term community stewardship and improvement of important transport asset.	Community Ownership; Resident Participation
<b>2</b> <b>Wester Hailes Growing Communities</b>	(A) Community Gardens (2014-18)	Established three community gardens, used by around 150 residents as outdoor community centres for growing, socialising, and learning.	Community Cohesion; Community Spaces; Social Connection
	(B) Greenway Community Hub (Ongoing)	Development of community hub in a disused area of hard landscape. Initial micro hub with ambition to build a full-sized hub later.	Community Spaces; Community Ownership; Social Connection
	(C) Greenway Adventure Playground (Ongoing)	Creation of an adventure playground in a 'green desert' space, to promote community connection, child development, and wellbeing.	Community Connection; Child Development; Wellbeing
	(D) Community Estate Improvement Group (CEIG) (Ongoing)	Collaborating with the local authority to establish CEIG in Hailesland neighbourhood	Transparency; Resident Participation; Community Ownership
<b>3</b> <b>Calders Regeneration Trust</b>	Calders Community Hub (Ongoing)	Asset transfer request for the former janitor's house adjacent to Sighthill Primary School for redevelopment into a community hub	Community Ownership; Community Spaces
<b>4</b> <b>WHALE Arts</b>	Community-Owned Cultural Centre (2024)	Successful asset transfer of the WHALE Arts building, securing long-term community ownership of a key local facility	Community Spaces; Community Ownership; Social Connection
<b>5</b> <b>Friends of Hailes Quarry Park</b>	Hailes Quarry Play Area Consultation (Ongoing)	Consulting with residents to inform the redesign and improvement of the park's play area and green infrastructure	Community Ownership; Resident Participation

**Photo 4: Lend A Hand help to build Mobility Hub**



Source: Wester Hailes Growing Communities

Examples of regenerative projects being developed collaboratively include the Mobility Hub. This was undertaken by the WHCT, and delivered in partnership with the WHGC providing practical support for the Hub building through their "Lend A Hand" volunteer group. The Hub opened in late 2024 and showcases the ambition and collaborative mindset of local organisations and community groups in Wester Hailes to deliver on-the-ground, community-led regeneration.

The development of a new Calder Community Hub demonstrates another example of community-based groups working together to deliver capital regeneration and improve community ownership. With the support of the WHGC, the Calders Regeneration Trust (3 in Table 2) has been working toward securing an asset transfer of the former janitor's house adjacent to Sighthill Primary School. While the project has faced multiple challenges and



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

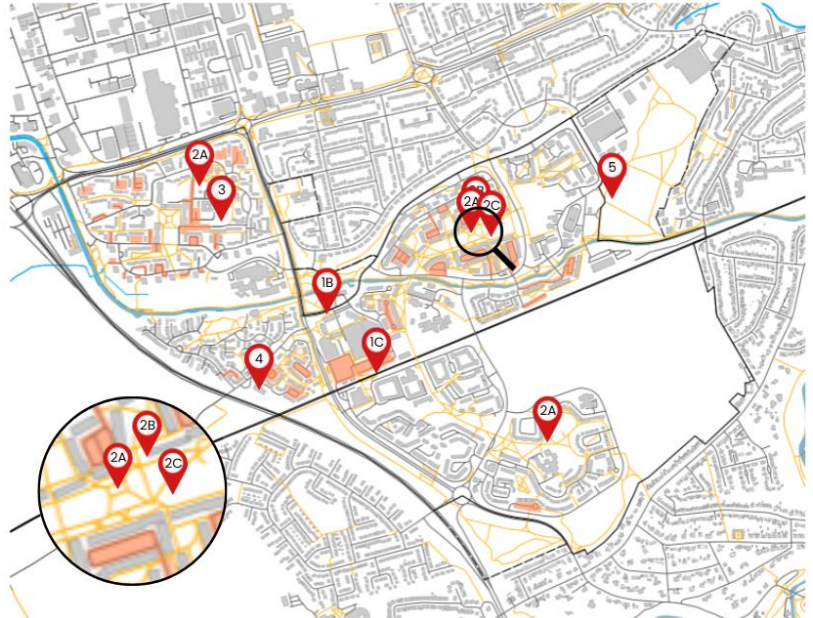
delays, the collective efforts to secure the site and progress development displays the determination and aspirations of the community to improve social infrastructure in the neighbourhood.

There are currently two ongoing initiatives to improve children's play areas in Wester Hailes.

Friends of Hailes Quarry Park (5 in Table 2) is running a public consultation until mid-November 2025 to inform improvements to the existing play area, and WHGC have secured funding to establish a new adventure playground in the Greenway Park. Both projects promote community participation in the regeneration of outdoor spaces, encouraging community-ownership through consultation.

Map 1 complements the contents of Table 2 by depicting the locations of the identified projects across the Wester Hailes neighbourhood.<sup>17</sup>

**Map 1: Locations of Community Projects listed in Table 2**



Source: Local Place Plan (Map)

## Conclusion

There is a well-established and rich network of organisations within Wester Hailes with the experience of working well together to deliver on community led regeneration initiatives, including with the City of Edinburgh Council. Together, these organisations reflect the spirit of Wester Hailes; resilient, creative, and community driven. Their combined efforts not only address immediate social challenges but also lay the foundations for a thriving, inclusive community based on participation, empowerment, and shared pride in place.

This should provide confidence to the Pride in Place Fund that the community can provide timely, efficient and impactful delivery of its investment. Key stakeholders across the area display a clear will and determination to work together for the benefit of the community - a strong foundation for the creation of a Neighbourhood Board to distribute investment effectively and collaboratively.

<sup>17</sup> Projects 1A and 2D in Table 2 are not marked in Map 1 as they do not have exact locations

## Section 4

### 4. Information about acute social or economic issues within the proposed neighbourhood area

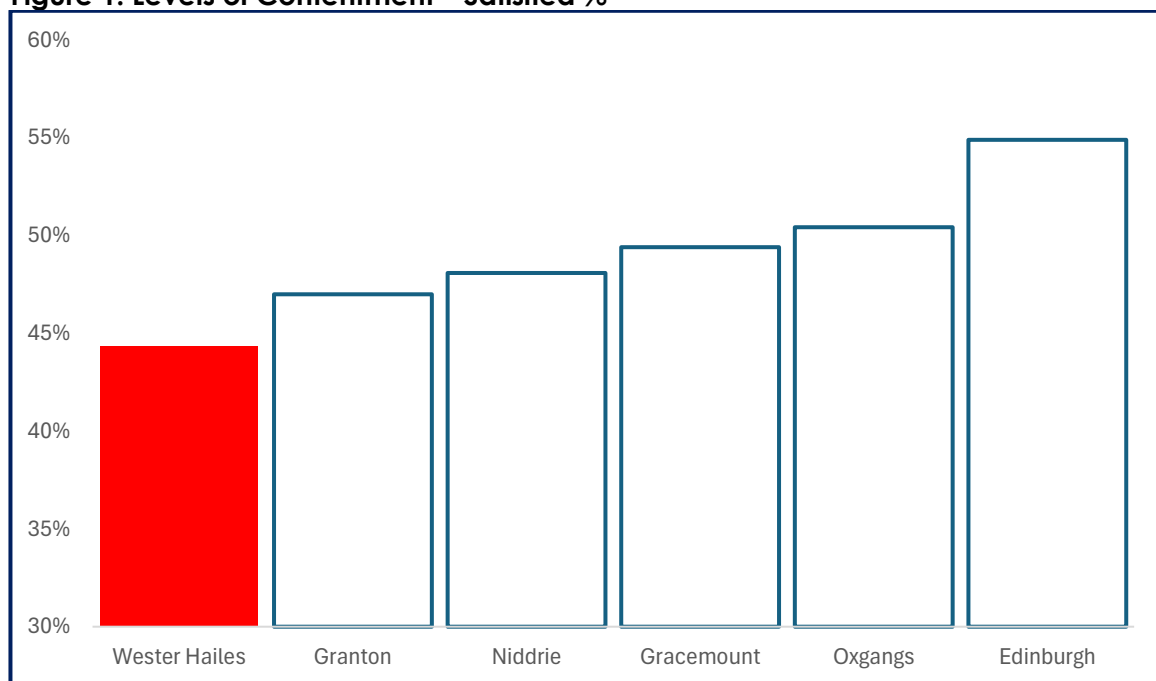
Please provide information about economic and social issues in the area that are unlikely to be captured in the SIMD 2020 data. For example, please provide qualitative and/or quantitative information about the impacts from the closing of a key local employer; increased levels of homelessness due to housing shortages; community cohesion or integration challenges; or rising levels of crime or anti-social behaviour.

### Overview

The SIMD 2020 data highlights long-standing deprivation in Wester Hailes. Wester Hailes faces a range of entrenched challenges. However, recent pressures are compounding long-standing challenges. Post-pandemic impacts, the cost-of-living crisis, demographic changes, and local safety concerns - exacerbated by recent shootings<sup>18</sup> - have deepened social fragmentation, strained community services, and eroded residents' trust in public institutions.

Figure 1<sup>19</sup> shows that Wester Hailes has the highest level of discontent among the Edinburgh neighbourhoods included in the Pride in Place programme.

**Figure 1: Levels of Contentment – Satisfied %**



Source: City of Edinburgh Council, Pride In Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison (Nov 2025)

<sup>18</sup> [Edinburgh man arrested after firearm 'discharged' in housing scheme park - Edinburgh Live](#)

<sup>19</sup> See Appendix A for City of Edinburgh Council, Pride in Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison Data



Wester Hailes has the highest proportion of social rented households and overcrowding in Edinburgh,<sup>20</sup> and many homes remain poor-quality and energy inefficient, with residents regularly experiencing mould<sup>21</sup> and draughts. To address these issues, ongoing residential development and retrofit improvements are attracting significant investment, aimed at improving housing quality and living conditions.

However, issues impacting Wester Hailes reach beyond the local housing stock. Sustained, community-led investment addressing Community Safety & Trust; Decline in Community Spaces & Civic Participation; Poverty & Health Inequity; and Education & Childcare Challenges is essential to rebuild confidence, restore local pride, and foster resilience.

Each of these issues is considered in turn, addressing the diverse range of associated challenges and events that are unlikely to be captured or conveyed by the SIMD 2020 data. In so doing the impact on the quality of life, social connection, and community cohesion of the area is considered, demonstrating the clear need for hyper-local community investment.

## Community Safety and Trust

Recent events have had a profound impact on perceptions of safety and community wellbeing. The shooting which took place in front of children at a play area on Hailesland Gardens in July 2025 has left residents fearful, with families increasingly reluctant to let children play outdoors and parents worrying that their children are being drawn in to drug use and/or dealing.<sup>22</sup> Persistent anti-social behaviour, including dirt bikes,<sup>23</sup> vandalism, and visible drug-dealing,<sup>24</sup> is eroding public confidence.

Prospect Community Housing recorded 37 cases of anti-social behaviour within its tenancies in 2024–25 alone, while community police identify Hailesland and Westside Plaza as local hotspots.

***“Our main areas that would be good to focus on are Hailesland and Westside Plaza that suffer from antisocial behaviour and drug dealing and taking. As such the areas are not felt safe to be in by locals.”***

- Edinburgh Community Police Team (South West)

Wester Hailes has the highest mortality rate among 15-44 year olds of all the Edinburgh areas being considered in the Pride In Place programme. At 200 per 100,000 the Wester

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<sup>20</sup> See Appendix A for City of Edinburgh Council, Pride in Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison Data

<sup>21</sup> [Edinburgh mum's dream home turns into 'living nightmare' and 'it's getting worse' - Edinburgh Live](#)

<sup>22</sup> [Man in hospital after Edinburgh shooting - BBC News](#)

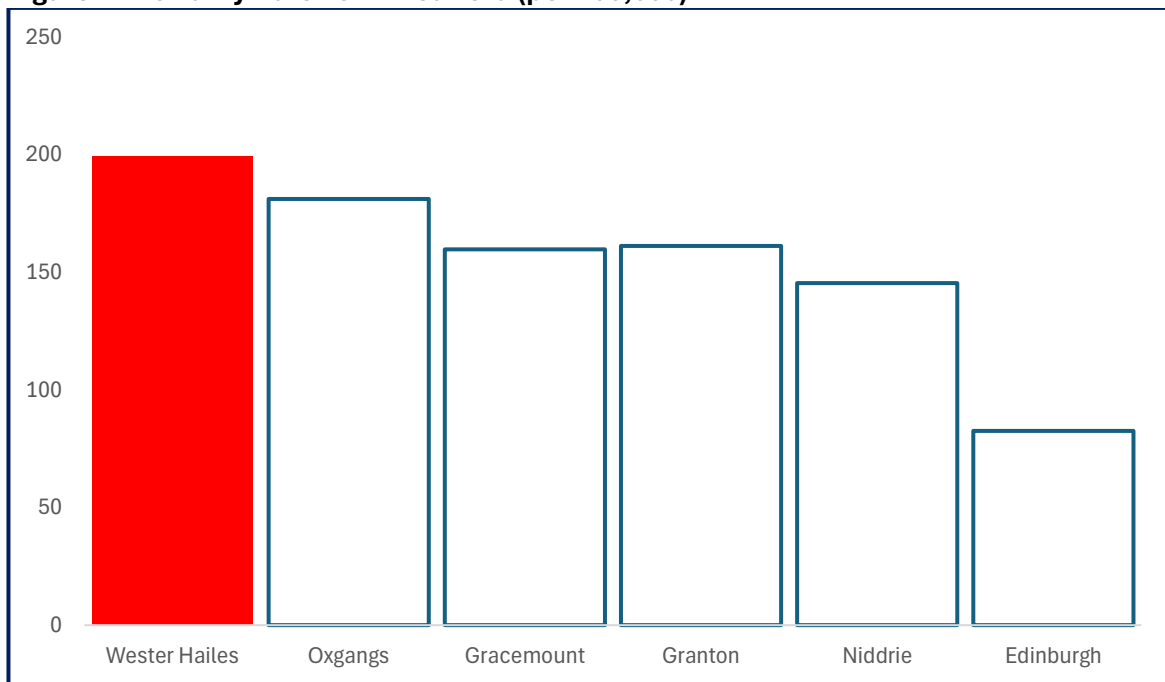
<sup>23</sup> [Reckless Edinburgh dirt bike riders tear up suburbs as police launch crackdown - Edinburgh Live](#)

<sup>24</sup> [Edinburgh police seize cocaine and cannabis worth £75,000 in Wester Hailes](#)

## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

Hailes figure is over 37% worse than in the Niddrie area for instance. Drug use is thought to be a significant contributory factor to the relatively high Wester Hailes figure.

**Figure 2: Mortality Rate 15-44 Year Old (per 100,000)**



Source: City of Edinburgh Council, *Pride In Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison (Nov 2025)*, Appendix A

Local organisations such as WHALE Arts have reported gang-related issues and youth exploitation by county line gangs. In 2023, weapons were found stashed in the WHALE Arts play area, prompting the installation of security fencing, a short-term measure that protected families but fails to address deeper causes.

***“[Edinburgh is] a city divided ... with the ghettos of Wester Hailes and Muirhouse remaining crime-ridden hellholes for any child to grow up in.”<sup>25</sup>***

- Dalry resident & public sector employee

Alongside these safety concerns, the area is experiencing rising community fragmentation linked to wider social and political tensions. The recent appearance of dozens of saltire flags along Calder Road, as part of a national “Operation Raise the Colours” campaign, is the latest evidence of these rising tensions.

***“It’s more than just patriotism, it’s immigrants. There’s old people choosing between heating and eating, and people are coming here and getting housing, money, a phone. It’s a political message.”<sup>26</sup>***

- Wester Hailes resident

<sup>25</sup> [Citizen's Perspectives on Poverty in Edinburgh: Consequences and Solutions- Edinburgh Poverty Commission](#)

<sup>26</sup> [Edinburgh Council urged to remove 'anti-migrant' flags | The Herald](#)



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

These incidents highlight growing polarisation within parts of the community, not only between residents and newcomers, but also between those who feel unheard or left behind and those working to build inclusion. The lack of neutral, accessible community spaces where people of different backgrounds can meet, talk, and collaborate compounds this division.

Rebuilding trust therefore requires more than investment in policing or safety measures; it calls for places and programmes that foster shared identity and civic participation. Without this, insecurity and social isolation risk deepening further.

## Decline in Community Spaces and Civic Participation

The decline of community spaces in Wester Hailes, is feeding local safety concerns. With fewer active, welcoming venues and less natural “passive surveillance” from residents spending time in public areas, communities become more vulnerable to crime, anti-social behaviour, and feelings of insecurity. Arguably, with the highest proportion of lone parent families and 2+ dependent children of all the Edinburgh areas under consideration by the Pride In Place Fund,<sup>27</sup> the need for suitable community spaces is no more important than in Wester Hailes.

The erosion of these spaces has also deepened social isolation and weakened local networks. Residents frequently mourn the loss of informal places to “have a cup of tea”,<sup>28</sup> highlighting the negative impact this has had on their ability to connect, organise, and engage in collective care.

Many original community hubs have disappeared, and facilities such as the Calders Centre have been demolished. The Healthy Living Centre café is small, functional rather than social, and open only occasionally; and the volunteer-run Calders Community Flat, though valued, can only host small groups. The library continues to serve as a community anchor but must balance that role with its core purpose, limiting wider use.

Both the Clovenstone Neighbourhood Centre (purple marker in Photo 5) and GATE 55

**Photo 5: Location of GATE 55 and Clovenstone Centre**



Source: City of Edinburgh Council Pride in Place

Community Centre (red marker in Photo 5) are council-owned and operated. While GATE-55's utility to the Wester Hailes neighbourhood is restricted by the need to cross a main road, each centre is valued by locals, particularly given the lack of other options. However, their opening hours are restricted, and prone to disruption when a Council employee becomes unavailable, meaning the facilities cannot meet their full potential and GATE 55's closure seems to be a perennial Council threat.

<sup>27</sup> See Appendix A for City of Edinburgh Council, Pride in Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison Data

<sup>28</sup> [Community Evaluation Report- VDP](#)



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

Community gardens have begun to fill some of this gap, yet they cannot replace the year-round need for welcoming indoor venues, particularly during colder months. Without accessible, well-resourced spaces, opportunities for residents to gather, collaborate, and rebuild civic life remain limited.

This physical decline is compounded by the financial fragility facing many of the local organisations that provide community benefits. Chronic funding instability forces groups to spend disproportionate time on fundraising and compliance, leaving little capacity for delivery or long-term planning. Even small disruptions can threaten entire projects e.g. a SCOREscotland staff illness recently put a youth camping trip at risk because only one person was licensed to drive the van.

Participants also feel the strain: Stitch'n'Time, a successful mental health initiative, saw wellbeing outcomes reduced by fears it might close due to funding loss. Short-term grants and “box-ticking” cycles often prioritise outputs over outcomes, leading to shorter sessions and diminished impact.

This fragility undermines trust and continuity, both for residents and staff, and discourages long-term engagement. Stable, multi-year investment in community-led spaces and initiatives would allow Wester Hailes to plan confidently, retain skilled staff, and build on its existing strengths.

Another significant challenge facing Wester Hailes is the lack of a traditional high street. The area's main civic space, Westside Plaza, a privately owned, self-contained shopping centre, serves as the neighbourhood's focal point but suffers from several limitations. It lacks community ownership, is physically cut off by major roads on three sides and remains closed on Sundays. Built in the 1970s, the Plaza's design and location reflect an era focused on car access rather than walkability or community gathering. Its layout, external management, limited retail offering, high-rates, and numerous vacant units all weaken the area's social fabric by denying residents a central, vibrant meeting place. The consultation led by the Wester Hailes Community Trust marked an important first step toward bringing the Plaza under community stewardship and realising its potential as a social and civic hub (see 9 in Table 1; 4 in Table 3) and has been included as a core project in the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan. However, progress has been hindered by limited resources to act on the consultation's findings.

These challenges, the loss of local meeting places, insecure funding, and the resulting decline in civic participation, are precisely what the initiatives within the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan seeks to address through coordinated, community-driven regeneration.

## Poverty and Health Inequity

Wester Hailes has the lowest levels of median income in Edinburgh and the highest proportion of children in low-income families, worse than any of the other Edinburgh areas under consideration by the Pride In Place Fund<sup>29</sup> – see Figure 3. The median income is 53% lower than that in Edinburgh, and 14% lower than the next worst Edinburgh Pride In Place

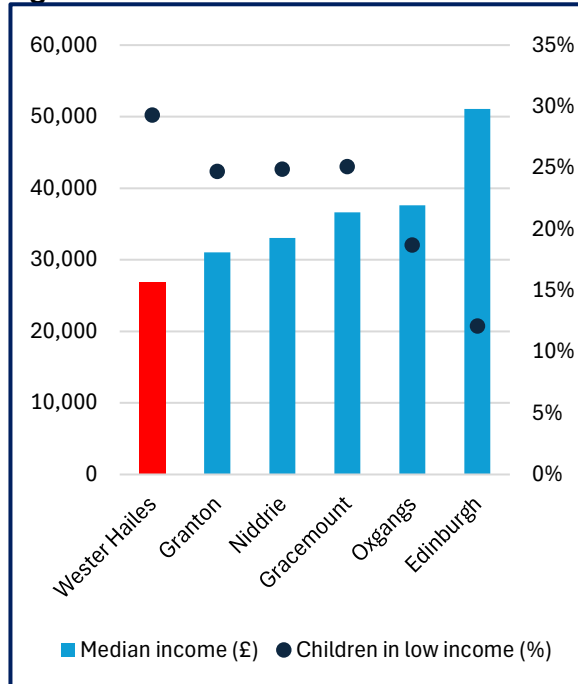
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<sup>29</sup> See Appendix A for City of Edinburgh Council, Pride in Place Neighbourhood Areas Comparison Data

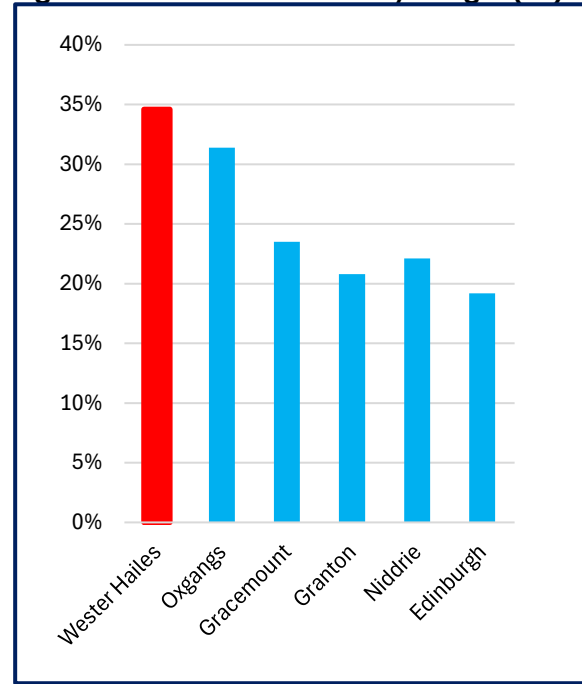
## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

area. Startlingly, 30% of all children in Wester Hailes live in low-income households, over 20% worse than any of the other Edinburgh neighbourhoods being considered in the Pride in Place programme and nearly one in three children in Wester live in poverty<sup>30</sup>. Wester Hailes also has the poorest unhealthy weight figures among young children at Primary 1 age – see Figure 4.

**Figure 3: Income Levels**



**Figure 4: Children of Unhealthy Weight (P1)**



Source: Appendix A for City of Edinburgh Council, *Pride in Place Neighbourhood Areas*

The pressure of low income has clear corresponding health consequences. Dr. Nora Murray-Cavanagh, GP and clinical lead at Wester Hailes Medical Practice, notes that some patients “do not have phones to call the surgery or enough credit to stay on hold for up to an hour.” Others cannot afford the bus fare to attend hospital appointments. Residents face a life expectancy gap of around seven years compared to the Edinburgh average.<sup>31</sup>

***“In this part of Edinburgh, health isn’t a separate issue - it’s shaped by everything else.”<sup>32</sup>***

- Dr. Murray-Cavanagh

<sup>30</sup> See Appendix B for City of Edinburgh Council, Wester Hailes Intermediate Neighbourhood data (Nov 2025)

<sup>31</sup> See Appendix B for City of Edinburgh Council, Wester Hailes Intermediate Neighbourhood data (Nov 2025)

<sup>32</sup> [Deprivation meets inspiration- The Doctor](#)



## Education and Childcare Challenges

The effects of poverty are particularly visible in children's lives. Over a third of pupils at Canal View Primary School and Sighthill Primary School qualify for free school meals,<sup>33</sup> and the withdrawal of the Smile Childcare provider in the local area has further reduced access to affordable childcare – a real barrier to work.

***"I currently work in education in Wester Hailes and see the direct results of poverty on children every single day. These children deserve the same rights and quality of life as their contemporaries who lead lives far removed from all the issues that poverty brings."***<sup>34</sup>

– Local Teacher

Educational attainment remains below city and national averages. According to the 2022 Census, 31.3% of Wester Hailes residents had no formal qualifications, compared with 26.8% across Scotland.<sup>35</sup> Families with resources often move away to access higher-performing schools, perpetuating segregation and limiting local cohesion.

## Conclusion

Taken together, these issues depict a community under pressure yet rich in ambition and determination. Wester Hailes has significant social assets, active residents, experienced local organisations, and a long tradition of grassroots action, but these strengths require secure investment to thrive.

In addition to housing improvements, sustained funding for safe spaces and long-term community development would not only address immediate challenges but also rebuild the civic infrastructure and local pride essential for lasting change.

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<sup>33</sup> See Appendix B for City of Edinburgh Council, Wester Hailes Intermediate Neighbourhood data (Nov 2025)

<sup>34</sup> [Citizen's Perspectives on Poverty in Edinburgh: Consequences and Solutions- Edinburgh Poverty Commission](#)

<sup>35</sup> [Interesting Information for Wester Hailes Park, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH14 3AG Postcode](#)



## Section 5

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### 5. **Information about social capital building potential in the proposed neighbourhood area.**

The Scottish Communities In Need (SCNI) has been used to identify areas with low social capital - specifically those with lower levels of:

- Presence and accessibility of community, civic, educational, and cultural facilities
- Civic participation, engagement with the third sector

Please provide any information about local potential to build social capital in the neighbourhood by increasing the above. For example, please provide data and information on community asset transfer requests, community wealth building projects, or co-operative enterprises.

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### Overview

Wester Hailes demonstrates exceptional potential for building social capital through its strong track record of successful collaboration among existing community-based organisations, residents, and the City of Edinburgh Council. This foundation is exemplified in the **Wester Hailes Local Place Plan**<sup>36</sup>. However, to translate Wester Hailes potential into measurable, lasting outcomes, continued and targeted investment is essential. Without adequate funding, many of the identified initiatives risk remaining aspirational rather than transformative, jeopardising the community's hard-won momentum toward inclusive regeneration.

Our response to Question 5 considers the potential for social capital within Wester Hailes by examining the significance of the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan, which provides a roadmap for both physical and social regeneration in the neighbourhood. It also highlights the extensive networks and relationships – building on the information presented in Section 3 – that can be strengthened through Pride in Place investment.

In this context, “social capital” is understood as the networks, relationships, and shared culture that enable cooperation and collective action, contributing to social cohesion and community resilience. The section will first contextualise the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan and move on to expand on selected projects within to illustrate the area's strong potential for growing social capital.

### Wester Hailes Local Place Plan

Local Place Plans (LPPs) are community-led plans that set out proposals for the development and use of land in a specific area. Introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019<sup>37</sup>. LPPs set out a community's aspirations for its future development, “they

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<sup>36</sup> [Wester Hailes Local Place Plan — Wester Hailes Community Trust](#)

<sup>37</sup> [Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#)



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

describe the types of changes that local people want to see”<sup>38</sup> and therefore perfectly address a key aim of the Pride in Place Fund described by the UK Government as “to fund the types of changes people have said they want to see” (see Background).

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan is an exemplar of LPPs – submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council and registered in October 2022, it was Scotland’s first LPP and has been used as a template for LPPs since. **None of the other areas in Edinburgh under consideration for funding from the Pride in Place Fund have registered Local Place Plans,<sup>39</sup> only Wester Hailes.** This level of preparedness means that Pride in Place funding could be deployed efficiently and deliver rapid, visible results. The groundwork has been laid, and investment at this stage would ensure that the community’s extensive planning translates into tangible social and economic benefits.

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan identifies 36 key community regeneration projects.<sup>40</sup> These include 1) the development of new community hubs, 2) improving public-realm infrastructure, and 3) establishing sustainable management strategies of community facilities. Each project strengthens the presence and accessibility of community, civic, and cultural facilities in Wester Hailes.

While the Local Place Plan outlines a comprehensive vision, many of its 36 projects remain unfunded or under-resourced. Pride in Place funding represents the critical mechanism to move these community-defined priorities from plan to implementation, safeguarding years of community engagement and design effort from stalling due to lack of capital support.

Table 3 presents a **selection of projects drawn from the 36 initiatives in the Local Place Plan**, representing a diverse range of projects across different thematic groupings. The sample is designed to illustrate the breadth of activity and the variety of social and economic benefits these projects can deliver. Each project has been evaluated against the social and economic issues outlined in Section 4 (Community Safety & Trust; Decline in Community Spaces & Civic Participation; Poverty & Health Inequity; and Education & Childcare Challenges) highlighting how the sample initiatives will address challenges.

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<sup>38</sup> [City of Edinburgh Council – Wester Hailes Local Place Plan](#)

<sup>39</sup> [City of Edinburgh Council – Local Place Plan Register](#)

<sup>40</sup> See Appendix C for the full table of projects identified in the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan

## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

**Map 3: Locations of Wester Hailes LPP Projects Identified in Table 3**



Sources: Wester Hailes Local Place Plan (Map)

integration of projects with stronger direct social capital impacts.

Map 3 contextualises the location of the sample projects across the neighbourhood, further demonstrating the ambition for community regeneration across the area as a cohesive, unified neighbourhood.

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan was led by the Wester Hailes Community Trust and funded by the City of Edinburgh Council. It provides a structured, community-led framework for regeneration driven by local priorities and collective action. It was developed in conjunction with multiple community groups, most notably Wester Hailes Growing Communities, WHALE Arts and Prospect Community Housing. The Local Place Plan's consultation process engaged residents, community groups, and local stakeholders, ensuring that local aspirations and assets underpin every proposed project and initiative. Architects and landscape architects were appointed to channel the ideas of the community into an overarching vision underpinned by specific actionable initiatives.

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan acts as both a physical and social infrastructure blueprint for increasing connectedness, participation, and community ownership - a uniquely strong and rich foundation for a Neighbourhood Board to build upon. It demonstrates how investment in community facilities can be paired with opportunities for local leadership, volunteering and collaboration, generating sustainable social capital.

The assessment also considers each project's capacity to build social capital. The majority of sample projects chosen, demonstrate a direct influence on strengthening community networks, trust, and participation. Others, particularly those classified under *public realm*, while not directly generating social capital, contribute indirectly by enhancing the overall quality and connectivity of the local neighbourhood environment. These improvements, in turn, support the success and

## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

The participatory approach to development of the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan cemented relationships across the key stakeholders and communities in Wester Hailes. As stated in Section 3, the recently established Wester Hailes Community Forum aims to facilitate neighbourhood-wide partnership to progress implementation of the Local Place Plan. Creating a collective of local Wester Hailes community-based groups, organisations, and the Council, the Forum is taking a lead on coordinating the delivery of these projects, nominating local projects leads, and facilitating shared decision-making. This structure embeds local participation and accountability into the delivery of social infrastructure, ensuring that regeneration remains community-led, inclusive, and cohesive.

**Photo 6: Wester Hailes Community Forum Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> November 2025)**



Source: Office of Scott Arthur MP

In preparation for the Pride in Place Neighbourhood recommendation, Dr Scott Arthur MP discussed the submission with stakeholders at a meeting coordinated by the Wester Hailes Community Forum on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025 (see Photo 6).

Together, the Local Place Plan and Wester Hailes Community Forum represent a well-organised foundation for social capital growth. With existing collaboration, a pipeline of community-led projects, and mechanisms for shared governance already in place, **Wester Hailes is uniquely positioned in Edinburgh** to leverage additional investment efficiently and effectively to strengthen civic participation, expand the presence of accessible community facilities, and strengthen the social fabric of the Wester Hailes neighbourhood.

Pride in Place funding would be invested efficiently with confidence and purpose, ensuring maximisation of social impact and delivery of bottom-up regeneration.





Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

**Table 3: Sample of Wester Hailes Local Place Plan Projects <sup>41</sup>**

Local Place Plan Project			Summary	Key Stakeholders (Suggested)	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND TRUST	DECLINE IN COMMUNITY SPACES AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION	POVERTY AND HEALTH INEQUITY	EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE CHALLENGES	Social Capital Value
Community Hubs	Greenway Community Hub	1	Phased development of micro-hub leading to full centre for Dumbryden, Murrayburn, Hailesland	Wester Hailes Growing Communities	✓	✓	✓	✓	●
	Calders Community Hub	2	Creation of new hub via community asset transfer, including café, youth space, outdoor performance area	Calders Regeneration Trust; Calders Resident Association	✓	✓	✓	✓	●
	Central Community Hub	3	New flagship community facility linking canal, Plaza, and Healthy Living Centre	Wester Hailes Community Trust	✓	✓		✓	●
Public Realm	Westside Plaza Local Centre	4	Creating a more vibrant, mixed use town centre through improving buildings, transport amenities, and open spaces	Various Local Partners	✓	✓	✓	✓	●
	Outdoor Play Spaces	5	Develop dedicated, accessible and inclusive play spaces throughout the neighbourhood	Wester Hailes Growing Communities; Clovenstone Community Centre	✓	✓		✓	●
	Seating	6	Installation of a variety of seating along main walking routes to increase opportunities to meet, rest and observe.	Wester Hailes Growing Communities; SCOREScotland; Prospect Community Housing	✓				●
Services	Food Pantry	7	Establish a 'Dignity in Practice' food pantry to address food poverty sustainably and in the long-term	Various Local Partners	✓	✓	✓		●
Other	Coordinated Management Model	8	Shared staffing structure across community hubs to improve governance and efficiency	Wester Hailes Growing Communities; Whale Arts; Calders Regeneration Trust	✓	✓	✓		●

<sup>41</sup> **“Social Capital Value” Column:** Projects marked with a green circle indicate initiatives expected to make a *direct contribution* to building social capital within the neighbourhood. Projects marked with an amber circle are anticipated to have an *indirect or conditional impact* on social capital growth.

Each project has their merits. The aim of the table is not to score one as better than another, rather it is to demonstrate the richness of the community supported projects available for investment by the Pride in Place Fund in Western Hailes.



## 1. New Community Hubs

### Overview

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan identifies a network of largely unfunded projects focused on strengthening the area's social infrastructure through the enhancement of existing community hubs and the development of new purpose-built spaces. These initiatives directly address the SCNI priorities of increasing access to community, civic, and cultural facilities and nurturing the conditions for greater civic participation.

Currently, the limited community spaces available in Wester Hailes serve mainly their immediate communities and lack the capacity or physical connection to encourage broader neighbourhood cohesion. The facilities also face numerous challenges including administration, maintenance costs, and capacity. The Covid pandemic highlighted this vulnerability, as the closure of council owned hubs left local organisations with limited resources and space to deliver essential services, such as food and wellbeing support. The experience underlined the need for locally owned, resilient, and adaptable community facilities capable of sustaining activity through changing circumstances.

Investment in the improvement and expansion of community hubs will strengthen neighbourhood resilience by creating accessible, welcoming spaces for learning, social connection, and shared enterprise. These spaces are vital for fostering connection across cultural communities, reducing isolation, and strengthening mutual understanding. Considering ongoing political anti-immigration rhetoric undermining community cohesion, the importance of community spaces to break through prejudices cannot be overstated.

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan envisages the addition of three new community hubs, each at different stages in their development and all in need of financial support before they can be fully realised - the Central Hub which is at an early stage in its development, the Greenway Community Hub and the Calders Community Hub. Each project is in need of funding. Securing Pride in Place funding at this juncture would enable immediate progression of these projects, unlocking significant community and economic value. Each hub is positioned to act as a catalyst for wider regeneration, but progress is contingent on the availability of core capital investment.

### Greenway Community Hub

Led by Wester Hailes Growing Communities, the Greenway Community Hub project aims to transform an underused hard-landscaped area at the heart of the Murrayburn, Hailesland, and Dumbryden neighbourhoods into a vibrant, community owned space. An asset transfer is currently advancing to bring the space ownership under WHGC. Capital funding had originally been anticipated from the Scottish Government capital funding grant (2023-24) for the Hub, but this was withdrawn. Following this disappointment the project now envisages a phased approach with an initial Micro Hub designed to deliver immediate social benefits while laying the groundwork for a Full Hub development later. The phased approach to construction represents a pragmatic yet ambitious approach to community-led social capital building.<sup>42</sup>

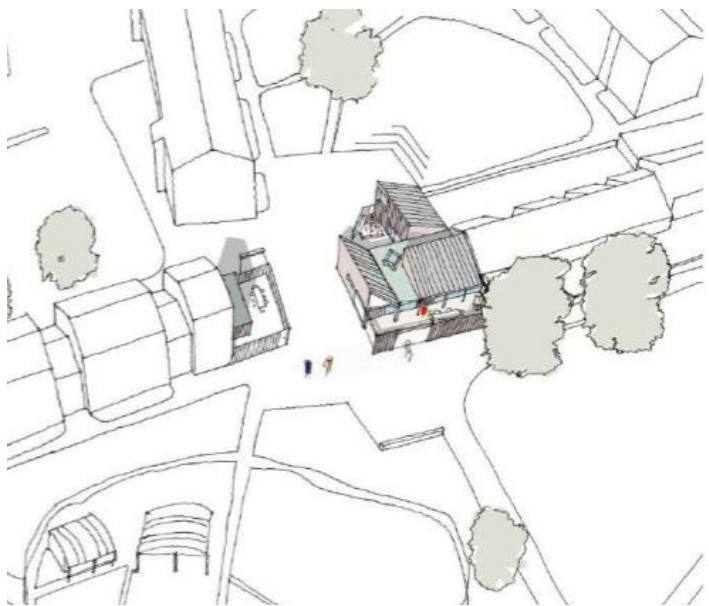
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<sup>42</sup> [The Greenway hub- Wester Hailes growing Communities](#)

## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

The Hub would host arts and crafts workshops, youth training programmes, and a pop-up café, as well as supporting local food growing and gardening projects, complementing the nearby Greenway Community Garden. This project clearly addresses local need for a dedicated, accessible, indoor facility for social activities, learning, and wellbeing. By creating a sustainable and welcoming hub the project aims to revitalise an overlooked public space, fostering connections between communities, age groups and cultures, strengthening the areas resilience and community cohesion.

**Photo 7: Visualisation of Greenway Community Hub**



Source: Wester Hailes Growing Communities

## Calders Community Hub

The project aims to breathe new life into the former janitor's house adjacent to Sighthill Primary School. The Calders Regeneration Trust and Calders Residents' Association have worked together to secure the building via an asset-transfer process (now in Phase 2). The vision is to convert this under-used building into a dedicated community hub to complement the existing Community Flat and provide vital social infrastructure for the Calders community. This follows the demolition of the previous Calders Community Centre by the City of Edinburgh Council in 2014.

**Photo 8: Visualisation of Calders Community Hub**



Source: Wester Hailes Local Place Plan

In 2020 the Residents' Association commissioned a business plan (see 8 in Table 1) and worked with Lee Boyd Architects to draft designs demonstrating the building's potential as a flexible space for community and organisational uses.<sup>43</sup>

Once realised, the hub will offer a place to meet, run local groups, provide youth activities and deliver services tailored to the neighbourhood's needs. By transforming a derelict asset into a community-owned space, the project would support community ownership and capacity building in the Calders community, helping reconnect neighbours, rebuild social infrastructure, and provide a base for local aspiration.

<sup>43</sup> [Cleaning up in Calders- The Edinburgh reporter](#)



## 2. Improving Public Realm Infrastructure

### Overview

The Wester Hailes Local Place Plan made a series of recommendations for the improvement of the Wester Hailes public realm, particularly pedestrian infrastructure such as neighbourhood connections, active travel routes, lighting, and seating. Overall, the area is affected by infrastructure that fragments communities, presenting physical barriers that restrict connectivity across the area, leading to negative social implications.

Wester Hailes is largely dominated by vehicular infrastructure often with limited or inconsistent dedicated crossing points, isolating significant areas of the neighbourhood, including the West Side Plaza town centre, and the Healthy Living Centre. Furthermore, the pedestrian infrastructure which does exist is often poorly lit and lacks passive surveillance, exacerbating concerns of safety and inhibiting residents from moving around the community outside daylight hours.

### Community Visioning & Planning of Public Realm

There are significant opportunities to enhance the public realm across Wester Hailes through the development of welcoming, inclusive, and well-lit spaces that encourage people to meet, rest and observe their surroundings. Incorporating diverse designs, lay outs, and involving residents in the creation of these spaces would provide both aesthetic and practical benefits. Adjacent planters, art, and wayfinding elements would enrich walking routes, strengthening local identity and connection.

Wester Hailes Growing Communities are working with Edinburgh Council to establish an Estate Improvement Group which will encompass resident visioning and planning groups for each of the neighbourhoods of Wester Hailes. The Estate Improvement Group will identify opportunities for improvements to the public realm, incorporate resident aspirations for design and delivery. This process will result in a stable of capital projects which could be delivered by Pride in Place.

### Public Seating & Walkway Improvements

Installing a variety of seating along main walking routes, public spaces, and near public facility entrances such as the library, would improve accessibility and comfort for all-users, particularly elderly, disabled, and those with small children - changing disused areas of hard landscape into spaces for social interaction and symbols of community investment.

The creation of new and improved community hubs will provide more reasons for residents to be out-and-about. Complementing the development of purpose-built community hubs, the increase in pedestrian infrastructure would enable active travel between community assets, encouraging and facilitating connection between communities across Wester Hailes and improving passive surveillance in the process.

## 3. Coordinated Management of Community Facilities

A key initiative identified in the Local Place Plan is the establishment of a coordinated management structure to support the community facilities and services in Wester Hailes. It recognises that coordinated management would ensure that services are not



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

duplicated but also help to identify gaps and needs both current and as the neighbourhood changes and evolves over time.

Through the framework set out in the Local Place Plan, local organisations including Wester Hailes Growers, WHALE Arts, WHCT, Prospect Community Housing, The Health Agency and a range of smaller community groups - are working together to ensure a joined-up network of community hubs and services. This network approach will embed resilience and enable partners to share space, knowledge, and expertise while coordinating programmes to reach different demographic groups and neighbourhood areas. The emphasis on cooperation rather than competition continues to forge a high level of inter-organisational trust. This will help create a strong foundation for the establishment of a future Neighbourhood Board under the Pride in Place programme.

As more assets are developed the initiative would look to engage with residents to ensure that needs are recognised and met, including residents in the delivery of activities and events, and guaranteeing that the whole of Wester Hailes as a neighbourhood is included. Coordinated management would provide residents with more ownership and control of activities in their neighbourhood, promoting a bottom-up approach to regeneration.

Together, the coordinated management of community facilities and the longstanding commitment to partnership working will provide the operational backbone for social capital building in Wester Hailes. It will ensure that investment translates not only into improved physical assets but also into stronger relationships, more inclusive participation, and sustained community capacity, laying the groundwork for a confident, connected, and self-determined neighbourhood.

## Conclusion

Wester Hailes has a wealth of potential to build and sustain social capital. The community's collaborative culture, evident in the development of the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan and the establishment of the Community Forum, has already generated the trust shared purpose, and organisational capacity required for collective action. With the Local Place Plan as a roadmap for action, the neighbourhood is poised to grow even stronger, expanding connection, inclusion, confidence, and community ownership. What is now required is the investment to bring this vision to life.

The projects outlined above are not only about physical improvements; they are mechanisms for deepening relationships, fostering mutual support, and empowering residents to shape their neighbourhood together. This potential can only be realised through timely and sustained investment. Pride in Place funding offers the opportunity to anchor Wester Hailes' regeneration in the community's own priorities, ensuring that projects move from vision to delivery, that collaboration is rewarded with results, and that the area's unique readiness is fully capitalised upon. Without this support, there is a real risk that years of community effort, consultation, and trust-building could lose momentum at the critical point of implementation.



## Conclusion: A Neighbourhood Ready to Deliver Lasting Impact

Wester Hailes stands out as a neighbourhood ready to deliver meaningful, measurable, and sustainable regeneration. The case for investment is one of social necessity: according to the City of Edinburgh Council data, Wester Hailes faces higher levels of deprivation than any other Edinburgh Neighbourhood. Poverty and poor health are inextricably linked in Wester Hailes, where people are more likely to live with multiple long-term health conditions, experience poor mental health, **face a life expectancy of around seven years below the Edinburgh average and where nearly one in three children live in poverty**. Decades of disinvestment have left fragmented community infrastructure, yet the area's response has been to organise rather than withdraw. Local groups have continued to deliver services, mobilise volunteers, and maintain shared assets even through periods of austerity and the Covid-19 pandemic.

The **Wester Hailes Local Place Plan (2022)** provides an exceptional foundation for the Pride in Place Fund's objectives. As Scotland's first registered Local Place Plan, it was developed through extensive community consultation in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council and reflects a clear consensus on the regeneration projects that residents and stakeholders agree are most needed. The LPP identifies **36 locally endorsed regeneration projects**—each designed to strengthen community ownership, expand civic participation, and improve access to quality public spaces. This readiness sets Wester Hailes apart as a neighbourhood that possesses a community-led roadmap for delivery, a coordinating structure through the **Wester Hailes Community Forum**, and supported through established organisations such as WHALE Arts, Prospect Community Housing, and the Wester Hailes Community Trust.

Investment through the Pride in Place Fund would support the delivery of projects presently in the starting blocks, including the **Greenway Community Hub**, and enable realisation of community projects that have faced multiple challenges and lack of resources, such as the **Calders Community Hub**. The Fund would also unlock the delivery of public-realm improvements and facilitate community ownership in key spaces such as the Westside Plaza. With community agreement on priorities already established, the main barrier to progress is funding, meaning that strategic investment can have immediate and measurable impact. These initiatives directly advance the Fund's priorities by addressing the current shortage of accessible, well-connected community facilities and nurturing the conditions for sustained civic engagement.

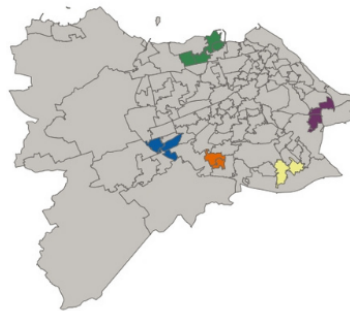
The Pride in Place Fund seeks to empower communities to take charge of their futures. Wester Hailes is uniquely positioned to realise that vision. With a proven partnership model, a pipeline of community-driven projects, and experienced organisations with a history of successful collaboration, this neighbourhood represents a low-risk, high-return investment in local pride, participation, and long-term renewal. Backing Wester Hailes means providing the pivotal funding needed to transform established priorities and ambitions into tangible outcomes, building on capacity, collaboration, and momentum already demonstrated by its residents and third-sector partners.

## Appendix A: Neighbourhood Comparisons

Appendix A presents statistical comparisons of the five intermediate neighbourhoods identified by the City of Edinburgh Council. The appendix includes processed charts comparing the areas, followed by the original data as provided by the Council.

### Neighbourhood Areas Comparison

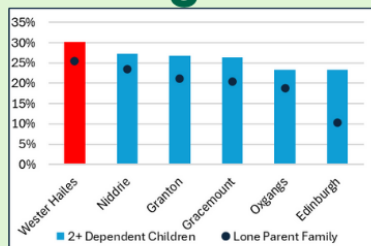
**Photo 6: Edinburgh neighbourhoods**



- Niddrie
- Wester Hailes
- Oxcgangs
- Gracemount
- Granton

Source: City of Edinburgh Council, Pride In Place Submission November 2025

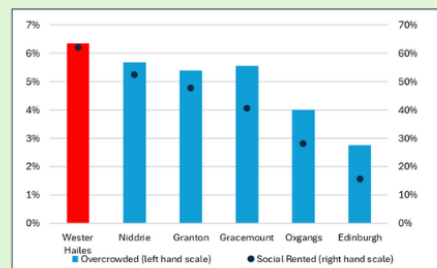
#### Housing & Household Composition



**Figure 4: Household Composition**

Wester Hailes has the highest proportion of lone parent families and 2+ dependent children in Edinburgh.

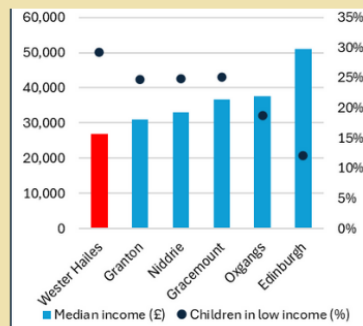
Wester Hailes has the greatest proportion of social rented households and overcrowding in Edinburgh



**Figure 5: Housing**

#### Income

Wester Hailes has the lowest levels of median income in Edinburgh and the highest proportion of children in low income families

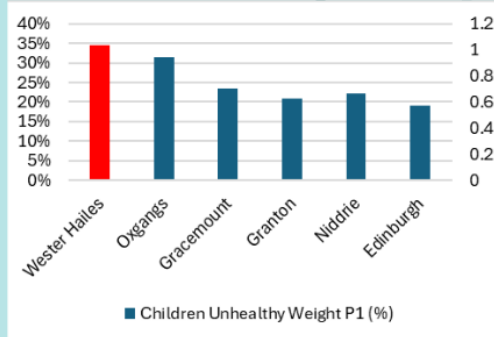


**Figure 3: Income levels**

86% of individuals in Wester Hailes are in the 1st (highest) quintile of income deprivation.

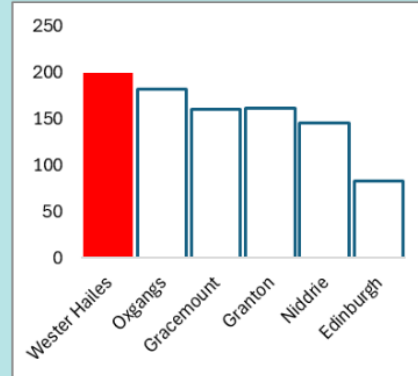
## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

### Health inequality



**Figure 4: Children of an unhealthy weight**

**Figure 2: Mortality Rate 15–44 Year Old (per 100,000)**



Wester Hailes has the poorest healthy eating figures among young children and the highest rate of deaths in the 15–44 age group

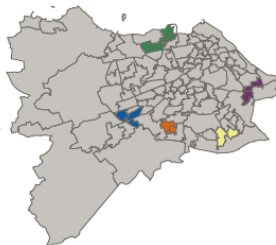
Data sourced from: Source: City of Edinburgh Council, Pride In Place Submission November 2025

### Neighbourhood areas comparison

- Bingham, Magdalene and ...
- Clovenstone and Wester ...
- Colinton Mains and Firri...
- Gracemount, Southhou...
- Granton and Royston Ma...

#### Population

Neighbourhood areas	Population
Bingham, Magdalene a...	8,122
Clovenstone and West...	11,121
Colinton Mains and Firr...	6,896
Gracemount, Southhou...	9,503
Granton and Royston ...	18,788



#### Other indicators

Category	Contentment Satisfied	Highest level of qualifications No qualifications	Interests and hobbies Healthy Eating
Neighbourhood areas			
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christi...	48.09%	26.00%	5.56%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	44.33%	22.70%	5.64%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	50.43%	16.80%	5.87%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdie...	49.41%	21.43%	5.70%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	47.00%	19.61%	5.77%

#### Household composition

Category	Household composition Lone parent family	Number of children 2+ dependent children
Neighbourhood areas		
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	23.55%	27.29%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	25.56%	30.25%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	18.74%	23.34%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	20.51%	26.42%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	21.13%	26.67%

#### Housing

Category	Occupancy level Overcrowded	Type of central heating No central heating
Neighbourhood areas		
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	5.68%	1.94%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	6.35%	2.51%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	4.01%	3.13%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	5.55%	2.16%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	5.40%	3.79%

#### Finance

Category	Type of tenure Social Rented	Financial situation Private medical insurance	Savings Re-mortgaged	Using savings or in debt
Neighbourhood areas				
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	52.46%	2.79%	2.08%	9.85%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	62.00%	3.29%	1.82%	11.10%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	28.17%	3.22%	1.96%	9.75%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	40.61%	2.75%	2.03%	9.47%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	47.74%	3.46%	2.05%	10.36%

#### Income

Neighbourhood areas	Individuals on UC	Under 35k combined income	Median income	Children in low income
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	2,241	53.89%	£33,067	24.9%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	2,491	62.65%	£26,902	29.3%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	1,141	46.84%	£37,609	18.7%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	2,082	48.79%	£36,641	25.1%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	4,850	51.64%	£31,041	24.7%

#### Health

Neighbourhood areas	Female life expectancy	Male life expectancy	Child healthy weight P1	Alcohol related admissions rate	Deaths 15-44 rate
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	74.79	69.30	77.9%	1,242	145.75
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	77.86	70.47	65.4%	1,070	199.50
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	80.97	77.08	79.2%	745	161.55
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	79.78	73.85	76.5%	740	160.10
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	77.08	72.17	68.6%	819	181.53

#### General health and care

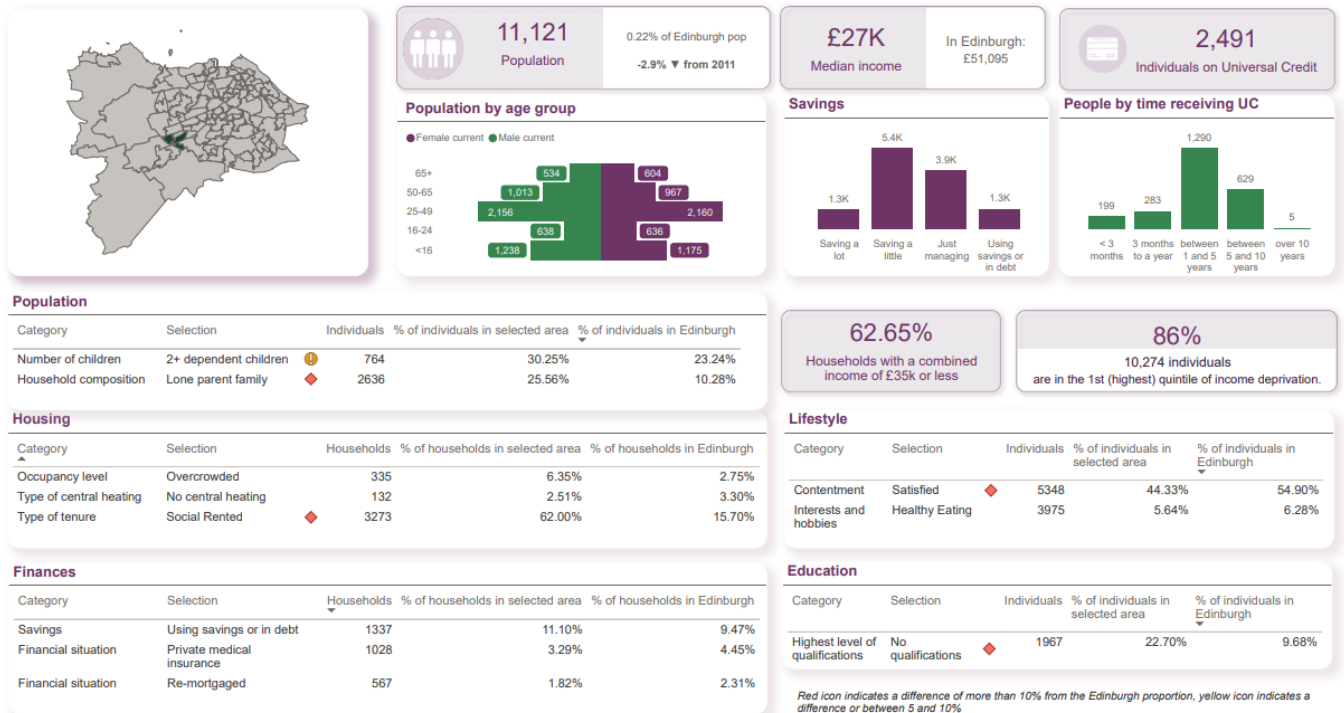
Neighbourhood areas	Bad or very bad health	Very limited by disability	Provides unpaid care
Bingham, Magdalene and The Christians & Niddrie	11.73%	16.72%	11.33%
Clovenstone and Wester Hailes & ...	8.93%	12.70%	11.11%
Colinton Mains and Firrhill & Oxgangs	7.58%	12.27%	11.57%
Gracemount, Southhouse and Burdiehouse & ...	8.80%	12.79%	12.30%
Granton and Royston Mains & ...	8.02%	11.20%	10.33%



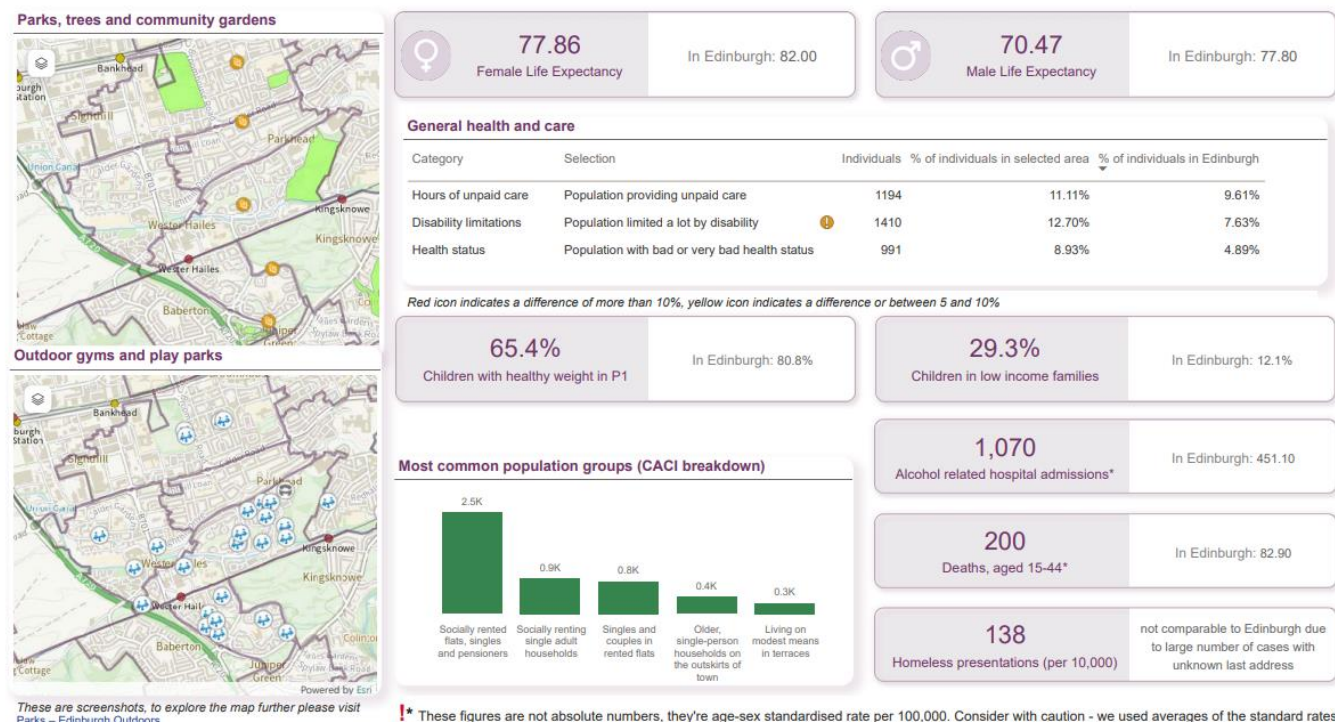
## Appendix B: Wester Hailes Data

Appendix B presents detailed statistical information provided by the City of Edinburgh Council about the Wester Hailes intermediate neighbourhood.

### Area 2: Murrayburn, Clovenstone, The Calders and Wester Hailes (Edinburgh South West)



### Area 2: Murrayburn, Clovenstone, The Calders and Wester Hailes (Edinburgh South West)







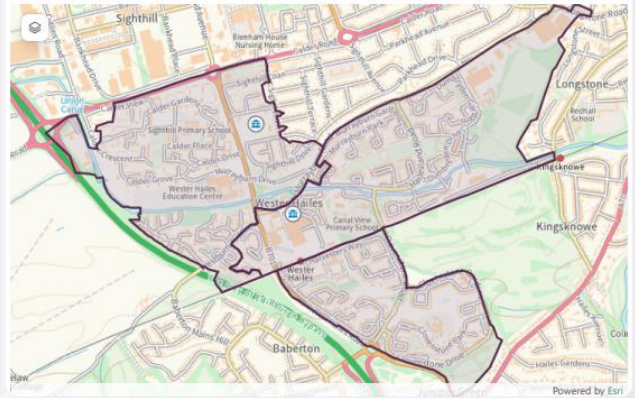
## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

### Area 2: Murrayburn, Clovenstone, The Calders and Wester Hailes (Edinburgh South West)

Community facilities (red) and council offices (purple)



Libraries (branch and mobile)



Percentage of pupils receiving free school meals

School	% receiving FSM
Canal View Primary School	43.4%
Clovenstone Primary School	32.9%
Sighthill Primary School	43.8%
Wester Hailes High School	44.6%

**Free school meals caveats:**

- The percentages of this dataset can't be aggregated by zones and can only be presented by school.
- These are primary and secondary schools where the address is within the selected areas, but those schools have catchment areas that could be outside the zone, and other schools outside the zone could have their catchment area covering the selected areas.
- This data includes only P6 to S6, since the rest of primary pupils are all entitled to free school meals.

\*\* % children in poverty according to data from Improvement Service

**29.59%**

% children in poverty\*\*

Percentage of all children in poverty in Edinburgh: 7.7%

**166.0**

Antisocial behaviour reports (rate per 10000)

In Edinburgh: 25





## Appendix C: Wester Hailes Local Place Plan

Appendix C presents the table as seen in the Wester Hailes Local Place Plan, detailing each of the 36 identified projects. The Local Place Plan can be accessed at [Wester Hailes Local Place Plan — Wester Hailes Community Trust](#)

Project	Vision	Time-scale	Local Stakeholders/ Activism	External Stakeholders	Potential/ Key Lead	Next Steps
<b>Strategies/ Long-term Approach</b>						
(1) Adult Engagement	Community Empowerment	Short-term	About Youth, Calder Residents Association, Calder Regeneration Trust, Family Wellness & Walking Community, Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Health Agency, Holy Trinity Church, Open Heavens, Prospect Community Housing, SCOREscotland, WHGC, WHALE Arts, WHCT, WithKids, Youth Agency	n/a	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(2) Youth Engagement	Community Empowerment, Children & Young People	Short-term	About Youth, Calder Residents Association, Calder Regeneration Trust, CEC Lifelong Learning Staff, Early years centres, Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Family Wellness & Walking Community, Holy Trinity Church, Open Heavens, SCOREscotland, Schools, Starcatchers, WHGC, The Wee Haven Youth Project, WHALE Arts, WHCT, WithKids, Youth Agency	Canal View Primary School, Clovenstone Primary School, Sighthill Primary School, Wester Hailes High School	About Youth Starcatchers Youth Agency	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(3) CEC Housing Management Strategy	Home, Community Empowerment	Short-term	High rise concierges, Local residents, WHCT	Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) Scotland, CEC - Housing	CEC - Housing Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(4) Open & Greenspace Management Strategy	Spaces between buildings, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Friends of Curriemuir Park, High rise concierges, Local residents, WHCT	CEC - Parks & Greenspace	CEC - Parks & Greenspace Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC)	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(5) Arts & Culture Strategy	Coming together, Children & Young People, Lifelong Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing	Short-term	Big Noise, Calder Residents Association, Calder Regeneration Trust, Clovenstone CC Culture Collective, Explorers of Westburn Wood's GoBeyond, The Health Agency, Holy Trinity Church, Open Heavens, Kurdish Community Centre, Mums into Business, SCOREscotland, Starcatchers, Tasting Change, WHGC, WHALE Arts, WithKids, WHCT	CEC - Culture & Wellbeing	WHALE Arts CEC - Development & Regeneration	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(6) Food Strategy	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Friends of Curriemuir Park, Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Grass Roots Remedies, The Holy Trinity Church - Bridge Cafe, The Health Agency, Schools (Primary & High Schools), SCOREscotland, WHGC, WHALE Arts	CEC - Parks & Greenspace, Edible Edinburgh	Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC) CEC - Parks & Greenspace, Edible Edinburgh	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(7) Health & Wellbeing Strategy	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Community Wellbeing Collective, Family Wellness & Walking Community, Grass Roots Remedies, The Health Agency, Local GP's, dentists, pharmacists, health professionals	Action on Smoking and health (ASH) Scotland, CEC - Culture & Wellbeing NHS Lothian	NHS Lothian CEC - Culture & Wellbeing The Health Agency	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(8) Learning Strategy	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Calder Residents Association, Calder Regeneration Trust, Clovenstone CC, GoBeyond, Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Health Agency, High & Primary Schools, WHGC, WHALE Arts, Youth Vision	CEC - Lifelong Learning Edinburgh Napier University Edinburgh College Heriot-Watt University	CEC - Lifelong Learning Wester Hailes High School	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(9) Work & Local Economy Strategy	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Bridge 8 Hub, Culture Collective, GoBeyond, Local convenience/ food shops, Local community centres/ hubs, Mums in Business, Holy Trinity Church, WHCT, WHALE Arts	CEC - Lifelong Learning/ Business Growth & Inclusion	CEC - Business Growth & Inclusion Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to lead on strategy development
(10) Ageing in Place Strategy	Coming together, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Clovenstone Community Centre, The Dove Centre, The Health Agency, Holy Trinity Church, Open Heavens, Prospect Community Housing, WHGC, WHALE Arts, WHCT	CEC - Development & Regeneration Saol	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to lead on strategy development

Timescale: Short-term (1-5 Years)  
Medium-term (5-10 Years)  
Long-term (10-20 Years)

34 Wester Hailes Local Place Plan - Sept '22

Project	Vision	Time-scale	Local Stakeholders/ Activism	External Stakeholders	Potential/ Key Lead	Next Steps
<b>Physical Improvements - Overall</b>						
(11) Path Routes	Spaces between buildings, Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing	Medium-Long-term	Juniper Green & Baberton Mains Community Council (Education Corridor); Prospect Community Housing; Wester Hailes Community Trust; Wester Hailes Growing Communities	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Active Travel	CEC - Development & Regeneration / Active Travel Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(12) Neighbourhood Connection Improvements	Spaces between buildings, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing	Short-Long-term	Wester Hailes Community Trust	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Active Travel	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Active Travel Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project(s), prepare proposals and seek funding
(13) Canal Improvements	Spaces between buildings, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing	Medium-Long-term	Bridge 8 Hub, Holy Trinity Church, Wester Hailes Community Trust	CEC - Development & Regeneration Scottish Canals	CEC - Development & Regeneration Scottish Canals WHCT	Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(14) Greenspace Improvements	Spaces between buildings, Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Hailesland Wildlife Cafe, Explorer's of Westburn Woods, Friends of Curriemuir Park, Friends of Hailes Quarry Park, Hailesland Gardeners Residents Group, Murrayburn & Hailesland Community Park Association, Residents Litter Picking Group 'Walk it Pick it', WHGC, WHCT	CEC - Parks & Greenspace	CEC - Parks & Greenspace Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC)	Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(15) Housing	Home, Coming together, Children & Young People, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Prospect Community Housing, WHCT	CEC - Housing	CEC - Housing Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(16) Local Centre	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Big Noise, GoBeyond, Community Wellbeing Collective, Culture Collective, Mums in Business, WHCT	CEC - Development & Regeneration Local Centre Owner	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(17) WHCT/ Wester Hailes High School	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	About Youth, WHCT, WHGC	CEC - Education WHCT/ High school staff, pupils & parent council CEC - Edinburgh Leisure	CEC - Education Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT) Wester Hailes High School Parent Council	Involve pupils with school & wider improvements. Agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan
(18) Canal Footbridge	Coming together, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	WHCT	CEC - Development & Regeneration Scottish Canals	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project, undertake feasibility study
(19) Re-Parking	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Prospect Community Housing, WHCT, WHGC	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Transport	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Agree scope of project, identify appropriate locations, prepare proposals and seek funding
<b>Physical Improvements - Neighbourhoods</b>						
(20) Physical Improvements - Neighbourhoods	Home, Spaces between buildings, Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Refer to individual outlined projects	CEC - Development & Regeneration	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Refer to individual projects to agree scope of project(s), develop design proposals as part of CEC-led regeneration masterplan

Timescale: Short-term (1-5 Years)  
Medium-term (5-10 Years)  
Long-term (10-20 Years)



## Pride in Place – Wester Hailes, Edinburgh

Project	Vision	Time-scale	Local Stakeholders/ Activism	External Stakeholders	Potential/ Key Lead	Next Steps
<b>Community Hubs</b>						
(21) Co-ordinated Management of Community Facilities & Services	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Life-long Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Bridge 8 Hub, Calders Residents Association, Calders Regeneration Trust, Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club, Clovenstone Community Centre, Health Agency, Kurdish Community Centre, St Nicholas Parish Church, Holy Trinity Church, Wester Hailes Baptist Church, WHGC, WHCT, Wester Hailes Library, WHALE Arts	CEC - Lifelong Learning	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to establish available resources and residents needs, agree scope of project and prepare proposals.
(22) Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-Medium-term	Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Estates	Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club	To re-arrange lease with CEC
(23) Calders Community Hub	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Life-long Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-Medium-term	Calders Residents Association, Calders Regeneration Trust	CEC - Development & Regeneration / Estates	Calders Regeneration Trust	Prepare and submit application for Scottish Land Fund Trust Stage 2.
(24) Central Community Hub - Canal Site	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Life-long Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-term	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	CEC - Development & Regeneration Scottish Canals	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT) CEC - Development & Regeneration	Set up a project group to develop a brief for the canal site - including the new building and adjacent landscape.
(25) Greenway Community Hub	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Life-long Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-Medium-term	Murrayburn & Hailesland Community Park Association, Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC)	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Estates	Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC)	Complete feasibility study and business plan, submit application for Scottish Land Fund Trust Stage 1.
(26) WHALE Arts	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Life-long Learning & Working, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-Medium-term	SCOREscotland, WHALE Arts	CEC - Development & Regeneration/ Estates	WHALE Arts	Proceed with Community Asset Transfer (Dec '22 / Jan '23) approval and capital development project.

Timescale: Short-term (1-5 Years)  
Medium-term (5-10 Years)  
Long-term (10-20 Years)

<b>Community Facilities &amp; Services</b>						
(27) Seating	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-Medium-term	Prospect Community Housing, SCOREscotland, Wester Hailes Growing Communities - Growing Youth	CEC - Development & Regeneration	CEC - Development & Regeneration Wester Hailes Growing Communities	Identify locations and type of seating, develop design proposals, seek funding.
(28) Food Pantry	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & wellbeing	Short-Medium-term	Health Agency, WHGC	n/a	Wester Hailes Growing Communities The Health Agency	WHGC are working with the Health Agency to develop the first Pantry at Clovenstone Community Centre towards opening by Autumn 2022.
(29) Greenspace Community Factoring Service	Coming together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Prospect Community Housing, Wester Hailes Growing Communities	CEC - Housing	Wester Hailes Growing Communities CEC - Housing	The contracting of such a service would be a radical change from the current model, it would overlap with the existing maintenance contract, the NEPs programme and the role of housing officers. This would require further examination as to how it could be valued and delivered.
(30) Open Access Indoor Spaces	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Bridge 8 Hub, Calders Residents Association, Calders Regeneration Trust, CEC lifelong learning staff, The Wee Haven Youth Project, Clovenstone Amateur Boxing Club, Clovenstone CC, Health Agency, Kurdish Community Centre, Starcatchers, St Nicholas Parish Church, Holy Trinity Church, Wester Hailes Baptist Church, WHGC, WHCT, Wester Hailes Library, WHALE Arts	CEC - Property	CEC - Property Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Establish available resources and residents needs, agree scope of project, prepare proposals and seek funding.
(31) Open Access Outdoor Spaces	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Bridge 8 Hub, Calders Residents Association, Calders Regeneration Trust, Clovenstone CC, Health Agency, Starcatchers, WHGC, WHCT, WHALE Arts	CEC - Estates; Parks & Greenspace; South West Locality	CEC - Parks & Greenspace Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up group to establish available resources and residents needs, agree scope of project, prepare proposals and seek funding.
(32) Outdoor Play Spaces	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	About Youth, Prospect Community Housing, Starcatchers, Wester Hailes Growing Communities, Wester Hailes Community Trust	CEC - Parks & Greenspace	CEC - Parks & Greenspace Prospect Community Housing Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC)	CEC to undertake 'Play Sufficiency Assessment' of existing play spaces, prepare proposals based on outcome.
(33) Sport/ Activity Pitches & Spaces	Coming Together, Children & Young People, Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	About Youth, CEC lifelong learning staff, The Wee Haven Youth Project, GoBeyond, Prospect Community Housing, Wester Hailes Growing Communities, Wester Hailes Community Trust, WHALE Arts	CEC - Edinburgh Leisure; Property	CEC - Edinburgh Leisure Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	CEC to undertake 'Play Sufficiency Assessment' of existing play spaces, prepare proposals based on outcome.
(34) Virtual Community Hub & Notice Boards	Coming Together, Community Empowerment	Medium-Long-term	Local residents, Wester Hailes Community Trust, WHALE Arts	CEC - Parks & Greenspace	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Establish if wearesterhailes.com can be used for the purpose of a virtual community hub. Establish if notice boards are available from the council, otherwise fundraising required. Identify locations and management for updating notice boards.

Project	Vision	Time-scale	Local Stakeholders/ Activism	External Stakeholders	Potential/ Key Lead	Next Steps
<b>Community Building</b>						
(35) Capacity building of Wester Hailes Community Trust	Coming Together, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Wester Hailes Community Trust	n/a	Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Outline strategy on: • In person events/ attending events and targeted social media activity to get more residents to join. • Specific skills to support specific task and projects to be undertaken or delivered by the Trust.
(36) Reestablish Community Council	Coming Together, Community Empowerment	Short-term	Wester Hailes Community Trust	CEC - Community Planning Local Cllr's	Local Cllr's Wester Hailes Community Trust (WHCT)	Set up a group of local residents to adopt constitution and get approval from CEC.

Timescale: Short-term (1-5 Years)  
Medium-term (5-10 Years)  
Long-term (10-20 Years)

# Pride in Place

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## Edinburgh South West Neighbourhood Recommendation

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14<sup>th</sup> November 2025



**Dr Scott Arthur MP**  
*Serving the Communities of Edinburgh South West*