

## Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	03/12/13
Originator	Paul Zochowski
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Document Title	Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy - background papers

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Additional information:

Background papers to the Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy report to Cabinet on 10 December 2013

Authorised By	Richard Jennings
Designation	Head of Development
Date	03/12/13

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## Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy

### Report of the Public Consultation on the Draft Town Centre Strategy

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#### How the consultation was undertaken

The consultation period ran from 6 June to 31 July 2013. An exhibition and the consultation documents and questionnaires were placed in the foyer area of The Brunton and in Musselburgh Library throughout the period. The documents were also available at Wallyford Library, Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre and John Muir House Environment Reception in Haddington. The consultation was live on the Consultation Hub on the East Lothian Council website throughout the consultation period. Questionnaires could be submitted either as paper copies handed in to the Libraries or the Brunton or submitted electronically via the consultation hub.

Three separate drop in consultation events were held at different times in Musselburgh Library and The Brunton with Council and Musselburgh Town Centre Task Group staff available to discuss the strategy with members of the public and a consultation event specifically for businesses in the town was organised at the Business Gateway venue at Queen Margaret University to which all Musselburgh businesses were invited. A further event, aimed at encouraging responses from young people, was held at the Musselburgh Grammar School Gig on the Green in June where an interactive exhibition was staffed by Council staff and members of the East Lothian Youth Council. Details of the events are provided below:

Consultation Event	Date	Opening Hours	In Attendance	Public Attendance	Publicity
Exhibition in Musselburgh Library	6 June to 31 July	Normal library opening hours		n/a	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.
Exhibition in The Brunton	6 June to 31 July	Normal opening hours		n/a	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.

Drop In event Musselburgh Library	Tuesday 18 June	2.30 to 7.30 pm	Paul Zochowski / Kaela Scott (East Lothian Council)	2 persons	Posters; web page; Social Media; email from Kaela Scott to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre. Press release gave details of consultation event.
Business Consultation – Drop In Event	Monday 17 June	6.00 to 7.15 pm	Task Group members and Cllr McMillan ELC Spokesperson for Economic Development	4 persons	Email to approx 250 businesses listed in Musselburgh Business Directory
Public drop In event Musselburgh Library	Thursday 20 June	10.00 to 4.00pm	Paul Zochowski / Kaela Scott (East Lothian Council)	3 persons	Posters; web page; Social Media; email to approx 200 persons who expressed an interest in Musselburgh town centre at previous consultations (over 200) Posters; web page; Social Media; email from Kaela Scott to all people who expressed an interest in Musselburgh town centre at previous consultations (over 200)
Youth Council Meeting and event at Gig on the Green Musselburgh Grammar School	Thursday 27 June	1.00 – 3.45 pm	Paul Zochowski / Caroline Davis (ELC Dialogue Youth Coordinator) + members of the East Lothian Youth Council	74 persons	Youth Council and social media publicity. Staffed stall in event tent with sticker posting and consideration of economic benefits to town of making changes to town centre. The consultation event for young people held at Musselburgh Grammar's Gig on the Green event had consultation documents available and willing participants engaged in discussion about the draft strategy. However, rather than completing the full consultation questionnaire, respondents selecting their priorities for action and considering the impact these actions might have on the town by attaching stickers to posters.
Public drop In event at The Brunton	Tuesday 2 July	11.00 to 4.00pm	Paul Zochowski / Kaela Scott and task group members	36 persons	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.

Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre	6 June to 31 July	Consultation Documents available for public viewing		n/a	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.
Wallyford Library	6 June to 31 July	Consultation Documents available for public viewing		n/a	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.
John Muir House Haddington	6 June to 31 July	Consultation Documents available for public viewing		n/a	Press release Courier; News; Musselburgh News; Social media (Young Scot, East Lothian Council and Library Twitter) and email to mailing list of persons who had requested to be kept informed about the Town Centre.
Total persons attending where counted				119 persons	

## Responses received

A total of 244 questionnaires were returned during the consultation period, the majority being submitted electronically through the consultation hub.

In addition to questionnaire responses, letters were received from Queen Margaret University, East and Midlothian Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, and Inveresk Village Society. The comments of the organisations submitting letters of response were as follows:

Queen Margaret University – the University is interested in Musselburgh town centre; committed to working closely to bring significant opportunities and prosperity to East Lothian; has signed a collaborative agreement with East Lothian Council to work together at all levels to the benefit of the local community and has a number of existing community initiatives within Musselburgh

East and Midlothian Chamber of Commerce – fully support the draft strategy which is considered to be an impressive piece of work. If its proposals can be implemented the town will be a very attractive place to live, to visit and to do business in. Agree with the vision and the four main strategy aims. They particularly identify with the visions for the High Street east of the Tolbooth which would be a terrific focal point for the town. Every business in Musselburgh ought to be supportive of the strategy and should cooperate with the Council wherever possible.

Inveresk Village Society – regeneration of the key old Town Hall/Tolbooth area as a natural gathering place on the most attractive of the approaches to Musselburgh is the most important single proposal in the draft strategy. Regeneration will not be successful unless suitable and viable uses can be found for the old Town Hall/Tolbooth which should be converted into a heritage centre including the library, museum and tourist information with the cells as a tourist feature. The Musselburgh Arms should be converted to flats if there is no longer interest in pub/hotel use. Restoration of the mercat cross and the old Post Office windows is required and it should be restored as the town Post Office. The quality of the existing area should be improved with for example, stone paving, grass, robust metal seating, trees and tree guards. The Roman soldier statue idea is not supported. Future maintenance should be budgeted for in addition to capital works. Support for clearer and stronger planning guidance including High Street colour schemes; tidying up of pedestrian approaches to the town centre; reversal of inappropriate door and window alterations; anti-litter graffiti and vandalism campaigns; encouragement to walking and cycling; tougher traffic enforcement and robust new cast iron or equivalent street furniture.

The Federation of Small Businesses completed a questionnaire and agreed with the proposed actions in the strategy. They commented that parking was important to the town and that there should not be a reduction in parking to create pedestrian areas. Car parks should not all be short stay as business owners and their staff also require parking. Businesses that could serve a theatre going audience could be encouraged to locate near the Brunton and cautioned against the introduction of any additional 'red tape' in respect of colour schemes, which should be agreed with businesses in advance, and shopfront guidance though acknowledged that business owners should always comply with planning legislation. There could be interest in the Millhill stables site for low cost business use such as affordable shared office space.

## **Who took part in the consultation**

Respondents to the questionnaire were in the following categories:

Residents of the town centre	35%
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Residents of Musselburgh not in the town centre	45%
Users of the town centre not resident in Musselburgh	18%
Businesses in the town centre	4%

*(figures do not add to 100% as some respondents fitted more than one category)*

### **Summary of Main Comments made in Questionnaire responses**

#### **Tourism and Leisure**

Improved marketing of Musselburgh is required

Support for town trails

Lack of maintenance to footways for example can put people off using the town centre

Support for markets and events, including community events that are unique to the town

History and heritage is an important asset to the town

Golf heritage is important

Too much emphasis on attracting people to the town rather than encouraging locals to use the town centre more.

Improve the relationship with the town and its waterfront

Traffic congestion and lack of parking deter visitors

Pound shops do not attract people

If parking charges were made in the town centre that would deter people

Improve directional signage

People will not be encouraged to use the town centre when it looks dilapidated

There are plenty leisure activities for a day out in Musselburgh

More people in the proposed civic square could affect resident's amenity in that area particularly at night

Improve areas by the river for recreation

Support for good quality street furniture e.g. Victorian lamp posts

Encourage more small independent shops to the town centre

Town centre should be attractive to live in too

Encourage more walking and cycling, for example by providing cycle parking

### **Transport and Parking**

Traffic congestion is the biggest problem in the town centre. Through traffic ought to be discouraged. Traffic lights at junctions cause congestion and are considered to be too slow. The worst junction is High Street/Mall Avenue and there were several suggestions for changes to improve traffic flow. Consideration should be given to other through routes e.g. opening up Inveresk Road or the electric bridge.

More car parking is required in the town centre though some can find spaces. Limit parking waiting time to deter all day parking. Better parking enforcement required. Lack of parking deters people from using the town centre

Improve conditions for pedestrians in the town centre

Too many buses often together causes congestion. Bus stops are congested and support for measures to improve this.

Proper facilities for cyclists are required. Difficult to find cycle parking and the strategy should mention cycling more

Air pollution is a concern

Support for improvements to signage

Suggestion for a 20mph limit in the town centre

Shorthope Street car park needs better managed

### **Built Environment and Public Spaces**

Support for reuse of empty residential and commercial property especially the old Musselburgh Arms

Appearance of shops and buildings needs improvement with imaginative window displays and a higher standard of goods being sold

Millhill stables site – support for a variety of uses including community, recreation , small businesses, e.g. crafts or artists use. Mixed views on parking or housing.

Support to improve shop signage in a more traditional manner as many are considered garish. Support for coordinated colours of shops and buildings. These cheapen the street and are disliked. Mixed views as to whether colour schemes should be muted or bold.



Planning guidelines for shops should not help small businesses grow within the community and not create additional complexity or costs. Should be applied equally to large and small businesses. Incentives would help achieve changes.

Buildings need properly repaired and maintained first before colour schemes are considered

Place more emphasis on the parts of the town centre in the conservation area including for its shop signage

Outdoor seating and signage needs coordinated too.

Mixed views on new trees in the town centre mostly support but some opposition concerned with potential vandalism

General support for coordinating street furniture but also some concern over costs and whether this is a priority.

Parking area outside Luca's needs improvement

Maintenance needs investment too

Too many pavement signs, tables and chairs etc as it is without adding to this with trees.

Improve recycling opportunities in town centre

Tolbooth/ Town Hall – strategy should propose something here and look at new uses for it.

#### Town Hall/Tolbooth Area:

A lot of very positive support for a civic space making the most of this historical area and for markets and other community events for example, Festival week events to be held here. Support for more pedestrian space. Should encourage a new use for the old hotel. Must be good quality to succeed.

Also concerns though that businesses in the area may suffer if parking removed, residents could be disadvantaged, the area may be too noisy for a civic space and it was too expensive

#### The Brunton Hall area:

Support for civic space or environmental improvements here too though not everyone agrees this is a priority. Some concerns that this would be too costly and may not be needed and some mention that High Street is a better location for this type of work.

#### Renaming North High Street as Fisherrow High Street

Mixed views on renaming North High Street as Fisherrow High Street or High Street, Fisherrow:

It would give some identity to Fisherrow; it is what locals already call it; could lead to a different identity as a specialist quarter; it is about time.

Waste of time and money; no need to change the name of North High Street; could cause address problems

### **General comments on the Draft Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan**

The most popular comments were on the need for a greater variety of shops and that there were perceived to be too many discount shops, money shops, bookmakers and charity shops within Musselburgh town centre

Support for local independent shops and small retailers

Musselburgh needs a focal point for pedestrian gatherings

Youth space is also needed

Empty shops could be used by artists and empty pubs could become offices or flats

Need to tackle anti social behaviour in the town centre

Consider awards for best kept shops

Charity shops are wonderful resource

Strategy is a good piece of work

No green/low carbon emphasis

Fisherrow needs improved too

Environmental improvement costs are too high/waste of money

Area outside the police station could be put to better use

Town centre branding and loyalty card schemes are supported





**Paul Zochowski**  
**Policy and Projects**  
**October 2013**



# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire



## 1. Which of the following are you? (you can tick more than one)

		Response Percent	Response Count
A resident of Musselburgh town centre		35.4%	85
<b>A Musselburgh resident, but not living in the town centre</b>		<b>45.0%</b>	<b>108</b>
Not a Musselburgh resident, but someone who uses Musselburgh town centre		18.3%	44
A business in Musselburgh town centre		2.9%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>240</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>1</b>

**2. A number of actions are being considered in relation to TOURISM & LEISURE. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Encourage close working between community & businesses to market Musselburgh - including as a destination for a day out	<b>67.6% (148)</b>	28.3% (62)	3.2% (7)	0.9% (2)	219
Carry out a review of existing heritage information and develop a town trail from the museum, guiding visitors around the history and heritage of Musselburgh	<b>62.5% (135)</b>	29.2% (63)	7.9% (17)	0.5% (1)	216
Identify improvements to paths, including signage to the town centre	<b>68.7% (149)</b>	25.8% (56)	5.1% (11)	0.5% (1)	217
Encourage more community and commercial events in the town centre	<b>70.6% (154)</b>	25.2% (55)	3.2% (7)	0.9% (2)	218
				<b>answered question</b>	<b>220</b>
				<b>skipped question</b>	<b>21</b>

**3. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	65
	<b>answered question</b>
	<b>65</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>
	<b>176</b>

**4. A number of actions are being considered in relation to TRANSPORT & PARKING.  
Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Introduce some short stay car parking to some car parks to increase turnover and parking availability	<b>41.2% (82)</b>	36.2% (72)	18.1% (36)	4.5% (9)	199
Review number and location of bus stops to reduce bus stop congestion and the build up of buses at a single stop	<b>61.7% (127)</b>	24.8% (51)	13.1% (27)	0.5% (1)	206
Improve traffic flow by adjustment to traffic lights in town centre	<b>76.4% (155)</b>	20.7% (42)	3.0% (6)	0.0% (0)	203
<b>answered question</b>					<b>209</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>32</b>

**5. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	83
<b>answered question</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>158</b>

**6. A number of actions are being considered in relation to DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Look at the potential use of the vacant Millhill Stables site (off the High Street) for either housing, employment use or parking	<b>47.7% (95)</b>	42.2% (84)	8.5% (17)	1.5% (3)	199
Identify vacant properties above shops and encourage owners to bring them back into residential use	<b>68.4% (141)</b>	29.1% (60)	2.4% (5)	0.0% (0)	206
<b>answered question</b>					<b>208</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>33</b>

**7. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	51
<b>answered question</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>190</b>



**8. A number of actions are being considered in relation to the BUILT ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC SPACES. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Prepare a 'conservation area character appraisal' - this will outline what is needed to preserve the special characteristics of the area	<b>54.7% (110)</b>	38.3% (77)	5.5% (11)	1.5% (3)	201
Encourage property owners to use a proposed colour scheme for painted buildings in the town centre	<b>43.4% (89)</b>	30.7% (63)	21.0% (43)	4.9% (10)	205
Encourage business owners to follow planning guidance developed for businesses in the town centre - this will cover signage and alterations to shop fronts	<b>60.0% (123)</b>	27.3% (56)	10.2% (21)	2.4% (5)	205
<b>answered question</b>					<b>207</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>34</b>

**9. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	55
<b>answered question</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>186</b>





**10. A number of actions are being considered in relation to certain streets / areas (see Consultation Summary for details). Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
General tidying up of car parking areas in and around the town centre	<b>62.4% (126)</b>	35.1% (71)	2.5% (5)	0.0% (0)	202
Planting of a small number of trees in specific street locations	<b>58.3% (119)</b>	33.3% (68)	7.4% (15)	1.0% (2)	204
Coordination of 'street furniture' (seating, lampposts, bins, bollards, etc) to improve the look of the town centre	<b>63.1% (128)</b>	30.5% (62)	5.4% (11)	1.0% (2)	203
Development of list of 'key contacts' for people to approach about issues related to the town centre	<b>50.0% (102)</b>	45.6% (93)	4.4% (9)	0.0% (0)	204
<b>answered question</b>					<b>207</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>34</b>

**11. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	44
<b>answered question</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>197</b>





**12. One proposal being considered is to establish a pedestrianised civic square in the Town Hall / Tolbooth area of Musselburgh High Street, East (details are contained in the Draft Strategy). This would provide an attractive area for civic gatherings, community events, markets, etc. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with this action**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		58.8%	117
Agree		29.6%	59
Disagree		5.5%	11
Strongly disagree		6.0%	12
answered question			199
skipped question			42

**13. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	Response Count
	73
answered question	73
skipped question	168





**14. The Brunton Hall had a £3.7 million internal makeover in 2012. The area outside Brunton Hall could now potentially benefit from environmental improvements. This could involve repaving in more attractive materials, a ramped access to the theatre, artwork and new street furniture (e.g. bus shelter, bollards, seating). Please indicate the extent you agree with this suggested action**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		48.2%	96
Agree		35.2%	70
Disagree		10.6%	21
Strongly disagree		6.0%	12
<b>answered question</b>			<b>199</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>42</b>

**15. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	Response Count
	74
<b>answered question</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>167</b>


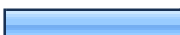


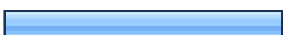

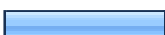

**16. Another suggested action is to re-brand the North High Street as either 'Fisherrow High Street' or 'High Street, Fisherrow'. Please indicate the extent you agree with this proposal**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		20.9%	41
Agree		29.6%	58
<b>Disagree</b>		<b>33.2%</b>	<b>65</b>
Strongly disagree		16.3%	32
<b>answered question</b>			<b>196</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>45</b>

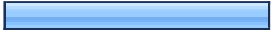
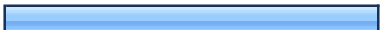



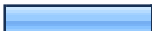

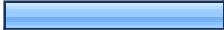
**17. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	Response Count
	81
<b>answered question</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>160</b>

**18. We have looked at potential costs for some of the Strategy actions that the Council would be responsible for. Please select up to 3 actions that you think would be MOST IMPORTANT TO IMPROVING Musselburgh town centre.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Improve heritage information available to visitors and develop new town trails - £20,000		33.7%	66
Changes to town centre car parks to increase turnover of spaces - £20,000		28.1%	55
<b>High Street (Tolbooth/Town Hall area) - environmental improvements to create a pedestrian area and move parking - £700,000-£900,000</b>		<b>68.4%</b>	<b>134</b>
High Street (Kilwinning Place to Rennie Bridge) - environmental improvements - £50,000		31.1%	61
Bridge St - environmental improvements to street and war memorial area, including better access to riverside - £15,000		44.4%	87
Landscape the area outside Brunton Hall - up to £600,000		29.6%	58
North High St - environmental improvements including rebranding as Fisherrow - £25,000		25.5%	50
Shorthorpe Street - environmental improvements including to the car parks - £30,000		31.6%	62
<b>answered question</b>			<b>196</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>45</b>

**19. Please select up to 3 actions that you think would be of MOST BENEFIT TO THE ECONOMY of Musselburgh town centre.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Improve heritage information available to visitors and develop new town trails - £20,000		42.3%	82
<b>Changes to town centre car parks to increase turnover of spaces - £20,000</b>		<b>60.3%</b>	<b>117</b>
High Street (Tolbooth/Town Hall area) - environmental improvements to create a pedestrian area and move parking - £700,000-£900,000		58.8%	114
High Street (Kilwinning Place to Rennie Bridge) - environmental improvements - £50,000		25.8%	50
Bridge St - environmental improvements to street and war memorial area, including better access to riverside - £15,000		22.2%	43
Landscape the area outside Brunton Hall - up to £600,000		23.2%	45
North High St - environmental improvements including rebranding as Fisherrow - £25,000		20.6%	40
Shorthorpe Street - environmental improvements including to the car parks - £30,000		35.1%	68
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>194</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>47</b>

**20. What impact do you think implementing the Action Plan would have? (please indicate how much you agree / disagree with the following statements)**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Local residents would be more likely to use the town centre	<b>51.0% (99)</b>	41.2% (80)	6.7% (13)	1.0% (2)	194
More visitors would be encouraged to come to Musselburgh	<b>62.6% (122)</b>	30.3% (59)	6.2% (12)	1.0% (2)	195
The economy of the town centre would benefit	<b>56.6% (111)</b>	36.7% (72)	5.6% (11)	1.0% (2)	196
More people would be attracted to Musselburgh as a place to live	<b>52.1% (101)</b>	39.2% (76)	7.7% (15)	1.0% (2)	194
<b>answered question</b>					<b>199</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>42</b>

**21. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	74
<b>answered question</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>167</b>

**22. Email address (if you would like a copy of the consultation feedback report)**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	116
<b>answered question</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>125</b>





**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

1	Re heritage information - this has already been done - by Paul Lambie (Musselburgh Museum) - the town trail booklet was reviewed by Paul in the last couple of years - check with Paul and the museum - work already done - no real need for another review - it is all there already and very good indeed. Think no need to start at museum - could pick up trail from any point in the town which would suit visitors better?	Aug 2, 2013 3:09 PM
2	It would be good to see more initiative taken by business - especially the chains. A simple town trail pamphlet available at various places throughout the town would be helpful to visitors. Approaches to the town such as Shorthope Street and the church steps from Inveresk do not enhance the approach to the town centre.	Aug 2, 2013 2:52 PM
3	All four areas for action are important but I think a Town Trail could be put in place quickly and easily. Always bear in mind that visitors will not be attracted to Musselburgh as long as litter is left near the weekend. A good clean up is necessary.	Aug 2, 2013 2:39 PM
4	Musselburgh has suffered from a lack of attention over many years. As the gateway to East Lothian, a facelift is essential.	Aug 2, 2013 2:26 PM
5	First impression of Musselburgh is the dreadful state of the pavements. Vehicles which should be on the road park half way up the pavements, causing a lot of damage. The town has a long history and the heritage and traditions should be preserved and passed on to the younger generations. The recent Town Festival and the turn out of people to the events is very encouraging.	Aug 2, 2013 1:38 PM
6	Musselburgh has such a rich history and heritage. We need to improve communication of this to visitors and to many in our community.	Aug 2, 2013 1:25 PM
7	It's difficult times but - a better more varied and more up-market selection of shops e.g. a shoe shop would be a help.	Aug 2, 2013 9:56 AM
8	In Haddington they have a farmers market - why not have one in Musselburgh? Opposite Luca's - traffic could be diverted up Newbigging? Playing fields behind Brunton Theatre? Encouraging more people to the High Street for shopping would help local business instead of people using boring Tesco's. Clean buildings and pavements/roads - keep tidy.	Aug 2, 2013 9:34 AM
9	Prepare a brochure of walks including map and historic notes. Staff at Library unaware of Walks Plan available on internet. The leaflet should be upgraded and improved e.g. walk from Tesco past rear entrance to NHS Medical Centre to Inveresk Church. Add more details e.g. tributary from Esk towards former Brunton Wireworks (Sturat House) origins of Dovecote in Pinkie Playing fields.	Aug 1, 2013 6:17 PM
10	Most of Musselburgh's historic areas have been allowed to disappear - a lot of it recently. Fisherrow has nothing left, and Loretto School thankfully has cherished its historic estate. The historic part of the town centre and the Old Links Golf Course are now the sites which must be conserved along with the River Esk and its banks and buildings - these all are Musselburgh's most important assets. Community events are to be strongly encouraged because they are more unique to the town than the built heritage.	Aug 1, 2013 5:56 PM
11	The most important objective should be to encourage residents to use/shop in town, rather than to encourage more traffic to the town. Residents to walk/cycle more.	Aug 1, 2013 5:03 PM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

12	There is enough congestion with buses, vehicles and cycles going through the town as it is.	Aug 1, 2013 2:50 PM
13	Develop Musselburgh's heritage as the oldest golf course in the world, hosted 7 Open Championships, 5 Open winners from Musselburgh.	Aug 1, 2013 1:59 PM
14	The vision for the town centre focused too much on the desire to attract people for a day out and seems defeatist to the problem of having so few locally owned businesses that take a real interest in the town and invest more of their profits back into it because they live here. A thriving town centre relies on its ability to meet the daily needs of people who live here and in the rest of the town. If it's not doing that the market forces a change of use for buildings and as we have seen here not a particularly positive one with numerous places where vulnerable people on low incomes can get into debt and only one (CAB) where people can get help. Also a large number of takeaways which leads to a lot of litter. Too much land on the outskirts of the town centre and on the outskirts of Edinburgh has been given over to extremely large retail premises which has made it difficult for people to choose to shop locally and more specifically from locally owned businesses. It would be desirable to get back some kind of balance in order to foster choice. There is growing evidence that retail outlets which are owned by local people retain money in a local economy for longer whereas large supermarket and other chains drain profit out of a community faster. It also means that people with control over a shop's appearance are unlikely to be living in the town. Positive changes proposed include the idea of a market space at the current Tollbooth Car Park. Moving the car parking spaces a hundred meters down the road should not make a massive difference to trade but the current car park is unsafe with repeated incidents of people either parking on the pavement or reversing onto the pavement whilst trying to leave. On more than one occasion I have witnessed drivers carelessly reversing towards small children on the pavement. A market space which opened up the opportunity of local farmers markets would attract to the town centre people who value that link between producer and consumer. There has been some bizarre comments about how this shouldn't happen because "it's not the continent" but I see many people happily enjoying food outside the Tollbooth Cafe already and I don't see what would be bad about being a little bit more continental anyway. It seems almost every other European country has a better local food economy and more diversity about their shopping centres than we do. The town centre is broken, it does need fixed. I can't even buy a pot of real dairy cream to go with my strawberries from the grocers - one of the real highlights of living on this street is the greengrocer, butchers and fishmongers. Long may they stay.	Jul 31, 2013 9:38 PM
15	The need for an open air civic square is vital.	Jul 31, 2013 9:06 PM
16	Reviewing heritage, and town trails are great ideas but there are other priorities.	Jul 31, 2013 7:50 PM
17	Musselburgh is a seaside town which turns its back on the seaside. The waterside from the back sands to the Levenhall Links is an asset. Any improvements relating to tourism and leisure should take full advantage of this and improve the relationship between the town and its waterfront.	Jul 31, 2013 6:04 PM
18	Unless you can provide traffic access to the town and parking, there's no point in doing anything else to attract visitors. By improving traffic access into and through Musselburgh and also parking. I do not mean impeding egress for town centre residents which is what happens now. as a town centre resident, I can't get out of Musselburgh cos of congestion, traffic at standstill	Jul 31, 2013 5:18 PM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	and can take me upwards of 55 mins to go from Millhill to Caprice!! Better traffic lanes needed.	
19	Ideally I think M'burgh should try to attract more upmarket people. It needs fewer pound shops / cheap shops/ brigh houses and needs to select one upmarket retailer which can then attract others. It has a huge upmarket are of Edinburgh nearby in Joppa but why would people from there shop in Musselburgh at the moment except fpor Tescos	Jul 29, 2013 6:03 PM
20	A leaflet about Musselburgh should be available in tourist leaflet racks at all the tourist destinations as it is with other towns such as North Berwick. Now that there is a museum in Musselburgh I am sure that a tourist trail would work - it is a good idea particularly if it can appeal to children for a family day out. Plaques that make it clear when you reach a point on the trail would be useful.	Jul 25, 2013 8:43 AM
21	Not sure i agree with taking away the parking outside the Townhall. I have had trouble working out where you plan on putting this parking as I cant access the plans. Our customers have difficulty working out if you can park on the main street outside our shop. the lines are not clear. I strongly disagree with introducing paying for parking in Musselburgh and think this would destroy Musselburgh.	Jul 24, 2013 3:36 PM
22	Comment regarding signage-as a non driver, I'm amazed how many tourists stop me looking for directions to certain venues/establishments in and around Musselburgh so more signage is a great idea.	Jul 23, 2013 10:54 PM
23	People have so much choice and less and less time. A Town needs to focus and clearly articulate 'why' someone might want to give up their time and engage with the town. Just because one might be a resident and love a town, is not a good enough reason for anyone lese to visit. Clear benefits and ovious reasons need to be clearly communciated. If you do this then people will visit and with luck spend their money in the Town	Jul 23, 2013 3:19 PM
24	Local retail and specialists should be at the top of the signpost list. Historical and heritage trails should include turf cutting stations and photos of areas of Musselburgh that are off the beaten track. The Grove, Crookston, The Drift, Beggars Bush, the pathways that go from Pinkie Road up through Edenhall to the countryside.	Jul 17, 2013 9:43 AM
25	We have a fine Historical Town Centre we must encourage visitors and local people to learn more about our TOWN MUSSELBURGH	Jul 16, 2013 11:16 PM
26	The riverside area always looks great, then you see the High Street what a let down! . We have far too many Cash cheque/loan places which makes the main streets look awful for both residents and visitors (who wants to do a trail around a town full of these type of shops. The town needs far more local small unique shops, like NB, it needs to feel different and somewhere people will want to visit. Rents/rates need to be brought down to allow this to happen. A Farmers Market, like Haddington with local craft fairs in the Town Hall, anything to generate people coming into the town. I think that the Links area is under used. The pitch and putt area is not promoted. If you look at North Berwick it is a far nicer town centre than Musselburgh. You could build a low level café backing onto the Bowling Green, so this would not spoil the views, what about a couple of tennis courts there too. At the Harbour car park an evening market on Friday nights 5pm-8pm during June/ July/August would be another reason to visit the town. At present the town looks colourful with the bunting up for the Honest Town Festival, keep that going throughout	Jul 16, 2013 5:35 PM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	the Summer until September, lights at the Harbour were lovely during the festival, keep them on longer, it looks so much nicer. We are missing a great Fish restaurant too! Boat rides to Portobello/Musselburgh would be fun too.....	
27	A market would be nice	Jul 16, 2013 4:39 PM
28	Musselburgh is a good place for a family day out whether enjoying the links and birdwatching, walking or cycling along the river or going to the park, theatre, pool or racecourse and there is ice cream and good cafes	Jul 16, 2013 12:11 PM
29	Consideration should be given to wider publicity for Musselburgh events i.e. festival week could be advertised more widely in the Edinburgh area.	Jul 15, 2013 8:23 PM
30	I understand why you would want to attract more people and events to the town centre. However, you also need to balance this with the needs of the residents. As a town centre resident overlooking current public space outside the Old Town Hall, I have extreme reservations about attracting more people to this space as it directly affects myself and my family's life. We already have to "tolerate" noise pollution from public events such as the Musselburgh Festival/brass and pipe bands playing beneath our livingroom windows and the like. At the moment these happen relatively infrequently so they are "manageable". But I do not relish the prospect of this becoming a more frequent occurrence. Also we experience regular drunken and antisocial behaviour in this area, particularly at the weekends. There are regularly fights and shouting/abusive language. Our car has been vandalised twice in the last 3 months despite CCTV. I am concerned that by making this area more amenable for people to linger in, the people responsible for this behaviour are going to be encouraged to hang around here and result in more antisocial behaviour.	Jul 15, 2013 6:57 PM
31	Would like to see some positive action quickly in order to encourage community to come on board.	Jul 15, 2013 6:06 PM
32	The LOOK of the town is important too. Some parts of the Lothians have lovely Victorian-looking street lamps. I think this would be more in keeping with the character which Musselburgh embodies rather than the modern lights on the Roman Bridge, for example. If there are any cobble stones below the tarmac road surfaces, uncovering this would not only be more economical in terms of replacing and fixing the roads: it would also be reminiscent of the older Musselburgh. When checking the efficacy of town signage, it would seem to be sensible to ask a stranger to Musselburgh to comment on this. Locals and personnel involved in transport simply do not SEE shortcomings in signage, being so used to what already exists. There are rather a lot of charity shops and discount stores in Musselburgh. Whether you approve of this or not, the overall impression which this gives is one of being rather run-down, impoverished and deprivation. Perhaps some small, individual or independent shops on the High Street such as those in North Berwick would alter this impression. Perhaps your system of rating could be altered to encourage this.	Jul 15, 2013 6:03 PM
33	Introduce more well-designed street furniture integrated with planters and signage. Liverpool has excellent signage to many of its leisure and historic sights, including how long (in minutes) it will take to walk to each of them. The Brunton Theatre is an excellent location for both community and commercial events. Is there a need to revive the old Musselburgh Museum at the end of Bridge Street also?	Jul 11, 2013 11:03 AM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

34	Musselburgh is a great wee town which hides its light under a bushel! Time to pull some ideas together and give ourselves a recognisable identity which acknowledges the history yet embraces the needs of a modern community.	Jul 9, 2013 8:54 PM
35	The sheer unpleasantness of the High street should be addressed, the focus on cars and their parking should be second to active travel ( cycling and walking). A Police presence would help: day and night.	Jul 9, 2013 11:52 AM
36	Musselburgh is a lovely town with a lot going for it but it feels as if it has been neglected in recent years. It has a wonderful location, some lovely old buildings, a top class racecourse and a historic golf course. It has the ingredients to be a visitor destination but the high street is a turn off.	Jul 8, 2013 11:58 AM
37	The draft plan identifies that traffic is the main problem in the town centre but does not appear to offer up any hope of doing something about it. I would see the traffic as the main impediment to using the town centre for community events.	Jul 2, 2013 9:41 AM
38	I don't believe there is any way that Musselburgh will ever be considered a destination for a day out - it would be too depressing.	Jul 1, 2013 11:17 AM
39	Musselburgh at present is a mess with nothing on offer for visitors. The racecourse attracts regular visitors so perhaps a start should be made there using incentives to encourage race goers to stay in Musselburgh with discounts on restaurants, hotel and B&B's.	Jun 27, 2013 10:32 AM
40	A clear framework for re-generation is needed. Good work has already been done so far, in preparing the draft strategy. Gaps: The vision: "attract people to the town for shopping etc" - also include 'living' - you want to make it attractive for residential use too; "Heritage will be better understood by visitors etc" - include better understanding and appreciation by locals - maintenance, uses and long term sustainability will be driven by locals, not visitors. Transport: continue to develop and emphasise Musselburgh's possibilities for cyclists, both commuter and leisure, combining rail options, great quiet roads nearby etc. Cycle parking, signage etc. Every time car parking is mentioned, cycling and public transport should also be included - if you really want to get people thinking about alternatives.	Jun 24, 2013 12:20 PM
41	If the High Street could attract niche businesses/shops/traders this would increase the attractiveness of Musselburgh both for shoppers and for visitors	Jun 20, 2013 1:50 PM
42	A regular farmers' market would be ideal. More bicycle parking near shops.	Jun 17, 2013 3:53 PM
43	Too many money/pawn shops. Traffic has to be sorted out, cars double parking causes havoc.	Jun 14, 2013 10:05 PM
44	Already the Racecourse meetings and Marathons are increasing the amount of litter which is left to move around areas which the Council do not clean regularly due to "Staffing cuts". Only the High Street area is regularly attended to, not the side/back streets. Also increasing traffic to park in Musselburgh, especially on non-designated " grassed areas" and then some people dump their rubbish from their cars onto the street/grassed area and drive off!. Musselburgh has limited parking spaces and a congested road system. More events increase pollution and more dog fouling. The Council seems eager to increase people/traffic into and through Musselburgh but are not prepared to maintain the basics, except the High street and grassed area along the river. Only what can be seen by the masses but the council fails to turn around to the back streets and "non visitor" areas and maintain them.	Jun 14, 2013 11:41 AM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<p>This is what is off-putting for visitors when they want to "explore" Musselburgh only to find "neglected" areas. The Council failed to preserve few historical shop fronts etc in Musselburgh in the 1960's onwards and want to throw good money " re-creating" a past look which has been destroyed by lack of proper planning in the past. Putting the rents up for shops will only leave them empty as there is not much Musselburgh has to offer, considering the actual size of the town centre. The good part of Musselburgh for walks are sadly let down by lack of facilities and lack of imagination by the council to make these Recreation areas more attractive. ie beach, river walks. The dog fouling, broken benches, rubbish on beach , vandalism is not attractive. Also the benches and "good social gathering areas" become a nightmare for residents in the evening and night time with drunkenness and unsocial behaviour who frequent these areas and make a nuisance of themselves etc. Only more work for the Police to deal with and then we will have "no-go" areas when the gangs take over the " social gathering areas" and the council has to clean up afterwards - fast food rubbish / bottles.</p>	
45	<p>Improving accessibility would greatly increase footfall to the town - improve car parking, traffic flow and enforce restrictions (illegal parking is rife!) - improve signposting - improve advertisement of local assets, to target demographic, via local community driven website, i.e. dog friendly / historic</p>	Jun 13, 2013 10:04 PM
46	<p>Personally think that the Musselburgh Museum was a waste of money and the money could have been better spent improving the high street which is a total disgrace and does nothing to encourage people to stay and use local shops. Musselburgh has become a rat run to Edinburgh and beyond.</p>	Jun 13, 2013 8:22 PM
47	<p>I would suggest holding a town centre market in the Toll booth car park area where businesses both local and from surrounding areas could have a stall. I have noticed that these events seem to attract large numbers of people when held in other towns. If held on a weekend this would encourage people into the town centre to visit the market and would be a boost for local businesses. The market could be seasonal, a summer market and a winter/Christmas market.</p>	Jun 13, 2013 4:42 PM
48	<p>I lived in Musselburgh last year after moving from Livingston and I know you can not compete with the shopping in Livingston but more variety of shops is needed, I was most struck by the fact that there was no shoeshops, I do like to the small different shops that Musselburgh has to offer and I would encourage more of this, maybe a market day would help</p>	Jun 13, 2013 2:49 PM
49	<p>a mrket should be set up at the toun hall all councillors need to wake up</p>	Jun 13, 2013 10:35 AM
50	<p>Musselburgh town centre is extremely congested due to traffic being forced along the High Street which would not make it an ideal place for more community events either from an enjoyment or a safety point of view. However, there are sites by the river and waterfront which could be included which offer excellent opportunity for the creation of civic space and might increase pride in Musselburgh for its residents.</p>	Jun 13, 2013 8:11 AM
51	<p>I think that promoting Musselburgh as a destination for a day out for the residents of Musselburgh by encouraging more community events will have the knock on effect of more non-residents seeing Musselburgh as a vibrant place where there are lots of things happening and where they should go for a day out. I think that making the most of the heritage of Musselburgh is a good way of keeping visitors interested in the town when they visit and remembering the town when they leave. It's also a great way to inform local</p>	Jun 12, 2013 11:06 PM

**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	residents and businesses of the history of Musselburgh so that they can pass this information on to visitors to the town.	
52	I think the signage in Musselburgh is good (but perhaps because I also have the local knowledge...)	Jun 12, 2013 10:45 PM
53	I think the suggestion for a pedestrian area around tolbooth is an excellent one - and will provide an area for visitors , who mostly come for ice cream .	Jun 12, 2013 8:55 PM
54	More publicity about the Old Course - and the fact that 5 Opens were held there. Signs needed from the rail station	Jun 12, 2013 8:14 PM
55	When identifying improvements to paths etc, please pay special attention to wheelchair access. Musselburgh currently has a number of issues relating to dropped kerbs etc.	Jun 12, 2013 4:47 PM
56	Community events require to be communicated more effectively. Events have taken place which not all residents of Musselburgh hear about. Also, if volunteers are required to assist at events this could also be communicated. Public noticeboards all over the town should be used and more effective use of technology. Facebook Twitter and the web (either a dedicated site or in partnership with East Lothian Council).	Jun 12, 2013 4:28 PM
57	Improvements to pavements and paths must be a priority, some of the pavements in the high street and leading to my street, goosgreen crescent are a disgrace. I have lost count the number of times my pram wheels have stuck or tipped due to bad pavements.	Jun 12, 2013 4:17 PM
58	I think it would be a positive step to encourage a wider variety of business into Musselburgh high st and north high street. We are dominated by charity shops and discount stores and it feels like the smaller independent retailers don't get a look in due to the high rents.	Jun 11, 2013 9:46 PM
59	Farmer's Market please in front of Old Town Hall / Shish Mahal Improve shop signage and ban signage which looks cheap and tacky Improve approach to Musselburgh from the west as Lidl and Shell signage too dominant, tacky Green night time light on club opposite Ravelston is awful	Jun 7, 2013 2:09 PM
60	More could be done to encourage close working between community and businesses to market Musselburgh - including as a destination for a day out.	Jun 7, 2013 11:13 AM
61	Regarding existing heritage, not enough is made of Musselburgh having the oldest played golf course in the world and we need to question why this is. I notice in the review when referring to attractions to the town, only the racecourse was mentioned. We are overlooking the potential of visitors to the golf course due to the lack of high regard we give to this venue. This should also be more publicised by the council to promote it from a health aspect. Regarding encouraging more community events to the town, this would be good but as long as the Racecourse is not the place where these continue to be held. I appreciate the racecourse brings in much financial benefit to the town, but to hold many family events at a gambling venue in my mind is rather remiss of the Council. I do not want to take my children to a racecourse for a family event. You cannot take your kids in to a betting office, so why is this encouraged? Not to mention the state of many of these racegoers as they fall out of the Racecourse at 5pm when you are walking around the town with your young children and the mess they leave on the streets. I don't relish my kids seeing these people being sick in front of them. The Edinburgh Cup was on just there and whilst driving by the area, not only	Jun 7, 2013 8:14 AM



**Page 3, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

are the people walking right in front of your car, or taxi's turning right in front on oncoming traffic, just avoiding an accident, but they are doing all this right in front of the police who didn't bat an eye. We later stopped in the high street to get my kids an ice cream, when a drunken racecourse goer attempted to get into my car thinking it was a taxi!

62	I would say that the museum is challenged just from its location, can easily be passed unnoticed and limited opening times is a huge drawback.	Jun 6, 2013 11:08 PM
63	Whilst Musselburgh may not be a recognised tourist town we do get a lot of visitors visiting the sea wall, river mouth and lagoons for the bird watching, particular in winter, as it is a very important habitat for Scotland's sea birds and waders. Some people come from a long way, often on their way along the coast birdwatching. This could change depending on what will happen to the area when the Cockenzie power plant closes. These visitors could be enticed to stay in Musselburgh with the right facilities.	Jun 6, 2013 7:00 PM
64	The town centre as it is is wasted - we need more variety of independent shops. The town hall area in particular needs a revamp and encouraging historic trails is an excellent idea.	Jun 6, 2013 6:01 PM
65	There was a trial of a market in the past. Would like to see this return again along lines of a farmers market showcasing local produce. Would attract people to the high street also?	Jun 6, 2013 12:47 PM



**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

1	Both bus stops on the High Street have far too much congestion; this could be an easily addressed issue by having 2 bus stops for different numbers at close locations to each other.	Aug 2, 2013 4:06 PM
2	The worst bus stop is outside Eskgreen (by the Citizen's Advice Bureau) Litter and cigarette butts abound here and pavement area becomes impossibly overcrowded with people waiting (in no real order) for buses. Pedestrians wheelchairs and pushchairs often find it difficult to get through the crowds and the whole area looks a mess and smells of cigarettes - (the bus tracker here is very useful for people, though!). Litter very bad! And gets stuck in fence! Traffic lights at the Town Hall area take so long to change that pedestrians don't wait for the green man signal and risk crossing early, often. Dangerous for the town's children, when no school crossing patrol available (after school, holidays etc.) (This also happens at Caprice lights.)	Aug 2, 2013 3:13 PM
3	More car parking is needed but charging will discourage visitors/shoppers to the centre. If buses / bus stops are dispersed this reduces choice of buses as many routes serve the same areas in the periphery of the town. Adjacent bus stops might be acceptable. The lights at the Rennie Bridge are particularly bad. Traffic turning right into Dalrymple Loan blocks buses coming over the bridge into High Street. If the space in front of the town hall is pedestrianised one less set of lights would speed up the traffic and would help pedestrians cross more quickly (one less phase to wait for).	Aug 2, 2013 2:55 PM
4	The bus stops at North High Street outside Baynes the Bakers and the stop in the Town Hall outside Citizen's Advice are particularly congested.	Aug 2, 2013 2:46 PM
5	Would it be possible to limit street parking time effectively as we seem to have become victims of all day parking at the moment.	Aug 2, 2013 2:40 PM
6	Musselburgh has a build up of non-moving traffic, which includes buses arriving in convoy. Reviewing the number and placement of the stops would be an improvement. An improvement by the adjustment of traffic lights and the new location of the bus stop would also reduce the congestion.	Aug 2, 2013 2:28 PM
7	Car parking partly on pavements and partly on roads and sometimes fully on pavements forces wheelchair users on to roads and endangers their lives. Much more effective policing is needed.	Aug 2, 2013 2:18 PM
8	Have as few vehicles as possible in Musselburgh High Street. Widen the pavements, allow only necessary vehicles onto the town's streets. Have pedestrian crossings more frequently. Make convenient bus stops- lots of people who cannot walk far. The heavy traffic is polluting the environment destroying buildings and the general decay of the town. Trees would go some way to absorbing the fumes and the noise. Get rid of cars outside Luca's cafe - it is an eyesore and pollution encourages dangerous driving on to heavy main road traffic.	Aug 2, 2013 1:41 PM
9	Traffic congestion is a huge problem, happening at unpredictable times. Bus stop congestion is one of the causes of the above. Why do so many buses come at one time? Why do so many buses travel along Pinkie Road and so few along Linkfield Road? Car parking on Kerr's Wynd should be tidied up and improved.	Aug 2, 2013 1:27 PM
10	You are fighting a losing battle with regard to the amount of traffic flowing through the town but maybe if the town housed some 'quality shops' more motorists would stop and look or even take the bus! e.g. always queues at Luca ice cream parlour - quality counts.	Aug 2, 2013 9:56 AM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

11	1. Muassleburgh requires additional car parking. The former public car park behind shops is now underused due to money greed by M&Co. - no spaces for blue badge holders. 2. Simplify traffic lights at Rennie Bridge by removing the lights outside Caprice thus allowing traffic to flow and clear lights without causing jams. 3. Add complementary filter lights to match existing- e.g. North end of Newbigging and Dalrymple Loan.	Aug 1, 2013 6:21 PM
12	Musselburgh is too congested and polluted as it is - we should not be encouraging more visitors with cars to the town. We need proper cycle routes, safer cycle routes, safer cycle areas eg alongside the river. Can't Musselburgh set an example by being a green cycle friendly town? We need to get cars out of teh town centre. buses are not the main concern - people especially with disabilities need the bus stops to remain as they are.	Aug 1, 2013 5:23 PM
13	Introducing short term car parking probably means charging motorists for parking only so the Council can get more money. Too many buses causing tailbacks as they do not pull up to stops as it is now. I thought the whole idea of traffic lights was to facilitate the traffic flow safely.	Aug 1, 2013 2:52 PM
14	Improving traffic flow should be common sense and not the subject in a questionnaire	Aug 1, 2013 2:46 PM
15	Traffic lights at west end of High Street terrible timings.	Aug 1, 2013 2:13 PM
16	Short stay car parking - unnecessary complication Bus Stops - Really only applies to the High Street Present traffic light sequence could benefit from occasionally being policed as it is bad driving practice that cause most of the problems.	Aug 1, 2013 1:50 PM
17	Traffic congestion is THE major problem in Musselburgh and MUST be addresses as a matter of priority.	Aug 1, 2013 1:44 PM
18	Parking in Musselburgh can be tight. However it works and people do manage to find slots. For businesses nearer Lucas this is important as they involve short drop off, collections eg for ice cream, Kip McGrath, dentists, school. If restrictions or charges Re put in place this could have the reverse effect on people coming to Musselburgh and the businesses near the loretto side of town. As a business owner I need people to be able to pick up and drop off easily and without needing to find ticket machines. Car parks needed for those visiting for longer amounts of time but a lot of business is done at Luca end by people looking for 10/15 mins stop off and current situation running from town hall to race course provides good parking compared to other town centres. Shoppers will avoid towns where they have to pay and worry about meters and traffic wardens.	Jul 31, 2013 10:44 PM
19	The traffic lights should be biased in favour of pedestrians. If that is not the change being offered then I disagree with it/ If that is the change being offered then I agree with it. Air pollution is bad on this street. The traffic causes it so why would we want to encourage more of it? We need a solution that discourages people from taking Musselburgh as a through route. We also need to reduce the amount of time people, particularly children walking to school at peak times, are forced to stand at the road edge at the highly polluted places e.g. Newbigging junction and Dalrymple Loan junction. Reducing traffic noise and air pollution will make the town centre a nicer place to dwell and shop. Increasing and promoting cycle corals or simple lamp post ring clamps would help to encourage trade. There is evidence that while through traffic from cars does nothing for local traders visible places for cyclists to stop and lock up does help. They are using their	Jul 31, 2013 9:47 PM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	own energy to fuel their travel so they need to eat and it's much quicker for them to hop off and lock up for a quick browse or shop than a car driver. Bike corals - even quite big ones - also have the advantage of not blocking the view of the shops for other road users so it's actually increasing the chances of a car driver/passenger seeing a unique store and finding a car parking space or coming back another day. there is a totally unused private car park on Dalrymple Loan that is being wasted by its owners.	
20	Would strongly agree to short stay car parking but wording is a bit ambiguous and I am against private car parks, such as the one behind Boots etc.	Jul 31, 2013 7:51 PM
21	Strongly agree to traffic flow adjustments but would be interested to see the proposals for busy junctions, such as at The Caprice.	Jul 31, 2013 7:50 PM
22	On parking - there is a vacant unused car park in Dalrymple Loan. Getting it back into use as a short term car park should be a priority. A good system is in place (or was) in St Andrews whereby parking cards are obtained in shop premises and then displayed on the vehicle showing a time limit. On buses - scattering bus stops is at odds with the principle of bus hubs which brings buses and travel information together aiding interchange. More space should be allocated to buses in the High Street so they do not cause congestion. This would have to be at the expense of some parking spaces.	Jul 31, 2013 6:08 PM
23	Provide three lanes of traffic going into town past Luca's to the Newbigging junction and only one lane travelling east with the bus stop near the corner of Newbigging moved. Parking on the south side of High Street should be suspended here as it prevents use of this lane to turn left into Newbigging. Or alternatively add extra lane on entry and change exit lane to single line which is all that ever uses it. How about the Council taking over the old Somerfield car park for 'all day' parking for workers in shops/offices etc leaving the other car parking areas for max 4 hours, allowing customers and visitors parking while in area like Millhill (residential) exempt so residents can do all day parking with ticket on window?	Jul 31, 2013 5:29 PM
24	Traffic lights at Mall are a disaster	Jul 31, 2013 4:57 PM
25	I think charging people to park (at the back of Boots for example) puts people off and cars end up hanging around the high street waiting for a space. Why pay when you can park for free elsewhere and up at the Fort?	Jul 31, 2013 11:29 AM
26	Parking should be free it's not Edinburgh city centre.	Jul 30, 2013 11:23 PM
27	Car parking and traffic flow is a major problem when visiting Musselburgh. It stops people staying for longer and shopping in the town centre. Much easier to bypass town centre, park in tesco and go there!	Jul 26, 2013 6:41 PM
28	We usually find a parking place quite easily	Jul 25, 2013 8:45 AM
29	Parking with short stay good idea as long as it is free. you can not take away free parking and replace with paid. you just need to look at Morningside and Corstophine to see the damage that has resulted in with what they did.	Jul 24, 2013 3:39 PM
30	The traffic lights currently in use at the Caprice Rest. are a disgrace especially if turning from Dalrymple Loan along the mall, this needs to be addressed.	Jul 23, 2013 10:55 PM
31	Agree re bus congestion but in a way that many congestion is not	Jul 23, 2013 3:23 PM

necessarily of that much importance to tourists? Start a campaign to get shops etc to ask staff to park away from town?

32 The combination of the traffic sequencing at the caprice is diabolical. Even at 7 or 8 pm at night the sequence is all wrong! You get a green light outside pound stretcher, only to get a red 3 car spaces further up towards the mall! Then, this light goes green, and previous light goes red. Mansfield traffic, you're lucky if 4 or 5 cars get through. And, the pedestrian crossing at the hollies doesn't seem to be sequenced to match the area. It ends up with traffic coming from tesco blocking the junction. This kicks on to the junction at the town hall. It really is a no-go area. As well as this, olive bank road needs a turn right filter to go up to monktonhall from the Newhailes end. Traffic is constant from tesco, so can't turn right, therefore blocking road to tesco too.

Jul 22, 2013 3:57 PM

33 Mention is made in the report of the new traffic management system. As a resident of Musselburgh for my entire life I have seen many changes including the bypass. The current traffic issues do need revisited but in particular the set up at the Rennie bridge requires drastic action. The current system is extremely poor. There are a number of areas which require significance consideration. 1) It used to be the case that when traffic was signalled to proceed from Mall Avenue into the High Street the green infiltration arrow would automatically signal traffic to proceed into Dalrymple Loan at the same time. This allowed a constant a continuous flow of traffic from Mall Avenue without traffic backing up. This is now NOT this case. Currently when traffic proceeds from Mall Avenue into the High Street, any traffic wishing to turn right into Dalrymple Loan is met with Red light followed by a Green light and at this point no infiltration arrow at this point. This has the effect that traffic can only turn right if oncoming traffic is clear and if the yellow box is not obstructed which is normally the case. Hence the traffic backs across the junction causing further delays when the light change to allow traffic to proceed from the High Street across the Rennie Bridge. Eventually the green infiltration arrow come on allowing traffic to proceed unhindered into Dalrymple Loan. This issue should be re visited and consideration given to a change of sequence to have the infiltration arrow operate in conjunction with the flow of traffic from Mall Avenue. 2) The timing between the pedestrian crossing lights and traffic light in the High Street at the Rennie Bridge for traffic traveling west also cause complications which add to the previous issue. The sequence change between the two is such that it allows only as short flow of traffic and due to the crossing being so close to the light vehicles invariable either straddle the crossing or illegally straddle the yellow box junction this preventing vehicles turning across their path into Dalrymple Loan. This who junction requires a great deal of consideration. 3) Although there is one mention of cycle parking in the report it appear to me that this is insufficient. As a frequent cyclist in the town I choose the method of transport on a regular basis to avoid traffic congestion and provide person exercise. However it is difficult to find an appropriate location to secure a cycle. Although there are a few including outside the Brunton Hall, the harbour and Tesco the apparent increase in cycling does not make them conducive with encouraging cycling to utilise the shops and facilities in the High Street. Additional cycle parking should be considered.

Jul 19, 2013 11:13 AM

34 The car parks should exist nearest independent shops and new locations without encroaching much on present areas and sympathetic to new areas. The buses need to come and go to outlying areas like Gifford, Cranshaws, Pathead, Carberry, and other little towns. Preferably on routes that terminate within 45 minutes, or link to existing routes in that area. I.e make Musse

Jul 17, 2013 9:50 AM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	lburgh a landing stage and a hub for day trips in and out of the town.	
35	The Town centre is a shambles at the moment regarding bus stops. These are filthy and full of people smoking. When walking past a bus stop it is disgusting.	Jul 16, 2013 11:19 PM
36	Traffic and parking is a major problem for Musselburgh. I live in a village just outside and it puts me off trying to shop in Town. I use a hairdresser in town and the free parking is shorter than it takes to get my hair cut. I also use the greengrocer on the highstreet a lot, but parking is a problem. I begrudge spending money on a car park when I can go to tesco and park free and probably buy my shopping cheaper too! I never browse in Musselburgh - it is usually a trip to the Bank, greengrocers and a pound shop if I need something and then straight back to the car before free parking runs out. With 3 kids in the summer, I haven't even attempted to shop in town as it is too much of a hassle. Local town centres need to make shopping in them convenient and easy for families and working people who have little time. That is how they will recover. They have to adapt to the changing needs of people and I don't feel Musselburgh is doing that. Last weekend I travelled further to go to Haddington to do shopping I could have done in Musselburgh but parking and ambience is much better in Haddington.	Jul 16, 2013 5:14 PM
37	The traffic traveling East along Bridge Street is constantly held up by vehicles turning right into Dalrymple Loan. Either the lights need re-set or ban vehicles from turning right. Only today the fire engine had great difficulty negotiating that junction. Also in Bridge Street, at quiet times, something should be done about the high speed of some vehicles. Noise pollution is also a problem with certain buses and would be Lewis Hamiltons with custom exhausts. I thought there was a law governing the decibels from vehicles?	Jul 16, 2013 4:27 PM
38	I would like consideration to be given to extending the limited parking time to include Bridge St and the High St. There are often cars parked on both sides of these areas. Limiting parking to loading and unloading in the High St in particular, could reduce the congestion here.	Jul 15, 2013 10:47 PM
39	1. As a resident at Mansfield avenue the traffic flow on Dalrymple Loan needs review. Consideration should be given to the Inveresk Road being reopened at the Tesco (even one-way) end to allow flow of traffic and stop bottle-necking at the lights at the Caprice.	Jul 15, 2013 8:25 PM
40	better signage for existing car parks would assist. Cars will only turn over as business in town is completed. Large car parking facilities are available at Tescos and Wallyford - offer free shuttles into town? to improve traffic flow, buses should be encouraged to disembark passengers when stationary instead of waiting in a queue to arrive at designated bus stop. traffic light crossing time for pedestrians should be improved for streets with increased foot traffic.	Jul 11, 2013 11:06 AM
41	Parking is a modern headache and one which needs to be addressed. There is an assumption that one should be able to park 'on the doorstep' of shops and other amenities - this is getting out of hand! I'm not sure what the solution is yet, but it may be worth looking at other towns which seem to have got the balance right and try to introduce new ideas.	Jul 9, 2013 8:59 PM
42	The whole layout of the roads, bus stops, bus lanes and separate cycle lanes should be address, not the piecemeal band-aid improvements of the last twenty years, the focus should be on the people walking about the High	Jul 9, 2013 11:58 AM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	St not just the volume of traffic going through it.	
43	Please keep the electric bridge open for racedays and other major events going through Musselburgh (e.g. HTA events, Marathon).	Jul 8, 2013 11:59 AM
44	I would disagree with the change to the traffic flow if it meant that it was even more frustrating than it is now to cross the high stree as a pedestrian, particularly at the main junction where the high street meets the bridge.	Jul 2, 2013 9:43 AM
45	The traffic flow through Musselburgh continues to lead to unreasonable delays and puts people off visiting. it should not be beyond the wit of man to streamline the traffic light coordination. The bus stops could be spread along the High Street to reduce bottlenecks outside the Police Station. More parking will bring in more business.	Jul 1, 2013 11:19 AM
46	Traffic flow in the High Street area could desparately do with being improved at the moment, the new traffic management system does not seem to be working - this might also be down to the large volume of traffic using the High Street	Jun 20, 2013 1:53 PM
47	More important to establish why there is congestion - what more can be done to reduce traffic flow in the first place. Also need for safer streets around Burgh primary school and nursery - why not 20mph zone covering everything from Pinkie Pillars to the Ship Inn? Improve cycle routes through town centre. And give pedestrians priority at crossings.	Jun 17, 2013 3:57 PM
48	Bus stop review is a super idea. As a pedestrian in the area, the congestion at bus stops is hugely off-putting.	Jun 15, 2013 12:21 AM
49	Reduce the number of buses far too many during the day all have no more than 5 people on board this is causing congestion and misery for everyone.	Jun 14, 2013 10:07 PM
50	I still have not clapped eyes on a parking warden in Musselburgh and doubt there will be one to enforce "short term" parking. There are only 2 bus stops in the High Street and it is madness to want to remove them so people cannot get off in the High Street. The long wait on pedestrian crossing it a nightmare and the new crossing lights are barely visable. The council has thrown money at the latest traffic system which failed from day one. Simply, Musselburgh is too small a town and oily used as an alternative route to Edinburgh or Newcraighall if one wants to avoid using the bypass. Wanting people to stop in Musselburgh, shop in low amenity stores and use disgusting unattractive car parks will not happen with today's mindset as people want to feel it has to be a welcoming experience to get out of a car and walk and carry shopping. Musselburgh does not encourage you to do that.	Jun 14, 2013 11:47 AM
51	Disagree with the need to introduce short stay car park restrictions. this is a solution to the symptom and does not address the root cause of the issue - traffic laws are completely disregarded & car parks are not used (double parking / parking on double yellows, loading bays, disabled spaces). Enforcement of the laws are required. In addition, the location of the Holly's daycare bus space causes large amounts of congestion so close to the lights. A review of bus stops is fine however a general review of their routes should also be considered - do we really need 5 LRT buses going via the High Street every 10 minutes?	Jun 13, 2013 10:13 PM
52	The idea to change the car park behind the police station to a fee paying one and one which does not recognise disabled badges was bad. This made	Jun 13, 2013 8:25 PM



**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	more people start double parking and illegally parking in the High Street area. The other idea of creating a bistro area outside the old hotel would also be a disaster. Short stay car parking would just be a money spinner for the council.	
53	Too many traffic lights at the top of the high street, 3 cars get through in rush hour. And the bus stop on the high street opposite mcolls, sometimes 4/5 buses and the high street is at a stand still.	Jun 13, 2013 8:17 PM
54	Improved parking e.g. more free time limited parking facilities.	Jun 13, 2013 4:44 PM
55	Congestion caused by buses through fisherrow and the town centre has become intolerable and as a local business owner in real estate I am finding clients choosing their location to buy based very heavily on this. It is deterring even locals to venture into their own high street.	Jun 13, 2013 4:41 PM
56	Traffic in the high street is a disgrace. 5 buses at 1 stop in the middle of the high street backs up traffic past bridge street and the lights at the caprice need either sequence changed or removed. Why not have car parks that are free up to 2 hours then pay? it works in midlothian and people will be more likely to use local businesses rather than tesco / fort kinnard.	Jun 13, 2013 4:18 PM
57	Unless you address the traffic travelling through the high street due to the racecourse bridge being shut I personally dont see the point in moving bus stops or altering traffic lights, the high street traffic is horrendous any afternoon which puts me off travelling to Musselburgh	Jun 13, 2013 2:53 PM
58	The traffic flow/lights most definitely needs work done as the lights do not let the traffic flow and at all times of the day there is always long waits at the lights. I am lucky as i don't live in the town centre so i can use the city bypass to get out of Musselburgh quicker. Also think it is probably the police's job and traffic warden but people double parking on the high street does not help with the traffic and this is what sometimes causes the bus congestion as they cannot get into the proper lane.	Jun 13, 2013 10:24 AM
59	My wife and I lived in Musselburgh until early 2013 and now live in Cockenzie & Port Seton. We still use public transport that passes through Musselburgh on a daily basis. The routes through the town cannot cope with the volume. The traffic lights and traffic flow, especially at the Newbigging/High Street junction, can regularly cause delays of up to 15 or 20 minutes at times. Lothian Buses and other operators should be encouraged to amend some routes to quicken journeys.	Jun 13, 2013 10:23 AM
60	A greater presence of traffic wardens in the town.	Jun 13, 2013 9:15 AM
61	This is a difficult issue, whilst I strongly agree that the flow of traffic through the town is appalling, increasing the flow of traffic might increase the speed of traffic along streets which are already quite difficult to cross. The heavy traffic flow also affects people decision making when leaving North High Street and High Street parking bays and this is another area where pedestrian safety can be compromised. Any development of parking should aim to take cars OFF the two streets in question, but people seem very reluctant to walk - even a short distance - and double parking is common place. I would actually withdraw the paid parking beside Burgh School as this would be better used without a charge, making Shorthope Street and the High Street safer. Cars frequently jump red lights in frustration at the wait they have had - for example when leaving Dalrymple Loan or when heading east from Mall Avenue. I would also like to see very strong consideration	Jun 13, 2013 8:27 AM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	<p>given to a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour throughout the town centre from North High Street through to Loretto School. We should not be doing anything to reduce bus usage and as such I think the number of bus stops needs to stay. The worst ones for congestion are the ones on the High Street, west bound at the Bank of Scotland and east bound opposite this, but this is because they are the most popular stops so it would be of a negative impact to remove these. Shorthope Street links a pleasant walk from west Musselburgh into the town centre, but the car park there can be something from 'wacky races'. Children are naturally drawn to the river there to see the fantastic array of ducks, geese and other birds in the river, but I've lost count of the number of times a car has reversed at speed towards them.</p>	
62	<p>Allow businesses to buy a parking permit for their vehicles so they are not constantly having to move them</p>	Jun 13, 2013 12:19 AM
63	<p>I think that reviewing the number and location of bus stops is a good idea but I think the issue of bus stop congestion and the number of buses flowing through the town centre highlights the popularity of buses which should be encouraged to reduce traffic in the town centre. I feel very strongly that bus passengers should not be sidelined to improve the flow of traffic for car users.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 11:10 PM
64	<p>The traffic flow from Dalrymple Loan leading into the main street of Musselburgh needs to be adjusted.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 10:51 PM
65	<p>Focus on improving road and path surfaces for wheelchair users and nights</p>	Jun 12, 2013 10:41 PM
66	<p>Traffic flow definately a problem in the high street and often north high st too.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 10:29 PM
67	<p>Don't think there is anywhere to have another bus stop in the High Street.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 10:19 PM
68	<p>Traffic lights at caprice are a joke!! Sequence needs fixed</p>	Jun 12, 2013 10:18 PM
69	<p>I think there are too many cars in town centre , which is also the site of two primary schools - i think removing car parking from the main street would improve safety and appearance , and encourage cyclists and pedestrians. I also think the council should give immediate priority to saving the electric bridge and developing it as an access point to the w side of town centre - which would reduce cngestion to main street.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 8:58 PM
70	<p>Traffic can get very congested in town centre. I disagree with the car park charging behind the High Street (as back of RS McColls).</p>	Jun 12, 2013 8:22 PM
71	<p>Traffic lights are a joke! Timing at Dalrymple Loan/Mall totally out of synch. Stop needed before the Police Station - as there used to be. Why are there always 4 buses at the one time?? Consultation with Lothian Buses needed</p>	Jun 12, 2013 8:16 PM
72	<p>The traffic lights at Dalrymple Loan are a major cause of congestion and area of potential accident as both pedestrians and vehicles try to beat the lights.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 7:43 PM
73	<p>not sure how much benefit this would be</p>	Jun 12, 2013 6:23 PM
74	<p>Introduce more visible cycle parking on the High Street.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 4:23 PM
75	<p>I feel that the bus stops are placed well and far enough apart.</p>	Jun 12, 2013 4:20 PM
76	<p>I thought improvments had already been done to traffic lights to ease</p>	Jun 12, 2013 4:18 PM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	congestion not too long ago, not that it made any difference, there are far to many sets of traffic lights along the high street and none where required like at loretto corner.	
77	to many traffic lights between town hall and police station causing grid lock on high street	Jun 12, 2013 11:58 AM
78	There is adequate parking around the town and is should be just better signposted. Plus people should be encouraged to leave their cars outwith the high street and walk! This means they get the bonus of seeing more of the town and pass by more of the smaller shops.	Jun 11, 2013 9:49 PM
79	Consider free Parking in all areas of Musselburgh.	Jun 11, 2013 10:04 AM
80	Reduce the queue from Loretto corner into Musselburgh to the Luca's lights Stop people parking infront of Luca's apart from disabled drivers Take out some of the traffic lights, there are too many Make lights down Newbigging to Caprice last longer on green Slow traffic down through Fisherrow	Jun 7, 2013 2:10 PM
81	More car parking is required in the town centre, and I agree that the introduction fo short stay car parks would increase turnover and parking availability. The car parking at the town hall should be removed as it dosen't work with the current traffic lights system, and the car park spaces are extremely tight. What about the use of the former Somerfield car park on Dalrymple Loan - could this be used as a short stay car park space? There are too many bus stops, especially along Bridge Street onto the North High Street, meaning that there is often bus congestion. There is always congestion at the bus stop heading towards the town hall at the CAB Office on the High Street, which is also too close to the pedestrian crossing at the Clydesdale Bank. How about moving the bus stop back to where it was previously outside Farmfoods? Or perhaps, like Edinburgh Cuty Centre, have different bus stops for different locations - i.e. Wallyford and Tranent/Seton Sands. This would assist with bus congestion. Traffic flow could be much better at the traffic lights linking the High Street with Dalrymple Loan and The Mall. Cars coming from Dalrymple Loan onto the High Street do not get enough time to get through the lights, and they also do no sync with the lights turning left into The Mall, meaning that cars are stationery and waiting to get through, causing congestion. Traffic coming from The Mall onto the High Street is also congested. Would it be possible to remove the right turn onto the Rennie Bridge therefore allowing two lanes of traffic - one for the high street and another for Dalrymple Loan? This would assist with congestion, again, because the different sets of lights do not sync. Also - change back to traditional crossings with red/green men on a pillar in front of pedstrians rather than signs at the side, with no noise signal. It can sometimes be difficult, especially at the crossing at Dalrymple Loan at the Caprice Reastaurant to see when to cross.	Jun 7, 2013 11:22 AM
82	I think some short stay spaces would be helpful but do not alienate those who come to work in the town by making parking impossible. A review of bus stops maybe helpful but there will still be the volume of buses so may not make that much of a difference. Adjustments to traffic lights is one of the ways that traffic congestion may be alleviated but I do think new traffic routes should also be considered. The difficulties especially around the junctions and various lights at the bridge and the caprice is frustrating. I think it should be considered that Inveresk road should be completely opened up so some traffic who are looking avoid the main high street and are not travelling to north high street can continue to the junction at the riverside bar. I know residents may not be happy but surely having three routes out is better than	Jun 6, 2013 11:24 PM

**Page 4, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

congestion on two. It could even be considered making dalrymple loan one way heading to Inveresk. The opening of this road might also aid the many people who have been let down by the community reps for the primary care centre who fought for good transport i.e bus links to the new medical facility and have since seen the bus stop move to a spot which means a lengthy walk back up to then be faced with another walk within the facility dependent on which surgery you happen to be registered with.

83	Traffic in musselburgh can be a nightmare which really puts me off using the town centre. There is virtually no parking for visitors.	Jun 6, 2013 2:39 PM
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**Page 5, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

1	Why do we have such a big problem with homelessness and shortage of affordable housing and also let vacant properties lie empty; there should be incentives to get owners to rent them out etc.	Aug 2, 2013 4:07 PM
2	Millhill one of the few quieter and more 'traffic free' areas of the town with a peaceful, serene atmosphere - keep it like this - don't change it! Would completeley spoil this area.	Aug 2, 2013 3:15 PM
3	The Millhill stables site would be more suitable for housing or small business (no noise) use to compliment the surrounding housing which is very close - public car park would be disruptive.	Aug 2, 2013 2:56 PM
4	Some positive signs of things being done would be an advantage	Aug 2, 2013 2:29 PM
5	Several properties lying derelict. Refurbish. Shops are closing left right and centre. in their place we get walls of absolute junk. Raise the tone of the place. junk attracts more junk. Shops selling cheap and nasty goods galore. the only worthwhile shops are Wilson's and The Fish Shop. How many card shops do we need? How much coffee can you drink? How many hair dressing /barber shops do we need? We need imaginative shop windows, higher quality of goods being sold.	Aug 2, 2013 1:44 PM
6	Surely it is better to renovate the vacant properties at reasonable prices to the public for sale or rental rather than a broken down and empty town centre.	Aug 2, 2013 9:56 AM
7	Musselburgh Arms - ground floor could be a shop and there could be flats above. Grey Horse - as above.	Aug 2, 2013 9:35 AM
8	Millhill stables - car parking too far away from shops especially for elderly as disabled drivers/passengers. Possible use as craft workshops, small cafes etc. This could complement the pedestrianisation of the area at the Tolbooth/Town Hall.	Aug 1, 2013 6:23 PM
9	The problem of vacant flats above shops has afflicted all town centres for 50 years or more. Dunfermline town centre studies late 1960s...still the problem remains there. They are not popular, but presumably more profitable empty.	Aug 1, 2013 5:58 PM
10	Millhill stables definitely NOT parking. Could be used for a voluntary - eco-friendly organisation, carbon neutral enterprise. Hosuing good also. Don't reward the car user - vehicle emissions threaten the health of our residents, especially our children. Vacant properties could become residential but should be only if traffic is significantly reduced.	Aug 1, 2013 5:26 PM
11	But surely something other than housing after all the housing built on Pinkie Road.	Aug 1, 2013 1:51 PM
12	Vacant properties MUST be made affordable	Aug 1, 2013 1:45 PM
13	Some years ago the Civic Trust had a project to bring back residents to properties above shops; it might be helpful to research the outcomes of that. More people living in the town centre should contribute to lessening anti-social behaviour at weekends, I feel.	Aug 1, 2013 9:52 AM
14	I don't know this site but free or very low cost parking would bring more visitors to the honest town and help it stand out from Edinburgh as a visitor friendly town.	Jul 31, 2013 10:47 PM

**Page 5, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

15	Millhill stables - awkward this as the question offers too many choices to give one of the limited range of answers you provide here. I'd agree with a sympathetic development for use as say space for local artists to work/exhibit/teach but I would strongly disagree with any decision to use it for car parking.	Jul 31, 2013 9:50 PM
16	If premises have been empty for more than 12 months owners should be incentivised to let them for commercial use or convert them into residential properties. The carrot would public/private investment partnership - the stick would be double rates.	Jul 31, 2013 9:10 PM
17	Would be interesting to see proposals of Millhill Stables site, parking is much needed and employment use is fine (although "employment use" is a little vague) but unless perhaps for social housing, Musselburgh town centre is already at a high capacity for private housing and it will not help the local area at all.	Jul 31, 2013 7:51 PM
18	I agree that the stables site shd be brought back into use but I have reservations about its potential having studied it in some detail. I note the access to/from the High Street has always been locked and wonder whether access here will be possible for pedestrians. Vehicular access at the Millhill end is possible but restricted. I would support a workshop development if access can be provided. An alternative here might be town centre allotments. I cannot see housing working here.	Jul 31, 2013 6:11 PM
19	Millhill site only as parking. If you build on this there is no parking available for residents/workers never mind visitors.	Jul 31, 2013 5:30 PM
20	Possibly reviewing the rates on retail outlets will see an increase of something other than pound shops or betting shops. Free parking would also encourage local business to do more trade. The 24hr Tesco has destroyed our high st forever.	Jul 30, 2013 11:25 PM
21	The less derelict looking buildings the better. Need to keep the centre busy	Jul 26, 2013 6:42 PM
22	Only if public are involved so they are not kept in the dark as is the usual practice.	Jul 23, 2013 2:57 PM
23	Not parking for stables	Jul 22, 2013 7:50 PM
24	Retail area above bright house (old co-op) is huge and going to waste. Can we also do something about number of pound shops and cash stores like bright house.	Jul 22, 2013 3:59 PM
25	Whilst I agree with the consideration of the development of the old stables, having previously resided directly opposite the entrance to this location I feel that conversion to car parking may cause additional and unnecessary safety risks. This is a small residential street which also services frequent young pedestrian traffic in and out of Loretto School. Having resided there the issue of the increased number of racing meetings, which is great for Musselburgh, but this could cause considerable congestion and risk as drivers seek to utilise this facility if it came into being. The other issue would also be the issue of where residents of any new development would park unless such a development was designed to accommodate underground parking or similar.	Jul 19, 2013 11:27 AM
26	Rent schemes need to be more affordable. 500 quid for a one bedroom flat per month is unsustainable and greedy, as an example. Stables could or should have attractions that bring people along or too the sea wall trail.	Jul 17, 2013 9:52 AM

**Page 5, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

27	Some properties above shops are badly in need of repair and shops require painting in suitable colours to brighten up the Town Centre	Jul 16, 2013 11:22 PM
28	Parking would help the town centre.	Jul 16, 2013 5:15 PM
29	Perhaps additional parking is required in the town centre	Jul 16, 2013 12:12 PM
30	A weekly market could be held at any of the larger empty sites in Musselburgh.	Jul 15, 2013 8:26 PM
31	With the stables, please be very careful as to what could be chosen, if it's more shops, then no more hairdressers, take aways, bookies, cheap shops, pharmacies, cafes, charity shops we have more than enough. Please encourage something that is more individual.	Jul 15, 2013 5:29 PM
32	While housing and employment use are worthwhile uses of land and parking appears to be an issue closer to the center of town, Millhill Stables is a long, dark, narrow site of some historical significance and character, with understandable planning constraints. The owners of the home in front of the stables are also concerned about future intrusions to privacy and a reduction in the amenities of their historic home if the stables site is developed and becomes a public thoroughfare. If it is opened to the public in any capacity it will need CCTV cameras and streetlighting in addition to archaeological work before any development work is done as well as ongoing maintenance of the landscaping. Residential use of vacant properties above shops would be a great way to increase the amount of people living in the town center, but will only work if the market can bear the costs to prepare the properties for this use.	Jul 11, 2013 11:22 AM
33	The stables area has become an eyesore and the weeds are taking over. Redevelopment of this site should be a priority and bring in money to the Council. Parts of Musselburgh look derelict.	Jul 1, 2013 11:21 AM
34	The vacant Millhill site is quite an awkward shape and need careful thought as to how best to utilise the space. Don't think parking would be ideal as pedestrian access to the High Street might be difficult as I understand that houses on the High Street would be affected.	Jun 20, 2013 1:56 PM
35	Would like to know more about Millhill stables. Could this become a tourism asset or a community development rather than housing or parking?	Jun 17, 2013 3:59 PM
36	Millhill Stables backs onto Millhill Lane and the access is on a turn in the road and next to the entrance of Loretto School. Increasing traffic to use this route will cause more congestion for the "back street" as that area is full of parked cars. Having "upmarket" small designer shops would be nice "artisan" shops but Musselburgh does not attract that sort of person in masses who would be willing to spend money on expensive products. This is a badly laid out strip of land and perhaps it could be used as a "play are" leased to a Nursery for children to enjoy outside activity within a safe closed environment. The Council should have allowed one bedroom flats to be built (now Poundland and Poundstretcher) shops for the elderly (private owed/rent) and missed that opportunity at the time when the supermarket closed down. Yes, all properties above shops could be converted into one bed/studio flats.	Jun 14, 2013 11:54 AM
37	Too many empty properties and shops. Need to clean the whole area up and make people take responsibility for their properties instead of using them as doss houses for unemployed and low income families on benefits.	Jun 13, 2013 8:26 PM



**Page 5, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

38	Millhill Lane is already a death trap with postal vans speeding, pot holes that have been there for years ( at least 15 years ) dont seem to help either. If these stables are to be developed access would have to be from the high street.	Jun 13, 2013 4:24 PM
39	I think it's good to use existing spaces rather than building new, so would support this	Jun 13, 2013 2:54 PM
40	market use	Jun 13, 2013 10:37 AM
41	Sadly North High Street now seems to be attracting the same kind of retail usage as the main High Street. We have a glut of pawn shops, pound shops, bookies and charity shops the impact of which is largely to drive people to shop at Fort Kinnaird instead. Without a more diverse shopping experience footfall will drop and you won't need car parking spaces for those outside of the town. Millhill is, again, not well connected. You have to drive to the racecourse to get out of Millhill and unless you are going to the Post Office you are unlikely to take this option and risk getting stuck trying to get back on to the High Street west bound. Therefore, it would be better utilised for housing. Increasing town centre residency is a good thing, especially if it brings vacant properties back into use. The historic feel of the town has been completely lost behind garish discount chain stores and this further adds to the feeling of being in a run down suburb of Edinburgh rather than the town centre of East Lothian's largest hub.	Jun 13, 2013 8:33 AM
42	I think there needs to be more done around the rent system East Lothian Council use when renting properties. I believe that the current system uses the highest bidder for the annual rent, which is ludicrous. It should be based on square footage of the property.	Jun 12, 2013 11:14 PM
43	I think that the millhill site should either be used for affordable housing or community services.	Jun 12, 2013 11:14 PM
44	Lets get the retail/car parking/congestion already existing in the High St improved before looking at Millhill Stables.	Jun 12, 2013 8:23 PM
45	Millhill Lane is far too narrow for more cars - the school also uses the gate there - it is right on a corner - highly dangerous.	Jun 12, 2013 8:18 PM
46	Milhill Stables: I do not think this should be developed for housing or parking. Perhaps small scale workshop units would be a possibility. This is an important part of the town's heritage - it is a great shame to see it in such a poor state of repair. Vacant space above shops: if any of these belong to the Council, consider using those suitable for storage eg of items currently stored in the Old Town Hall, which are potentially holding back its redevelopment.	Jun 12, 2013 4:27 PM
47	parking in musselburgh is horrendous	Jun 12, 2013 11:59 AM
48	The High street shop fronts could look more traditional to encourage a tourist destination	Jun 11, 2013 10:14 AM
49	Stables may offer opportunity for a market, garden centre or other use to bring in more business. More parking will just increase car use	Jun 9, 2013 10:56 AM
50	For the Mill Hill stables - You should have an option which says don't know	Jun 7, 2013 2:12 PM
51	The old Musselburgh Arms Hotel is an eyesore and a completely wasted	Jun 6, 2013 6:03 PM

**Page 5, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

space too.



**Page 6, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

1	Some shop colours and signage glaring and brash at the moment and all 'out of place' with each other - would be grand if could be more muted and co-ordinated and look 'planned' and in keeping with the older buildings - not just shops - hotels, pubs, other businesses too. (No neon colours and no 'kut kost' type signs aould be good!)	Aug 2, 2013 3:18 PM
2	Not sufficient value is placed on Musselburgh OUTSTANDING conservation area. This is the distinctive part of Musselburgh that requires special treatment. Re point 3 shop signage - too often, even in the conservation area this is ignored and poor design follows.	Aug 2, 2013 2:59 PM
3	These three proposals may help to grow civic pride. The town at the present time looks so neglected. How about featuring the Rennie Bridge - flowers and new lights.	Aug 2, 2013 2:42 PM
4	musselburgh looks quite 'tatty' with shop fronts being painted in garish colours.	Aug 2, 2013 2:29 PM
5	Hold on to the culture and heritage of the town. Use marine blue and white/gold or black and gold paint work. Uniformity of colour scheme and shopfronts. Window dress the shops- make them interesting and a pleasure to walk around. Be more imaginative and creative. The High Street would look much better with trees on both pavements, creating a miniature environment, soaking up the horrible exhaust fumes. Repair the whole pavements - on both sides of the High Street. Get rid of advertising boards - they are an eyesore. Keep bin lids closed/locked.	Aug 2, 2013 1:48 PM
6	What a vast improvemnet could be made if all residents and businesses could work together to improve every aspect of teh built environment.	Aug 2, 2013 1:28 PM
7	Encourage cleanliness of streets properties - especially the pavements - could they not be hosed down regularly?	Aug 2, 2013 9:57 AM
8	Garish shop frontages are favoured by commercial enterprises - but generally dis;iked by the public in general. They cheapen the High Street. Whatever policies apply in Haddington and north Berwick must be adopted in Musselburgh.	Aug 1, 2013 6:00 PM
9	We could have an attractive High Street i.e. Peebles, Haddington etc. We need to get rid of shops that prey on the poor and vulnerable i.e. Bright House!!	Aug 1, 2013 5:31 PM
10	Colour scheme for property must be a consultation with the town's residents	Aug 1, 2013 1:45 PM
11	I'm afraid that Musselburgh has been the poor relation in East Lothian where the built environment is concerned. The town has some delightful and characterful regions - wouldn't it be pleasant to have a delightful and characterful town centre?	Aug 1, 2013 9:57 AM
12	If the looks of businesses can be improved this would be a good thing. Business fronts should look smart, however many businesses are franchises likemine or have their own branding so uniform look will beimpossible for some to comply with. The current for small business is very demanding, especially for higher end (other than pound shops/pay day loan shops/charity shop sector), so we need planning to help us grow within the community and not have life made more difficult or costly in order to comply with new planning guidelines.	Jul 31, 2013 10:56 PM

**Page 6, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

13	These should be applied as rigorously to chain stores as to those in local ownership and if can't be done fairly to everyone i.e. retrospectively to existing chains - it shouldn't be applied at all. Shops like Boots or Costa have a shop front that helps people quickly recognise them but when you get a street full of chains doing that it changes the appearance of a town centre into quite a messy patchwork. Haddington has preserved its shop fronts well and the town looks good.	Jul 31, 2013 9:54 PM
14	Absolutely agree on a standard for shop fronts but a balance must be found when it comes to who pays for the changes. Appraisal would be a waste of vital funds	Jul 31, 2013 8:51 PM
15	Why should a business that has been in the area for x years pay for the changes? As a taxpayer, I also don't want to pay for these changes... catch 22.	Jul 31, 2013 7:56 PM
16	Get the Musselburgh Arms hotel back into use as a priority. Its condition is dragging that end of the town down and presents a very poor image.	Jul 31, 2013 6:12 PM
17	It is not the aesthetics that are a problem, but lack of parking and ease of access to shops in the town centre. Do not waste money on cosmetic changes. Keep the place clean and tidy and encourage a greater variety of useful shops in the town centre rather than pound and charity shops.	Jul 26, 2013 6:43 PM
18	Any place needs to look as good as it can do - everyone likes places that are painted in attractive colours	Jul 25, 2013 8:46 AM
19	I have only ever made any alterations with planning and get very frustrated when i see others ignoring planning and getting away with it.	Jul 24, 2013 3:42 PM
20	encourage will not work. enforce	Jul 23, 2013 3:24 PM
21	There should be supporting regulation to ensure compliance	Jul 19, 2013 11:28 AM
22	The town centre should become a brand. Similar signs colours and fonts for all. Proper beautification of this area would be welcome.	Jul 17, 2013 9:54 AM
23	I have covered this subject in the previous page	Jul 16, 2013 11:23 PM
24	Please no more bright yellow Money Stations! Remade and Cake and Crafts look good, others should do the same.	Jul 16, 2013 5:38 PM
25	The idea of colour schemes may sound nice to bring in visitors etc. but isn't really going to help the infrastructure issues. These should be address first! The town centre should be clean and tidy and unused premises like the old pubs should be put into use (can the community benefit from these buildings?)and made to look less derelict. Please don't waste money on appraisals and colour coordination!	Jul 16, 2013 5:18 PM
26	I would go further than 'encourage' . There are some ghastly shop fronts in Musselburgh and Fisherrow, esp money lending premises on North High Street.	Jul 16, 2013 4:40 PM
27	The shops do not look very attractive from the outside. Anything that makes them look smarter would be a good thing.	Jul 16, 2013 12:13 PM
28	Believe all of these are critical to creating a look and feel within the town centre that encourages visitors from outwith Musselburgh and Musselburgh	Jul 16, 2013 9:06 AM

**Page 6, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	residents to want to shop and spend within the town centre.	
29	I think it is more important that properties are all looking care for rather than all being the same colour	Jul 15, 2013 10:52 PM
30	Musselburgh is a naturally beautiful area but some of the "cheaper" frontage to shops/property brings down the area. Joint funding should be made available to raise the standards.	Jul 15, 2013 8:28 PM
31	Don't just encourage make it legislativ	Jul 15, 2013 6:12 PM
32	introduce signage standard guidelines ad introduced in many municipalities around the globe. In pursuing these actions, however, you do not want to discourage new niche businesses from entering the market. Are there incentives available to owners and businesses to support a conservation theme for Musselburgh?	Jul 11, 2013 11:25 AM
33	The shops need to be encouraged not discouraged with added planning regs, how about money to encourage small reatail artisan shops, paving the west side of the street, and marketing the town as and artists.artisan town with support from ELc	Jul 9, 2013 12:03 PM
34	Musselburgh is not Mull - I see no need for colour co-ordinated buildings. Also the conservation area is already blighted by Sky dishes.	Jul 2, 2013 9:44 AM
35	Consider a THI for Musselburgh Conservation Area. Paint colours are the least of the issues! Maintenance and repair is the point, not just surface treatment/easy fix! The type of paint used on traditional buildings is critical - 'non breathable' paint will prevent moisture evaporating through the wall. Education of owners regarding repairs and maintenance is something that should be ongoing as part of the conservation area. Would be included in a THI too. If planning policy has been breached with regard to signage, then enforcement is needed not 'encouragement'.	Jun 24, 2013 12:27 PM
36	Musselburgh high street looks awful cheap shops opening and closing lying vacant for ages	Jun 14, 2013 10:09 PM
37	The Council can only but throw good money on "Consultations" "Appraisals" . What the Councillors should do is get out on foot themselves with some local people and walk around with clip board and write down what can improved. Simple. Why can the Council not come up with cost cutting ideas??? Colour schemes would be welcome and the signage above shops is a disgrace and the Council could have done more for some time as it is making the area look "low class income", which it is not.	Jun 14, 2013 11:58 AM
38	Some of the more recent businesses that have opening and painted the shop fronts bright yellow etc are really making locals cringe. This looks cheap and uninviting	Jun 13, 2013 8:57 PM
39	Agree wholeheartedly. Musselburgh once was a very pretty area and still has a lot going for it but the "pop up" shop culture needs to stop. No well know good quality retailers are left now. they have all gone to Fort Kinnaird.	Jun 13, 2013 8:28 PM
40	Shops need to be bright and inviting, love cake & crafts bright pink. Brought north high st back to life.	Jun 13, 2013 8:20 PM
41	Laying out rules covering signage and alterations to shop fronts may only serve to discourage businesses from moving to Musselburgh. The shopping	Jun 13, 2013 8:11 PM

**Page 6, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	street is a disgrace at present, and we need to do everything we can to encourage a wide range of businesses to open here, NOT just more pound shops.	
42	Also to maintain their buildings e.g. remove all plants/trees growing from the facades of the buildings on the main streets.	Jun 13, 2013 4:47 PM
43	Any mandatory planning with regards what can and cannot be used as appropriate shop frontage it signage may deter certain brands/chains etc choosing Musselburgh as a location for business. Brand awareness is in itself an attraction for residents and visitors to frequent the high street.	Jun 13, 2013 4:45 PM
44	I think shop owners should be able to express individuality rather than a set color palate and sign style	Jun 13, 2013 2:56 PM
45	Better signage and making shop fronts look more attractive will no doubt attract more people to want to shop in Musselburgh . Also i think being more choosy about what type of shop takes up Musselburgh town centre as there is not really much choice at the moment.	Jun 13, 2013 10:37 AM
46	The issue is not the colour scheme but the tenants. I am completely fed up of walking past Money Exchange, Ladbrokes, Bright House etc. The Post Office is in the back of a vacant unit. This is not a pleasant experience. I have moved my banking from the Bank of Scotland to Co-operative and now use the small Post Office in North High Street simply to avoid having to make journeys to Musselburgh town centre as it is such an unpleasant experience with no real draw. Remade and Cakes and Craft in Fisherrow need as much support as possible as they are trying so very hard to bring something different to the town. The conservation area has been badly hit by the loss of the bike shop and pram centre, but it is reassuring to see Fine Wine move there and I hope some other independent stores will open in that area.	Jun 13, 2013 8:44 AM
47	frontage colour should be a choice of the proprietor as usually it represents the product - needs to be bright and eye-catching	Jun 13, 2013 12:22 AM
48	I think that in a town like Musselburgh it would be very easy to accidentally let chain businesses turn the town centre into an identikit town centre that looks like hundreds of others across the UK. I think that making rulings to protect and promote a special characterful town centre is important for making the town feel special for local residents and visitors alike. I would expect that the rules for chain businesses would be the same as for local businesses but would be enforced quicker due to their higher revenue streams. Small businesses should be given more leeway to make changes (in order to comply with the new rules) as they can afford to. I was slightly concerned by the example in the draft strategy, where outdoor seating at the Burgh cafe was deemed "street clutter". I think outdoor seating and signage could be given conservation area guidelines as well as the rest of the business without reducing the service offered i.e. outdoor seating.	Jun 12, 2013 11:30 PM
49	I would like to see some of the old properties with frontages which reflect the age of the building. This would bring more character to the town. I have spent a lot of time in Chester and their planning laws require the old frontage of the Tudor buildings to be kept. It brings a huge amount of character to the center.	Jun 12, 2013 11:16 PM
50	The high street looks so tired and uncared for, its in need of a major facelift! We need better shops that cater to everyone and not just pound shops and charity shops!	Jun 12, 2013 10:46 PM

**Page 6, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

51	Stop "sandwich boards" advertising shops being placed in the middle of pavements.	Jun 12, 2013 10:22 PM
52	Currently the town centre is a sight for sore eyes with charity shops, pound shops, cheque convertors and bookies.....not very appealing.	Jun 12, 2013 8:24 PM
53	Property owners should be encouraged to paint premises in bright and bold colours, like Cake and Crafts on north high street for example, it brightens up the street and looks great.	Jun 12, 2013 4:20 PM
54	While it would be nice for the high street to have a cohesive appearance this is secondary to encouraging actual new businesses into the area.	Jun 11, 2013 9:51 PM
55	If this improves the towns aesthetic look and feel and is more in keeping with historic buildings. Haddington doesn't have bright horrible signage	Jun 7, 2013 2:12 PM





**Page 7, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

1	Trees always 'soften' an area - but need to be protected while saplings, with guards of some sort (mesh rolls etc.) or very liable to be swung on and broken, unfortunately, in some areas (the ones planted by the bus route into Tesco's have already had to be replaced several time). Also need to be correct species to suit different areas best. But trees always enhance a town I think. Please be sure to keep commemorative seating plaques though - e.g. the Dr. Laing' seat now outside the hollies means a great deal to older people in the town.	Aug 2, 2013 3:22 PM
2	Trees will be vandalised and are out of place in such an urban environment as the High Street	Aug 2, 2013 2:59 PM
3	As a dog owner, I find the lack of bins for rubbish and dog disposal along the River Esk Walkways leading to St Michael's Church, Inveresk etc annoying. There are many beautiful walks in Musselburgh and attract many people. The river walks by the Tyne in Haddington have many bins placed at convenient intervals for rubbish and dog disposal. Just a wee thing but important! Why not in Musselburgh?	Aug 2, 2013 2:48 PM
4	All proposals would benefit Musselburgh	Aug 2, 2013 2:30 PM
5	Newly planted trees must be as large as possible and effectively protected by tall circular metal guards to prevent vandalism, which is a big problem in Musselburgh. Unprotected young trees surrounding the Tesco site have been destroyed time and time again. Tesco replants them time and again but does not protect them, despite repeated requests to do so. Maintenance of street furniture and public areas must be budgeted for and not neglected.	Aug 2, 2013 2:21 PM
6	Plant an abundance of trees. Both sides of the High Street. get rid of the cars outside Luca's cafe - don't think that they should legally be there in the first place? Grass it over- like area in front of Medusa etc. Look at the back premises of the shops especially those that selling food - the Chinese, the Indian, Luca's cafe- there is a filthy mess encouraging vermin. The smells are revolting. Irradicate the pigeons/guano from the town. Seagulls waiting for pickings from the school kids- every school day 11.30 onwards.	Aug 2, 2013 1:52 PM
7	All the above ideas are splendid but what is the use of trees and plantpots if that is all to see when visiting Musselburgh. Most people like to browse through the shops and charity shop is the same as the other: we need a variety of good quality shops.	Aug 2, 2013 9:59 AM
8	Car park behind Musselburgh Arms looks dull and depressing!	Aug 2, 2013 9:36 AM
9	These are management issues which ought to be carried out automatically. Musselburgh is one of the East Lothian towns let down by town centre management - shame because it is by far the longest and has the most councillors.	Aug 1, 2013 6:01 PM
10	Point 3 - Money can be better spent on other things i.e. cycle lanes - let's do it!! One-way streets to reduce cars congesting our streets!!	Aug 1, 2013 5:32 PM
11	Coordination of street furniture probably means spending council tax money just for the sake of spending it.	Aug 1, 2013 2:53 PM
12	Any tree planting would need protection against vandalism (look at Tesco for example)	Aug 1, 2013 2:47 PM
13	Creating blisters where people can cross the road will risk accidents and	Aug 1, 2013 1:55 PM

**Page 7, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

	more traffic hold-ups than there are at present and adding trees to these blisters will add another hazard for drivers. trees generally are a good idea but only if they are well looked after and properly 'gardened'. There is nothing looks worse than DIRTY 'black street furniture'. Have funds been allotted for continual cleaning. Having rubbish bins against walls makes it impossible for the machine to clean properly. Why were they moved?? Most bins not suitable for disposal of cigarette ends.	
14	Any new trees MUST be protected. the trees planted at Tesco are vandalised regularly.	Aug 1, 2013 1:46 PM
15	I think 'small number of trees' should be a 'generous number of trees'!	Aug 1, 2013 9:58 AM
16	In theory of course I am in favour of better parking but am concerned that where this has been done in other towns, local business has suffered as a result, driving people to retail centres where parking is free and easier.	Jul 31, 2013 10:59 PM
17	Coordination of street furniture is a waste of money. Planting a small number of trees in specific street locations is a waste of money	Jul 31, 2013 5:32 PM
18	Tree planting is always a good idea, however please consider edible fruits rather than decorative.	Jul 29, 2013 4:08 PM
19	Trees and lamp posts are nice to do but encouraging more businesses is crucial. I try to shop and use businesses in Musselburgh, but not easy to park and will with 3 kids, traffic and poor quality shops. Great green grocers and new wine and cheese shop great but lacking other quality butchers bakers and fishmonger in town centre - although clerks is great but have to drive again to it.	Jul 26, 2013 6:47 PM
20	Car parks are the first thing you see in a town as a viistor. It would help if there was town information provided.	Jul 25, 2013 8:47 AM
21	The pavement area outside S.Luca is a disgrace. Eversince the planning of the flats at Ambassador Court we have been subjected to a narrow gap between the pavement and the bollards. We as a business require access for articulated lorries and this was never taken into account when the alterations were made. The pavement area needs shortened and tidied up to allow lorries to be able to deliver and cars to park.	Jul 24, 2013 3:47 PM
22	great ideas. Clean, tidy and attractive. Visible dog wardens especially on North High street	Jul 23, 2013 3:25 PM
23	All see to be 'tinkering around the edges' not solving the main access and diversity of shops that will encourage people into the town centre. A better butcher - fishmonger that sells more than just Cod (on the High Street! So I don't have to drive and park a second time at Clarks) local bakers. I wanted a plain and simple baguette the other week, tried to get one on high street but no look - went to Tesco!	Jul 16, 2013 5:22 PM
24	Replace bins with 'ash trays' on top with bins which have containers for cigarette ends as they just fall off the present type of bins and cause a litter problem. Difficulty at the moment getting responses from some of the councilors.	Jul 16, 2013 4:41 PM
25	Information at car parks on shops and what is on would be useful for visitors	Jul 16, 2013 12:14 PM
26	More trees should be planted particularly a the old post office area of the	Jul 16, 2013 7:29 AM

Page 7, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)

	town.	
27	Planting trees is a good idea providing there is finance guaranteed for maintenance over time other wise un cared for trees are worse than having no trees at all.	Jul 15, 2013 10:55 PM
28	The car parking area towards the back of the high street (back of boots, card factory) and the lane which runs from Mansfield Avenue can be a disgrace. As a mother of a young child, I am concerned by the number of broken bottles and dog excrement lying around.	Jul 15, 2013 8:30 PM
29	Musselburgh would benefit from any " beautification" actions that it can afford, particularly parking areas away from the High Street and increased quantity, quality and locations for street furniture - seating and planters.	Jul 11, 2013 11:28 AM
30	These efforts would all help in the short term improvement of the environment. The contact would need to have genuine clout and not just pay lip-service to the scheme, ie create a real job and give them a realistic budget.	Jul 9, 2013 9:08 PM
31	General tidying up of car parking areas in and around the town centre if this means the pedestrians are put 1st, Planting of a LARGE number of trees in specific street locations and through out the town Coordination of 'street furniture' this tends to make every town centre from INverness to Milton keynes look the same, no please keep the randomness. Development of list of 'key contacts' for people to approach about issues related to the town centre: only if they have the ability and power to change things, another 'computer says no' person will add nothing.	Jul 9, 2013 12:07 PM
32	Don't believe money should be spent on co-ordination of street furniture. It is important to have areas where people can sit but if a programme of maintenance was put in place I think less money would be spent. This could also lead to the creation of jobs for the significant number of people who are unemployed and desperately looking for work.	Jun 27, 2013 10:41 AM
33	The general cleaning maintenance cannot be carried out due to the Council's lack of funding - so I was told by email. "STAFF CUTS". Small trees (as always) get broken by vandals and left there unattended to and covered at the base with dogs dirt and general rubbish. "street furniture" attract night time gathering areas for gangs, drugs, drinking and fighting - creating eventually "no-go" areas. The residents don't need to have to endure more noise and upset as it is bad already with drunken the behaviour until 2-3am through the streets of Musselburgh. Try living here next to the " Social are developments" at night time whilst trying to sleep.	Jun 14, 2013 12:04 PM
34	The pavements are already crowded with shop signs, tables, waste bins, lamposts, tables and chairs. If there were trees planted then it would make it even harder to negotiate with a buggy or wheelchair. Also the damage caused by tree roots would destroy the pavements in a few years. Look what happened in Restalrig and Leith Walk	Jun 13, 2013 8:30 PM
35	More dog poo bins in some areas as the dog poo on the pavements is terrible.	Jun 13, 2013 4:52 PM
36	I think improvements to the general look of the area would be great, I feel that the 'key contacts' is a waste of money, surely this is what the council offices are already for?	Jun 13, 2013 2:58 PM

**Page 7, Q2. Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

37	I think it is safe to say the environmental or dog warden would be the most called person given the abundance of dog dirt in Musselburgh town centre and on the main walking routes into it. I am concerned about the type of overhall of car parking areas. If these make them safer for pedestrians around the edges this is good, but not if it makes them even more dangerous to walk past. Trees would add to the place, but not if they become somewhere for dogs to urinate and people to stump out their cigarettes.	Jun 13, 2013 8:44 AM
38	When reviewing street furniture I think that opportunities for recycling for people using the town centre should be improved.	Jun 12, 2013 11:31 PM
39	I genuinely believe that there enough benches, bins etc....its simply people don't use them, I would rather see shops of quality, not charity shops, bookies and pound stores. 'Classy is a word which springs to mind. If we get this then maybe other business' will take interest.	Jun 12, 2013 11:19 PM
40	The idea of the tree's is excellent but feel that it can be open to vandalism which equates to a waste of spending. Other ideas such as hanging baskets (out of reach from vandalism) would bring a vibrant colour to the streets.	Jun 12, 2013 10:45 PM
41	It would be great if we could have trees in the Town centre but how could they be protected from vandals. Tesco didn't fare well protecting theirs.	Jun 12, 2013 10:18 PM
42	reduce street furniture - provide cycle parking in high st	Jun 12, 2013 9:00 PM
43	Street furniture - the community could be involved in this in the same way as Princes Street where families can place a dedicated bench, cutting costs etc.	Jun 12, 2013 4:50 PM
44	Especially the car park through the tunnel at the side of the sorting office	Jun 7, 2013 8:17 AM



**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

1	TYhe Town Hall/Tolbooth area is the most historic and attractive area of teh High Street - and unique in East Lothian. At the moment it is marred by some garish shop fronts and the deplorable state of teh Musselburgh Arms hotel. This could be a most attractive area and I'm sure would be a much-used community area and would do much to attract visitors to stop in the town. The sensitively designed Tolbooth cafe is very much in keeping with the area, but the 'Money shop' and newsagents and hotel all look tatty.	Aug 2, 2013 3:25 PM
2	This historic space in front of teh Town Hall should be pedestrianised and open for community use. the market cross should become the centre piece and teher is no need of further 'public art' in this area. A simple space with few frills - the use should be established first before spending large sums of money.	Aug 2, 2013 3:01 PM
3	very much hope this project will go ahead, as it will greatly enhance this area.	Aug 2, 2013 2:30 PM
4	Tis is the most important proposal for improving Musselburgh town centre but it will not work until attractive and viable uses can first, be found for the old town hall/tolbooth and for the derelict Musselburgh Arms. the Old Town Hall/Tolbooth should be converted into a heritage centre, including the museum and the library with the cells as a tourist feature. The Musselburgh Arms should be converted into flats. The mercat cros should be retsored. The Roman Soldier statue idea should be dropped because money could be better spent elsewhere. the old Post Office should be brought back into use.	Aug 2, 2013 2:24 PM
5	We do not want cheap shabby goods to be on sale. There is enough junk in the shops as it is. There is enough green space for such events nearer the coast line. Certainly pedestrianise this area - trees and pot plants etc. The alley way to Kerr's Wynd would be a beauty spot in a continental country, just now it is a disgraceful mess. The owner of the newly opened Garden Centre is willing to contribute to its beauty but has been refused. Why? Get rid of the cars there.	Aug 2, 2013 1:55 PM
6	This would provide a heart for our fine town.	Aug 2, 2013 1:28 PM
7	On the negative side - Musselburgh is a broken down tired little town within the High Street area - too many charity shops and stores of a similar character: - North High Street fast food shops. On the positive side:- Renew broken pavements etc. maybe a few hanging baskets and discourage those big cheap looking shop signs and a better variety of shops would encourage people to stop and visit.	Aug 2, 2013 1:17 PM
8	Why not have a farmers market here?	Aug 2, 2013 9:37 AM
9	Only if current bus stop area is connected to car parking possibly short term.	Aug 1, 2013 6:23 PM
10	This is very important for Musselburgh - it's so obvious a shortcoming that it must be treated as a priority. The scheme put forward is the right one in the right place. Make the space more simple - the separating wall should be omitted.	Aug 1, 2013 6:03 PM
11	Great idea. Let's restore pride to the town centre and get rid of some of the ugly car parks - this being one of them!	Aug 1, 2013 5:45 PM
12	Agree but this is only if there is a proper calendar of events planned and it is not just random events a couple of times a year.	Aug 1, 2013 2:14 PM

**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

13	This is a must for the town's future.	Aug 1, 2013 1:46 PM
14	I feel that statues, walls, 'artistic' railings should be approached with caution. The idea of a civic space is great but perhaps there should be an incremental development of it, beginning with high quality planters to delineate the area. The space is already of historic interest, and may not need 'decoration' of the fabric and maintenance of surrounding buildings is of a high standard. In my view, any statue should be of outstandingly high quality - and nothing less will do. I'm afraid we do not want any more golf balls made from horseshoes! And a generic Roman soldier would not, I feel, be suitable; any portrayal should, I think, be of an actual historic individual.	Aug 1, 2013 10:03 AM
15	Am not sure. Once again, it would be nice to attract markets, events etc but it would be a shame if what's a very pretty part of town became a place for youths to hang out and be noisy and messy. At lunchtimes kids from High school might use it to congregate to eat their fast food and cause major litter.	Jul 31, 2013 11:05 PM
16	It would be important to ensure events didn't happen too early or late as they will inevitably create some noise and the flats around here have very old thin windows! Having said that the noise pollution here comes from traffic - especially those playing loud music while stopped at the traffic lights and the Sportsman Bar where customers are not adequately discouraged from being loud outside.	Jul 31, 2013 9:56 PM
17	Done well it would make a dramatic improvement to the look and life of the community. It would also set a high and imaginative standard to inspire other parts of the town. The built environment at the old Town Hall, Tollbooth and Market Cross is mostly superb, what it lacks is appropriate pedestrianisation and landscaping.	Jul 31, 2013 9:30 PM
18	I agree with this but only on the basis parking can be replaced nearby. I know people who would stop going to the Tolbooth cafe, for instance, as no parking would mean they would go elsewhere and it will affect businesses like theirs. I love the idea of a civic square idea, perhaps a compromise could be reached about no parking on a Sunday to allow for markets as businesses are closed?	Jul 31, 2013 8:56 PM
19	Businesses in the area would suffer greatly - I agree that the area could be set to better use, however, I think one of two things would be a better option: 1) Make other parking (Nearby, I.E, Stables) available Or 2) Set aside a set number of days for such event (There's no reason to pave the area for a once a week market - the other six days a week would be wasted); use it when it's needed for civic event (With the agreement of local businesses) and leave it as-is for the rest of the time.	Jul 31, 2013 8:04 PM
20	Here is a chance to give a key part of the town centre back to the pedestrian. The image of the town centre is that it is a place for cars not for pedestrians. It looks the same now as it did in the 1950s. It is time to bring the centre into the 21st Century. Car parking is needed but should not dominate as it does at present. The civic square proposals albeit expensive, will change the image of the town at a stroke and will increase footfall in that part of the centre. It must be associated however with action on the Musselburgh Arms Hotel and making better use of the Old Town Hall/Tolbooth. And we must persuade the Post Office to bring its building back into beneficial use.	Jul 31, 2013 6:19 PM
21	Musselburgh town centre needs all the parking we have to bring people into the town.	Jul 31, 2013 5:44 PM



**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

22	There are ample venues such as levenhall links, racecourse, fisherrow that can be used as a civic space. Using this space would take away much needed parking and if events were held here would create more traffic jams and problems. Please do not take away this valuable parking spot.	Jul 26, 2013 6:49 PM
23	The more events like markets the better - and a good reason to visit the town	Jul 25, 2013 8:48 AM
24	I am unsure how you plan to rehouse the parking elsewhere so until I can see a detailed plan would strongly disagree with this plan. As I have mentioned before parking around Lucas is already very difficult for customers and for us to have deliveries made.	Jul 24, 2013 3:51 PM
25	This sounds very appealing. Not only does it look neglected due to the old Musselburgh Arms Hotel vacant but this is often the first view visitors see of Musselburgh coming from the south. It would be great to have a space to congregate for community events etc.	Jul 24, 2013 1:23 AM
26	Finally a good idea that could make a difference. Its not all about shops, its about a space for meeting and events. Poundland, great though it is, is hardly a reason to visit Musselburgh. A market, concert, play, etc might be	Jul 23, 2013 3:31 PM
27	This is a very attractive idea and would benefit from some redevelopment of the former Musselburgh Arm into a hotel or Bistro (not a pub)if such a sale and developer can be found. If this development becomes a reality then consideration should be given to linking in with the Musselburgh Festival ( HTA Executive Committee) with a view to examining the potential for some additional Festival Week events to be held at this location to increase community integration forcall during this week.	Jul 19, 2013 11:39 AM
28	Many of these in surrounding towns become dirty and damaged but if they were placed somewhere people would congregate outside a number of shops and could be used fairly freely by the shops it would be better. Car access should be nil.	Jul 17, 2013 9:57 AM
29	This is an important issue for the Town. A farmers market is well overdue.	Jul 16, 2013 11:27 PM
30	A market area would be good	Jul 16, 2013 4:42 PM
31	There should be somewhere. Possibly this are is too busy with a t junction?	Jul 16, 2013 4:42 PM
32	This area is very suitable and if it is created as a pedestrian area then their will b elots of ideas for how to use it. A regular old fashioned town market of the sort you see in English towns would be good and perhaps street entertainers as well.	Jul 16, 2013 12:15 PM
33	Absolutely if it is used and available for use. Farmers markets etc would be a very welcome addition to the town.	Jul 16, 2013 9:08 AM
34	I would welcome facilities for a regular street market.	Jul 15, 2013 10:57 PM
35	Would the Goose Green road bridge be opened for traffic? Could Inveresk Road be opened up beside Tesco for another route for traffic?	Jul 15, 2013 10:28 PM
36	Attracting Farmers Markets, Craft markets etc on a regular basis would help lift the shopping experience and hopefully, encourage more up market retailers than pound shops to come to Musselburgh.	Jul 15, 2013 7:43 PM
37	I understand why you would want to attract more people and events to the	Jul 15, 2013 7:06 PM

**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	<p>town centre. However, you also need to balance this with the needs of the residents. As a town centre resident overlooking current public space outside the Old Town Hall, I have extreme reservations about attracting more people to this space as it directly affects myself and my family's life. We already have to "tolerate" noise pollution from public events such as the Musselburgh Festival/brass and pipe bands playing beneath our livingroom windows and the like. At the moment these happen relatively infrequently so they are "manageable" But I do not relish the prospect of this becoming a more frequent occurrence. Also we experience regular drunken and antisocial behaviour in this area, particularly at the weekends. There are regularly fights and shouting/abusive language. Our car has been vandalised twice in the last 3 months despite cctv. I am concerned that by making this area more amenable for people to linger in, the people responsible for this behaviour are going to be encouraged to hang around here and result in more antisocial behaviour and so disrupting our family life even more.</p>	
38	I feel this would enhance the High Street and give the town a central point for many events.	Jul 15, 2013 6:19 PM
39	if this plan goes ahead and public parking is pushed down towards the Pinkie Pillars, consideration should be given to permit parking for those with residences on that part of the street. A brief to redevelop the square should also be revised, based on a realistic budget.	Jul 11, 2013 11:30 AM
40	About time! That area is a mess! The hotel left empty is a disgrace. The old PO building should be leased to Visit Scotland and become a Tourist Information hub. It's crazy that our TIC is on a roundabout only accessible by car!	Jul 9, 2013 9:11 PM
41	This should be managed well and have a police presence, day and night	Jul 9, 2013 12:08 PM
42	As mentioned above, it would be good to have an area for street markets etc, but the main problem is still going to be the traffic.	Jul 2, 2013 9:45 AM
43	This is a super idea. To be able to have a small, farmers market in the area will be a real bonus to the town. The location could then be used for other purposes as you have indicated. What it should not become is a cheap market akin to a car boot sale. A farmers market with fresh fruit and veg, fish, meats and home baking would be a fantastic addition that should attract trade.	Jul 1, 2013 11:24 AM
44	I strongly agree with pedestrianising this area. It is so unimaginative to have it as a car park. Please don't be swayed by certain local shops who can't see the fantastic opportunity of making this a proper civic square. However it must be a good quality square - please no concrete monstrosities. Being in greenery, trees, some imagination - start with the community outcomes and design on this basis.	Jun 27, 2013 9:26 PM
45	The Tolbooth: simply not good enough to say that ELC has no plans to do anything about developing its potential or that it's difficult! Have options been seriously examined? What about first transferring ownership to a community trust which could then apply for various funding streams, eg Heritage Enterprise from HLF. I have never been in this building - alas, but suggest you think of it as an asset, undeveloped, rather than a white elephant. Musselburgh's most significant building! It doesn't make much sense to re-vamp the public space next to it, while ignoring the Tolbooth itself, which is the reason for the public space there in the first place. Artwork in the public space: please don't pre-empt what this might be - ie a Roman soldier! This	Jun 24, 2013 12:37 PM

**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	limits the imagination and could be 'twee'. What about running a competition, once the re-vamp has been agreed? Creative Scotland will provide advice on how to do this? Then see what artists come up with. You could include public participation as an element if so desired.	
46	This area would have to be designed to cope with many different types of use - pedestrian, market, Musselburgh Festival events etc. Local traders will need reassurance about the relocation of parking spaces	Jun 20, 2013 1:58 PM
47	Musselburgh needs a focal point, and space for pedestrians to gather away from the traffic.	Jun 17, 2013 4:01 PM
48	Lovely idea. However, the quality of shops at what would be the civic square could be hugely improved upon. Independent 'quality' gift shops, local produce shops and cafes would be more appealing than some existing shops ('cash for clothes' or similar, for example would, in my view, lower the tone of an attractive new square).	Jun 15, 2013 12:33 AM
49	Good idea markets would encourage visitors	Jun 14, 2013 10:11 PM
50	Forget it. The area just becomes covered in rubbish which flies around our streets for weeks on end. The area is not wide enough and then more parking is lost.	Jun 14, 2013 12:05 PM
51	This would reduce accessibility and cause further congestion on all alternative routes.	Jun 13, 2013 10:21 PM
52	There is very little parking space in Musselburgh. The tolbooth area is important for short term parking for shoppers and if it was pedestrianised I think it would be a barrier to people shopping locally.	Jun 13, 2013 9:49 PM
53	A good idea if it would be used more than once per year. Also please consider costs.	Jun 13, 2013 8:59 PM
54	Already too difficult to get parked without the loss of another parking area. Especially if person is disabled, the nearest parking would be through the vennel or opposite Luca's	Jun 13, 2013 8:31 PM
55	You would have to do something radical about traffic congestion for this to be an attractive proposal.	Jun 13, 2013 8:12 PM
56	I think a market area would be great, not sure of location though. Possibly something behind the high street (covered) would be better	Jun 13, 2013 2:59 PM
57	market market Musselburgh crying out for a market	Jun 13, 2013 10:39 AM
58	This is one of the most congested areas on the High Street with heavy traffic flow from the High Street, Linkfield Road and Newbigging converging. With the level of traffic noise I cannot see what enjoyment could be attained and suggest Fisherrow Harbour, Lewisvale Park or somewhere by the Esk would be better in terms of creating a civic space our residents could be proud of. We need to link all of the things that make Musselburgh a place worth visiting to a more vibrant town centre. At present we have fantastic resources to hand such as Newhailes, the Harbour, the River Esk, Lewisvale Park, Inveresk and the Racecourse - none of these resources require you to go to the High Streets and there is little there to draw people in to them. I don't see how a civic space in the town centre will do this, I think unless you can completely overhaul the tenancies of the High Street you'd be better	Jun 13, 2013 9:19 AM

**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	working with retailers in North High Street and then setting up a monthly producers' market by the Harbour.	
59	I think this would be a great addition to the town centre but I would like to be consulted about how to implement this and any proposed plan's effect on transport through the town.	Jun 12, 2013 11:31 PM
60	Why would any one wish to sit in this area with passing cars/buses etc breathing in fumes.	Jun 12, 2013 11:20 PM
61	Hopefully this would improve that area - but get rid of Cash for Clothes please and use the premises for something that benefits the community. Local farmers markets would be a great idea for this location.	Jun 12, 2013 8:25 PM
62	This is unnecessary.	Jun 12, 2013 7:45 PM
63	unsure	Jun 12, 2013 6:26 PM
64	I was very disappointed to hear there was mixed support for this scheme. It's sometimes hard to imagine the benefits of a development before it has happened - the negatives are always quicker to come to mind. I think once we have a civic square we will wonder why one wasn't created years ago. It would be good to have markets indoors too - perhaps in refurbished Town Hall?	Jun 12, 2013 4:32 PM
65	This is a great idea and would be great to have some markets in this area.	Jun 12, 2013 4:21 PM
66	about time something was done to get more people into musselburgh not driving through without stopping	Jun 12, 2013 12:01 PM
67	Yes. This is a pretty area of the high street and could be being used much better. Visitors often seem to stop for Lucas and then leave it would be good if there was more to encourage them to stop and potter around Musselburgh.	Jun 11, 2013 9:54 PM
68	Great idea	Jun 7, 2013 2:13 PM
69	I agree that a pedestrian/civi square area should be made at the town hall, with cafes/stalls etc. This would attract more people to the town hall area - which I admit - hardly ever visit myself. Would it be possible to bring the Post Office back to its orginal location? This would increase the number of people visiting the area and be more inviting than the dark dingey one currently in the previous Poundstretchers Store on the High Street.	Jun 7, 2013 11:24 AM
70	I'm not sure where you plan to put the new bus stop and existing disabled parking, which would be my concern as I feel these are aptly suitable locations where they are.	Jun 7, 2013 8:19 AM
71	I do think tha this may be good idea to have a market in musselburgh however this area of car parking at the town hall, Is convenient for going to the dentist, and the veterinary surgery, and is used by everyone you g and old losing this would cause some with disabilities to have to walk further and those who can't afford to y for parking to do so.	Jun 6, 2013 6:07 PM
72	Already suffers from heavy road traffic congestion here, whilst I like the idea of pedestrianised area, this would surely add more traffic problems. Especially if the car parking was removed...	Jun 6, 2013 1:02 PM
73	i think this is a brilliant idea as we don't have a central area for this type of	Jun 6, 2013 12:51 PM

**Page 8, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

thing and why not have it next to townhall a significant building in musselburgh's history. This would also fall into my previous proposal to bring back the market. Also this area could be used as a central point in local celebrations eg christmas., we could have a town christmas tree like in Portobello.



**Page 9, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

1	There is a sun trap outside the Brunton Hall; people love sitting in it!	Aug 2, 2013 4:08 PM
2	I think this doesn't need repaved but ramped access to theatre would be good. Need to ensure new street furniture wouldn't be vandalised though!	Aug 2, 2013 3:26 PM
3	This is not a priority except for the ramp access as there are other much more pressing problems to be dealt with.	Aug 2, 2013 3:02 PM
4	Enough money already spent on Brunton Hall and these actions should have been included in cost.	Aug 2, 2013 2:36 PM
5	As with the proposed Civic Square this would also greatly enhance the Brunton Hall.	Aug 2, 2013 2:31 PM
6	Not a priority when pavements are repaired and the trees planted then you can think about it. Brunton sells itself.	Aug 2, 2013 1:56 PM
7	The PRIME need is for teh Town Hall area. Only after that is improved should the Brunton Hall area be improved.	Aug 2, 2013 1:29 PM
8	the above ideas could be applied to the whole town.	Aug 2, 2013 1:17 PM
9	Most of the above already in existence but requires repair and or cleaning.	Aug 1, 2013 6:24 PM
10	The Brunton is one of the best theatres in Scotland. But its shape within the street patterndoesn't lend itselfo formal landscaping. Too much 'street furniture' would clutter it up. My view is that trees (sadly mistreated in the past!) would soften the harshness of its facade and make the accesses more inviting....not worth spending a lot of money on.	Aug 1, 2013 6:05 PM
11	Don't need new bus shelter but could be nicer! Needs some colour and more greenery. Artwork - good idea	Aug 1, 2013 5:46 PM
12	Preventing taxis mounting the footpath would prevent a lot of damage to the existing setts.	Aug 1, 2013 2:48 PM
13	All should be of a very high specification. Would be great to see!	Aug 1, 2013 10:03 AM
14	Actually the area from behind the bus stop at the Brunton and going behind the theatre might also make a good market venue with just a long single line of stalls backed up to the theatre wall. It would mean drivers parking in the car park instead but as a once a week or once a month activity that would seem reasonable. Shoppers could then be encouraged over the Store Bridge and into the High Street. That would link both shopping streets and the Brunton offers market stall holders and shoppers toilet facilities (and a sneaky chance to persuade them to buy a ticket or too for shows). On a Sunday morning the car park between New Street and the Street behind the Brunton is also fairly empty so maybe it could be the market venue too. Families can also play at the wonderful links park or go for a stroll on the beach.	Jul 31, 2013 9:59 PM
15	The area around the Brunton Hall is looking dated, which is a shame as that could be a bustling area.	Jul 31, 2013 9:01 PM
16	The outside looks dated and it would benefit from external improvements.	Jul 31, 2013 8:05 PM
17	The area at the rear of teh Brunton Hall needs particular attention if the rear access is to be kept in use. Many people use this access having parked in	Jul 31, 2013 6:21 PM

**Page 9, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	the Gracefield car park. Currently the area is quite shabby and teher can be a conflict between cars and pedestrians. Some general environmental improvements are needed here, including new surfacing which indiocates that pedestrians have priority over cars.	
18	Not needed. The flower beds at front of Brunton Hall are already always very nice.	Jul 31, 2013 5:45 PM
19	Waste of money - better used elsewhere	Jul 31, 2013 5:32 PM
20	Agree in general that this area could be improved but do not agree that money should be spent on such things as repaving and artwork. Certainly there should be a ramped area and certainly a seating area - possibly with potted plants around. The Bruinton Hall is already an attractive building.	Jul 31, 2013 5:09 PM
21	On a recent visit to London I was amazed how many hitherto unused areas (in relatively small spaces) had been transformed into 'multi-use' areas functioning as seats, exhibition space, live screening area, markets etc. The key to the success of these areas is the flexibility of the space (which can be hired by community/enterprise).	Jul 29, 2013 4:12 PM
22	Brunton is a great venue and more should made of it. Musselburgh is divided by the river and more of an effort could be made to join the two parts together	Jul 26, 2013 6:50 PM
23	Not so sure about a bus shelter but the area around the entrance would certainly benefit from looking more attractive and welcoming as the theatre building isn't easy on the eye at all.	Jul 24, 2013 1:24 AM
24	The outside of the bRunton looks awful. It detracts form all the good work inside. Perhaps keep it, on one side, to remind Councils that the 70s designers were not that great! and the 'it will look fab, in grey chippings' is nonsense. Seriously though, this area could look fantastic with some environemntal improvements and a feeling of warmth rather than the current feel of social yard of Soviet Tractor Factory No37 Siberia Sector, comrades	Jul 23, 2013 3:35 PM
25	Would cost too much for little difference	Jul 22, 2013 7:54 PM
26	Whilst I agree with this proposal any such expenditure should only be considered after having been prioritised against the expenditure of other significant proposals.	Jul 19, 2013 11:42 AM
27	Flowers, colour, a wee market.	Jul 17, 2013 9:58 AM
28	The Theatre requires better seating in the disabled area	Jul 16, 2013 11:29 PM
29	It's an ugly building and needs to be modernised for visitors and weddings etc	Jul 16, 2013 4:43 PM
30	This is a problem area for people hanging around potentially intimidating members of the public.	Jul 16, 2013 4:43 PM
31	I think it would be better to have a pedestrian space at the Town Hall area	Jul 16, 2013 12:16 PM
32	If any improvement works are carried out to the surrounding area then these must be maintained & not left to look run down again after a few years.	Jul 16, 2013 7:32 AM
33	The High Street is a greater priority for spending when funds are limited	Jul 15, 2013 10:30 PM



**Page 9, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

34	The Brunton Theatre has the potential to attract a greater line-up if modernised and made to be a more modern host for events. At present it is perceived as a venue for the interests of "older people". It has the potential to meet the entertainment needs of all generations.	Jul 15, 2013 8:33 PM
35	There is ramped access already. Consideration should be given to the local residents behind the Brunton maintaining access to parking, maybe residential permit parking only at evenings.	Jul 15, 2013 7:46 PM
36	This would certainly give the entrance to the town an uplift, but at what cost would this be to the community?	Jul 15, 2013 6:22 PM
37	There are other areas in Musselburgh that are more in need of money spent on it.	Jul 15, 2013 5:31 PM
38	Has enough not been spent on this already? Where is this money going to come from? If it were funded by profits from BH then fine - but not for EL council tax payers to fund! If it's anything like the street furniture outside the John Grey Centre in Haddington, we'd be paying for huge tubs to grow grass in!	Jul 11, 2013 9:39 PM
39	Increased seating and good bus shelters would be welcoming and appreciated.	Jul 11, 2013 11:30 AM
40	Especially to the back of the theatre, where it feels unsafe to walk at night. The area at the bus stop (outside the 'Spar shop') is particularly bad as well.	Jul 10, 2013 8:09 AM
41	This area does give a bad impression. God knows what people think when they visit from other places. The convenience store nearby has become a gathering place for loud, drunk men with dogs! Not somewhere you want to spend time shopping or taking in the sights...	Jul 9, 2013 9:14 PM
42	The Brunton paving and add on are suitable for a building of its time, its brutal modern, it doesn't need twee add-ons.	Jul 9, 2013 12:09 PM
43	More use could definitely be made of this space.	Jul 2, 2013 9:45 AM
44	There is nothing you can do to disguise the Brunton Centre, which is an ugly building that does nothing for the town. The surrounding environment could be enhanced but nothing short of a shroud for the building will have any great impact.	Jul 1, 2013 11:25 AM
45	The Brunton Hall and Brunton Theatre attract people for many reasons. Fancy paving outside would not encourage any more people to the area. Ramped access is an excellent idea though.	Jun 27, 2013 10:44 AM
46	The Brunton Hall is not the most attractive of buildings and anything that can be done to enhance its appearance is to be welcomed	Jun 20, 2013 2:00 PM
47	Possible to create safer/dedicated route for families going from Brunton to the links? Going through Gracefield car park often involves dodging inconsiderate motorists!	Jun 17, 2013 4:05 PM
48	This would be a waste of money looks fine	Jun 14, 2013 10:12 PM
49	The Brunton Hall is an absolute eye sore of a building. Visitors have asked me if this is our Crematorium! More street furniture just encourages "hang outs" for drunks, fast food eaters " etc and if not maintained by the council	Jun 14, 2013 12:11 PM

**Page 9, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

	"daily" including weekends, will look disgusting in no time. Cannot imagine myself wanting to sit there suffering with the pollution as it is right next to a main road full of traffic. Paving in Musselburgh is anyway a disgrace and not uniform. The paving at the Brunton Hall is 100 times better than the area town hall to Post office.	
50	I think no matter what street furniture is put outside the Brunton, it will not distract from the fact that it is a brutalist concrete monstrosity. A ramped access already exists at the rear of the building.	Jun 13, 2013 9:51 PM
51	Keep door of Brunton Hall from Grace field car park in use please	Jun 13, 2013 9:00 PM
52	Just spent a fortune replacing the paving and now to suggest ripping it up again is ludicrous. Putting up a new bus shelter will just give the rogue element which hang around the Brunton Hall another thing to destroy same with Artwork, wouldn't last 5 mins. I do agree with the ramp but there is already one at the rear of the Brunton Hall across from the car park.	Jun 13, 2013 8:33 PM
53	A ramp yes but anything else in that area will get vandalised within days. This is an area known for trouble, hence the brunton hall closing its doors the last few weeks.	Jun 13, 2013 8:22 PM
54	The seating was removed from this area due to the gathering of youths and the associated problems they cause.	Jun 13, 2013 4:50 PM
55	The area around the Brunton theatre is not being used to best effect, seating areas, planters etc could make this area potentially a "civic" square and given the proximity of parking it could well be a better proposition than the tolbooth area	Jun 13, 2013 4:48 PM
56	It would make the area more attractive however this is a well known area for vandalism and trouble so new street furniture in my opinion will be a waste of money that could be spent elsewhere.	Jun 13, 2013 4:31 PM
57	It could do with some outside refurbishment, it already has ramps. So I do no feel that this should be a priority	Jun 13, 2013 3:01 PM
58	get someone to do something about the overparking in watts close before a disaster occurs the council have a duty of care to the elderly and disabled this has been reported many times by myself but to no avail when something happens then the council will be held responsible the parking of vans blocking the roadway ect	Jun 13, 2013 10:45 AM
59	The Brunton makeover is - for anyone who has been in there - fantastic, just a shame they couldn't make the staff in the cafe more welcoming to go with the rest of the building. The position of the bus stop may make it difficult to position public art easy to appreciate and the volume of traffic would definitely stop me from sitting outside for a cup of tea.	Jun 13, 2013 9:19 AM
60	Should have been considered When the internal improvements were carried out!	Jun 13, 2013 9:18 AM
61	Making the theatre more accessible for disabled customers should be a priority.	Jun 12, 2013 11:32 PM
62	Whilst some of the paving could do with renewal for public safety reasons. I would consider this a waste of money, I think what is there is more than substantial.	Jun 12, 2013 11:22 PM

**Page 9, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

63	The big concrete/stone facings on the brunton hall are dated and look horrid!	Jun 12, 2013 10:21 PM
64	white elephant - use the money instead to create somewhere for the teenagers who hang around the bus stop to go in the evenings	Jun 12, 2013 9:02 PM
65	Who would pay for these improvements? The Brunton Hall used to be for the community and since it's upgrade the council seem to want to keep it for themselves - overcharge & hence kick out the groups who used it, close the back doors (?) to save heat (?) - ever heard of revolving doors? What good is artwork going to do to improve the look of the Brunton Hall, seriously!!!	Jun 12, 2013 8:28 PM
66	Its one thing replacing things that need replacing in the area, such as seating, but another altogether to waste money on cosmetic improvements. The paving is good around the front of the Brunton Hall, and there is currently excellent wheelchair access into the Brunton Hall from outside.	Jun 12, 2013 4:53 PM
67	This is one of the 1st big sites people notice when coming into Musselburgh so any improvements to its exterior would be fab	Jun 12, 2013 4:22 PM
68	but why just the bruntonhall when all the high street and surrounding area could have the same to make musselburgh more warming	Jun 12, 2013 12:04 PM
69	Apart from a ramp the rest is extra. Money better spent on other things mentioned before this question. Brunton looks horrible and will always look horrible. Council's approach to art work and some street furniture is not always great. ie seats outside John Gray Centre are ugly. The art work on the front of the Brunton is dated.	Jun 7, 2013 2:15 PM
70	Again, like the town hall area, this could be revamped and more could be done with the space to make it more appealing.	Jun 7, 2013 11:25 AM
71	What about the outside of the building? Surely more could be done to bring this more up to date.	Jun 7, 2013 8:20 AM
72	I do not think this work should be done at the expense of plans, the interior has been upgraded and I think other parts of the town deserve the expenditure first.	Jun 6, 2013 11:29 PM
73	The outside appearance of the building should be enhanced as much as possible, possibly with more trees round it	Jun 6, 2013 10:10 PM
74	This is another great idea, although the antisocial aspects of vandalism and general loitering would need to be tackled in this area (where it has been an issue in the past) first to ensure that any improvements were maintained and not destroyed.	Jun 6, 2013 12:52 PM



**Page 10, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

1	Don't think necessary - not worth the expense - money better put to other proposals - locals know North High Street is 'Fisherrow' side of the town and visitors wouldn't care about the actual name - they mostly know the harbour area is Fisherrow and this is the most -used area by visitors, anyhow. environmental improvements would be good but no need to go to the expense of name-changing!	Aug 2, 2013 3:28 PM
2	Fisherrow needs to be more distinct but it is for Fisherrow people to decide on a rebranding.	Aug 2, 2013 3:02 PM
3	Just a waste of time and think of the chaos	Aug 2, 2013 2:49 PM
4	Total waste of money (resident of North High Street)	Aug 2, 2013 2:36 PM
5	The name Fisherrow is in danger of being lost, this would be an ideal solution.	Aug 2, 2013 2:31 PM
6	It does not make sense to change or re brand to use in vogue buzz words north High Street but I think before lots of money is spent on this we need to know how locals and businesses in the area feel. There could be a lot of cost for businesses eg stationery things like letter heads accounts etc. As most of the businesses are small firms this could put them substantial burden on business at time when profit margins are already tight. I also feel that North High Street has been known by this name for so long it would still be referred to as North High Street no matter what the name change is. Also if something works well why change it for the sake of change? Most folk refer to North High Street as Fisherrow already.	Aug 2, 2013 2:09 PM
7	If it ain't broke - don't fix it.	Aug 2, 2013 1:56 PM
8	This would highlight the 'fishing' heritage.	Aug 2, 2013 1:29 PM
9	Waste of time - does not need a name change - does not need any more fast food shops. north High Street is a tired dead street during the day- it definitely needs a facelift.	Aug 2, 2013 1:18 PM
10	There are more important town centre issues - but no doubt the proposal will generate some heat! Much more important is the hub where North High Street meets the Esk and Shorthope Street. Here's where the open space needs more than a tidy up - it needs a bold statement which says this is the ancient crossing where the river meets Musselburgh and Fisherrow High Streets.	Aug 1, 2013 6:07 PM
11	Don't waste money on this. We need to focus on other areas.	Aug 1, 2013 5:46 PM
12	More need to spend money on upgrading this area. Fed up with takeaways and poor shopping. there is obviously something far wrong with your system when that is all that is attracted to the area. THINK ON as this will get more and more tatty.	Aug 1, 2013 2:58 PM
13	Another waste of taxpayers money.	Aug 1, 2013 2:53 PM
14	Why? Do not see the logic behind changing it.	Aug 1, 2013 2:15 PM
15	Irrelevant to the project and potentially divisive	Aug 1, 2013 2:11 PM
16	Re-branding Fisherrow is a MUST.	Aug 1, 2013 1:46 PM

**Page 10, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

17	I prefer Fisherrow High Street.	Aug 1, 2013 10:04 AM
18	Don't think name will make a difference but if renaming it helps rebrand then fine.	Jul 31, 2013 11:06 PM
19	I think re-naming it is a good idea but I haven't lived in the town long and am sensitive to the wishes of people who've called it home for longer.	Jul 31, 2013 10:01 PM
20	Seems a bit of a pointless exercise, causing confusion to many when it comes to postal addresses, maps and visitors. North High Street is perfectly fine.	Jul 31, 2013 9:06 PM
21	A waste of money and wouldn't affect locals or improve tourism.	Jul 31, 2013 8:07 PM
22	The section of North High Street between the Brunton Hall and the river is really no longer a High Street in character. I suggest that this be renamed - possibly Brunton Street or Brunton Place leaving the rest of the North High Street to take on the new name and identity.	Jul 31, 2013 6:23 PM
23	Not required. I have lived in Musselburgh all my life and would still use the name North High Street.	Jul 31, 2013 5:46 PM
24	Waste of money - to what purpose? It also then involves residents and businesses in excessive costs and great effort to re-address their whole business/lives.	Jul 31, 2013 5:33 PM
25	Why?	Jul 31, 2013 5:09 PM
26	Brilliant idea. This part of town is an overlooked gem of independent shops and should be marketed as a specialist "quarter"	Jul 29, 2013 4:12 PM
27	More effort should be made to link the two areas rather than delineate them.	Jul 26, 2013 6:51 PM
28	Don't agree with this as in the past, not only in East Lothian, rebranding in streets is not very successful as residents etc refer to the old name constantly, also, possibly of removing its history.	Jul 24, 2013 1:26 AM
29	Good idea. Nobody apart from some locals has any idea about where the North High Street is. This is really for external image	Jul 23, 2013 3:36 PM
30	Being Fisherrow born and bred from a large fishing family of the past, I agree with this proposal both from a personal past point of view but also from a future point of view where the historic significant past of Fisherrow is preserved and become a more prominent part of Musselburgh for both visitors and residents. The only one consideration is that this should in no way be seen as a split in the town and should be promoted as such.	Jul 19, 2013 11:47 AM
31	Though I call it this I think it should be linked clearly to the high street itself and brand names encouraged to use it (unless its pawn or betting shops). However High Street with Fisherrow as a suffix is preferable. Fisherrow needs people to be drawn to it strongly if independents are to persevere.	Jul 17, 2013 10:02 AM
32	I don't think it is necessary to change the name of North High Street	Jul 16, 2013 11:31 PM
33	Like Fisherrow High Street	Jul 16, 2013 5:40 PM
34	Waste of money, everyone has a name for it no point in changing it	Jul 16, 2013 4:44 PM

**Page 10, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

35	Would give some identity for Fisherrow. Has the potential to become and arts quarter with independent shops opening up.	Jul 16, 2013 4:44 PM
36	I do not know why this change has been suggested. What is in a name?	Jul 15, 2013 11:00 PM
37	Not sure if it is necessary.	Jul 15, 2013 8:33 PM
38	I don't see how renaming it will benefit the view of the area.	Jul 15, 2013 7:47 PM
39	Again cost comes into this proposal. However I am not Musselburgh born and bred and this may have some significance for the locals.	Jul 15, 2013 6:26 PM
40	Renaming rarely works - people will still call it by the old name & it just causes confusion	Jul 11, 2013 9:39 PM
41	Keep it simple - do not confuse with separate addresses not familiar to residents or visitors. If Fisherrow is now part of Musselburgh, the second option is confusing. Could a third option be to rebrand it simply as Fisherrow Street? For a period of time addresses may have to read (formerly North High Street) though.	Jul 11, 2013 11:35 AM
42	Doesn't matter what it's called / 'branded'; it's improvement to the nature of the place that will bring benefit. Even considering something like this is wasting time and energy that ought to be directed towards ACTUAL tangible improvements.	Jul 10, 2013 8:11 AM
43	I think Fisherrow High Street is probably the most sensible - any place name needing a comma isn't likely to catch on. You may have a fight on your hands from the long term residents, mind - old habits (and names!) die hard! But the fact the new name would have "Fisherrow" in it might win them over.	Jul 9, 2013 9:18 PM
44	Fisherrow and indeed Musselburgh need to assert their Identity, the boundary between Edinburgh and us needs to be clear, this would help.	Jul 9, 2013 12:11 PM
45	I don't have a firm view on this proposal as I cannot see it making much difference.	Jul 1, 2013 11:26 AM
46	This is a lower priority compared to the civic square proposal.	Jun 27, 2013 9:28 PM
47	It has always been known to locals as Fisherrow, nobody calls it North High Street and if you were to ask a local where North High Street is they'd think twice before answering, whereas if you ask a local where Fisherrow is they'd happily point you in the right direction immediately.	Jun 27, 2013 5:15 AM
48	Think Fisherow High Street is a good suggestion and does what it says on the tin so to speak.	Jun 20, 2013 2:05 PM
49	Why change it?	Jun 14, 2013 10:12 PM
50	High Street, Fisherrow is what it should be named. Forgotten part of Musselburgh	Jun 14, 2013 12:11 PM
51	This is of little interest, residents will always refer to it as North High St so it therefore becomes a simply signage change. It would need to rebranded completely to remove the High St element.	Jun 13, 2013 10:24 PM
52	I have no strong feelings on this either way	Jun 13, 2013 9:51 PM

**Page 10, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

53	No need to change the name -	Jun 13, 2013 9:00 PM
54	This doesn't make sense as North High Street runs behind the Brunton Hall and all the way past Loretto Nippers. To rename half of it would be stupid. However I do agree with a placename "Fisherrow" being erected on a wall as this is historical	Jun 13, 2013 8:35 PM
55	The street name change would cause all sorts of problems and cost for businesses and home owners. Instead leave the st name and focus as fisherrow as a whole. The local fisher folk are proud of their town and it was such a shame they lost the annual fishermans walk. Maybe this could become a regular event once more.	Jun 13, 2013 8:26 PM
56	Re-branding is a massive waste of public money. WHat difference does it make what it's called. There are bigger issues at stake surely?!?!	Jun 13, 2013 8:13 PM
57	Fisherrow High Street	Jun 13, 2013 4:53 PM
58	I think people would still refer to it as the north high street and it would cost locate businesses money to redo stationary etc	Jun 13, 2013 3:03 PM
59	as far as i'm aware with my grans family being from fisherrow it north high street has always been named that and i really think it should stay that way.	Jun 13, 2013 12:27 PM
60	other matters more urgent overparking watts close	Jun 13, 2013 10:46 AM
61	It is the North High Street, everyone knows what it means. If the local authority are going to make children from north of North High Street attend Burgh rather than Campie then why split the town into Fisherrow and Musselburgh by High Street? If the local authority had a sensible rethink on school catchment areas then rebranding this area back to formally being know as Fisherrow might make sense as it would contain a community based around a school and High Street, not split by it.	Jun 13, 2013 9:22 AM
62	As a resident of Fisherrow I quite like this idea. I am a relative newcomer to the area though and as such don't know the history of the naming of North High Street nor do I feel much attachment to the name. If one of these names was to be chosen I would opt for Fisherrow High Street. Calling it High Street, Fisherrow would be like calling it High street 2, it would be confusing and people would shorten it to high street.	Jun 12, 2013 11:35 PM
63	I often refer to North High St as Fisherrow High Street	Jun 12, 2013 10:58 PM
64	Believe this to be an unnecessary change as it will always remain historically North High Street	Jun 12, 2013 10:47 PM
65	Not before time!	Jun 12, 2013 10:20 PM
66	To have fisherrow, a once separate and discrete area of now Musselburgh recognised	Jun 12, 2013 9:09 PM
67	waste of time and money	Jun 12, 2013 9:03 PM
68	That sounds great, give this area back its Fisherrow Identity.	Jun 12, 2013 8:28 PM
69	Unnecessary.	Jun 12, 2013 7:46 PM
70	Fisherrow high street works better I think	Jun 12, 2013 4:22 PM



**Page 10, Q2. Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**

71	Keep as North High Street, people will always call it that anyway	Jun 12, 2013 4:22 PM
72	any off the two to remember us about the history Re fisherwives and fishermen in the area	Jun 12, 2013 12:06 PM
73	Would fisherrow high street not be confusing? Agree that something should be done to draw more attention to the area.	Jun 11, 2013 9:57 PM
74	High Street, Fisherrow	Jun 7, 2013 2:15 PM
75	Don't have any issues with this, but don't see the need either!	Jun 7, 2013 11:25 AM
76	Fisherow high street is my preference, the the other will be shortened to high street and lose the difference.	Jun 6, 2013 11:30 PM
77	I think fisherow high street encapsulates the history behind the area	Jun 6, 2013 6:08 PM
78	I have always called it Fisherrow High Street!	Jun 6, 2013 6:06 PM
79	Fisherrow High Street preferred	Jun 6, 2013 5:17 PM
80	Prefer Fisherrow High Street	Jun 6, 2013 3:43 PM
81	Fisherrow has a long hisotry and as i am not musselburgh born and bread i don't feel it is fair to comment on this one.	Jun 6, 2013 12:53 PM



**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

1	The grassed area between Luca's cafe ad St Peter's Church could possibly also be occasionally used for community events? Street markets perhaps? (but not so often as to ruin the grass!) Perhaps could trial an event here, of some sort, to see how it goes? (Have to make sure litter not a problem though!) Not relevant to consultation but....nice to see old Post Office building more in use as the front entrance again - couldn't mor euse be made of it?	Aug 2, 2013 3:31 PM
2	There is no encouragement in the strategy for walking and cycling into the town centre. There should be facilities for bike parking in several areas of the town. Parking is an essential for the commercial success of the town centre. Empty pubs could be designated for new use including small office use/housing. There could be a scheme to encourage this.	Aug 2, 2013 3:04 PM
3	keep the pavements free from restaurant rubbish bins and advertising boards. Ask the cleansing department to pay special attention to the removal of cigarette ends from around bus stops.	Aug 2, 2013 2:44 PM
4	The draft Strategy Action Plan was an excellent piece of work. Whilst I strongly agree with all of the statements made, I would have liked to see the full project being carried out, but I appreciate the finances and restrictions currently in force.	Aug 2, 2013 2:33 PM
5	I would like Musselburgh to be included in the level playing field that other towns in East Lothian appear to share- like Haddington, North Berwick, Dunbar, Prestonpans etc. Musselburgh is East Lothian's largest town and it is the gateway to East Lothian for the many visitors/tourists from Edinburgh but I personally believe that ELC has let residential council tax payers down badly. Many things meant for the town have either been cancelled or cut back so drastically that Musselburgh and a lot of residents feel we are the poor relations in East Lothian. we only want a fair share of what all the other towns in East Lothian seem to get as a matter of course.	Aug 2, 2013 2:15 PM
6	First and foremost repair the pavements. Use quality, quality, quality. Plant trees, trees, trees. Stop the litter throwing. Reduce the number of vehicles inside town gates. Only blue badge holders and necessary traffic. Stop the chewing gum all over the street. Large profits from shops = put it back into the beauty of the town. Repair the pavements.	Aug 2, 2013 1:59 PM
7	The infrastructure in Musselburgh is not able to support more inhabitants - schools etc.	Aug 2, 2013 1:30 PM
8	1. Clean and smarten the town: renew broken pavements and keep them clean. 2. Encourage a better and varied quality of shops (possibly that will give the public an urge to live here - and to visit Musselburgh) because it could very easily be a beautiful little town to live and to visit 3. Maybe introduce a market day in the Town hall area - it would open up that pretty area of the town again. I also think that the Post Office should be situated in the lovely building where it once was: that would open the same area of the town again.	Aug 2, 2013 1:22 PM
9	Try and discourage bookmakers from Musselburgh High Street and make sure pubs are run by responsible people (if not close them down) - it does not look nice for tourists to see people fighting/shouting/swearing/drunks	Aug 2, 2013 9:38 AM
10	musselburgh town centre would be improved if there were less pound shops	Aug 2, 2013 9:27 AM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

and nail bars and more independent shops. The Council could favour new businesses such as a good bakery, hardware shop, greengrocer. I think this is much more important than coordinating street furniture etc. No amount of rebranding will encourage people to come to visit Musselburgh or residents to support local businesses if all the shops are the same.

11	Improve traffic flow which result in less pollution due to fewer vehicles being forced to stand stationary with engines running. Major problem is traffic lights at Rennie Bridge force deliveries to shops to be at rear of premises or outwith normal business hours to reduce double parking- this would also improve traffic flow. North High Street is especially bad in this respect, due to narrowness of road and parking either side. this also adds to pollution.	Aug 1, 2013 6:27 PM
12	If and when this draft strategy is adopted by East Lothian Council and becomes the approved instrument for reviving the town centre it will require a management team new to ELC. The town centre Task Group has taken advice from a Town Centre Manager and has arrived at the conclusion that a town centre manager for Musselburgh would be an expensive choice. Mary Portas as BIS advisor to the British Government has advocated models suitable for managing High Streets - 'running like a business'. In anticipating that this draft strategy is adopted, the town centre will need to get large and small businesses involved in its management, a Portas-style 'town team' developed from the present town centre task group could be the answer.	Aug 1, 2013 6:14 PM
13	I am very disappointed not to see a green, low-carbon emphasis anywhere in the draft strategy. We have an opportunity to get people out of cars but there are no enterprising ideas on this. The new houses at Pinkie and Goshen Farm could mean disastrous traffic problems in Musselburgh and we need to tackle this NOW. Let's show Edinburgh and the rest of Scotland how it can be done - see what Cambridge City Council have done!	Aug 1, 2013 5:49 PM
14	Please do not forget about Fisherrow. At the moment, this tends to be forgotten about and could easily be turned into a dumping ground. Not a great introduction to people entering the town.	Aug 1, 2013 3:00 PM
15	Obviously what to spend the money on has been decided and public opinions do not come into it.	Aug 1, 2013 2:54 PM
16	There are far too many bargain shops and charity shops. More support should be given to smaller retailers providing a bigger variety of goods available which would encourage visitors to stop in the town.	Aug 1, 2013 1:57 PM
17	I applaud the hard work which has gone into this and I hope there is independent support. Two things: 1) I would hope that any design/development criteria would be adopted both for the town centre and the harbour area. 2) I feel that 'artistic' add ons/decoration/artworks should be eschewed in favour of high quality conservation, street furniture, benches, planting etc.	Aug 1, 2013 10:07 AM
18	The survey should include some way of indicating not sure or somewhat, not just agree, disagree.	Jul 31, 2013 11:11 PM
19	Well I agree with the statements above but only if some of the gaps I feel I have identified are also taken onboard. Improving the town's "welcome" for cyclists, cutting traffic congestion and resultant air pollution and encouraging trade with locally owned businesses would revitalise the area. There are	Jul 31, 2013 10:06 PM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

	also complaints about the number of charity shops but I think they are a wonderful resource and show a high level of community spirit with many people willing to volunteer time and donate items.	
20	Cost of improvements should have been highlighted at the beginning - the costs of some (Esp Tollboth/Brunton) are disgusting - if it really costs that and it goes ahead I'll be out with a placard - you're being ripped off and whoever agrees to those costs needs to be strung up. Idiots.	Jul 31, 2013 8:14 PM
21	The attitude of people to the place where they live is very much influenced by the condition of the built environment. Local people are proud of Musselburgh its heritage and independence from Edinburgh but few speak well of its general appearance, particularly the town centre. They think it has been neglected. Here is a chance to turn things round building on local pride and community spirit to make Musselburgh a place that people want to come to and enjoy.	Jul 31, 2013 6:26 PM
22	The constant disappointment of the amount of dog dirt when out walking - the area along the river could potentially be an area that could be improved by monitoring and tackling dog dirt Steps could be considered on improving the high streets negative reputation linked to aggression in the bars. The river could be developed. Link in with the group looking to develop and improve the harbour area when looingt o increase visitors. Musselburgh would benefit from a focus point for local celebrations.7 the hogmanay programme was great and could be built upon in terms of providing family friendly events for the many families and children that live in musselburgh (a side issue but the sale of "silly string" at the childrens gala was a concern - environmentally and because they are solvents - the fumes at times were very strong and should not be given to children (in my opinion))	Jul 31, 2013 5:56 PM
23	High Street - prevent double parking, all day parking, people crossing to other side of street to parkand then same process to exit or even worse doing a 360 degree turn in middle of High Street. Whilst we don't want Musselburgh as a through way for everyone, residents have to be able to drive through High Street to access/egress homes. Millhill should be 20mph with cameras to stop its use as a rat run to avoid High Street traffic. Also should be one way to cut down on damage to road and buildings as excessive traffic in this area caused by parents (average 85 cars twice a day) dropping/picking kids up at Nippers, delivery trucks (far too heavy for type of surface, old buildings being damaged and narrowness of street - speed is dangerous to residents accessing/exiting driveways/children at school, noise factor of surface and damage to buildings now being shaken regularly. More traffic wardensregularly on duty or cameras in car parks to ensure legal parking.	Jul 31, 2013 5:41 PM
24	Some of the suggestions are very worth-while but on the suggestions to improve the High Street would be outweighed by the number of 'Pound shops' and cheap shops which dominate the High Street. these are absolutely not attractive and would deter visitors from visiting what is (or could be again) a very attractive town. Heritage information is already available from the museum.	Jul 31, 2013 5:12 PM
25	It is the type of shop that is the problem. Other towns like Haddington and North Berwick and Portobello seem to attract small independent shops. All Musselburgh seems to get is Charity Shops, pound shops and bookies.	Jul 31, 2013 11:34 AM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

26	Cut down the number of betting shops, payday loan shops, pound shops and charity shops in the main street. Need more prestige and local market shops.	Jul 30, 2013 7:50 PM
27	To stimulate the economy and to encourage more people to shop local you need Better FREE car parking for 1 -2 hr so people can visit shops in the town centre, pop to the cafe, go to hairdressers all in one visit. If I go to hairdresser I leave immediately as I am not Paying for parking. So green grocers, butchers etc. all miss out on my custom. If I need the bank I go there and home again. No incentive to stay. If better parking I would be more likely to browse shops, take a walk by the river, go to a cafe..... So many buses and stops in the high street also makes it difficult to move around town with 3 kids. Could buses have maybe a stop at the bridge and a stop opposite Lucas and no more in the high street.	Jul 26, 2013 6:59 PM
28	I think until we have a better selection of shops not much could change the High Street. You come to Musselburgh for pound shops and cash/cheque centres!	Jul 24, 2013 3:56 PM
29	There is far to many charity shops,betting shops,we need local food shops especially for OAPs.There is also to many cheap clothing shops in the high street.	Jul 23, 2013 3:17 PM
30	Image at present is a bit "chavvie" with pound shops, cash lending stores. Whilst people aren't rich in the area, these places are still rip offs. There are people on this area with money to spend and don't want to spend it here because of the poor quality.	Jul 22, 2013 4:03 PM
31	Although this is a Town Centre Strategy, any such improvements or project need to link in with key says in the town when promoting any such development. Such as the race course, the harbour, Lewisvale Park, Old Course. We should be attracting people into Musselburgh Town Centre both to assist the economy of the Hight Street and to develop the increased use of our facilities.	Jul 19, 2013 11:55 AM
32	Retailers outside of the centre need marketing and branding assistance. They need signposting and other things that will draw people out and away from the centre. A small campsite or other larger scale venue along by Mrs Formans would be helpful. Setting up an online forum (latin use of the word) and sharepoint for indepedent retailers is essential as is a online portal to musselburgh that promotes all these shops and places for public use.	Jul 17, 2013 10:10 AM
33	Please make an area for a daily/weekly market. Although make it quality not another pound shopping area. Boutique shops and independent stores have all but vanished please bring them back. As well as trendy bar areas for families.	Jul 16, 2013 4:47 PM
34	I agree with most of the above but feel that the traffic flow through the town has to be addressed as this puts a lot of people coming to Musselburgh.	Jul 16, 2013 4:34 PM
35	Musselburgh is a lively busy town centre with a good range of shops particularly small specialist shops which are the reason we visit Musselburgh. Is there a better fishmongers anywhere than Clarks? But it could look much more attractive, the shops and buildings and needs a pedestrian area. There also needs to be more info available for visitors at the car parks and leaflets available in all the tourist places. We also like the bargain shops such as Poundland as they are not in the other towns.	Jul 16, 2013 12:21 PM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

36	I think that more variety of retailers should be encouraged to set up business in the town centre. Discount shops are fine but choice is important. The inclusion of Merchandise of a higher quality could encourage a wider range of visitors to the town centre.	Jul 15, 2013 11:18 PM
37	Decent shops, discourage the cheap and tacky shops	Jul 15, 2013 5:33 PM
38	We're in the grip of a really tough economic downturn - spending VAST sums of money such as up to £600k on improvements to BH (when £3.7MILLION has already been spent!) and up to £900k on other things to ONE town in the county is frankly an absolutely appalling idea. Where is this money coming from? Could it not be better used to keep council employees in their jobs? (so they have money to spend in the county, still pay their council tax / rent rather than adding to the benefits burden) What money there is needs to be shared around the county - and within reason AND without having to borrow more money.	Jul 11, 2013 9:44 PM
39	Locals will continue to use the town centre as before, but may spend longer if additional seating, access, interesting retail and food and beverage options are available as well as potential accommodation. Attracting visitors will take a concerted marketing effort but is worthwhile given the huge number of visitors who come to nearby Edinburgh. If Musselburgh is seen as a thriving community more people will want to live here and the value of both community life and property will increase. Serious consideration should be given to identifying a single point of contact with accountability to implement the action plan, with defined responsibilities and timelines.	Jul 11, 2013 11:42 AM
40	Better & more signs in the centre on where the links, harbour & beach areas are; not directly related to the town centre, but if visitors come to Musselburgh town centre and were made aware of these attractions, they'd be more likely to return.	Jul 10, 2013 8:17 AM
41	Please think long and hard about how to improve North High Street in particular. This is the place where small, independent shops, such as ReMade and Cake n Craft, are doing their best to provide a modern and unique shopping experience. They are heroes! It is also a stone's throw away from our beach and harbour yet you would hardly know it! If there was a way to make it more pedestrian-friendly (without putting off cars! Oh dear..) so that it is a more pleasant area to visit, perhaps it could become a wee shopping destination in itself. At the moment it feels unloved, dusty, grimy and down at heel, and the area closer to the Brunton is downright offputting...this is the entrance to our town yet is dominated by a pawn shop and an unruly, noisy bus-stop. Yuck. If there is an area to concentrate on, it's this one. It has so much potential and could be a buzzing wee spot to do your local shop and have a nice cup of coffee. While we're here, can I also ask that a Youth Space be made available - urgently!! Musselburgh West has been waiting for a place where young teenagers can gather safely, relax and socialise for as long as I have lived here (12 years). Interesk does a great job, but is limited in size and opening hours. I'm talking about a supervised, well-equipped venue to provide a much-needed gathering place for our young folk. They deserve it and we are letting them down. Let us show them we appreciate them and invest a little in their well-being for once.	Jul 9, 2013 9:43 PM
42	Their needs to be a strong commitment to Musselburgh by ELC, and a pride taken in it, rather than the focus on North Berwick etc.	Jul 9, 2013 12:13 PM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

43	Musselburgh High Street is a disgrace (no fault of the council) with pound shop after pound shop. We used to have two smaller supermarkets, independent clothing retailers and a shoe shop. Pound shops, pay day loan companies, betting shops and Brighthouse - although indicative of the wider economy - are unlikely to attract visitors. Can the council do more to attract smaller independent retailers with the properties it owns? Is there anything the planning dept can do to prevent more betting shops and payday loan companies?	Jul 2, 2013 9:50 AM
44	The Council has made a bold attempt to improve Musselburgh. However, it is not a rich town and the shops are, for the most part, distinctly down market. However, I like the town and really think that attracting the likes of a farmer's market into the town centre would be a real bonus for all. encouraging owners to sort out the derelict buildings would go a long way to improving the town.	Jul 1, 2013 11:30 AM
45	There are far too many cheap pound shops and charity shops on the High Street. I realise you need to rely on them to fill shops in this difficult time. But you need a long term strategy to gently discourage some of them from staying, particularly if alternative higher quality shops can be encouraged to come. COSTA coffee on the High Street is a real opportunity - you need to use its entry to the High St to encourage higher quality shops to open nearby. Take a look at the people who spend time in COSTA. It's younger couples, single people in their 20s and 30s, active baby boomers with disposable income - but very few of them are staying in the High Street for as long as they might. The High Street still feels like an A road rather than a proper town centre where pedestrians are given real priority. Simple things like the traffic lights not allowing folk sufficient time to get across the road. Also, what's happening with the old Tesco site? Is it being held by a landowner waiting on a property developer to come in. But it would make a fantastic park area, linking the High Street to Tesco and the health centre.	Jun 27, 2013 9:47 PM
46	Musselburgh is a great town but sadly too many charity shops and pound shops have spoiled the High Street. Economic Development should be encouraging local artists by letting empty shops so their work can be shown and sold. Independent shops would also enhance the outlook of the High Street. Craft shops and gift stores are always a good way to spend time. Also, a quality loathes store is badly needed. The more people have to go into town for, the less they will look locally!!	Jun 27, 2013 11:18 AM
47	Yes, Musselburgh needs to realise that a lot of people are staying away from it now. It has a high crime rates, gangs and people are scared. The pubs aren't safe to drink in, the streets aren't safe to walk and nearly every 3rd person under the age of 30 is a drug addict. It's about time someone took control and weeded out these people that are ruining the town, making people feel unsafe and given it the tarnished image that it now has. If you did a survey of people's opinions, those that live in Musselburgh and those that live outside of Musselburgh regarding their perception of the town, you'll be probably find their answers are what you need to start with not introducing more parking, a civic square or painting buildings the same colour. It's the druggies, drunks and criminals that are bringing the place down.	Jun 27, 2013 5:20 AM
48	More of our money wasted	Jun 25, 2013 11:35 AM
49	You present the retail/commercial offer in a very positive light. In reality, there is a narrow range on offer, in terms of quality. It would be desirable to	Jun 24, 2013 12:44 PM



**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

encourage a wider range, especially at the middle/higher quality end. Compare with nearby Portobello for example. Wealthier people in and around Musselburgh currently spend their money mostly outside the town, sadly. Not sure how you encourage artisan type shops, independent cafes, interesting restaurants... Musselburgh has loads of undeveloped potential.

50 The lack of cycle parking on both the High Street and North High Street is a fundamental issue which requires addressing. I live locally and cycle for convenience shopping trips, but more often than not am forced to cycle a little further to Tesco where there is suitable bike storage facilities rather than use the high streets. Jun 17, 2013 11:02 AM

51 As a newcomer to Musselburgh three years ago (from Edinburgh), I have been delighted to see the likes of Costa Coffee appearing on our High Street. I would prefer to see more 'quality' shops and cafes arriving, either National or independent. In my opinion, the town centre is over-saturated by discount stores - to its detriment. Shopping in Musselburgh town centre is not, in my opinion, pleasurable or inspiring. I think your proposals for improving the town centre are well thought out, and I particularly like the idea of the Tollbooth civic meeting area. However, the shopping element within the town centre will continue to feel uninspired, where 'cheap' discount stores dominate the shopping areas. Jun 15, 2013 12:59 AM

52 We need to bring back the shops we had forty years ago being Local Family Butchers. fruit shops, wallpaper shops, shoe shops, ladies clothes shops, gents shop and gift shops. etc. Demolish the Musselburgh Arms Hotel which is a eye sore to the town. Jun 14, 2013 1:29 PM

53 Musselburgh has become a terminus for access to East Lothian and is nothing more than that. It's used as a back road to access the Fort, Asda , Portobello rather than use the busy pass. Not much will change in Musselburgh and I have not seen any improvement over 35 years living here and don't think it will improve with a few ideas and what I have read with regards to the proposals, I really must say it still has not occurred to the Council what people really want and what is realistic considering the economic climate. That is why people living here get fed up as nothing really has taken off in Musselburgh due to lack of imagination and lack of proper funding. Jun 14, 2013 12:17 PM

54 I strongly disagree that pedestrianising the main high street parking area will be of benefit - I think on the contrary it would be detrimental to local businesses. The main issue that stops local residents shopping locally is parking and the woeful range of charity and bargain bin shops. Less than 10 years ago, there was a wide range of high street stores (Woolworths, Clarks shoe shop etc). Now almost every shop in the High St is a charity shop or pound shop and there is very little incentive to shop locally. Removing litter, implementing rather than just advertising anti-dog fouling policy and tackling antisocial/violent behaviour would do more to improve the town centre and improve Musselburgh's reputation with residents and non residents alike than any of the expensive measures outlined in the proposal. Jun 13, 2013 9:58 PM

55 Replacement of the benches at the bus stop outside Esk Green, General tidy up of shop fronts and displays within the windows of the Empty Shops. Area outside Police Station put to better use. Smokers discouraged from hanging around outside the pub blocking pavements. A regular inspection of the High Street to ensure it is clean and that the tunnel through to Kilwinning street is Jun 13, 2013 8:41 PM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

	not being used as a toilet. Perhaps an incentive given to traders such as a trophy or ribbon for the best kept shop. Reduction of amount of stuff shops have outside their shops on the pavement areas and get rid of the beggars !	
56	There must be a way to limit charity shops, discount stores hairdressers and bookies on our high street. No wonder people don't shop local anymore.	Jun 13, 2013 8:31 PM
57	To add to the economy of the town I would suggest the installation of cameras at the locations of the traffic lights at the Rennie Bridge and the lights at the Roman Bridge. During the "rush hour" period, there is an increase in the number of drivers that are jumping the lights at the Rennie Bridge coming from the direction of the Roman Bridge. This inhibits the flow of traffic going over the Rennie Bridge. Drivers also inhibit the flow of traffic turning right going up Dalrymple Loan by stopping in the yellow grid at these lights. The lights at the Roman Bridge also have a yellow grid where motorists should not enter if their exit is not clear. This does not happen as there are a large number of motorists that do not seem to know what they are for. It might help them to drive with more consideration to other road users and improve the economy of the town if they were presented with photographic evidence of them breaking the law and a fine for doing so.	Jun 13, 2013 5:21 PM
58	Its the shops that make a town centre, charity and £1 shops do not make a vibrant town.	Jun 13, 2013 4:35 PM
59	I think the town centre already has a dedicated set of shoppers, I think you would need to increase the selection of shops to encourage more shoppers. People visit Musselburgh not for the shops but for the surroundings, (river, harbour, nature trails, ice cream) that is what attracted me. The beach bit needs an overhaul as it is not child friendly, if this bit was better people would come to it and maybe spend some time on the high street. I think Musselburgh strength is that it is very family friendly and this is what should be promoted	Jun 13, 2013 3:13 PM
60	The town centre strategy does nothing to address the fundamental issues facing the town centre: 1. It does not address the range of shops in the High Streets, without addressing this nobody new will be attracted in and local people will continue to shop elsewhere, for example Portobello High Street 2. People come to the Brunton because of the shows on offer, making it look nicer on the outside will not affect this 3. Putting in nicer bus stops and street lighting will not improve crime levels and senseless vandalism or encourage people to clean up after their dogs, this is down to effective community planning partnerships 4. We should be looking to towns which have created vibrant High Streets with a range of independent stores and what makes them work e.g. Peebles, Haddington, even Edinburgh areas such as Portobello and Marchmont 5. The need to improve air quality by considering how traffic could flow somewhere which is NOT the High Street would improve the experience of visiting the High Street 6. Tesco and Wetherspoons have made an excellent contribution in terms of employment to the town, especially flexible employment and both showcase positive aspects of the town - David Macbeth Moir via excellent interpretation boards within the pub and Tesco with the community notice boards. However, I feel they could go further in putting something back in e.g via sponsoring path development or interpretation panels in the town centre.	Jun 13, 2013 9:22 AM
61	the type of shops in the High Street need to be looked into and more commercial businesses need to be encouraged in, not charity and pound	Jun 13, 2013 12:32 AM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

	shops, the latter definitely to be limited. Rents need to be considered with incentives to give smaller businesses the chance to get set up	
62	I would strongly hope that the implementation of this plan would not affect the use of any land in Musselburgh as community garden space. I think that using town centre land as community garden space is fantastic for the community and as an advert to visitors that Musselburgh residents work together and care about the environment.	Jun 12, 2013 11:39 PM
63	At the end of the day its about the quality of the shops in the high street and the fact that the traffic situation makes it easier to go to the fort.	Jun 12, 2013 11:25 PM
64	It would be a more attractive High Street if there was a limit on the number of Charity shops, betting shops, Pound stores and pawnbrokers. Musselburgh needs to encourage a greater variety of stores.	Jun 12, 2013 10:27 PM
65	Shorthope st - the access to the car parks creates difficulties for children crossing the area on way to school. The national cycle route through the town requirres drop down kerbs at several points , and there is a need to identify and publicise safe routes to school for Burgh/Loreto PS. Speed bumps should be extended into Hercus Loan past fisherrow which is increasingly being used as a cut through and is full of old people from sheltered housing and kids	Jun 12, 2013 9:08 PM
66	Revisit all the current retail spaces. Look at North Berwick - lots of individual retailers. It's so much nicer to visit North Berwick town than Musselburgh. Look at other towns that are a success and COPY what they do. Musselburgh is a lovely town and with access to Edinburgh could do so much better but currently there's nothing to attract people to Musselburgh town centre. Put a cap on charity shops, poundshops, bookies, cash for clothes/cheques etc and lower rents for more desirable businesses that could make Musselburgh more appealing. Have free car parks to reduce congestion of the High Street. Encourage people not to shop at Tesco but local shops on the High Street....but first you have to have decent shops on the High St. Love the idea of a farmers market beside the Town Hall.	Jun 12, 2013 8:34 PM
67	Better access to the river would be a bonus and show how attractive Musselburgh is	Jun 12, 2013 8:22 PM
68	The parking is clearly an issue. However as a resident in the centre my street has become a parking area for people wishing to avoid car park costs. This is a major issue for residents.	Jun 12, 2013 7:50 PM
69	There were no questions relating to the branding of Musselburgh - I think this would be a useful exercise. Retailers could work together to produce a loyalty card (see Buxton's Christmas Crawl) even if only for specific times of the year, a local currency (see Totnes) and could work more closely with Community Groups throughout the year as well as during Honest Toun Week. The role of Churches in the town centre was largely overlooked in this Strategy. As worshipping communities, providers of community services and of rooms and halls, their input could have been very valuable. I was very disappointed that there was no indication of how a redevelopment of the Old Town Hall could be taken forward. In my opinion, leaving the oldest and most prominent building in the High Street effectively redundant will hamper the development of the town as a whole. The former High Church seems also effectively redundant. It occupies a highly strategic location and should	Jun 12, 2013 4:45 PM

**Page 12, Q2. Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

be considered alongside the adjacent car park and bus depot if redevelopment becomes possible.

70	I think these improvements are fantastic but I think to draw in more people to Musselburgh the shops need to be improved greatly. Not enough variety of shops now, too many discount/pound shops and chemists.	Jun 12, 2013 4:25 PM
71	The encouragement of new business into Musselburgh, through reduced rents, support packages. It is all very well improving the appearance of the high street if there is still not the variety of shops to encourage visitors to return.	Jun 11, 2013 10:03 PM
72	Any improvement now would benefit the Town. An attractive centre would improve the economy and encourage civic pride.	Jun 11, 2013 10:22 AM
73	Encouragement and incentives must be given to more independent shops who might give musselburgh a unique selling point.	Jun 6, 2013 11:37 PM
74	I think recycling bins should be in the town centre. As an environmental advisor and with the new regs coming out from the government it's essential we reduce litter from school children and segregate our waste. Improving the overall environment of musselburgh is key to its success. It could benefit from more trees and plants.	Jun 6, 2013 2:44 PM



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# Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy

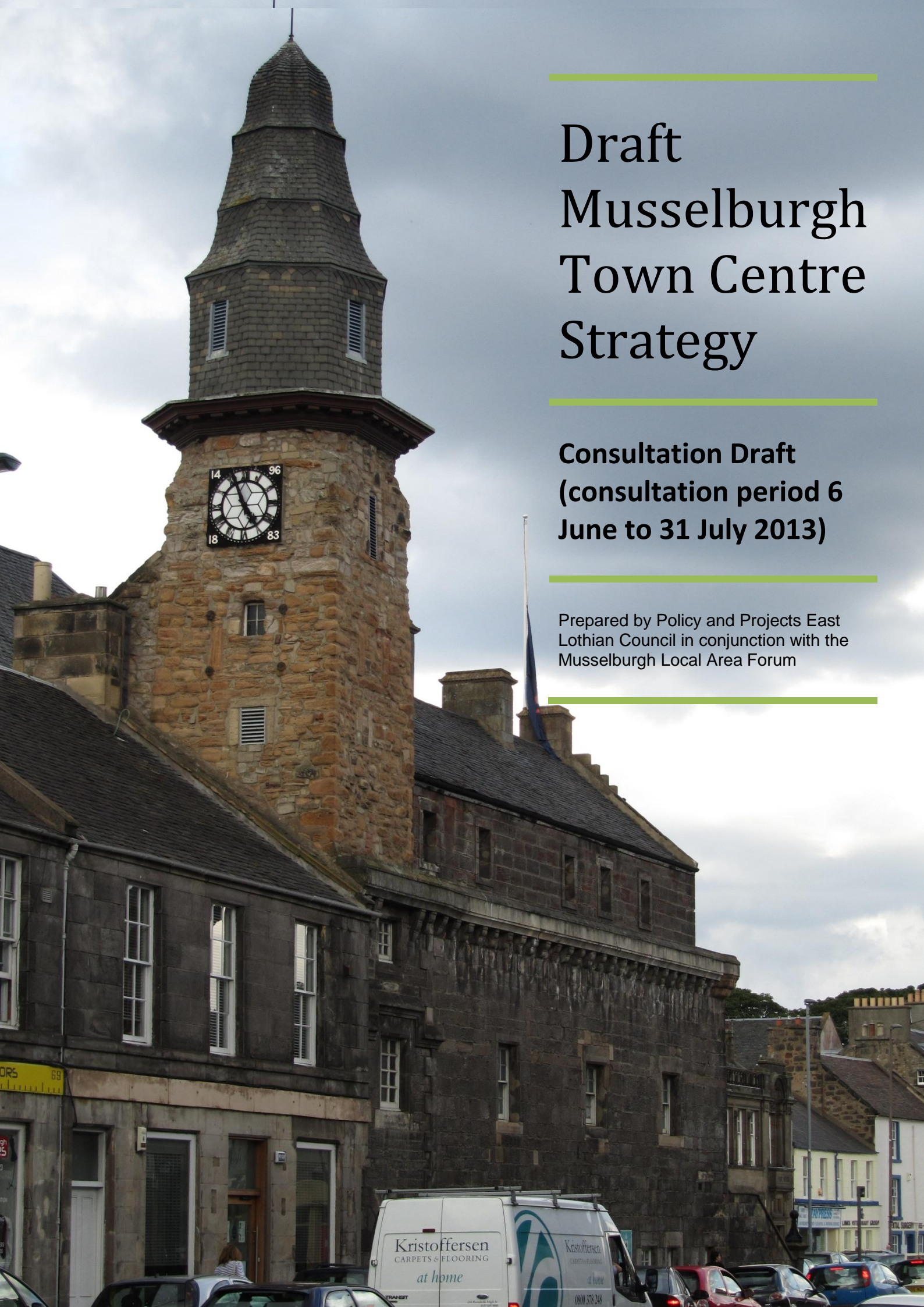
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**Consultation Draft  
(consultation period 6  
June to 31 July 2013)**

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Prepared by Policy and Projects East  
Lothian Council in conjunction with the  
Musselburgh Local Area Forum

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***This draft Town Centre Strategy has been prepared in conjunction with the Musselburgh Local Area Forum Town Centre Task Group. It is the subject to further public consultation prior to final approval.***

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This Town Centre Strategy has been prepared following extensive discussion at the Musselburgh Town Centre Task Group, a sub-group of the Musselburgh Local Area Forum. The group has representation from Musselburgh and Inveresk Community Council; Windsor Park Tenants and Residents Association; Musselburgh Conservation Society; Inveresk Village Society; Queen Margaret University; Musselburgh Business Association; local ward members of East Lothian Council among others. The strategy has been informed by a town centre engagement exercise undertaken in 2011 which, using a *Planning for Real*<sup>®</sup> methodology complimented by a survey, involved around 1,200 local people making comments on how they use the town centre and identifying what they think the issues are with the present town centre and their aspirations for the future of the area.
- 1.2 The strategy suggests ways in which all those who have an interest in Musselburgh town centre can undertake economic and physical improvement to it.

The **VISION** for Musselburgh Town Centre

***In 2018 Musselburgh town centre will be a clean and pleasant environment that attracts people to the town for shopping, business and leisure. Musselburgh's central streets will be attractive and well maintained and people will enjoy using the town's public spaces. The town's extensive history and heritage will be able to be better understood by its visitors and Musselburgh will be marketed as a destination with easy to find parking, a good range of cafes, pubs and restaurants, places to visit and be a pleasant place to visit and in which to spend time.***

- 1.3 This strategy has four broad aims:
1. To keep Musselburgh town centre busy and vibrant whilst taking actions that promote additional business in Musselburgh town centre.
  2. To encourage improvements to support existing businesses and town centre users and encourage investment into the town centre.
  3. To enhance the setting of the local town centre, which is the unique selling point of the town.
  4. To build on the unique identity of Musselburgh by explaining more of its history and heritage.



## 2 Background and Context

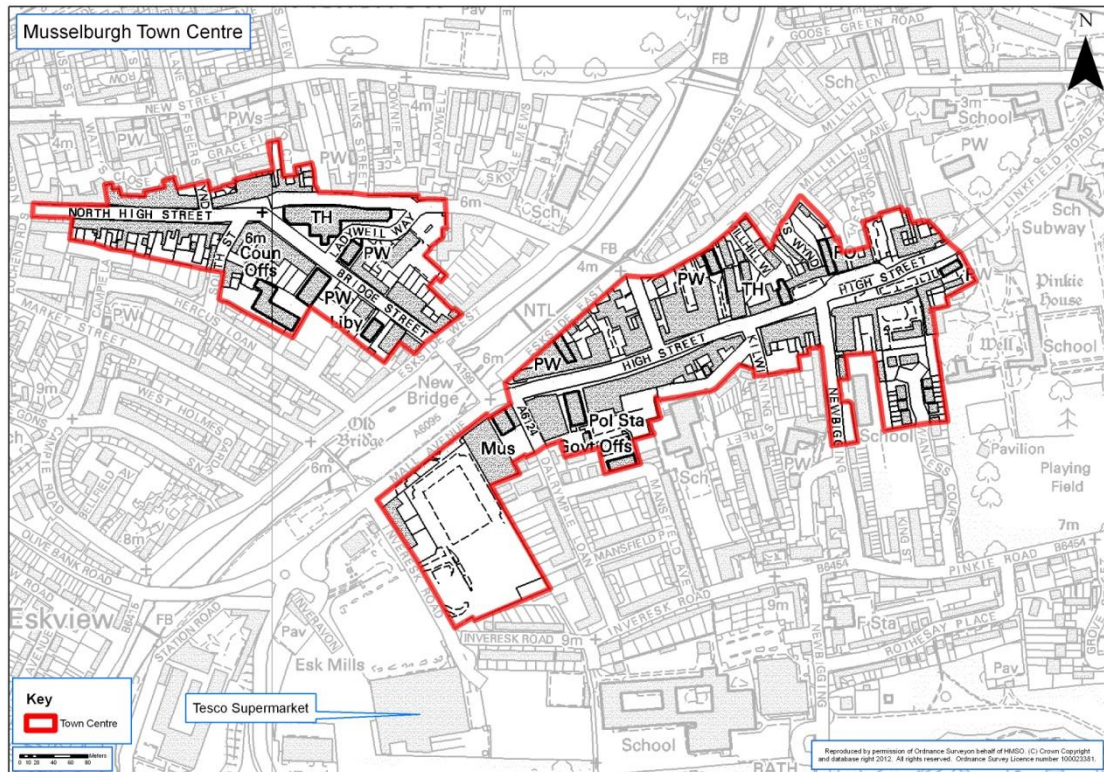
### *Profile of the Town Centre*

- 2.1 Musselburgh lies approximately 7 miles east of Edinburgh city centre. Its location between East Lothian's coastal villages and Edinburgh means it is a busy town and there are only two main road crossings over the River Esk; the A1 Musselburgh bypass and the town centre route of High Street in conjunction with either Bridge Street and North High Street or Mall Avenue and Olivebank Road. This brings people and trade to Musselburgh town centre but also traffic volume and associated management issues.
- 2.2 The town is set to grow with around 1,500 new houses due to be built at Pinkie Mains (under construction 2012) and Wallyford. This will provide additional population to be served by the town centre. The development industry continues to see Musselburgh as a commercial location for further house building with a speculative planning application for a non-allocated site at Goshen farm for approximately 1,200 houses submitted in 2012.
- 2.3 Compared with the other towns in East Lothian, Musselburgh has the most commercial units, the greatest concentration of larger commercial units, the largest proportion of nationally owned shops and services and the highest footfall. In terms of its town centre offering, it is therefore the main town centre in East Lothian.
- 2.4 Musselburgh supports 6,170 jobs<sup>1</sup> and attracts people in from surrounding areas as well as having working residents commute out to work. Its proximity to Edinburgh also has an influence on the range of goods and services that the town centre is able to offer. In addition to town centre retail, Musselburgh has a supermarket at Mall Avenue/Olive Bank Road and three small food retailers at Olivebank on the edges of the town centre.
- 2.5 Musselburgh town centre extends from Pinkie Pillars at its eastern edge west along High Street, Bridge Street and North High Street. Like all town centres it is used by all sections of the community. Its designated area<sup>2</sup> is shown below.

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<sup>1</sup> NOMIS Business Register and Employment 2011

<sup>2</sup> Designated in the East Lothian Local Plan 2008



### *National Economic Context*

- 2.6 Whilst there is no doubt that High Streets will change in future, it remains difficult to be certain of the nature, extent and timing of that change. In a five year strategy it is considered too early to look ahead to long term structural issues with town centres, such as reducing their area by permitting alternative changes of use on the fringes of the town centre.
- 2.7 With low vacancy rates and quick turnover of vacant units, current indications are that Musselburgh town centre is weathering the poor economic conditions reasonably well. While there is no guarantee that this will continue, with the town's population planned to increase there should be more demand in future for the commercial facilities provided in its town centre. The challenge will be for businesses to market themselves to new residents to establish early patterns of town centre use.
- 2.8 Within the five year period of this strategy a series of planned interventions to improve the overall environment of the town centre and attract investment should help to maintain the busy town centre, the first overarching aim of the strategy.

### *Economic Performance of Musselburgh Town Centre*

- 2.9 The town centre contains 178 ground floor commercial premises providing retail, service and leisure uses. The 2012 footfall survey showed that the average number of people visiting Musselburgh town centre was 9,130 per week with Saturday being the busiest day with

2030 users.<sup>3</sup> However, the busiest commercial location was on the edge of the town centre at the 24 hour Tesco supermarket which opened in autumn 2010, replacing a smaller non-24 hour supermarket. The average weekly footfall by the supermarket was 37,840, just over four times that of the town centre. High Street, between Dalrymple Loan and Kilwinning Street, is the busiest section of the main town centre.

- 2.10 This new supermarket clearly has a strong influence on the town centre, but it has not resulted in closure of town centre units, as was feared by some. While some commercial units in the town centre have closed and others opened since the supermarket opened, in 2012 more commercial units are occupied and trading in the town centre than before the supermarket opened. Footfall in the town centre has been measured on a single weekend at the same time each year since 2008 and has averaged 9,570. The 2012 figure is 4.4% down on 2011 and 4.8% lower than the average since 2008. The supermarket opened in 2010 and coincided with a significant drop in town centre footfall when it opened, but which has subsequently increased. Whilst this cannot be proven to be a direct consequence of the opening of the supermarket without further analysis, the location of the supermarket allows for walking trips between it and the town centre and given that shop occupancy is higher and footfall relatively stable, the town centre can be considered to be adapting to trade successfully alongside it.
- 2.11 Many of the jobs in Musselburgh are within easy distance of the town centre. A key aspect of the town centre is to market itself to the residents and workers in the town; if people do not use the shops and services in the town centre, it will not prosper. Marketing campaigns can help in this regard.

#### **Key Points/Issues**

- ***Musselburgh is the main town centre in East Lothian;***
- ***Musselburgh is a growing town therefore the town centre has the opportunity to trade to more residents;***
- ***Commercial unit vacancy rates have fallen and footfall has increased;***
- ***The town centre appears to be coping with the new supermarket on the edge of the centre and, at present, with national economic conditions;***
- ***Regular marketing campaigns are required to encourage people to use Musselburgh town centre – the Christmas Shop Local campaign run by East Lothian Council Economic Development is a good example.***

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<sup>3</sup> Pedestrian Flowcount 2012 Musselburgh, Pedestrian Market Research Services, St.Albans for East Lothian Council, 2012

### Proposed Actions

- **Monitor town centre economic performance through annual land use and footfall surveys and business surveys (Aim 1);**
- **Regular marketing campaigns such as Shop Local are required to encourage use of the town centre (Aim 1).**

## 3 Diversity of Land Use in the Town Centre

### *Land Use Trends*

- 3.1 Scottish Government research identifies that successful town centres have a mix of retail, leisure, entertainment and cultural facilities. Their own identity and sense of place is defined by quality of design and focus on public realm. A healthy retail sector has a good retail mix, choice, diversity, anchor stores and preferred shopper formats, low vacancy rates, low turnover, good physical fabric and fascias, competitiveness and capacity for change.<sup>4</sup>
- 3.2 Analysis of annual retail surveys of Musselburgh town centre undertaken since 2003 shows that the overall number of commercial units currently has risen slightly since 2003, due to subdivision of some larger units. The overall amount of ground floor commercial floorspace in the town centre is approximately 22,500sqm, excluding food and drink premises.
- 3.3 The proportion of retail shops in the town centre has gradually declined, from approximately 50% in 2003 to 38% in 2012 with a corresponding increase in units occupied for non-retail purposes from 45% in 2003 to 55% in 2012. Since 2007 more units have been occupied for non-retail use rather than retail use. The proportions of shops and services are balanced at 38% and 40% respectively. Since 2003, comparison<sup>5</sup> retail has fallen by 6% to 22% and convenience<sup>6</sup> retail by 4% to 16%. In 2012, 40 units were classed as comparison retailing with 28 as convenience retailing.<sup>7</sup>

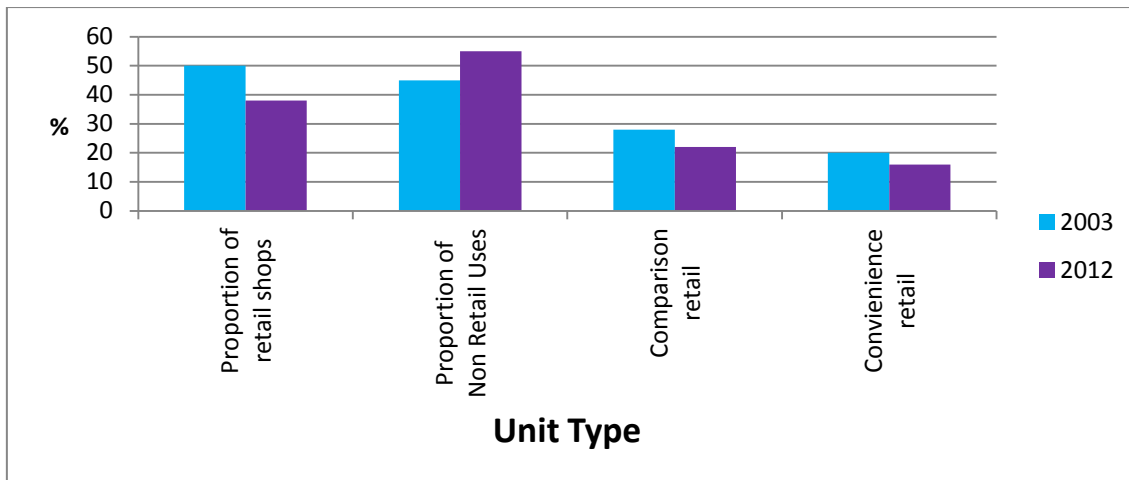
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<sup>4</sup> Scottish Government Housing, Regeneration & Planning Literature review, (2009) “Policies Adopted to Support a Healthy Retail Sector and Retail Led Regeneration”.

<sup>5</sup> Comparison shopping is those goods that the purchaser will compare on the basis of price, quantity and quality before a purchase is made e.g clothes, gifts, electrical and furniture.

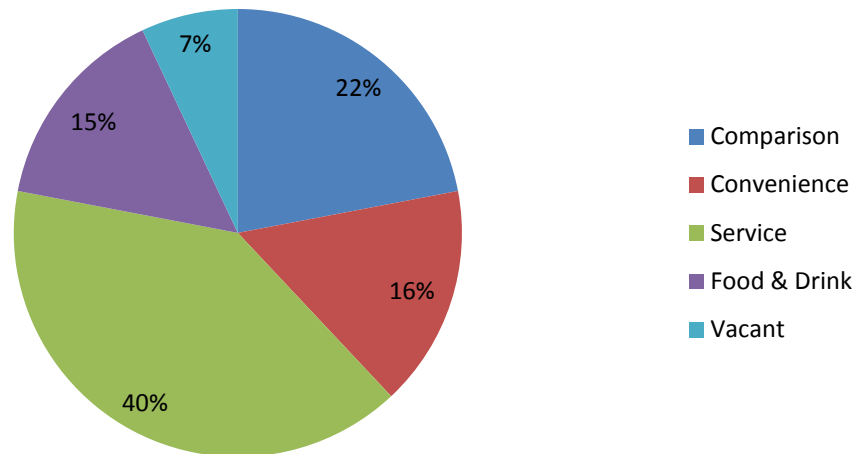
<sup>6</sup> Convenience shopping is food shopping, drinks, newspapers, confectionery purchased readily for immediate consumption.

<sup>7</sup> Retail Survey Musselburgh, Policy & Projects, East Lothian Council, 2012



- 3.4 The proportion of independent and nationally owned businesses has remained fairly consistent with almost one third nationally owned and two thirds independent. This mix indicates that the town centre offering is broad, with a representative spread of nationally recognised names as well as local independents. This is a strength of the town centre which should not be over dependent on one sector. Musselburgh's larger retail premises currently include national chains such as M&Co., Store Twenty One, Poundland and B&M Bargains. In comparison with other East Lothian towns, Musselburgh is able to accommodate larger units because of past redevelopment, mainly in the central part of High Street, that resulted in modern retail units that are not constrained in size by older buildings.
- 3.5 The 2012 survey identified that Musselburgh has a good range of smaller convenience shops including, for example, three butchers, three bakers and a fish shop and specialist comparison shops such as the Fine Wine Company, Ideal Flooring and Furniture, Di Rollo and Luca. While respondents to the town centre survey would prefer to see an increased range of shops and services (e.g. a shoe shop), these depend on the market to provide and cannot be influenced by East Lothian Council. Since the start of the recession, and in line with a national trend, there has been an increase in the provision of shops that market themselves as discount stores. Musselburgh has a concentration of these shops in the High Street. The number of charity shops has also increased from 4 in 2003 to 10 (6% of the total number of commercial units) in 2012 and the town is, arguably, a good destination for those seeking a bargain.
- 3.6 Commercial premises that provide services such as banks, dry cleaners, vets and property services occupy around 40% of all units. Leisure uses, principally food and drink, occupy a further 15% of units. The proportion of non-retail uses in the town centre has steadily increased from 45% in 2003 to 55% in 2012. There are 4 licensed pubs and hotels (excluding clubs) within the designated town centre, with a further 4 currently (August 2012) closed, and 9 licensed restaurants.

### Breakdown of Ground Floor Uses 2012



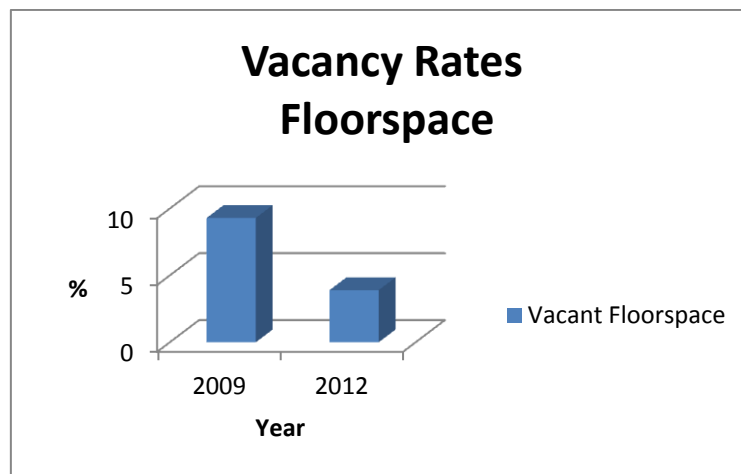
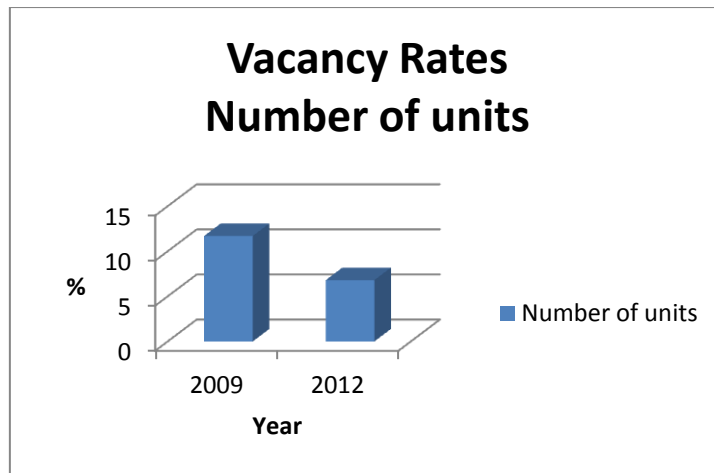
- 3.7 In 2010, the town centre survey noted the opening hours of commercial businesses. The results showed that only a very small proportion, 3%, closed at lunchtime, 40% traded on Sundays and 30% opened in the evening (food and drink premises, some convenience shops and bookmakers). Some 25% of non-retail businesses, for example, banks, did not open on a Saturday and around 10% of shops closed for a half or whole day on a Monday or Wednesday.<sup>8</sup> This indicates that Musselburgh is a town centre that is open for business.
- 3.8 For town centres to survive and maintain vibrancy and vitality there needs to be a range of reasons to visit them. Shopping is part of that but by no means the only reason; visits to commercial services, cafes, restaurants, transport, visitor attractions and events all bring people to a town centre. If people are in the town centre, for whatever reason, then there are commercial trading opportunities for town centre businesses. When footfall declines, commercial businesses suffer accordingly.

#### *Vacant Units*

- 3.9 The proportion of vacant commercial units in Musselburgh town centre rose from 2007 and peaked in 2009 at 11.7% (or 21 units). Since 2009 it has reduced to 6.8% (12 units) in August 2012. Measured as vacant floorspace rather than number of units the 2009 peak was 9.3% and the 2012 figure 3.9%. The Scottish average vacancy rate based on percent of vacant units was 10.5% in July 2012 (UK rate 14.5%).<sup>9</sup> Given national trends and the closure of a number of national chains such as Clinton Cards and Peacocks which were represented in Musselburgh, the town, in 2012, is performing well relative to other town centres in terms of having lower vacancy rates.

<sup>8</sup> Retail Survey Musselburgh, Policy & Projects, East Lothian Council, 2010

<sup>9</sup> Local Data Company 2012



- 3.10 Of the main issues associated with vacant shop units (length of time vacant; state of repair; prominence of location), few of the units vacant in Musselburgh stay vacant for long. Most are in a reasonable state of repair and few are in the busiest and most prominent central part of High Street.
- 3.11 The licensed trade sector has seen a significant number of pubs and small hotels close in Musselburgh town centre. Nationally, public houses in towns, small hotels and restaurants have suffered decreasing demand with consequent effects on viability: forecasters predict further decline in this sector. Musselburgh seems particularly badly hit given that many of these premises are prominently located on High Street and North High Street. Prominent buildings such as the former Musselburgh Arms Hotel, vacant since 2007, The Stand and The Burgh public houses, all in High Street, affect the overall quality of the town centre environment when they lie empty and boarded up. The limited range of licensed public houses in Musselburgh may be a contributory factor; arguably there was an over supply of premises offering a similar product for current demand. Evidence suggests that this has been the recent situation where the number of public houses in the defined town centre has declined from 8 in 2004 to 4 in 2012. This includes the addition of a new establishment, the David Macbeth Moir owned by national chain JD Wetherspoon. They

invested in the conversion of the long vacant former Hayweights club building in Bridge Street to reopen it as a public house and restaurant in 2012. Where former licensed premises have ceased trading there is no requirement to retain them as licensed premises and they can be converted to other town centre uses, such as retail or other leisure use in line with local plan policy.

#### *Upper Floor uses*

- 3.12 Many shops and commercial premises in the town centre have vacant space in the floors above. This may be used as storage or as an empty or infrequently used flat or office. If more of this space were permanently occupied, bringing more people in to the town centre, this would benefit the town centre economy. Most buildings in the town centre are tenements with commercial uses on the ground floor. The most common use of upper floors is residential which enables people to live in the town centre. A street level survey, followed up by further investigation, undertaken in 2012 showed a number of upper floors in Musselburgh town centre not currently in use as residential. In some cases a slow property market has led to property being on the market and vacant for lengthy periods. In other situations property is left vacant but not marketed. Because of past redevelopment in the central part of High Street many premises do not have residential space above them. The town centre needs people to live in it and where there is residential space it would benefit the town centre if it was occupied.
- 3.13 As part of its Empty Homes Initiative, East Lothian Council aims to help owners who have empty property to bring them back into residential use. The survey will be followed up by contacting property owners to see if there is anything that can be done to either renovate vacant residential or convert vacant storage to encourage more occupied housing in the town centre.

#### *Musselburgh Town Centre – Extent of Influence by East Lothian Council*

- 3.14 The Council as local planning authority cannot influence the type of shop that trades in the town centre. Planning permission is required for the change of use of a shop to another use such as a café or other non shop use. Current planning policy seeks to prioritise retail uses, requiring premises to be marketed for a reasonable period and no reasonable offers for use as retail to have been received before an alternative use is permitted.<sup>10</sup> There are no restrictions on the number of non retail uses permitted in any part of the town centre other than consideration of the cumulative effect of hot food take-aways in any one area.<sup>11</sup>
- 3.15 As an owner of a small number of commercial premises in the town centre, the Council requires to secure best value market rentals. Business rates are charged at a rate set by the Scottish Government, not

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<sup>10</sup> Policy ENV2: Town and Village Centres, Other Retail or Mixed Use Areas, East Lothian Local Plan 2008

<sup>11</sup> Policy R3: Hot Food outlets, East Lothian Local Plan 2008



East Lothian Council. Currently, that includes the small business bonus scheme where lower rated properties are eligible for varying discounts.

- 3.16 The range of options for the Council to influence the type of commercial trading, its location and the cost of premises for trading is therefore limited. Some Planning Authorities seek to restrict the number of non retail uses trading alongside each other to no more than three before a retail unit must remain, others define parts of the town centre as prime retail areas, allowing non prime areas to have a greater range of uses. Where the present policy of prioritising retail has been discussed at consultation meetings on the forthcoming East Lothian Local Development Plan, the prevailing opinion has been that the restriction should be relaxed to permit a faster change to a non retail use and that the unit is quickly reoccupied. These are all matters for the East Lothian Local Development Plan, which will replace the East Lothian Local Plan 2008, to consider. Any commercial landlord could use one or more of their trading units as a subsidised start up business location for trial 'pop-up shops' but this would be at the expense of a market rental, and might introduce a distortion to the rental market, it could only be considered if a property is proving exceptionally difficult to let. The Council owns only a small proportion of commercial units in the town centre and currently has little difficulty in letting these when they become vacant.

#### **Key Points/Issues**

- ***Musselburgh has a solid base of commercial units and a reasonable diversity of retail, service and leisure uses. In common with national trends, the number of shops, particularly convenience shops, is slowly reducing and the number of units offering services is increasing;***
- ***The proportion of nationally owned multiple units at around one third is a strength of the centre, emphasising its diversity and difference from other East Lothian town centres;***
- ***Commercial shop and service unit vacancy rates are currently relatively low and are re-occupied quickly. This is contrary to national trends and may not continue;***
- ***The on-sale licensed trade has suffered decline in line with national trends. It is likely that some public house and small hotel premises will be converted to other uses;***
- ***There is a reasonable range of commercial businesses open throughout the day and evening and the town centre does not close down for a half day or at lunchtime;***
- ***East Lothian Council will review its town centre planning policies contained in the East Lothian Local Plan 2008, including that which prioritises retail use over other town centre uses;***

- ***Vacant or underused space above commercial premises has potential to supply additional residential accommodation to bring new residents into the town centre.***

#### **Proposed Actions**

- ***Encourage the reuse of vacant upper floor spaces above commercial units by contacting owners to establish what might be needed to re-introduce residential accommodation into the town centre (Aim 1);***
- ***Review local development plan policies that affect the town centre (Aim 2).***

## **4 Tourism and leisure**

- 4.1 Whilst Musselburgh is not generally regarded as a tourist town, it does experience a significant number of day visitors, for example, those attending Musselburgh Races or visiting Levenhall Links. In addition the John Muir Way coastal walk and National Cycle Route 76 pass through the town. Other attractions include Newhailes House, Brunton Theatre, museums, and golf. In 2008 Queen Margaret University opened and, whilst the majority of staff and students are day visitors, the University has accommodation for 800 resident students. Loretto independent school also has around 500 pupils. These add additional visitors to the town. The Musselburgh Museum which opened in 2011 experienced a higher than expected number of visitors, almost 6,000, in its first year despite limited 3 days per week opening.
- 4.2 Specialist retailers and quality restaurants also attract people to a town and two of the most famous names in ice cream, Di Rollo and Luca, are good Musselburgh examples for which the town is popularly known. Specialist retailers can improve market awareness and footfall by grouping together with similar businesses to create niche marketing areas.
- 4.3 Tourist information is provided at The Brunton where it benefits from long opening hours. Most marketing is done by attractions like the racecourse and theatre themselves and there is scope for more coordinated town marketing, particularly in encouraging more day visitors from Edinburgh and the rest of East Lothian. Those using the long distance walking and cycle routes need to be encouraged to divert into the town centre and, when in the town centre, visitors need to be able to learn more about the town's extensive history and heritage. This was a theme noted in the town centre consultation along with a need for a general information board on High Street. There are a series of interpretation boards throughout the town centre and these could be complemented by a more in depth town heritage trail that could start and finish at the museum or old Town Hall.

- 4.4 Musselburgh is a large town but currently has no regular markets or commercial events to draw people in. There has been interest in establishing a farmer's market but this would ideally require a serviced venue in the town centre. Such events have proven useful draws in other towns, with Haddington Farmer's Market attracting around 1,000 people each month, increasing footfall in its town centre and offering existing traders potential additional sales.
- 4.5 Walking and cycling routes exist throughout the town with links to the town centre. However not all are signposted and some would benefit from, for example, a crossing point on Mall Avenue that could link up with access paths to the Eskmills complex. Around 500 people work at Eskmills, modern offices located in an historic industrial complex that is a visitor attraction in its own right and a part of the town's heritage. Improved path links between Eskmills and the town centre could be mutually beneficial.

#### **Key Points/Issues**

- ***Musselburgh may not be a recognised tourist town but has a range of attractions and should be better marketed, particularly as a destination for a day visit;***
- ***A town trail to celebrate the history and heritage of the town could take advantage of both traditional leaflets and new technology;***
- ***Path links from other parts of Musselburgh, including the long distance routes to the town centre, should make it easy for people to find their way to the town centre.***

#### **Proposed Actions**

- ***Encourage better marketing of Musselburgh by bringing together Musselburgh attractions that do their own marketing and encouraging 'day out in Musselburgh' visits. Develop a distinctive branding for the town (Aim 1);***
- ***Review the existing heritage information available to visitors in Musselburgh and develop a town trail incorporating the use of modern communication (Aim 4);***
- ***Review path links to Musselburgh town centre; improve directional signage and identify small scale improvements to routes (Aim 2);***
- ***Encourage more commercial and community events and attractions in Musselburgh town centre.***

## **5 Transport and Parking**

- 5.1 Musselburgh is located between the East Lothian coastal settlements and Edinburgh and consequently accommodates high traffic volumes.

The number of crossings over the River Esk is limited to the A1 trunk road (Musselburgh bypass) and the town centre route of High Street in conjunction with either Bridge Street and North High Street or Mall Avenue and Olivebank Road. Not all through traffic uses the A1 bypass however leading to an estimated 30% of traffic in High Street that is passing through.<sup>12</sup> The only alternative routes to the main streets would be to re-connect Inveresk Road to Olive Bank Road or to use New Street/Millhill utilising the 'electric bridge' to through traffic. This bridge was built to facilitate the construction of Cockenzie power station but was not adopted as part of the local road network, although it is used on a temporary basis to facilitate traffic flow on race days at Musselburgh Racecourse. Whilst it would provide another crossing of the River Esk, its re-opening would attract through traffic to residential streets. Similarly to use Inveresk Road would attract through traffic to the detriment of residential areas and the likelihood is that High Street will remain the main through route within the town.

- 5.2 Traffic queuing is commonplace at certain times and places within Musselburgh. However, the recently installed SCOOT (Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique) Urban Traffic Control system is designed to improve traffic flow throughout the town centre. Sensors positioned in the road detect vehicle numbers at each set of traffic signals and automatically adjust signal timings to accommodate the detected traffic. It can be programmed to favour particular routes, delay 'rat-runs' and to position traffic queues away from the main shopping street. The system includes the Mall Avenue/High Street junction, the busiest junction in East Lothian at 25,000 vehicles per day, and allows greater control over traffic flow through the town centre.
- 5.3 Air quality is continually monitored in Musselburgh town centre with nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate material (PM<sub>10</sub>) being the main pollutants. Detailed assessment of NO<sub>2</sub> levels was undertaken in 2012 and resulted in additional monitoring at locations on High Street and Bridge Street where dispersion modelling had indicated that exceedences of NO<sub>2</sub> had occurred in 2011. If monitoring results indicate it is necessary then an Air Quality Management Area must be declared and an action plan prepared to identify measures to reduce NO<sub>2</sub> levels. The SCOOT system can help reduce air pollution by restricting vehicle queues in sensitive parts of the main streets.

#### *Public Transport*

- 5.4 Public transport is important to Musselburgh. There are three railway stations in or close to Musselburgh at Wallyford, Musselburgh and Newcraighall, but none are in the town centre. Wallyford is well connected to the town centre via frequent bus services from its large park and ride car park as well as some other through bus services from elsewhere in East Lothian. Musselburgh and Newcraighall station, close by Queen Margaret University, are served by a less frequent bus but

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<sup>12</sup> Musselburgh Development Study Halcrow, November 1999

links to the town centre are provided. Musselburgh town centre is served by frequent buses provided by Lothian Buses and First Group. The former's services are informed by real time bus information signs. The frequency of buses is such that the town centre is rarely to be seen without one or more buses in it at any one time. This brings people into the town centre and is therefore good for business but adds to the congestion and air quality issues in the centre. The town centre survey showed that congestion at bus stops, both from people and queuing buses, is an issue. Provision of additional bus stops would help to alleviate this problem.

### *Parking*

- 5.5 Parking was an issue for many of the respondents to the town centre survey. Some 47% stated that improved access to parking and more parking in the town centre would encourage people to use the High Street more. Many respondents also objected to the introduction of pay parking by the owners of the town centre car park on Kilwinning Place, which is privately owned.
- 5.6 An analysis of parking within Musselburgh identified that on street parking in the town centre worked generally well, although there were some issues of long stay parking even where 90 minute restrictions were in place. Where time restrictions were in place there was evidence of displacement to nearby side streets that had no restriction. Off-street car parks seemed to be poorly managed with poor turnover of spaces along with a lack of awareness and usage. Poor directional signage meant that people unfamiliar with the area were unlikely to make use of off-street car parks. Temporary parking restrictions on race days worked well and caused few problems to the local area.<sup>13</sup>
- 5.7 The importance of parking availability is highlighted by the respondents to the town centre survey. The implication is that if parking is not available people may not stop to use town centre services. The main town centre car parks are at Gracefield off North High Street, Kilwinning Place, Mall Avenue and Shorthope Street, in addition to the on street parking. On street parking is time limited but most off street car parks are currently freely available with unlimited stay. To encourage greater availability of parking, town centre spaces and those at the Shorthope Street car park and the southern part of the Gracefield car park should be better managed with time restrictions put in place to increase parking turnover and reduce all day parking. People who currently leave a car in a town centre car park all day should be encouraged to use alternative parking, for example, at the Wallyford park and ride (337 spaces) where there is a regular bus service to the town centre and beyond. Parking infringement needs to be enforced to achieve this; this is a matter for East Lothian Council to address (except at the privately owned Kilwinning Place car park).

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<sup>13</sup> East Lothian Parking Strategy December 2009 MVA Consultancy

- 5.8 Car parks, including those at train stations, offer their own marketing opportunities for the town centre; for example, orientation maps with key shops and services identified.

#### **Key Points/Issues**

- *Air quality is being closely monitored at identified locations in the town centre to establish whether an Air Quality Management Area requires to be declared;*
- *Traffic levels in Musselburgh are high because there are few alternative routes;*
- *Bus stop congestion arises from the number of buses serving particular stops. Additional stops would help to alleviate this problem;*
- *There is a need to better manage and enforce the supply and turnover of short stay parking facilities in the town;*
- *Time restricted parking should be introduced to some town centre car parks to deter all day parking and free up availability for town centre users;*
- *Parking enforcement will be undertaken by East Lothian Council at public car parks;*
- *Directional signage to town centre car parks should be reviewed;*
- *There are marketing opportunities for the town centre at car parks.*

#### **Proposed Actions**

- *Monitor air quality issues in Musselburgh town centre and extend the operation and influence of the SCOOT system to improve traffic flow in the town centre (Aim 3);*
- *Review the number and location of bus stops throughout Musselburgh town centre to reduce bus stop congestion and build up of buses at a single stop (Aim 3);*
- *Review Musselburgh town centre car park operation to introduce short stay to increase turnover and parking availability at some car parks. Review associated parking enforcement. (Aim 1).*

## **6 Development Opportunities**

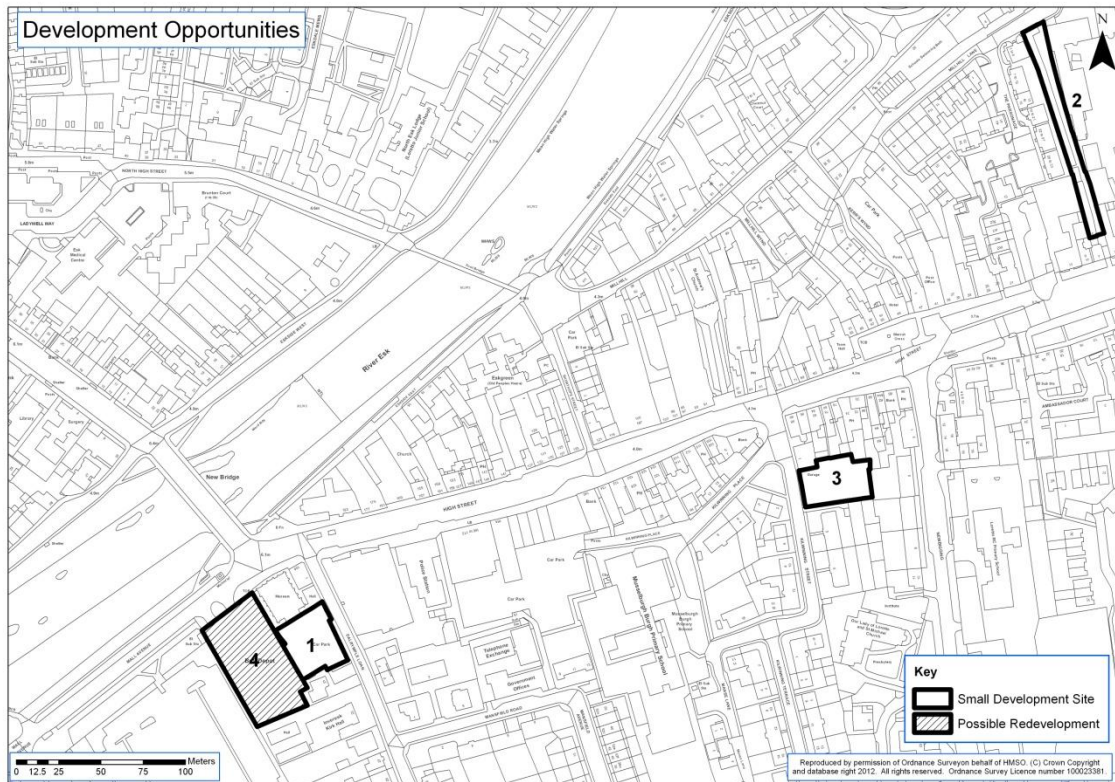
- 6.1 There are a limited number of small development sites within Musselburgh town centre. None face the main streets directly, though most lie close to the main streets. Redevelopment can offer opportunities to bring new residents, employment or parking provision into the town, all

of which benefit and support the local town centre economy. The sites are:

1. **Former Somerfield car park, Dalrymple Loan** – this rectangular site accessed from Dalrymple Loan is in private ownership but was marketed in 2011. It is suitable in principle for car parking, or housing/commercial development in line with East Lothian Local Plan policy.
2. **Former Millhill stables** – this long and narrow site has a vehicular access from Millhill and a pedestrian right of access to High Street. The site is ELC owned and is available for redevelopment, while not being an easy site to develop. It may be suitable in principle for a limited housing or car parking development. The site could accommodate around 30 car parking spaces. The Council has prepared development guidelines for the site.<sup>14</sup>
3. **1-2 Kilwinning Street** – This is the site of a former garage and has been acquired for affordable housing development by East Lothian Council. Work has commenced on 22 flats plus an additional 6 units on a separate small site in Kilwinning Street due to be completed in 2013.
4. **Bus Depot, Mall Avenue** - should the depot no longer be required in the future then it offers an opportunity for redevelopment in support of the town centre. This should provide commercial use on the ground floor, in line with East Lothian Local Plan 2008 policy, to extend the town centre and give a further reason to encourage more walking trips between the supermarket and the town centre.

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<sup>14</sup> Design Guidelines, The Stables, Millhill Musselburgh, 2010



### Key Points/Issues

- ***There are few redevelopment opportunities in Musselburgh town centre with those sites that there are being small. Every opportunity that brings new residents or employment or supports the town centre in other ways should be encouraged.***

### Proposed Actions

- ***East Lothian Council to review the potential use of the vacant Millhill Stables (Aim 2).***

## 7 Built Environment and Public Spaces

7.1 The overall quality of any town centre is an important indicator of how well it is performing and of its potential to attract residents and visitors to it. The public consultation survey showed that 78% of local people use the High Street at least once a week with 33% visiting daily. The appearance of the town centre is therefore important as it is the unique environment that town centre users experience and in which businesses operate.

7.2 The town centre survey identified that most respondents thought that the town centre was in need of a 'makeover', in particular this referred to a general desire for streetscape improvements and the improvement of key local buildings such as the vacant Musselburgh Arms Hotel. Respondents also mentioned the need for shop fronts to be smartened up and for more attractive and consistent street furniture and decorative planting along the High Streets. Issues with footway condition and



overcrowding at particular points were identified, as was the need to make more of the town's assets. This included highlighting historic buildings and enhancing the riverside setting, making better links between the river and the High Street.

- 7.3 The Town Centre Task Group has undertaken a street clutter survey to highlight redundant or broken items of street furniture, temporary signs and areas suffering from litter which have subsequently been dealt with by East Lothian Council. A second survey was completed in autumn 2012 and regular surveys will keep on top of the situation.
- 7.4 The 2012 sample survey of privately owned housing stock identified that in Musselburgh town centre dwellings are older and suffer from more disrepair than average for East Lothian with 58% requiring some repair.<sup>15</sup>
- 7.5 Musselburgh is a historic burgh and has many of the characteristics of an old burgh including the tolbooth, mercat cross and the wide street for trading. Its oldest building is the tolbooth dating from 1590 with its 15th century steeple. However, most buildings in the High Street are 18th and 19th century with some 20th century infill development. Parts of the town centre are within the designated Musselburgh Conservation Area; this includes High Street east of Kilwinning Street, Bridge Street and the former High Church. The main section of High Street between Kilwinning Street and the High Church is not in the conservation area. The town centre contains 74 listed buildings including the category A listed tolbooth and town hall.
- 7.6 The spaces between buildings in Musselburgh town centre have changed little in recent decades. Because the town centre is based on a major traffic route the street is dominated by vehicles, including buses. Parking is provided on street and little of the space between buildings in the centre is given over to the pedestrian. Pedestrian congestion was even noted in the town centre survey responses at two points on High Street where bus stops are located; outside the Citizens' Advice Bureau and outside the police station. Bus stops here are located in wider parts of the street; the issue seems to be where people stand to wait for buses.
- 7.7 Whilst maintaining the free flow of traffic is important, and provision of bus stops is clearly necessary, there are still options for creating more pedestrian friendly space within the town centre. For example, there is no public gathering space, a point picked up in the town centre survey with 65 responses suggesting that the area by the mercat cross be made into a town square. This area was originally a civic space for Musselburgh, created by the town council in 1753, and provided with the mercat cross that still stands today. Old photos show it used for civic ceremonies.

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<sup>15</sup> Private Sector Stock Condition Report 2012



Gathering at the Mercat Cross and Musselburgh Arms Hotel in 1935

- 7.8 Most towns have at least one public gathering place for pedestrians where civic ceremonies are held and markets and other commercial activity takes place. These are a focus of the town and can become its defining image. Recent town centre improvements in Haddington and Dunbar created pedestrian areas outside public buildings where markets and gatherings can be held, information displayed and the setting of important town buildings improved.

*High Street, East of the Tolbooth/Town Hall*

- 7.9 That part of High Street where the Town Hall and the buildings of 41-61 High Street form a corner is an old gathering place in Musselburgh and could be suitable for that function again, as a landscaped pedestrian space. This would enhance the setting of the historic buildings of the area, especially the mercat cross, and allow the history and heritage of the town to be interpreted and displayed in a location that is very close to the new town museum. It would fit with plans by the Community Council to floodlight the tolbooth to highlight its architectural character. It could be designed to be a high quality place with natural stone paving, coordinated street furniture and small trees to complement other trees in the street. Underground services could be provided to supply electricity, water and a Christmas tree mounting socket. There would be sufficient open space to park a promotional vehicle and to accommodate continental, farmers, community or other markets and promotional or community events. To provide a sense of enclosure in the square, a low stone wall with railings and gatepiers at entry points or contemporary railings could separate the square from the main carriageway, or the area kept more open.

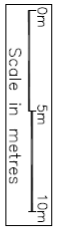


Tolbooth/Old Town hall and Mercat Cross dominated by parked vehicles

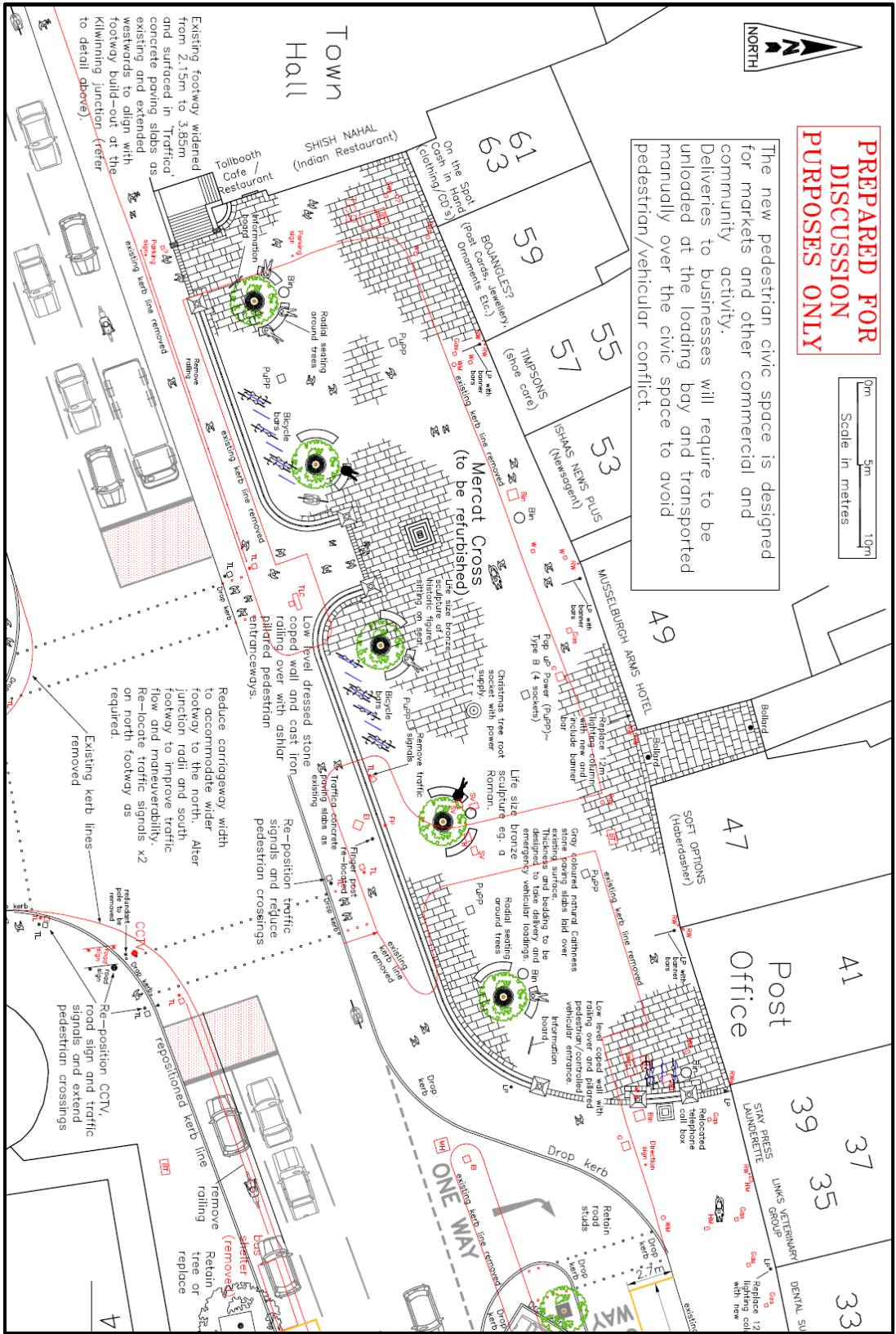
- 7.10 Cafes and restaurants might set out seats within the square and it should help to encourage the reuse of the vacant hotel that fronts on to the area. The plan below gives some idea of what the square might look like with a pedestrian area extending from outside the former post office at 41 High Street to the tolbooth/town hall. The new area could accommodate artwork to reference the town's history and heritage. An example might be a full size figure of a Roman soldier or civilian as a reminder of the town's Roman past when it serviced a Roman Fort around AD 140. Such artworks can generate interest, leave lasting memories of a place and help with marketing. To encourage people to the square and to stay longer, public wi-fi could be made available and it could be the start and finish of a historical town trail that could be accessed using a leaflet or through information provided by a modern phone application.
- 7.11 The present image of this area is of one that is devoted to the car. There is parking around and adjacent to the mercat cross, and pedestrians are required to walk the long way round by the buildings rather than cross into a road. An open landscaped square would enhance the setting of the buildings and encourage people to use the space more. Such public spaces can leave a lasting legacy in changing the perception and image of a town. It would provide a space that will attract commercial and community activity and encourage footfall to this part of the town centre to the benefit of local business.
- 7.12 However, car parking is important to the town centre. As the creation of a square would lead to the loss of parking, a redesign of the street east towards the Pinkie Pillars would have to be an integral part of the proposed project. This would see additional parking separated from the road by a centrally positioned kerbed footway on which trees would be placed to complement the cherry trees on the south side of the street. The part-time taxi rank would remain, the bus stop repositioned to the main road, motorbike, cycle and disabled parking provided and the

# HIGH STREET EAST OF THE TOLBOOTH/TOWNHALL: INDICATIVE PLAN SHOWING CIVIC SPACE

**PREPARED FOR  
DISCUSSION  
PURPOSES ONLY**



The new pedestrian civic space is designed for markets and other commercial and community activity. Deliveries to businesses will require to be unloaded at the loading bay and transported manually over the civic space to avoid pedestrian/vehicular conflict.



Existing footway widened from 2.15m to 3.85m and surfaced in 'Trotfired' concrete paving slabs as westwards to align with footway build-out at the Kilwinning junction (refer to detail above).

Reduce carriageway width to accommodate wider footway to the north. Alter junction radii and south footway to improve traffic flow and manoeuvrability. Re-locate traffic signals x2 on north footway as required.

Re-position traffic signals and reduce pedestrian crossings

Re-position CCTV, road sign and traffic signals and extend pedestrian crossings

- 7.13 existing vehicle parking reprovided. There would also be an opportunity to relocate the northmost Pinkie Pillar closer to the middle of the street, where it is understood it used to be, when it formed a more noticeable historic gateway feature.
- 7.14 Other parts of Musselburgh town centre would also benefit from environmental improvement to reorganise and enhance space and improve the overall quality of the streetscape. The following locations are suggested for improvement and are shown on the map below:

*High Street, Kilwinning Street to Rennie Bridge*

- 7.15 Street furniture in High Street should be coordinated. The simple use of black poles for traffic signs and street lighting columns and the grouping together of street furniture where possible usually prove the most visually effective. Where there are seats, such as outside the Hollies, these should also coordinate, rather than the present use of different seat styles. Low walls or decorative planting could help provide a sense of enclosure in front of seats in this area. Planting two or three street trees in the wide pavement in front of the modern row of shops on the south side of the street would enhance the streetscape. Lighting columns could be provided with banner arm kits to allow for promotional or advertising banners. The larger wynds and closes such as Kerr's Wynd and Fish Close would benefit from coordinated street furniture including signage and repainting.



High Street

*Bridge Street*

- 7.16 Bridge Street is within the designated conservation area but does not require major improvement. However, coordinated street furniture should be provided when replacement is required, using black painted poles for traffic signs and street lighting columns. Street furniture should be grouped together where possible which should minimise visual impact. Some individual buildings, including shops, would benefit from reinstatement of original glazing patterns as recently installed at 7-9 Bridge Street. Shopfronts would also benefit from improved signage, and where front boundary walls have been removed in front of Georgian buildings at 18-20 Bridge Street, their reinstatement would improve the appearance of the street.



18-20 Bridge Street

- 7.17 At the High Street side of the bridge the area around the war memorial requires some improvement. This could include the provision of a disabled access to the riverside walkway along with the repair of the stone steps and retaining wall.



Steps and wall at War Memorial

- 7.18 The Brunton complex was the subject of a £3.7m refurbishment in 2012. The external landscape around the building and its junction with North High Street would also benefit from comprehensive relandscaping to enhance the area. This could include replacement coordinated street furniture, new areas of paving and a ramped access to the theatre.

#### *North High Street*

- 7.19 North High Street is part of the busy main traffic route yet has its own range of shops and services on both sides of the street. With parallel parking on both sides and widely spaced controlled pedestrian crossings it is not an easy street to cross between shops. It is also a broad street lined with cars and without street trees. To make it easier to cross, a series of wider pavement areas, usually referred to as 'blisters', paired with another on the opposite side of the street would allow a shorter crossing and clearer sight of oncoming vehicles. These could be marked with a bollard and/or a street tree to add visual interest to the street. As with High Street, street furniture in North High Street should be coordinated, provided when a replacement is required, ensuring the simple use of black poles for traffic signs and street lighting columns and

grouping together of street furniture where possible to minimise visual impact.

- 7.20 North High Street lies in the area of Musselburgh known as Fisherrow reflecting its past as a significant fishing port. Fisherrow is a commonly used name but does not appear in the town centre: for example, the main street in Fisherrow is simply named North High Street, leading to potential confusion with High Street, particularly as both are shopping streets with some premises, Ladbrokes and Baynes Bakers for example, represented in both streets. To strengthen links with the heritage of the area, and make it more distinctive from Musselburgh High Street, it is proposed that North High Street be rebranded as either Fisherrow High Street, or as North High Street, Fisherrow, Musselburgh. This might only require an additional sign on buildings below 'North High Street' with the addition of the word, 'Fisherrow'.

#### *Shorthope Street*

- 7.21 Shorthope Street is a narrow street connecting the High Street to the pedestrian footbridge over the Esk to Fisherrow and busy, particularly with pedestrians. There are two small, popular car parks at the riverside end of the street and public toilets. The area by the river is a popular location to watch swans on a small island in the river and also contains a slipway to the river. This car park and the amenity area by the river has recently been improved by East Lothian Council but the south car park and Shorthope Street itself require further improvement. The south car park would benefit from general tidying up and provision of boundary railings, or in part, a wall to help screen the recycling bins.
- 7.21 The older buildings on the street would benefit from enhancement by some basic repairs to gutters and downpipes and repainting walls to a coordinated colour scheme. These are privately owned buildings, some are flats and others commercially owned.



Shorthope Street: South car park and buildings on west side

#### *Condition of Buildings*

- 7.22 The private sector housing stock condition survey identified that there is a higher concentration of privately owned houses in the town centre that are in need of repair than in other parts of Musselburgh. This is common to many town centres. Most buildings in Musselburgh town centre are traditionally constructed and stone finished. However, there is a small number which could be described as blighting the overall appearance of the town centre in their present external condition. In addition there are other buildings which could contribute better to the overall appearance of the town centre. Often these are painted buildings which require regular maintenance to keep them in presentable condition. It is the owners responsibility to maintain their buildings, which would benefit from a revised colour scheme to enhance their architectural features and help to visually distinguish them from their neighbouring properties to help revitalise the area.
- 7.23 East Lothian Council could prepare suggested colour schemes as guidance and make this available to property owners for consideration. In some areas, for example, Shorthope Street, several buildings, if sensitively painted to highlight their architectural features, would have a strong cumulative enhancement effect on the town centre.

*The Conservation Area*

- 7.24 Musselburgh Conservation Area covers a large part of the historic town including the eastern end of High Street and Bridge Street. In addition to works to the public realm, the High Street would benefit from the repair and restoration of the Musselburgh Arms hotel at 49 High Street (included on the national Buildings at Risk register<sup>16</sup>) and the Stand at 72-74 High Street, both listed buildings. Some individual shops in this area would benefit from restoration of original features and groups of shops from more coordinated signage. Small scale restoration work such as the reinstatement of the original window style with small pane glazing would enhance the overall conservation area as well as restore many of the flats and houses in the area. This work may be eligible for national funding programmes from Historic Scotland or the Heritage Lottery Fund and this should be explored.

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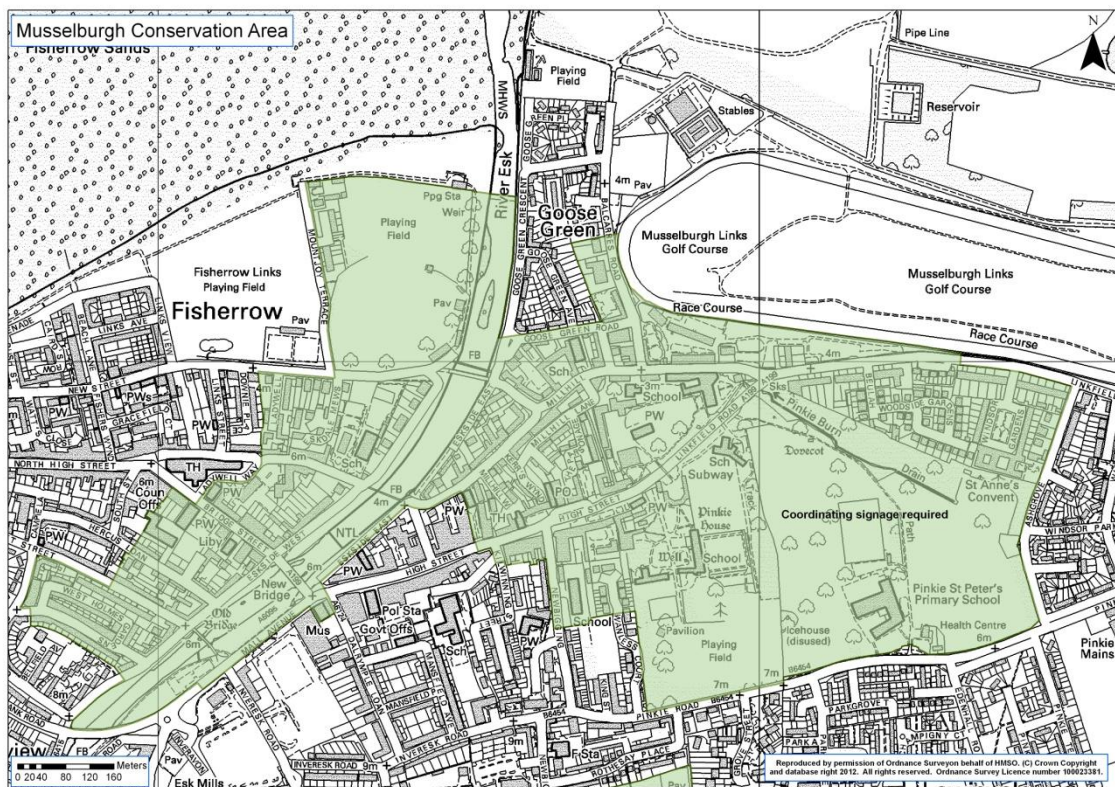
<sup>16</sup> <http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk>





Musselburgh Arms Hotel and The Stand

7.25 The conservation area requires a full character appraisal to be undertaken to identify its special architectural and historic character and review its boundary in detail. This should be undertaken by East Lothian Council but with community support from Musselburgh Conservation Society.



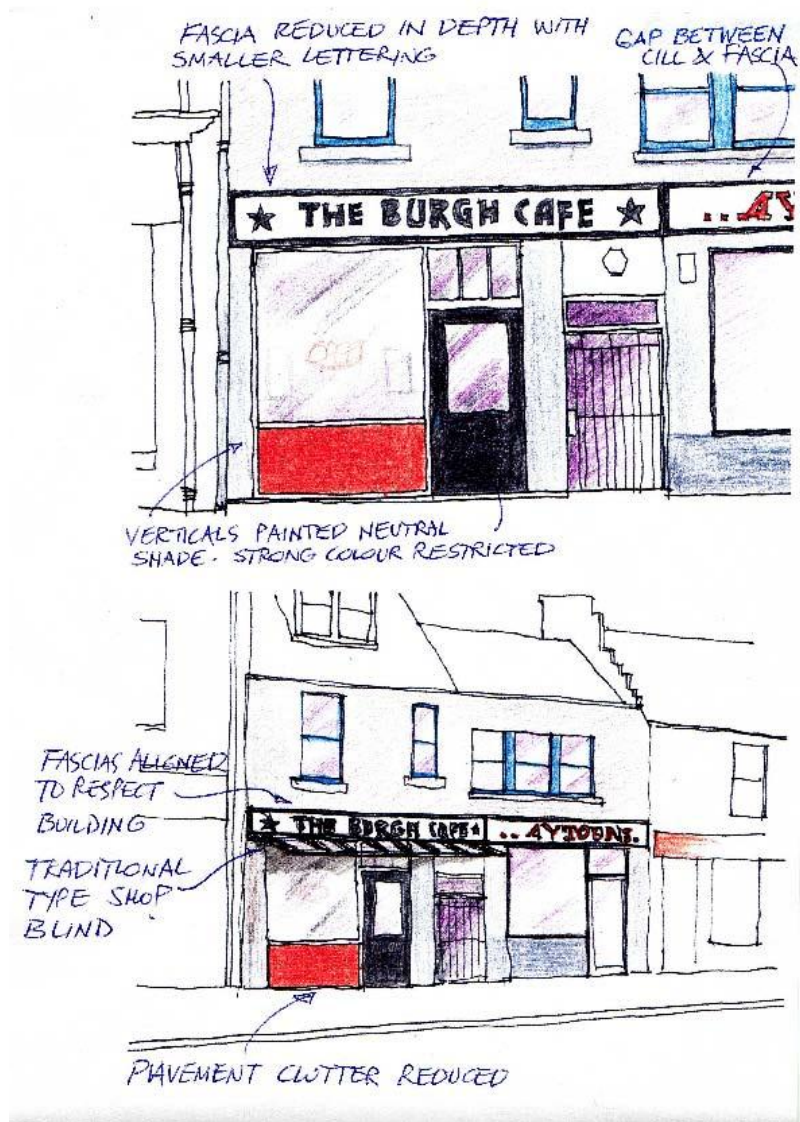
*Appearance of Shops and other Commercial Premises*

7.26 Many shops and businesses could make a significant improvement to the streetscape by adopting revised paint colour schemes and signage. Where shops are located within the conservation area this would enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area, but

within High Street a greater consistency with shop signage would also have an overall benefit to the streetscape. This issue was raised by respondents to the town centre survey and has been discussed by the Musselburgh Town Centre Task Group. The Musselburgh Conservation Society has suggested some draft guidelines for shop signage to encourage more coherent fascias. A key issue with any new businesses is be noticed as soon as trading commences and some signs are commissioned before the necessary advertisement consent and/or planning permission and listed building consent is obtained from East Lothian Council. Retrospective planning applications can lead to compromise design solutions and, if not subsequently approved, to a waste of money by applicants. The best solution in such circumstances is usually the erection of a temporary banner as a sign and an early submission for the necessary consents.

- 7.27 However, it is important that, when considering a new sign, a business should be well advised. Whilst free planning advice is available from East Lothian Council through the daily Duty Planner (Tel 01620 827216 Mon - Fri 9.00am - 1.00pm) additional guidance should be made available to business owners to advise them on quality signage. It is proposed that East Lothian Council prepare a shopfront and advertisement design guide and makes this available to prospective businesses.
- 7.28 Planning law permits advertisement consent to be granted for only a maximum period of five years. This allows for deteriorating signs to be replaced in the interests of the overall quality of the streetscape. However, not all businesses renew their advertisement consent after the time period expires. A survey of businesses in Musselburgh town centre identified that 39 business premises had external signage that had lapsed after five years and had not been renewed and 78 premises had no permission for the present appearance of their premises. Businesses that were part of nationally owned companies were more likely to have the necessary permissions than independent businesses.
- 7.29 The annual retail survey undertaken by East Lothian Council includes a subjective assessment of the condition and appearance of ground floor business premises in the town centre. Most are classified as in good or fair condition with only 4% classified as in poor condition.
- 7.30 It is proposed that once guidelines have been prepared, approved and publicised, a process of planning enforcement action is undertaken to ensure that business premises obtain or renew planning permission or advertisement consent as necessary. Painting a property that lies within a designated conservation area a different colour also requires planning permission and some commercial premises do not have a current permission for their colour schemes. Putting this right will allow an opportunity for commercial property owners and occupiers to revise their signage and contribute to an overall improvement in the appearance of the town centre.

7.31 An example of the type of improvements that could be made to shops is illustrated below using existing premises at High Street as an example. This was prepared by Musselburgh Conservation Society as an example of how signage could be improved to help the overall appearance of the town centre:



## Maximising Funding Opportunities

- 7.32 Where projects are proposed that would enhance the overall environment of Musselburgh town centre, all potential sources of funding should be explored. East Lothian Council needs to make its money go as far as it can by drawing in private and other funding partners to achieve maximum investment. To implement all the project ideas outlined for the town centre streets would require more funding than is likely to be available. Consequently, not all projects may be able to be implemented in the lifetime of this strategy. However, the inclusion of projects within an overall strategy will help to make the case for additional funding if opportunities arise.

### Key Points/Issues

- ***Musselburgh lacks a pedestrian gathering place and the most suitable location for a new town square is at the mercat cross outside the tolbooth/Town Hall. A comprehensive public realm improvement between Pinkie Pillars and the Town Hall would help to improve the image of Musselburgh and encourage footfall and interest in the east end of the town centre;***
- ***The other main streets in the town centre require regular maintenance work to footways; small scale enhancement including street furniture coordination and limited tree planting;***
- ***The area surrounding the Brunton complex would benefit from an environmental improvement scheme;***
- ***The riverside from the war memorial by the Hollies to Shorthope Street requires environmental improvement to upgrade the path, repair the retaining wall at the war memorial and provide a disabled ramp down to the path;***
- ***Improvement to the link between High Street and the riverside along Shorthope Street, including its south car park, would help to encourage people to use the link and better integrate the riverside to the town centre as well as enhancing the appearance of the town centre;***
- ***The street clutter survey has resulted in a reduction in the amount of redundant street furniture, fly posting and litter in the town centre.***

### Proposed Actions

- ***Identify long-term environmental improvement actions for the area between the tolbooth and town hall that can create a high quality pedestrian civic space as well as reproviding parking (Aims 1,2,3);***
- ***Identify an environmental improvement action plan for each of the main streets in the town centre for coordinated street***

*furniture and small scale environmental improvement work. Depending on availability of resources these may be implemented in phases as and when replacement is required. (Aim 3);*

- *Develop ideas for environmental improvement around the Brunton Hall in association with the community and businesses for implementation when resources permit (Aim 3);*
- *Develop ideas for environmental improvement at the war memorial including disabled access to the riverside path in association with the community and businesses for implementation when resources permit (Aim 3);*
- *Identify small scale environmental improvements to the south car park on Shorthope Street to improve its appearance and make it more attractive to users. Encourage building owners in Shorthope Street to undertake guttering repairs and repainting to a coordinated colour scheme to substantially enhance the appearance of the street. (Aims 2,3);*
- *Undertake an annual street clutter survey to identify where small scale improvement is required to improve the appearance of the town centre. (Aim 3);*
- *Prepare a Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Musselburgh Conservation Area*
- *Prepare and publicise shopfront and advertisement design guidelines.*

## **8 Community Facilities and Safety**

- 8.1 There is an extensive range of community facilities in Musselburgh town centre. The main buildings are the recently refurbished Brunton, including its halls and theatre, the Town Hall and tolbooth and the Fisherrow Centre. There is also the Musselburgh Library in Bridge Street and a number of church halls. Whilst the Brunton complex is well used the Town Hall is less so. The town hall complex comprises the old steeple, the old tolbooth, its Georgian extension and the Town Hall from 1900 that lies behind. The tolbooth in particular is an underused, but historically interesting building dating from 1590 and features in most images of Musselburgh town centre. It used to house the town cells and court room and the cells remain in the building. As a tall, narrow building with vaulted ceilings it is a difficult building to reuse. East Lothian Council does not have any current plans for the Town Hall/tolbooth complex other than to continue to rent out the commercial units on its ground floors, but the building offers opportunities for additional use.
- 8.2 The town centre survey identified that people were concerned about groups of young people particularly in the vicinity of the Brunton, and weekend evenings were perceived as a time when a number of

respondents felt threatened in the town centre. There are general concerns about drug taking.

- 8.3 Crime statistic analysis for the year to November 2011 showed that 27% of all crime in Musselburgh happened in the town centre. The most common are crimes of dishonesty followed by minor assault/breach of the peace and fire raising/vandalism. The most common street for crime is North High Street.<sup>17</sup>
- 8.4 Crime is the responsibility of the Police and specific locations raised in the town centre survey have been the subject of increased police activity. It may be possible to help to design out crime as part of environmental improvement work and where this is proposed consultation with the police should assist the design process.
- 8.5 Musselburgh town centre is covered by closed circuit television cameras controlled by East Lothian Council linked to a 24-hour control centre.

## **9 Management of Musselburgh Town Centre**

- 9.1 East Lothian Council is responsible for managing much of the overall environment of Musselburgh town centre. Street clutter, litter, tree maintenance, fly posting, potholes, damaged street furniture, graffiti, noise nuisance and dog fouling can all be reported direct to the Council and will be passed to internal departments to respond to. The Council operates a Community Warden scheme and contact can be made via the Safer Communities Team with the local warden who patrols the town centre to raise any issues of concern.
- 9.2 Musselburgh town centre is cleaned and inspected on a daily basis with litter picking on green areas and regular grounds maintenance in the summer. Commercial waste is collected either by an authorised commercial waste company or by East Lothian Council. There are several recycling points in the town centre including at Shorthope Street.
- 9.3 Matters relating to planning and economic development and business start up are dealt with by East Lothian Council's Services for Communities and Support Services departments. Economic Development provide advice, support and training opportunities for existing businesses through the Business Gateway service at Queen Margaret University's Business Innovation Zone in Musselburgh.
- 9.4 From time to time sources of funding become available, usually on a bidding basis, from funders such as the lottery or agencies of the Scottish Government. Timescales are usually tight and it is important to have potential projects identified that can be included in funding bids. A number of the projects identified in this strategy fall into this category and can be put forward, either by East Lothian Council or by local community groups, for funding as resources become available.

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<sup>17</sup> Musselburgh Town Centre 1 November 2010 to 31 October 2011, Lothian and Borders Police and East Lothian Council

### **Key Points/Issues**

- ***Much of the town centre environment is managed by East Lothian Council and it is important that stakeholders and the public know who to contact to report issues.***

### **Proposed Actions**

- ***Develop and publicise a key contacts list for issues with regard to the management of Musselburgh town centre (Aims 1,2).***

## **10 Conclusions**

- 10.1 Musselburgh town centre is a busy and vibrant area. However, much of the traffic and associated activity that contributes to its busy feel is through traffic and therefore may not be contributing to the town centre economy. A 24 hour supermarket opening on the edge of Musselburgh's designated town centre has altered the dynamics of retailing in Musselburgh but so far the town centre appears to be coping. The presence of the new supermarket within Musselburgh means that some of its customers who may previously have shopped out of Musselburgh at the Jewel or Fort Kinnaird may now find what they want within Musselburgh. The proximity of the new supermarket to the town centre, where it is within easy walking distance, allows people to use both. For the town centre to thrive it needs footfall, people on the street able to use its services. The independent annual footfall measure undertaken in 2011 indicated that Musselburgh increased its weekly footfall by 5% over 2010. Figures since 2008 show a broadly static footfall. However, the trend throughout the UK is of decreasing footfall in town centres so Musselburgh should not be complacent.
- 10.2 The challenge for the centre is therefore to make itself more appealing to people to use it. The town has many advantages - day visitors to the races, Levenhall Links, golf, the theatre for example, plus those who are attracted to the town for walking or cycling and for its particular form of retail – Musselburgh has more larger stores and discount stores than the other towns in East Lothian and attracts people from other parts of East Lothian in addition to the small independent shops that attract people for their particular goods and services. A further challenge is to ensure that more of the traffic that is in the town centre is encouraged to be there for business rather than just passing through.
- 10.3 To do so, a series of planned interventions are required to make the town more attractive to users, to allow for appropriate redevelopment and new town centre uses that can support the town centre, to attract and retain visitors for longer, to make its car parks more available and to market itself better. If these opportunities are taken then over the next five years Musselburgh town centre should continue to perform well and keep its ground floor shops and services in business, contributing to a lively local economy. The new residents that are coming to Musselburgh to live in



houses at Pinkie Mains and Wallyford will then provide further marketing opportunities for the town centre, where it will be important to encourage them to make Musselburgh town centre their preferred shopping area rather than use other out of town facilities.

10.4 Paragraph 3.1 referred to Scottish Government research based criteria for a successful town centre and the following section compares Musselburgh town centre with these criteria. The successful town centre:

1. Contains a mix of retail, leisure, entertainment and cultural facilities.

*Musselburgh has a good mix of retail, cultural facilities in the form of the racecourse and the theatre. Leisure activities include 17 pubs, restaurants and cafés. Musselburgh fares well on this count.*

2. Has its own identity and sense of place defined by quality of design and focus on public realm

*Musselburgh has its own distinctive town centre buildings, particularly at its east end and in Bridge Street and these contribute to its image and identity. However, it lacks a public gathering place and a place of distinct quality in public realm, which is something that should be rectified by the proposals for a new civic town square at the tolbooth/town hall. With defining visual elements including the possibility of a Roman figure, this would help emphasise the sense of place and identity that the town currently lacks.*

3. Has a good retail mix, choice, diversity, anchor stores and preferred shopper formats

*Musselburgh has a good mix of national and independent stores though choice is limited in some areas. Its main anchor stores are Tesco, M&Co., Boots and B&M Bargains. Boots and M&Co. have been in Musselburgh for many years whereas the discount stores are more recent but are the preferred shopper formats of today and are anchor stores in many town centre across the country.*

4. Low vacancy rates, low turnover, good physical fabric and fascias, competitiveness and capacity for change.

*Musselburgh currently has a low vacancy rate and turnover of businesses is also fairly low. However, the physical fabric of some of the town centre buildings could be significantly improved. Shop fascias in some cases are out of proportion to the size of the commercial unit and collectively fail to exhibit much uniformity. There is room for improvement for the town on this measure. With regard to competitiveness, Musselburgh would appear to have demonstrated this by increasing footfall at a time of economic recession. The fast turnover of premises when they become vacant is a further indicator of its competitiveness.*

10.5 With regard to capacity for change, the Musselburgh town centre offering has changed over time, with less retail and more services, all within the same geographical area. The physical appearance of the streets has

changed little and there is capacity within the eastern end of the town centre to accommodate change by introducing a pedestrian civic space. This would provide a setting to the townscape around the tolbooth/town hall, encourage people to stay in the area and create an improved image for the town centre. It would also provide a good opportunity for additional events in the town centre. There are few redevelopment opportunities that would bring in new commercial premises. If any opportunity arose, units of a different size to those available in the town centre would offer the opportunity for change that would enhance the town's offering.

- 10.6 Musselburgh will not be immune to wider social and economic trends that will be very challenging for at least the initial part of the strategy period. Because it is on a busy through route and is well served by public transport, the town centre will always have people in it. The challenge for the town centre is to encourage them to spend time and money in the centre to the benefit of its local economy. With additional public and private investment it can ensure that it retains its position as the main town centre in East Lothian. The Action Plan shows the actions that should be taken forward to implement the strategy over its 5-year period.

## **11 The Way Forward for the Town Centre Strategy**

- 11.1 The Town Centre Strategy for Musselburgh has been drawn up and prepared following extensive discussion with the Musselburgh Town Centre Task Group and has been informed by the public engagement undertaken as a *Planning for Real*<sup>®</sup> exercise which involved around 1,200 people.
- 11.2 Notwithstanding the involvement of Forum members and public in the earlier consultation and survey, further consultation with the wider public and business community should also be undertaken on this draft strategy to ensure everyone has an opportunity to make their views known and for these to be considered prior to its final agreement.
- 11.3 Once approved, some of the actions will be within the gift of East Lothian Council to deliver. Others will not and those organisations that will be expected to contribute towards the implementation of the strategy should also be involved in monitoring its effectiveness, with a view to helping to advise on its eventual replacement. This might be done by the establishment of a local steering group or town team with community, business and East Lothian Council membership.
- 11.4 East Lothian Council will seek opportunities for its capital funding to go further by highlighting suitable projects that support the town centre for any additional funding that may be available from other sources such as the National Lottery; Historic Scotland; Central Scotland Green Network; European and other Scottish Government sources.
- 11.5 The actions contained in the action plan all have financial implications whether for East Lothian Council, private property owners, businesses or the community. Major environmental improvement work, such as that

proposed between the tolbooth/town hall and the Pinkie Pillars, is expensive and likely to be in the range of £700-900k.

- 11.6 In the current economic climate there is much speculation about the future of town centres such as Musselburgh. By agreeing a strategy, all those concerned with the future of Musselburgh town centre can work together to achieve the same aims to ensure that the town centre will be in a better position to meet the challenges of the next five years.

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# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy 2013-2018

## Action Plan proposals for consideration

	ACTION	DELIVERY	HOW	WHEN
1	Public consultation on the Town Centre Strategy.	ELC (Policy & Projects)	Four week period for comments. All comments received to be considered and amendments to the strategy proposed where accepted. Final Approval by East Lothian Council	2013
	<b>Viability of Musselburgh Town Centre</b>			
2	Monitor town centre economic performance through annual land use surveys; business surveys and footfall measures	ELC (Policy and Projects and Economic Development) Teams	Annual Commercial Ground Floor Survey undertaken by East Lothian Council; Annual Footfall Measure undertaken by Independent Company.	2013-2018
3	Regular marketing campaigns, including branding, to encourage people to use the town centre	Business Community ELC (Economic Development)	Develop a regular series of marketing campaigns for the town centre	2013-2018
	<b>Diversity of Land Uses in Town Centre</b>			
4	Encourage the re-use of vacant upper floor floorspace above commercial premises	Private Owners and ELC (Housing Strategy and Development)	Empty Homes Officer role to contact property owners and encourage through advice and any grants that may become available.	2013/14
5	Review Local Development Plan planning policies that affect town centres	East Lothian Council (Policy & Projects)	East Lothian Local Development Plan Main Issues Report followed by Proposed Plan. Opportunities for public representation following consultation.	2013
	<b>Tourism and Leisure</b>			

	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>HOW</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
6	Encourage better marketing of Musselburgh and develop a distinctive branding for the town	Community Business Community East Lothian Council (Economic Development)	Community, business community and East Lothian Council working together to coordinate and develop marketing and branding proposals	2013-2018
7	Review the existing heritage information available to visitors in Musselburgh and develop a town trail using new technology where appropriate	Community East Lothian Council (Culture and Community Development; Policy and Projects and Economic Development)	Review existing heritage information available in Musselburgh town centre. Consider feasibility of developing an additional town trail using new technology where appropriate as well as more traditional methods	2014/15
8	Review path links to Musselburgh town centre and improve directional signage and other small scale improvements	ELC (Transportation; Landscape & Countryside)	Survey of existing path routes to identify where improvements are required. Implementation as resources permit.	2014/15
9	Encourage events and attractions in Musselburgh town centre	Community Business community East Lothian Council (Economic Development)	Working together to encourage more events and attractions in Musselburgh town centre throughout the strategy period	2013-2018
10	Installation of town centre information and marketing boards at car parks	Business Community	Business Community to evaluate benefits of marketing to visitors and users of town centre	2013-15
<b>Transport and Parking</b>				
11	Monitor air quality issues in Musselburgh town centre and extend the operation and influence of the SCOOT system to improve traffic flow in the town centre	East Lothian Council (Environmental Protection; Transportation)	Continuous monitoring underway and will inform actions to improve air quality issues including adjustments to the SCOOT system	2013-2018
12	Review the number and location of bus stops throughout Musselburgh town centre to reduce bus stop congestion and build up of buses at a single stop	East Lothian Council (Transportation)	Review of existing bus stops and proposals for additional stops as necessary	2013
13	Review Musselburgh town centre car park	East Lothian Council	Review of car park operations.	2013/14

	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>HOW</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
	operation to introduce short stay to increase turnover and parking availability at some car parks. Review associated parking enforcement.	(Transportation)		
	<b>Development Opportunities</b>			
14	Review the potential use of the vacant Millhill Stables site.	East Lothian Council (Estates; Policy and Projects)  Community	Consider the practicality of potential uses for this town centre site	2013
	<b>Built Environment and Public Spaces</b>			
15	Environmental Improvements: High Street East of the Tolbooth/Town Hall:	East Lothian Council (Policy and Projects; Transportation and Landscape and Countryside)	Develop proposals for a high quality pedestrian civic space in the area between the Town Hall/Tolbooth and the old post office and relocation of existing parking to the area between the old post office and the Pinkie Pillars. Detailed consultation with affected residents and businesses and wider public consultation. Implementation will depend on the availability of resources and prioritisation of projects.	2013-15
16	Environmental Improvements: High Street, Kilwinning Place to Rennie Bridge:  Prepare an environmental improvement project to consider and include the following works; Street furniture coordination; planting street trees in the wide footway on the south side of High Street; banner arms to lamp posts; improvements to public wynds and closes.	East Lothian Council (Policy and Projects; Transportation)	Plan to be prepared following detailed consultation. Implementation will depend on the availability of resources and prioritisation of projects.	2013-18
17	Environmental Improvements: Bridge Street:	East Lothian Council (Policy	Plan to be prepared following detailed consultation.	2013-18

	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>HOW</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
	Prepare an environmental improvement project to consider and include the following works; Street furniture coordination; banner arms to lamp posts; improvements to the access to the river at the war memorial and steps and wall repair work; environmental improvement to the area around The Brunton and the junction with North High Street. Encourage reinstatement of boundary walls at 18-20 Bridge Street	and Projects; Transportation; Culture and Community Development; Landscape and Countryside)  Private owners of property	Implementation will depend on the availability of resources and prioritisation of projects.	
18	Environmental Improvements: North High Street:  Prepare an environmental improvement project to consider and include the following works; Street furniture coordination; banner arms to lamp posts; installation one or two sections of wider pavement blisters to facilitate crossings.  Consider rebranding North High Street to recognise Fisherrow in its name.	East Lothian Council (Transportation; Policy and Projects; Landscape and Countryside)	Plan to be prepared following detailed consultation. Implementation will depend on the availability of resources and prioritisation of projects.	2013-18
19	Environmental improvements: Shorthope Street  Prepare an environmental improvement project to consider and include the following works;  Improve the appearance of the south car park to make it more attractive to users by way of wall or railings and general tidying up; encourage repairs as necessary to private buildings and a coordinated colour scheme to enhance the appearance of the street.	East Lothian Council (Policy and Projects; Transportation and Landscape and Countryside)  Private Owners	Plan to be prepared following detailed consultation. Implementation will depend on the availability of resources and prioritisation of projects.  Discuss ideas for environmental improvements to private property on Shorthope Street for discussion with private owners.	2013-15
20	Encourage the owners of some painted buildings to	East Lothian Council (Policy	Identify key painted buildings and prepare advisory	2014-17

	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>HOW</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
	consider alternative colour schemes to enhance the town centre	& Projects) Private Owners	colour schemes for consideration by private owners.	
21	Undertake an annual street clutter survey to identify where small scale improvement is required to improve the appearance of the town centre.	East Lothian Council (Landscape and Countryside; Transportation) Community	Annual walk around survey by East Lothian Council officials and local community representatives to identify and rectify identified problems.	Annual
22	Undertake a Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Musselburgh Conservation Area to include a review of its boundaries	East Lothian Council (Policy & Projects) with support from Musselburgh Conservation Society	Preparation of conservation area appraisal for approval by East Lothian Council.	2013-14
23	Encourage the improvement of shopfronts and signage throughout the town centre.	East Lothian Council (Policy and Projects and Economic Development) Business Community	Prepare and publicise shopfront and advertisement design guidance for commercial properties in the town centre.	2013-17
	<b>Community Facilities and Safety</b>			
24	Develop, publicise and maintain a key contacts list for issues with regard to the management of Musselburgh town centre	East Lothian Council (Economic Development)	Contact list to be prepared by East Lothian Council and publicised locally by community and business community. Make available on East Lothian Council web page	2013



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# Summary Document

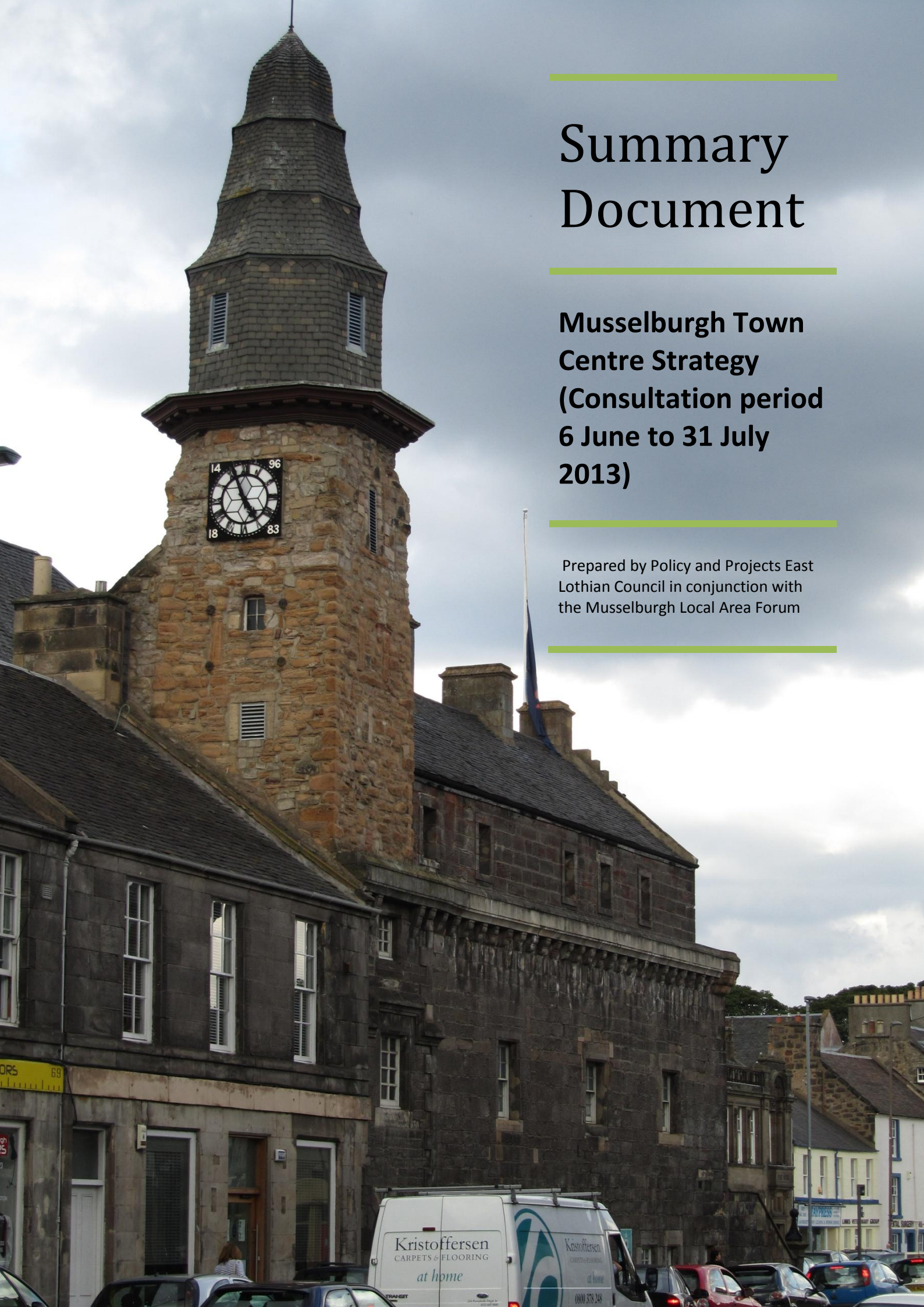
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**Musselburgh Town  
Centre Strategy  
(Consultation period  
6 June to 31 July  
2013)**

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Prepared by Policy and Projects East  
Lothian Council in conjunction with  
the Musselburgh Local Area Forum

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## Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy - Consultation Summary

### Background

- 1 A Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy has been prepared by East Lothian Council in conjunction with the Musselburgh Town Centre Task Group, part of the Musselburgh Local Area Forum<sup>1</sup>.
- 2 The task group undertook a comprehensive community consultation on Musselburgh town centre 2011. This involved the use of a large model of Musselburgh town centre that toured various locations within the town and a survey of town centre users. Over 1,200 people were involved in this consultation. The results helped in the preparation of this Town Centre Strategy.
- 4 The Strategy suggests ways in which all those who have an interest in Musselburgh town centre can undertake improvements that will help its economy and appearance. It has four aims which are outlined below.

#### *Strategy Aims*

1. *To keep Musselburgh town centre busy and vibrant whilst taking actions that promote additional business*
2. *To encourage improvements to support existing businesses and those who use the town centre and encourage investment*
3. *To improve the appearance of the town centre which is the unique selling point of the town.*
4. *To explain more of the town's history and heritage.*

### Consultation on the Strategy

- 5 The Council is asking for feedback on the Draft Strategy and Action Plan for the town. You can have your say by completing the consultation questionnaire or by taking part in one of the workshop sessions being organised for local businesses, residents and other interested parties (see [www.eastlothianconsultations.gov.uk](http://www.eastlothianconsultations.gov.uk) for both the consultation questionnaire and for details of workshops).

This paper is a Consultation Summary. The full Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy is available as follows:

- Paper Copies - Musselburgh and Wallyford Libraries; The Brunton and the Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre as well as at John Muir House in Haddington.
- On the web at [http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/homepage/231/have\\_your\\_say](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/homepage/231/have_your_say)
- Or by phoning 01620 827264

The closing date for the completion of consultation questionnaires is Wednesday 31 July 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> Members of the Task Group include local Councillors, officers of East Lothian Council, Musselburgh and Inveresk Community Council, Windsor Park Tenants and Residents Association, Musselburgh Business Association, Queen Margaret University, Musselburgh Conservation Society, Inveresk Village Society and others.

## **Limitations**

- 6 A Strategy Action Plan has been developed which outlines the actions needed to deliver the Strategy, it also includes estimated costs for delivering each of these actions. It is important to note that not all of the actions proposed in the Action Plan are for East Lothian Council to undertake. The community and businesses have an important role to play too. The Strategy is intended to encourage partners to work together to keep Musselburgh town centre a lively and welcoming place.
- 7 It is also important to recognise that the Council does not have unlimited resources to resolve all issues in the town centre. Whilst the Council has identified a capital budget for spend in East Lothian's town centres, including Musselburgh, it requires this money to make a positive difference to the town centre and improve its economy.
- 8 The responses received to the consultation will therefore be used to help the Council determine its own priorities for investment in Musselburgh town centre.

## Summary of Draft Strategy

### 8 The VISION

The VISION for Musselburgh Town Centre for the next five years is:

***In 2018 Musselburgh town centre will be a clean and pleasant environment that attracts people to the town for shopping, business and leisure. Musselburgh's central streets will be attractive and well maintained and people will enjoy using the town's public spaces. The town's extensive history and heritage will be able to be better understood by its visitors and Musselburgh will be marketed as a destination with easy to find parking, a good range of cafes, pubs and restaurants, places to visit and be a pleasant place to visit and in which to spend time.***

### 9 Main Issues

Among the main issues for Musselburgh town centre that were identified by respondents to the 2011 community consultation were;

- The whole town centre needs a facelift, both streetscape improvements to street furniture and pavements and smartening up the appearance of shops and buildings were mentioned.
- There is a need for a bigger and better range of shops in the town centre.
- It is difficult to find a parking space in Musselburgh town centre and more parking should be created
- The town centre is congested with traffic and alternative routes should be looked at. Improving walking and cycling routes to High Street.
- Community space should be created for events and activities outside the Town Hall and also outside the Brunton and by the river at Shorthope Street
- The town should make more of its history and heritage, highlighting the historic buildings around the Town Hall and making better links between High Street and the River Esk.
- There is crime and anti-social behaviour in the town centre at particular times especially at weekend evenings

10 The Draft Strategy looks at Musselburgh town centre's importance in the context of East Lothian; the diversity of the commercial businesses operating in the town centre; tourism and leisure; traffic and parking; its buildings and public spaces, community facilities and safety and the management of the town centre.

11 Musselburgh is the main town centre in East Lothian and the town is set to grow with new housing under construction and planned. As a growing town the town centre has the opportunity to do business with more residents in future. The presence of the 24 hour Tesco affects the town centre but since it opened the number of vacant premises in the town centre has fallen and footfall in the main streets has remained broadly steady.

### **The Different Land Uses in the Town Centre**

- 12 Although the number of commercial units in the town centre remains the same, in the last 9 years the number of shops has reduced and the number of services (e.g. dry cleaners, hairdressers, banks) and leisure units (cafes, restaurants) has increased. The licensed trade sector has suffered a number of closures of both pubs and hotels in recent years some of which have changed to other uses. These general changes are also national trends.
- 13 The Strategy Action Plan suggests that vacant property above shops be identified and owners encouraged to bring them back into residential use to encourage more residents in the town centre.

### **Tourism and Leisure**

- 14 Whilst Musselburgh may not be a recognised tourist town it has a range of attractions, including the racecourse, and could encourage more visitors. People come to Musselburgh for many different reasons (including ice cream) and the town's history and heritage has recently become better known through the town museum and various interpretation boards throughout the town.
- 15 The Strategy Action Plan suggests close working between community and businesses to market Musselburgh including as a destination for a day out; a review of existing heritage information and developing a town trail from the museum, guiding visitors around the history and heritage of Musselburgh; identifying improvements to paths including signage to the town centre; and encouraging more community and commercial events in the town centre.

### **Transport and Parking**

- 16 The town centre has a high volume of traffic because there are very few alternative routes but there is little likelihood of being able to significantly reduce the traffic in the town centre in the next five years. However, it is important that vehicles are able to stop to use the town centre which means that parking needs to be more available throughout the day. Town centre car parks should be clearly signposted. Car parks could also offer businesses a marketing opportunity.
- 17 Musselburgh town centre is very well served by buses but the number of people waiting at the existing bus stops can cause congestion on the pavements.
- 18 The strategy action plan suggests reviewing Musselburgh town centre car park operation to introduce short stay to increase turnover and parking availability at some car parks; to review car parking enforcement and to review the number and location of bus stops to reduce bus stop congestion and build up of buses at a single stop. Air quality in the town centre will continue to be monitored and traffic flow improved through adjustment to the traffic lights in the town centre.

### **Development Opportunities**

- 19 There are few redevelopment opportunities in Musselburgh town centre and those that there are small or awkwardly shaped sites. Every opportunity that brings new

residents or employment or supports the town centre in other ways should be encouraged.

- 20 One development opportunity outlined in the Strategy Action Plan suggests that East Lothian Council reviews the potential use of the vacant Millhill Stables site off High Street which could be suitable for either housing, employment use or parking.

### **Built Environment and Public Spaces**

- 21 In response to concern that the town centre was looking shabby, a street clutter blitz was undertaken identifying and dealing with small scale problems in the town centre; for example, sign poles that are no longer required, accumulations of litter or weeds, loose paving slabs, unauthorised banner signs etc. It is suggested that this is an annual exercise.
- 22 The Strategy Action Plan suggests that East Lothian Council prepare detailed planning guidance for owners and occupiers of commercial buildings to help improve the external appearance of commercial buildings, including signage. Some buildings, particularly those that are painted, either have a poor appearance or are in poor condition. New colour scheme guidance could be prepared and made available to owners to consider.

For that part of Musselburgh town centre that is in the Conservation Area, a character appraisal should be prepared by East Lothian Council with support from Musselburgh Conservation Society.

- 23 The Strategy Action Plan suggests other improvements to specific streets within the town centre as follows:

#### ***North High Street***

- Coordinating the look of street furniture as it needs replaced; all lamp posts, bins, railings and traffic sign poles to be in black.
- Provision of small blisters on both sides of the road between parked vehicles to provide a place where it is safer to cross between parked vehicles (this would not be a formal zebra or pelican crossing as it would be between the existing formal crossings). The blisters could also accommodate a small tree to help soften the appearance of the street.
- Re-branding North High Street as either Fisherrow High Street or North High Street, Fisherrow with new street signs.

#### ***Bridge Street***

- Encourage the restoration of the original front boundary stone walls at the privately owned 18-20 Bridge Street
- Coordinating the look of street furniture as it needs replaced; all lamp posts, bins, railings and traffic sign poles to be in black.
- The Brunton had a £3.7m makeover internally in 2012. The area outside the Brunton could be the subject of a major environmental improvement project involving repaving in more attractive materials, a ramped access to the

theatre, artwork and new street furniture such as a bus shelter, bollards and seating. (you can view draft plans at [www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk](http://www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)) .

### ***High Street, Kilwinning Street to Rennie Bridge***

- Coordinating the look of street furniture as it needs replaced; all lamp posts, bins, railings and traffic sign poles to be in black and having the same style of seat outside the Hollies day centre. Lighting columns could be fitted with arms to allow community or promotional banners.
- Plant two small street trees in the wide pavement outside the row of shops on the south side to soften the appearance of the street.
- At the war memorial beside the Hollies it is suggested that ideas are developed for disabled access to the riverside and repairs to its steps and wall along with path improvements by the river towards the Store bridge.

### ***Shorthope Street***

- Shorthope Street links the riverside to the High Street and has two small town centre car parks and the public toilets. It is a well used street particularly by pedestrians. The car park on the south side would benefit from some tidying up and provision of boundary railings or wall to help to screen the recycling bins. The older buildings in the street would benefit from being repainted in new colour schemes to freshen up the appearance of the street.

### ***High Street, East of the Tolbooth/Town Hall***

- Most towns have a public gathering place where civic ceremonies are held and markets and other commercial activity takes place. These can be a focus for a town and a defining image for a place. Musselburgh town centre does not have such a space at the moment but the area that originally created for that function in the 18<sup>th</sup>C is still there around the mercat cross, though currently used for parking. A new permanent pedestrian only space could be created at this area with the parking relocated to underused road space towards the Pinkie Pillars. This has the potential to change both the appearance and the image of Musselburgh town centre. It also has the potential to attract more people to the town centre, to be of economic benefit to shops and businesses and to encourage the reuse of empty buildings in the area.

A detailed plan for this area has been prepared (it can be viewed at [www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk](http://www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)) and shows a pedestrian area around the mercat cross, between the Town Hall/Tolbooth and the former Post Office building. This would either be provided with a wall or railings to provide a sense of enclosure from the road, or kept more open. The space would be paved with high quality materials such as stone setts or slabs, contain seating, wi-fi and trees and would be designed to allow markets, civic gatherings and events to take place. Artwork is suggested possibly in the form of a statue of a Roman soldier to refer to Musselburgh's past and create interest and information on a town trail would be provided. The area between

the old Post Office building and the Pinkie Pillars by Loretto school would be redesigned to include additional parking as well as a service bay, taxi rank, relocated bus stop and motorbike and disabled parking.

### **Management of the Town Centre**

- 24 Much of the town centre environment is managed by East Lothian Council and it is important that stakeholders and the public know who to contact to report issues therefore the Strategy Action Plan proposes to develop and publicise a key contacts list for issues with regard to the management of Musselburgh town centre.

### **Conclusions**

- 25 Musselburgh town centre is still busy and vibrant. However, much of the traffic and associated activity that contributes to its busy feel is traffic passing through the town and therefore may not be contributing to the town centre economy. Passing traffic needs to be encouraged to stop and use the town centre which means having available parking space.
- 26 The Tesco supermarket has an influence on Musselburgh town centre, so far the town centre appears to be coping. This could be because some of its customers who may have previously shopped outside Musselburgh can now find what they want within Musselburgh and people can walk easily between the supermarket and the town centre. For the town centre to thrive it needs people to be in it who can then be tempted by the businesses which they are passing by. The number of people in the town centre has remained broadly steady since 2008. However, the trend throughout the UK is of decreasing footfall in town centres so Musselburgh should not be complacent.
- 27 Musselburgh town centre is not doing too badly but can be made better. This is important if Musselburgh town centre is to continue to be a vibrant town centre long into the future. Town centres need to adapt and be locations where activities other than retailing can take place to continue to attract people into them and to participate in the daily life of the town. Space for people to undertake these activities is important and Musselburgh has the benefit of its open spaces at the riverside but as the strategy identifies, currently lacks any kind of multi-functional pedestrian gathering place.
- 28 The challenge for the town centre is therefore to make itself more appealing to people to use it. The town has many advantages - day visitors to the races, Levenhall Links, golf, the theatre for example, plus those who are attracted to the town for walking or cycling and for its particular form of retail – Musselburgh has more large stores and discount stores than the other towns in East Lothian and attracts people from other parts of East Lothian. Its small independent shops also attract people for their particular goods and services. A further challenge is to ensure that more of the traffic that is in the town centre is encouraged to stop rather than just pass through.
- 29 The Draft Town Centre Strategy suggests actions to make the town more attractive such as repainting buildings; coordinating street furniture; removing street clutter and making improvements to spaces in the streets. It also proposes to improve parking and to market the town centre better. If these opportunities are taken then over the next five years Musselburgh town centre should continue to perform well and keep its ground floor shops and services in business, contributing to a lively local economy. The new residents that will be coming to live in Musselburgh will then provide further marketing opportunities for the town centre, where it will be important to encourage



them to make Musselburgh town centre their preferred shopping area rather than use other out of town facilities.

- 30 East Lothian Council would like your views on the proposed strategy. Not all the actions suggested are for the Council to do – the community, property owners and the business community have roles to play too, to support Musselburgh town centre. The Council is prepared to consider investment in Musselburgh town centre to support business and to help the town centre economy, but given current the financial climate, any expenditure needs to be very carefully considered.
- 31 It is unlikely that all of the suggestions in the Strategy will be able to be delivered, but their inclusion in a strategy will help to raise awareness of issues and actions and can help in future funding bids. It is important that the actions that have the most benefit for the town centre are given priority. This consultation exercise will help to inform the prioritisation process.

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

The following questions relate to the Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan.

It is suggested that you read through the Draft Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy (either the full version or the Consultation Summary) before completing this questionnaire.

You don't have to fill in all the questions - if there are questions you do not wish to answer please leave them blank.

You can hand your completed questionnaire into any of the following places:

Brunton Hall (Musselburgh)  
Musselburgh Library  
Wallyford Library  
Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre  
John Muir House (Haddington)

Or you can post it to Policy and Projects, East Lothian Council, John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 4ER

This questionnaire can also be completed online by visiting [www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk](http://www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)

\*\*\* QUESTIONNAIRES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 31st JULY 2013 \*\*\*

## Which of the following are you? (you can tick more than one)

- A resident of Musselburgh town centre
- A Musselburgh resident, but not living in the town centre
- Not a Musselburgh resident, but someone who uses Musselburgh town centre
- A business in Musselburgh town centre

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**A number of actions are being considered in relation to TOURISM & LEISURE. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Encourage close working between community & businesses to market Musselburgh - including as a destination for a day out	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Carry out a review of existing heritage information and develop a town trail from the museum, guiding visitors around the history and heritage of Musselburgh	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify improvements to paths, including signage to the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage more community and commercial events in the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**A number of actions are being considered in relation to TRANSPORT & PARKING.**

**Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Introduce some short stay car parking to some car parks to increase turnover and parking availability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Review number and location of bus stops to reduce bus stop congestion and the build up of buses at a single stop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve traffic flow by adjustment to traffic lights in town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**A number of actions are being considered in relation to DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Look at the potential use of the vacant Millhill Stables site (off the High Street) for either housing, employment use or parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify vacant properties above shops and encourage owners to bring them back into residential use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**A number of actions are being considered in relation to the BUILT ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC SPACES. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Prepare a 'conservation area character appraisal' - this will outline what is needed to preserve the special characteristics of the area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage property owners to use a proposed colour scheme for painted buildings in the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage business owners to follow planning guidance developed for businesses in the town centre - this will cover signage and alterations to shop fronts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**A number of actions are being considered in relation to certain streets / areas (see Consultation Summary for details). Please indicate the extent to which you agree with these actions.**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
General tidying up of car parking areas in and around the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Planting of a small number of trees in specific street locations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coordination of 'street furniture' (seating, lamposts, bins, bollards, etc) to improve the look of the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of list of 'key contacts' for people to approach about issues related to the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please share any comments you have about the above actions (positive or negative)**

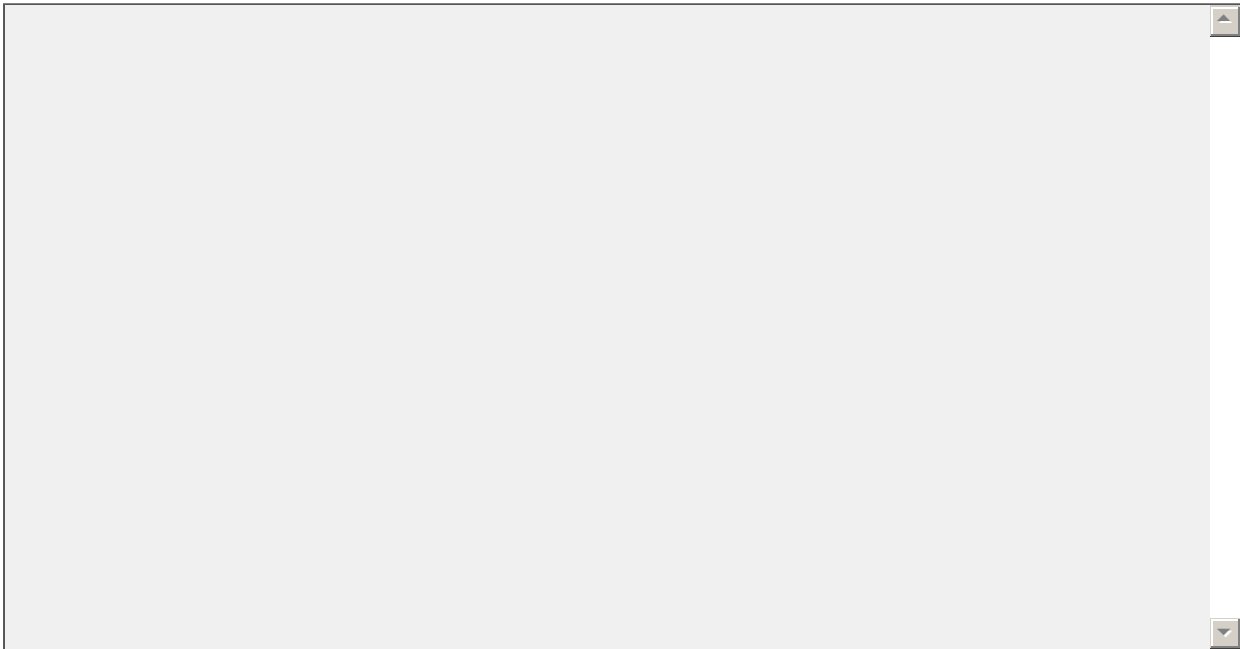
## Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**One proposal being considered is to establish a pedestrianised civic square in the Town Hall / Tolbooth area of Musselburgh High Street, East (details are contained in the Draft Strategy). This would provide an attractive area for civic gatherings, community events, markets, etc.**

**Please indicate the extent to which you agree with this action**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**





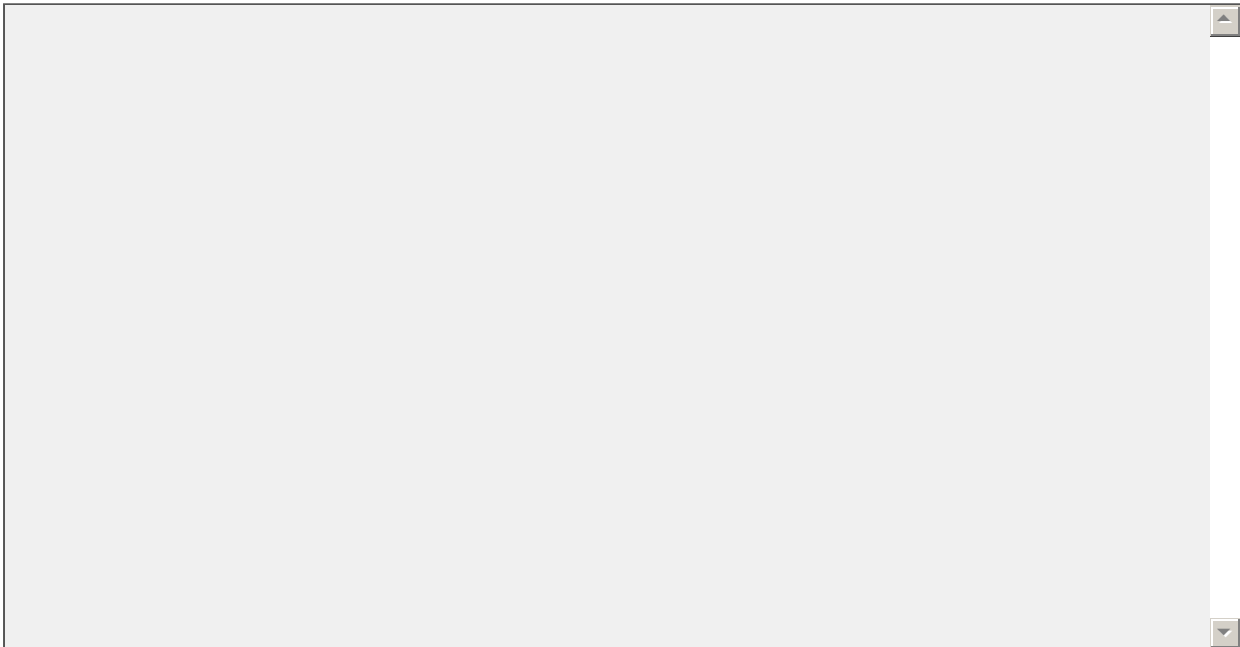
## Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**The Brunton Hall had a £3.7 million internal makeover in 2012. The area outside Brunton Hall could now potentially benefit from environmental improvements. This could involve repaving in more attractive materials, a ramped access to the theatre, artwork and new street furniture (e.g. bus shelter, bollards, seating).**

**Please indicate the extent you agree with this suggested action**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Please share any comments you may have about this proposal (positive or negative)**

A large, empty text input field with a light gray background and a thin black border. It has a vertical scrollbar on the right side, indicating it is a multi-line text area. The field is currently empty, ready for user input.

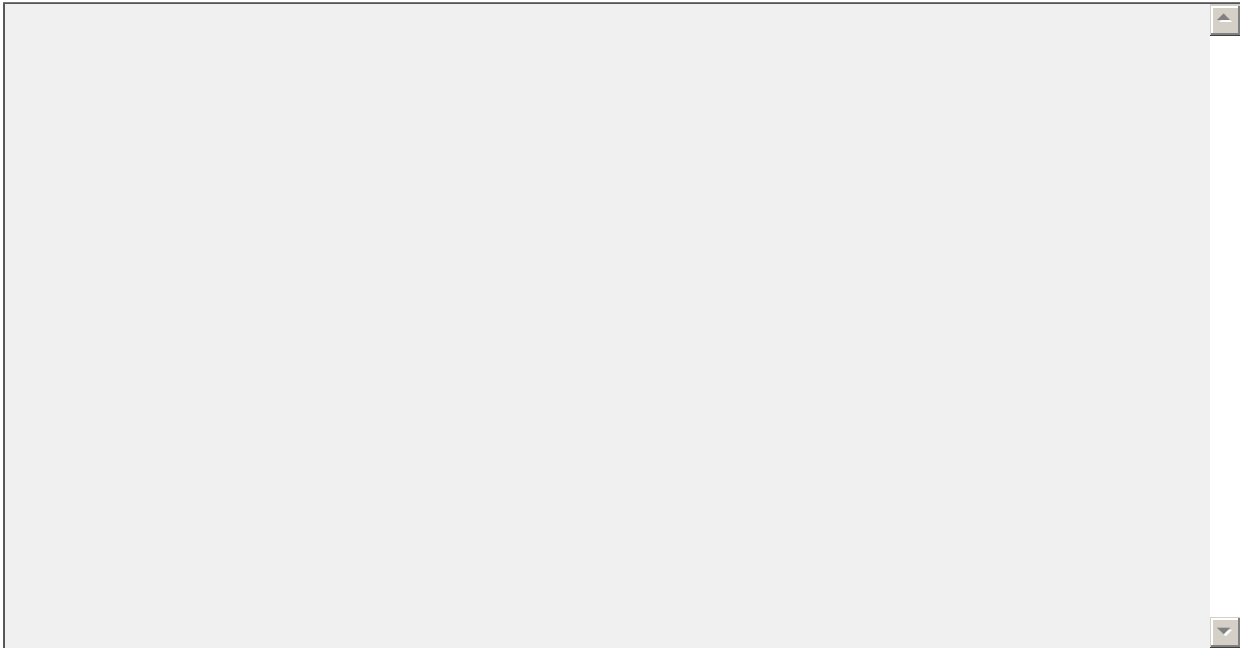
# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**Another suggested action is to re-brand the North High Street as either 'Fisherrow High Street' or 'High Street, Fisherrow'.**

**Please indicate the extent you agree with this proposal**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Please share any comments you may have about this action (positive or negative)**



# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**We have looked at potential costs for some of the Strategy actions that the Council would be responsible for.**

**Please select up to 3 actions that you think would be MOST IMPORTANT TO IMPROVING Musselburgh town centre.**

- Improve heritage information available to visitors and develop new town trails - £20,000
- Changes to town centre car parks to increase turnover of spaces - £20,000
- High Street (Tolbooth/Town Hall area) - environmental improvements to create a pedestrian area and move parking - £700,000-£900,000
- High Street (Kilwinning Place to Rennie Bridge) - environmental improvements - £50,000
- Bridge St - environmental improvements to street and war memorial area, including better access to riverside - £15,000
- Landscape the area outside Brunton Hall - up to £600,000
- North High St - environmental improvements including rebranding as Fisherrow - £25,000
- Shorthorpe Street - environmental improvements including to the car parks - £30,000

**Please select up to 3 actions that you think would be of MOST BENEFIT TO THE ECONOMY of Musselburgh town centre.**

- Improve heritage information available to visitors and develop new town trails - £20,000
- Changes to town centre car parks to increase turnover of spaces - £20,000
- High Street (Tolbooth/Town Hall area) - environmental improvements to create a pedestrian area and move parking - £700,000-£900,000
- High Street (Kilwinning Place to Rennie Bridge) - environmental improvements - £50,000
- Bridge St - environmental improvements to street and war memorial area, including better access to riverside - £15,000
- Landscape the area outside Brunton Hall - up to £600,000
- North High St - environmental improvements including rebranding as Fisherrow - £25,000
- Shorthorpe Street - environmental improvements including to the car parks - £30,000

# Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

**What impact do you think implementing the Action Plan would have? (please indicate how much you agree / disagree with the following statements)**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Local residents would be more likely to use the town centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More visitors would be encouraged to come to Musselburgh	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The economy of the town centre would benefit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
More people would be attracted to Musselburgh as a place to live	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

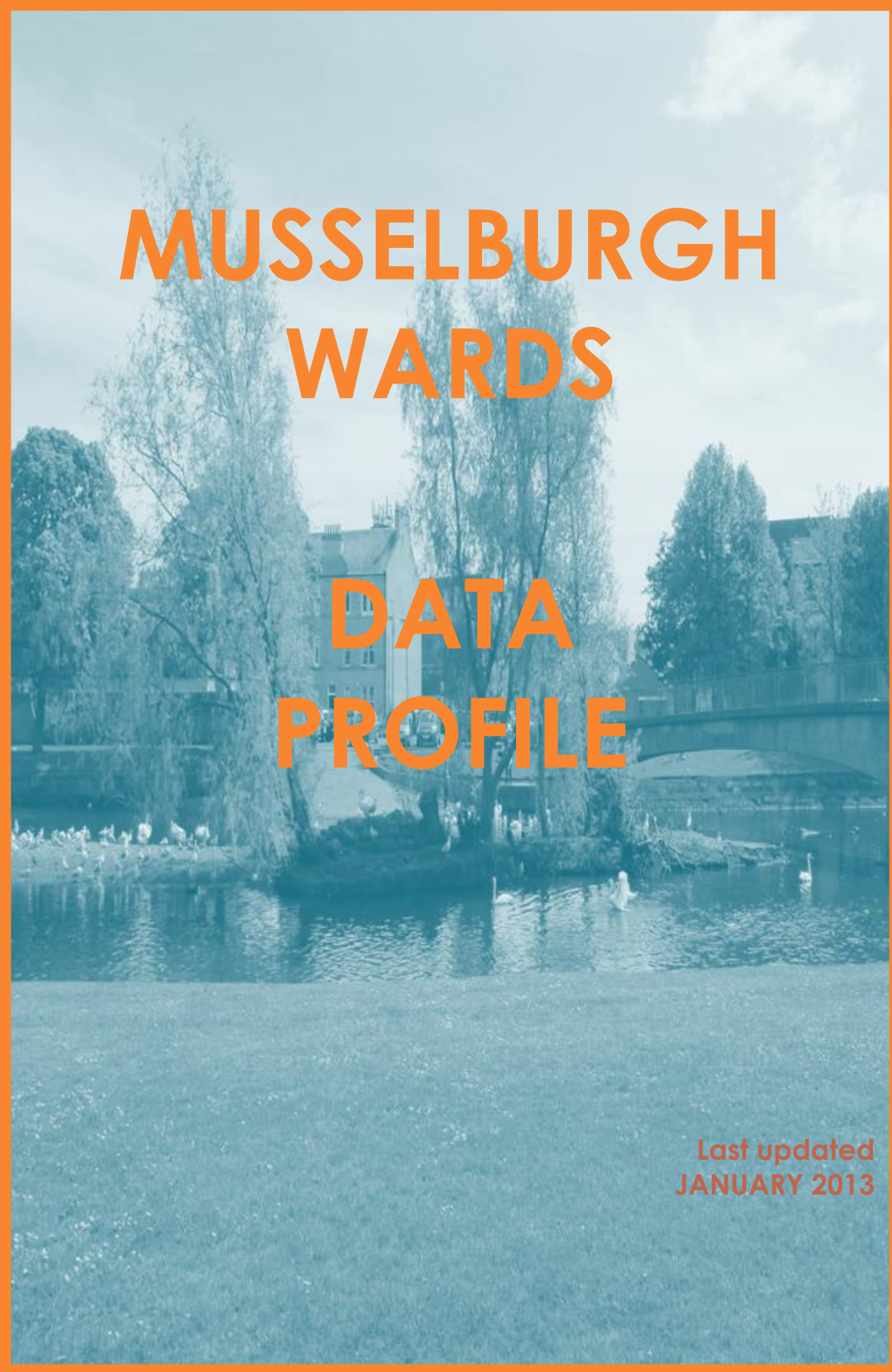
**Do you have any other comments in relation to the Draft Strategy / Action Plan or are there any actions not specified in the strategy that you would like to see being taken to improve Musselburgh town centre?**

## Musselburgh Town Centre Strategy Consultation Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to share your views. Feedback on this consultation will be available in August by visiting [www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk](http://www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk)

If you would like a copy of the consultation feedback report sent to you, please provide your home address or email address in the box below (addresses will not be used for any purpose other than sending feedback).

**Home address or email address (if you would like a copy of the consultation feedback report)**



# MUSSELBURGH WARDS

## DATA PROFILE

Last updated  
JANUARY 2013

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## Introduction and Sources

The profile has been compiled in consideration of the East Lothian Single Outcome Agreement and to reflect the priorities identified by the East Lothian Community Planning Partnership.

In preparing this profile every attempt has been made to use the most recent information publically available for each theme and therefore the information here has come from a variety of sources including :-

- **East Lothian Residents Survey 2011**– commissioned by East Lothian Council
- **East Lothian Customer Survey 2009**– commissioned by East Lothian Council  
These cover a range of issues including quality of life, community cohesion, social attitudes, community safety, contact with the Council and satisfaction with services.
- **Scotland’s Census Results Online 2001** - [www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk)
- **Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics** – [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk) part of the Scottish Governments on-going programme to improve the availability, consistency and accessibility of small area statistics in Scotland
- **Community Health and Well-being Profiles** – produced by the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) and comprising 61 indicators of health and wider determinants of health [www.scotpho.org.uk/profiles](http://www.scotpho.org.uk/profiles)
- **Scottish Schools Online** - [www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline/](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline/)
- **Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)** – – provides an analysis of the SIMD 2012and, in particular, change in each of the domains between SIMD 2009 and SIMD 2012 [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/)
- **East Lothian Council** - Information provided by relevant East Lothian Council Departments and through the Committee Management Information System
- **NOMIS** - a service provided by the Office for National Statistics, ONS, to give free access to the most detailed and up-to-date UK labor market statistics from official sources [www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)
- **Student Evaluation of Experience Survey 2012** – East Lothian Council
- **Lothian and Borders Police** – Measuring our Performance [www.lbp.police.uk/freedom-of-information/pl\\_performance.asp](http://www.lbp.police.uk/freedom-of-information/pl_performance.asp)
- **The Scottish Government** - [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/) where a range of government statistics are arranged under various key themes
- **Youth Vision 2008 – East Lothian** - <http://youthvisionel.net/>



## The Musselburgh East and West Wards

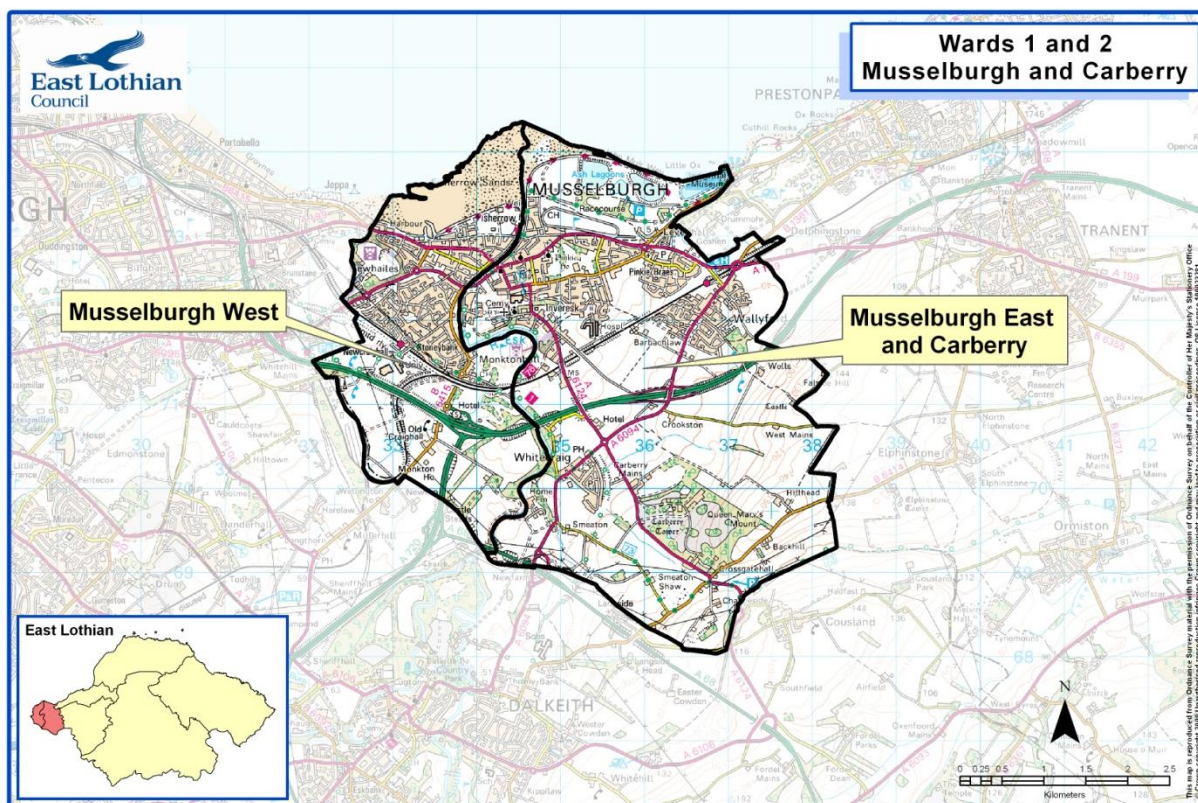
The Musselburgh Area, or Musselburgh cluster, is situated at the western end of East Lothian.

It includes the East Lothian Council multi-member wards of **Musselburgh West** and **Musselburgh East and Carberry** and includes the settlements of:-

- Musselburgh
- Wallyford
- Whitecraig
- Carberry
- Old Craighall

24,119 people live in the wards .This equates to 25% of the population of East Lothian. Across the Musselburgh wards the population has grown by only 4% since 2001, notably lower than the East Lothian growth rate of 8%.

([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))



PLEASE NOTE - Throughout this profile a number of different sources have been used to gather statistical information, which each use different boundaries and area definitions.

In this report;

- **Musselburgh East and Musselburgh West** are used to refer to the East Lothian Local Authority ward areas.
- **The Musselburgh Area** is used to refer to the combined east and west wards
- **Musselburgh, Wallyford and Whitecraig** is used to refer to the individual town, as defined by the census boundaries
- **Intermediate zones** are also used to present variations within the ward. In this case Musselburgh is divided into the **Musselburgh North zone** (covering Goosegreen and the North section of Fisherrow), **Musselburgh South zone** (covering the Stoneybank to Inveresk areas), **Musselburgh East zone** (covering the Windsor Park to Stoneybank areas), **Musselburgh West zone** (covering the Newhailes and Whitehill areas), the **Whitecraig zone** and the **Wallyford zone**.

## Population

### 24119 people live in the Musselburgh area.

(General Register of Scotland, 2011 midyear estimate)

- 25% of the population of East Lothian live within the **Musselburgh Area**
- 10107 people live in the **Musselburgh West ward**
- 14012 people live within the **Musselburgh East and Carberry ward**
  - 5602 of these people live in the separate villages of **Wallyford** (3606) and **Whitecraig** (1996)

Across East Lothian the population is growing – with a growth rate of 8% since 2001. This has not been the case within the Musselburgh Area.

- Since 2001 the population in the Musselburgh West ward has dropped by 5%
- In Musselburgh East the population has grown by 11%
- Overall for the Musselburgh Area the population has increased by 4% - unlike East Lothian as a whole

(General Register of Scotland, 2011 midyear estimate)

### How old are they?

	<b>Musselburgh East</b>	<b>Musselburgh West</b>	<b>Musselburgh total</b>	<b>East Lothian</b>
% of the population are children & young people	19%	17%	18%	19%
% of the population are of working age*	63%	62%	63%	60%
% of the population are of pensionable age	18%	21%	19%	21%

\*males aged 16-64 and females aged 16 - 60.14 years

(General Register of Scotland, 2011 midyear estimate)

- In Musselburgh West there are proportionally fewer children (aged 0-15) than there are across East Lothian
- In Musselburgh East there are proportionally fewer 'people of pensionable age' (aged 65 and over) than across East Lothian as a whole
- The Musselburgh area has a higher concentration of 'people of working age' than East Lothian as a whole
- There is also considerable variation within ward areas:
  - in the Whitecraig zone, for example, 65% of the population are of working age and only 16% are of pensionable age.
  - in the Wallyford zone by contrast there are proportionally more children (24%) and fewer people of pensionable age (12%)

## Where are they from?

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

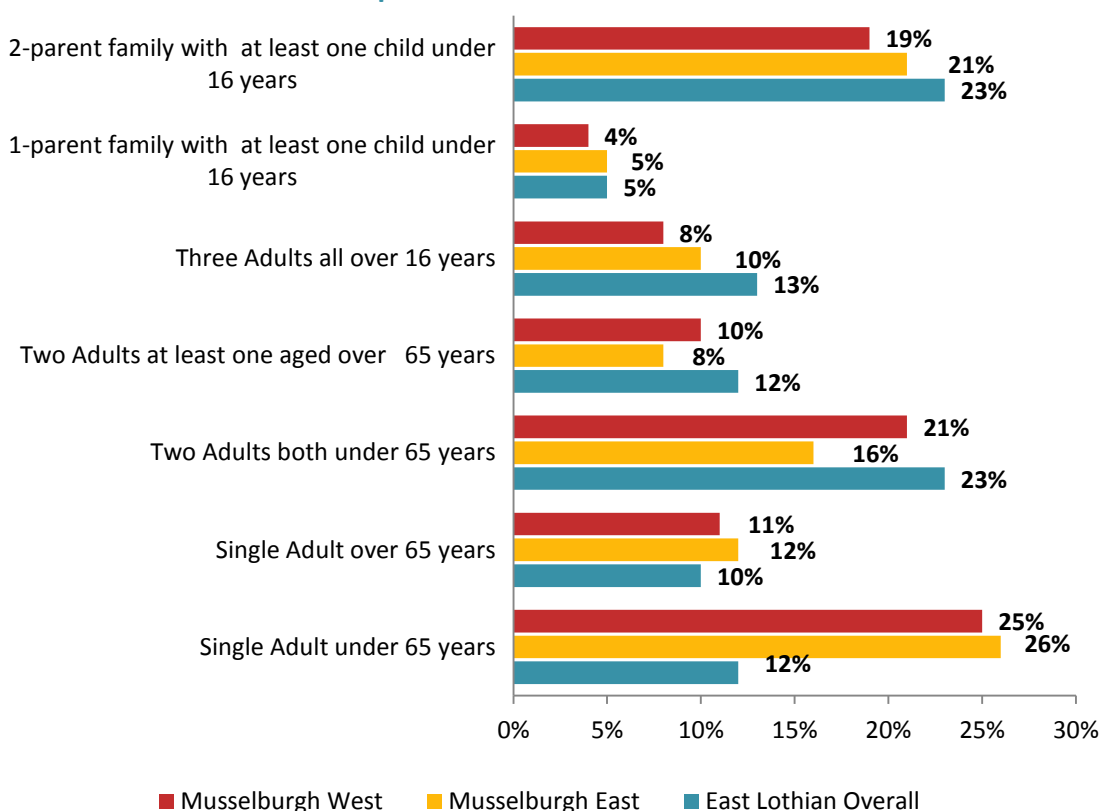
According to the most recently published census figures (2001):-

- 90% of the population within the Musselburgh area was born in Scotland (this is above the average for East Lothian and Scotland)
- 7% were born elsewhere in the UK
- 3% were born elsewhere in Europe or in another part of the world – for the rest of Scotland this figure increases to 4%

The results of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) showed that:-

- 49% of residents in the Musselburgh West and 52% in Musselburgh East have lived in East Lothian for more than 20 years. These are both slightly lower than across East Lothian as a whole(54%).

## How are their households made up?



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

The results of the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) appear to confirm the household trends recorded in the 2001 census. They show that

- more adults live alone in the Musselburgh Area than elsewhere in East Lothian
  - 25-26% of households had a single adult of working age compare to 12% overall
  - There are also proportionally more adults of pensionable age living alone than across East Lothian as a whole
- The results also seem to suggest that there are proportionally less households with dependent children across the area than across East Lothian overall

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2009 identifies concentrations of deprivation in East Lothian in Fa'side, Preston/Seton/Gosford, and Musselburgh East.

- 6 datazones in East Lothian are ranked within the 20% most deprived datazones in Scotland – 1 of these is in Musselburgh East
- This area of Wimpey (datazone S01001592) falls within the 15-20% most deprived areas of Scotland – a significant drop in ranking from 2009
- This same area is also ranked within the poorest 20% of datazones in Scotland in terms of income deprivation, employment deprivation, education deprivation and crime.

[\(www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/\)](http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/)

#### **The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)**

The SIMD is a tool used by the Scottish Government to identify concentrations of deprivation across Scotland in a consistent manner. It does this by dividing the country into 6505 datazones (each averaging around 750 people). There are 120 datazones in East Lothian.

These datazones are then ranked against key measures of deprivation – income, education, crime, health, employment, geographic access and housing – as well as by overall deprivation.

It is important to note that the SIMD only identifies concentrations of deprivation. Therefore not all people who are deprived live in a datazone highlighted by the SIMD, and not all people living within an identified datazone are deprived

## Income and Employment

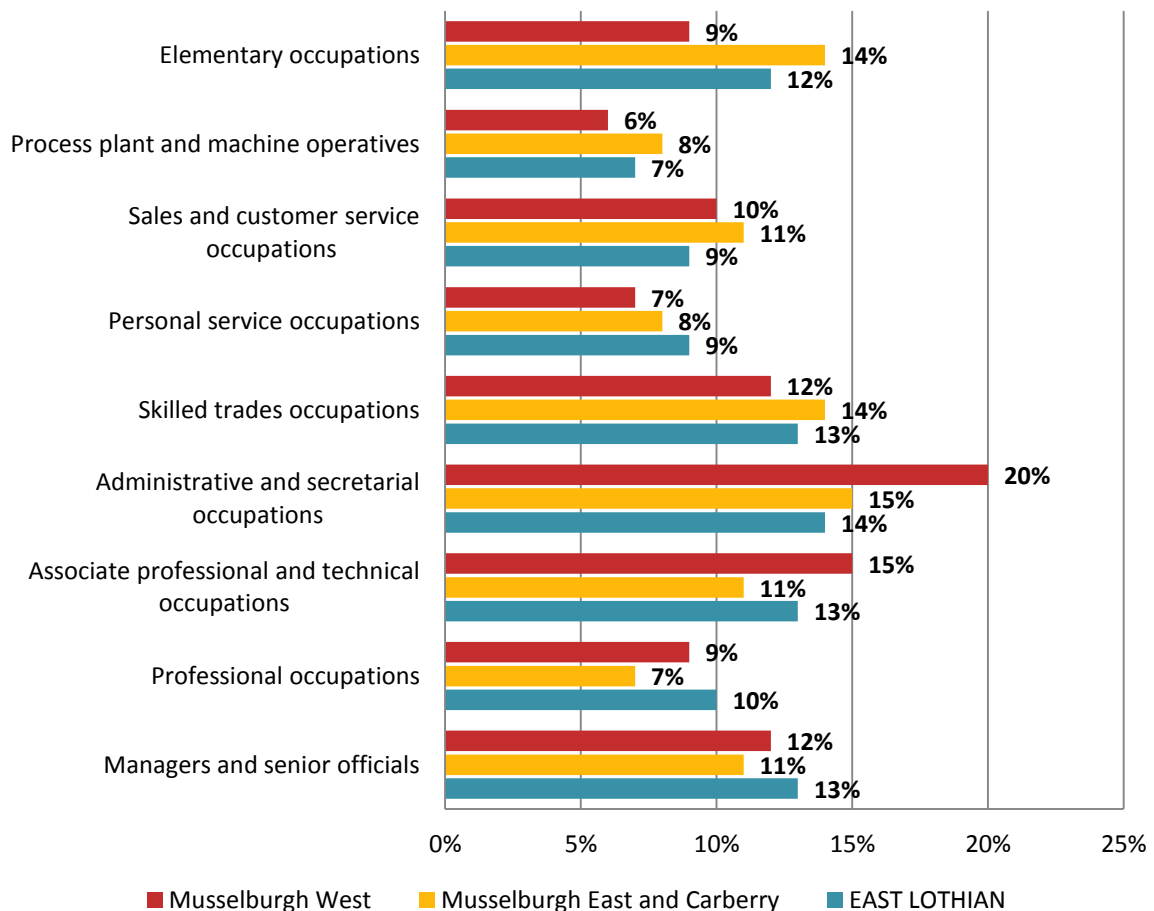
Latest population estimates (2011) suggest that 63% of people in the Musselburgh area are aged of working age (16-years to state pension age).

- 6332 in the Musselburgh West ward
- 8854 in the Musselburgh East ward

Rates of employment across the different industry sectors are generally the same as across the rest of East Lothian however:-

- In Musselburgh East more people work in 'Wholesale and Retail Trade and Repairs' than the East Lothian average – 17% compared to 14%
- In Musselburgh West a higher percentage of people work within Financial, Business and Public Services (traditionally 'white collar' occupations) than across East Lothian as a whole – 34% compared to 28%. However, as the graph below suggests, many of these will be working in administrative and technical occupations.
- Across the Musselburgh area only 1% are employed in agriculture and primary industry compared to 4% across East Lothian
- In Musselburgh East a significantly higher percentage of people work in sales, customer services and elementary occupations than elsewhere in the county.

**% of people employed across Occupation Groups**



([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

## Economic Activity in the Musselburgh area

The 2001 census indicates that :-

- In Musselburgh West 72% of people of working age were 'economically active' – meaning they were working and/or looking for work. This compares to 65% in Musselburgh East and 68% across East Lothian.

	Muss. East	Muss. West	East Lothian
% of the working age population who were 'Economically Inactive'	35%	28%	32%
Of those who were Economically Inactive :-			
% who were Retired	14%	14%	15%
% studying	3%	2%	2%
% looking after home / family	6%	4%	6%
% permanently sick / disabled	8%	6%	6%

[www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk)

- In Musselburgh West 55% of people who were economically active were employed full-time, compared to 46% in Musselburgh East and 50% across East Lothian.

- In Musselburgh West the percentage of people unemployed and looking for work who were aged 50+ was 24%, significantly higher than the Scottish and East Lothian average of 18%

- Across Musselburgh (and over the whole of East Lothian) the percentage of people 'economically inactive' and registered as permanently sick / disabled was significantly above the Scottish average of 4%. In areas of Musselburgh East this figure was even higher, rising to 10%.

### Employment Deprivation

The SIMD Employment Domain includes four indicators that act as proxies for levels of unemployment or employment deprivation:

- Working Age Unemployment Claimant Count averaged over 12 months;
- Working Age Incapacity Benefit claimants, men aged under 65, women aged under 60;
- Working Age Severe Disablement Allowance claimants;
- Working Age Compulsory New Deal participants - New Deal for the under 25s and New Deal for the 25+ not included in the unemployment claimant count

- Approximately 11.5% of the population of the Musselburgh area is considered to be employment deprived.
- The proportion of the population that is employment deprived in the Musselburgh Area is higher than for East Lothian (10%) as a whole although lower than the figure for Scotland (13%).
- The proportion of the population considered to be employment deprived in these areas ranges from 3% to 21%.

Musselburgh: datazones: proportion of the population that are Employment Deprived					
Datazone	Area	% employment deprived	Datazone	Area	% employment deprived
S01001555	Musselburgh East	15.0	S01001563	Musselburgh West	5.0
S01001560	Musselburgh East	6.0	S01001564	Musselburgh West	11.0
S01001561	Musselburgh East	9.0	S01001565	Musselburgh West	16.0
S01001568	Musselburgh East	5.0	S01001566	Musselburgh West	6.0
S01001571	Musselburgh East	18.0	S01001570	Musselburgh West	4.0
S01001574	Musselburgh East	18.0	S01001572	Musselburgh West	9.0
S01001579	Musselburgh East	15.0	S01001575	Musselburgh West	11.0
S01001580	Musselburgh East	9.0	S01001581	Musselburgh West	9.0
S01001582	Musselburgh East	14.0	S01001584	Musselburgh West	11.0
S01001583	Musselburgh East	14.0	S01001586	Musselburgh West	5.0
S01001585	Musselburgh East	16.0	S01001590	Musselburgh West	9.0
S01001588	Musselburgh East	15.0	S01001594	Musselburgh West	17.0
S01001592	Musselburgh East	21.0	S01001598	Musselburgh West	3.0
S01001593	Musselburgh East	12.0	S01001599	Musselburgh West	14.0
S01001596	Musselburgh East	9.0	S01001600	Musselburgh West	17.0
S01001597	Musselburgh East	9.0	To identify which localities are covered by each datazone go to <a href="http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx">http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx</a>		
S01001606	Musselburgh East	17.0			

([www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/](http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/))

### How are these wards coping financially?

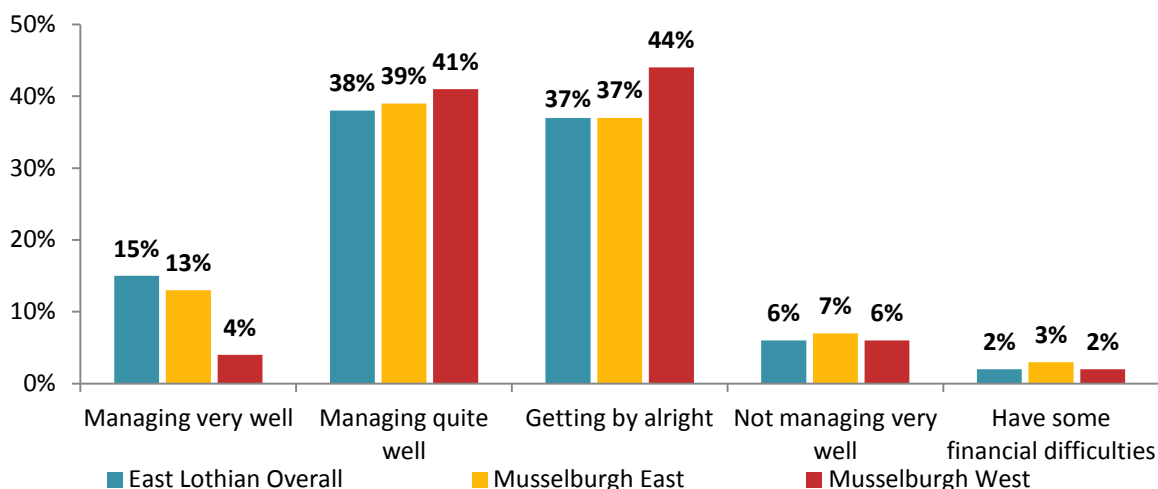
Results from the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) show that 9% of people surveyed in the Musselburgh East ward felt that poverty was either a 'serious' or 'very serious' problem in their local area (compared to 3% in Musselburgh West and across East Lothian)

- At March 2012 14.1% of the working age population across East Lothian were claiming key benefits
  - this rose to 17.6% in Musselburgh East and fell to 13.6% in Musselburgh West
  - in Musselburgh East the percentage of those aged 50-64 claiming key benefits is 20.4%, significantly above the rate for East Lothian (15.1%) or Musselburgh West (15.3%)
  - at the same time for those aged 16-24 only 12.9% in Musselburgh West were claiming key benefits, compared to 14.1% across east Lothian (and 14.3% in Musselburgh East)
- At March 2012 4.4% of the working age population in Musselburgh East were claiming Income Support (compared to 3.2% across East Lothian and Musselburgh West)
- At March 2012 17.1% of those of pensionable age in Musselburgh East, and 14.5% of those in Musselburgh West, were claiming guaranteed Pension Credits (compared to 12.7% across East Lothian)

([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

As part of the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) people across the county were also asked

**‘How would you say your household is currently managing financially?’**



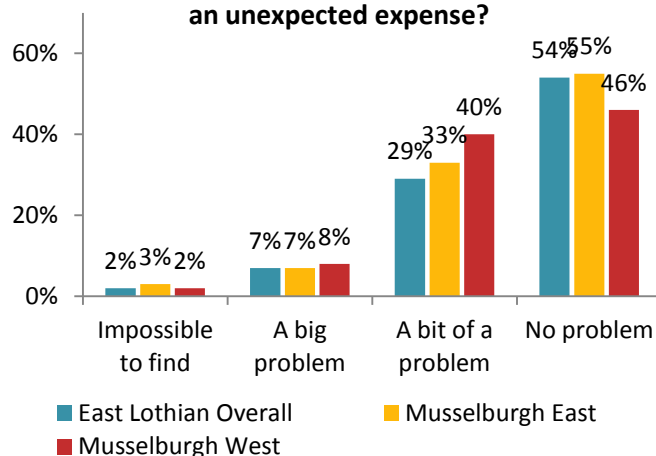
(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

Across the Musselburgh area people were less likely to say that their households were managing ‘very well’ than across East Lothian as a whole, however they were marginally more likely to say that they were ‘managing quite well’.

Elsewhere in the survey, people were asked how their household would cope with an unexpected expense of £250.

- 10% across the Musselburgh Area reported this would be either ‘a big problem’ or ‘impossible to find’.
- At the same time however 55% in Musselburgh East and 46% in Musselburgh West reported that this would be ‘no problem’ (compared to 54% across East Lothian as a whole)

**How would your household be placed if you suddenly had to find £250 to meet an unexpected expense?**



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

**Income deprivation**

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation income domain identifies areas where there are concentrations of individuals and families living on low incomes. This is done by looking at the numbers of people, both adult and children, who are receiving, or are dependent on, benefits related to income or tax credits. It is not possible to look at actual income as this data is not available at datazone level, so the indicators used in this domain are known as proxy indicators.

The income domain includes four indicators of income deprivation:

- adults and children in income support households
- adults in Guarantee Pension Credit Households
- adults and children in Job Seekers Allowance households
- adults and children in Tax Credit families



Approximately 20.3% of the population of the Musselburgh area is considered to be income deprived.

- The proportion of the population that is income deprived in the Musselburgh area is higher than for East Lothian (11%) and Scotland as a whole (13%).
- The proportion of the population that are considered to be income deprived in these areas ranges from 2% to 25%.

<b>Musselburgh: proportion of the population that are Income Deprived</b>					
<b>Datazone</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>% income deprived</b>	<b>Datazone</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>% income deprived</b>
S01001555	Musselburgh East	19.0	S01001563	Musselburgh West	5.0
S01001560	Musselburgh East	8.0	S01001564	Musselburgh West	12.0
S01001561	Musselburgh East	11.0	S01001565	Musselburgh West	14.0
S01001568	Musselburgh East	5.0	S01001566	Musselburgh West	9.0
S01001571	Musselburgh East	18.0	S01001570	Musselburgh West	2.0
S01001574	Musselburgh East	20.0	S01001572	Musselburgh West	8.0
S01001579	Musselburgh East	18.0	S01001575	Musselburgh West	14.0
S01001580	Musselburgh East	10.0	S01001581	Musselburgh West	8.0
S01001582	Musselburgh East	12.0	S01001584	Musselburgh West	12.0
S01001583	Musselburgh East	20.0	S01001586	Musselburgh West	3.0
S01001585	Musselburgh East	19.0	S01001590	Musselburgh West	10.0
S01001588	Musselburgh East	21.0	S01001594	Musselburgh West	17.0
S01001592	Musselburgh East	25.0	S01001598	Musselburgh West	2.0
S01001593	Musselburgh East	11.0	S01001599	Musselburgh West	14.0
S01001596	Musselburgh East	11.0	S01001600	Musselburgh West	18.0
S01001597	Musselburgh East	9.0	To identify which localities are covered by each datazone go to <a href="http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx">http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx</a>		
S01001606	Musselburgh East	21.0			

([www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/](http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/))

### **Jobseekers Allowance**

Jobseekers Allowance is the main benefit for people who are out of work. Although the conditions may be relaxed under certain circumstances, to get Jobseeker's Allowance a person must:

- be actively looking for work
- be able (and available) to work for at least 40 hours a week.
- attend a Jobcentre at least once every 2 weeks to ensure they have been looking for work and that nothing has changed that could affect their claim for Jobseeker's

- Approximately 4.3% of the population of the Musselburgh Area aged between 16 and 64 claimed Job Seekers Allowance during the first quarter of 2012.
- The proportion of the population claiming Job Seekers Allowance in the Musselburgh area is higher than for East Lothian (3.6%) and roughly the same as Scotland as a whole (4.3%).

- In Musselburgh East 4.5% of the working age population was claiming Job Seekers Allowance at the end of March 2012
  - This is up from 1.5% in March 2008 - a proportional growth rate of 200% (compared to 192% across East Lothian)
- In Musselburgh West 3.7% of the working age population was claiming Job Seekers Allowance at the end of March 2012
  - This is up from 1.3% in March 2008 – - a proportional growth rate of 186%
- The proportion of the population claiming Job Seekers Allowance in these areas ranges by datazone from 1% to 8.7%.
- 6.6% of those aged 16-24 in Musselburgh East, and 6.7% in Musselburgh West, were claiming Job Seekers allowance (compared to 6.9% across East Lothian)
- 2.3% of the working aged population over 50 in Musselburgh East and 2% in Musselburgh West, were claiming Job Seekers allowance (compared to 1.8% across East Lothian)

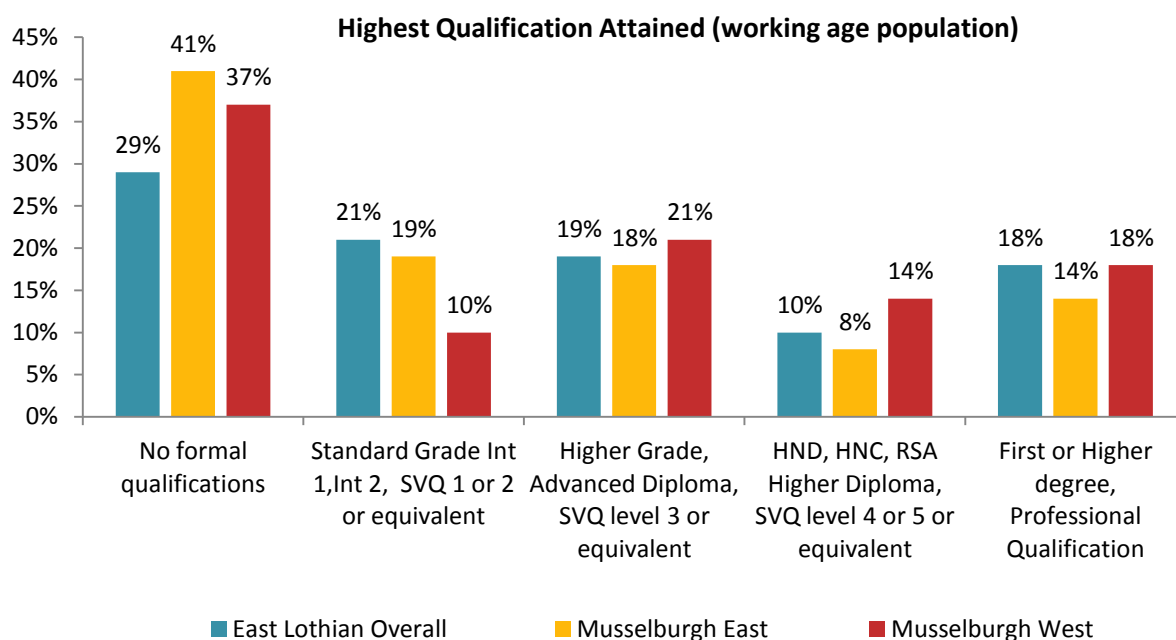
<b>Musselburgh: % of the population aged 16-64 claiming Job Seekers Allowance Q1 2012</b>					
<b>Datzone</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>% of population aged 16-64 claiming JSA</b>	<b>Datzone</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>% of population aged 16-64 claiming JSA</b>
S01001555	Musselburgh East	3.4	S01001563	Musselburgh West	1.3
S01001560	Musselburgh East	2.1	S01001564	Musselburgh West	1.6
S01001561	Musselburgh East	3.2	S01001565	Musselburgh West	3.1
S01001568	Musselburgh East	1	S01001566	Musselburgh West	3.4
S01001571	Musselburgh East	6.5	S01001570	Musselburgh West	1.3
S01001574	Musselburgh East	5.9	S01001572	Musselburgh West	2.6
S01001579	Musselburgh East	6.1	S01001575	Musselburgh West	5
S01001580	Musselburgh East	3	S01001581	Musselburgh West	3.4
S01001582	Musselburgh East	6.6	S01001584	Musselburgh West	4.3
S01001583	Musselburgh East	8.5	S01001586	Musselburgh West	1.5
S01001585	Musselburgh East	4.5	S01001590	Musselburgh West	3.6
S01001588	Musselburgh East	5.5	S01001594	Musselburgh West	6.4
S01001592	Musselburgh East	8.7	S01001598	Musselburgh West	1.2
S01001593	Musselburgh East	4.6	S01001599	Musselburgh West	6.5
S01001596	Musselburgh East	2.1	S01001600	Musselburgh West	5.7
S01001597	Musselburgh East	3.2	To identify which localities are covered by each datzone go to <a href="http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx">http://www.sns.gov.uk/Simd/Simd.aspx</a>		
S01001606	Musselburgh East	6.1			

## Education and Training

### Education and Training among adults

Overall the working age population of East Lothian are more highly qualified than the Scottish average.

- In East Lothian the proportion of the workforce with no qualifications is similar to the Scottish average and falling. ([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

According to the East Lothian Residents Survey 2011:-

- 47% of working age people in East Lothian is qualified to SVQ level 3 or higher and 18% have undertaken some form of Higher of Further Education.
  - In Musselburgh West this rises to 53% qualified to SVQ level 3 or higher
  - In Musselburgh East however this drops to 40% qualified to SVQ level 3 or higher with 14% have undertaken some form of Higher of Further Education.
- People across the Musselburgh wards are more likely to have no formal qualifications than elsewhere in East Lothian

East Lothian Council's Community Learning and Development Services record that 127,647 Adult Learning opportunities were provided across East Lothian in 2012

- 40,571 (or 32%) of these were provided in the Musselburgh area

### Education and Training for children and young people

- 4348 of the Musselburgh area's population (or 18%) are children and young people aged 0-16 years (and 2941, or 12% are of compulsory school age 5-15 years)
- There are 7 Primary Schools, 1 High School and 1 Independent Boarding and Day School located within the Musselburgh Area

- In September 2011 there were 1706 pupils enrolled at Local Authority Primary Schools across the Musselburgh Area.
- In September 2011 there were 1254 pupils enrolled at Musselburgh Grammar School

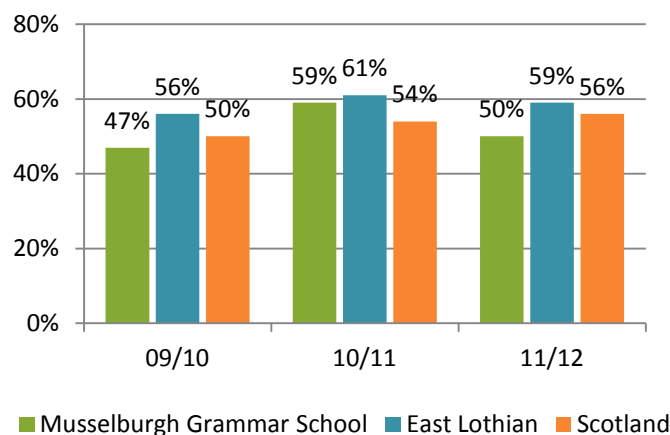
Musselburgh Grammar School has seen reasonably stable exam rates for pupils at the end of S4 over recent years. In 2011/12

- 93% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 3 (Standard Grade Foundation level or equivalent) or better compared to an East Lothian average of 96%
- 71% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 4 (Standard Grade General level or equivalent) or better compared to an East Lothian average of 82%
- 24% of the S4 year group achieved five or more awards at Level 5 (Standard Grade Credit level or equivalent) or better compared to an East Lothian average of 38%

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

The graph to the right shows Staying on Rates to S6.

- Staying on rates at Musselburgh Grammar are significantly below both the East Lothian and the Scottish average.



[www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

When Primary 6 and Secondary 2 pupils across Musselburgh were asked in the 2012 Student Evaluation of Experience Survey:

- 82% agree that they enjoyed being at their school (compared to 86% East Lothian wide)
- 86% agreed that they were 'treated fairly' at their school
- 84% said they feel 'safe and secure' in school (compared to 89% East Lothian wide)
- 79% agreed that they contributed to how decisions are made in school (compared to 78% East Lothian wide)
- 84% agreed that the school recognised their achievements in school however this percentage was significantly reduced when asked whether their school recognised their achievements outside of school, where it dropped to 53%

When young people from Musselburgh were surveyed for the Youth Vision Strategy:-

- 65% reported that they participated in activities outside school which contribute to their informal learning – including participation in youth clubs, sports, uniformed organisations, volunteering and non-vocational classes (eg drama, art or music lessons)

East Lothian Council’s Community Learning and Development Services record that 114,574 Youth Work opportunities were taken up across East Lothian in 2012

- 30,715 (or 27%) were provided across the Musselburgh area

### School Leavers

Across East Lothian more school leavers are entering higher and further education than ever before but this figure still falls below the Scottish average.

- 67% of school leavers from Musselburgh Grammar in 2007/08 went straight into Higher or Further education or Training.
- This is marginally above the East Lothian average of 65% and below the Scottish average of 69%

**2010 / 11 School Leaver Destinations**

	Musselburgh Grammar	East Lothian	Scotland
Full-time higher education	28%	36%	36%
Full-time Further education	33%	23%	27%
Training	6%	6%	6%
Employment	20%	22%	20%
Unemployed, seeking employment	12%	12%	10%
Unemployed, not seeking employment	1%	2%	1%

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

- There were also clear differences depending on where within Musselburgh pupils were from – while 72% of school leavers from Musselburgh West went into Higher or Further Education and Training, this dropped to 62% in Musselburgh East ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))
- Pupils from Musselburgh Grammar were more likely however to go into Further Education (33%) than attend University (28%), although again there were clear differences within the area.
  - In Musselburgh West 35% went into Higher Education compared to 24% from Musselburgh East ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))
- 31% of pupils from Musselburgh Grammar went into employment on leaving school – above the Scottish average of 25%
- 12% of pupils however were unemployed and seeking work, compared to the Scottish average of 10%
  - In Musselburgh West however only 8% were unemployed and seeking work compared to 18% from Musselburgh East ([www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

## Health and Social Care

### Life Expectancy

Across East Lothian male and female life expectancies are significantly better than the Scottish average, and have been rising steadily over time.

- The average man in East Lothian can expect to live to 76.1 years age
- The average woman can expect to live to 80.6 years of age

(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2010)

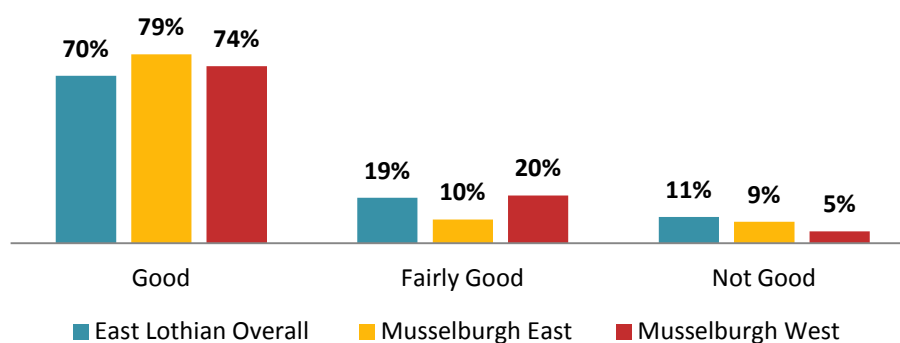
Across the Musselburgh area a person’s average life expectancy is slightly above the East Lothian average:-

- In Musselburgh West the average life expectancy for men is 79.4 years and for women it is 84.2 years
- In Musselburgh East the average life expectancy for men is 76.7 years and for women it is 82.1 years
- There is however variation within the ward areas that corresponds to areas of deprivation – in the Wallyford zone, for example, male life expectancy falls to 72.8 years (below the Scottish average of 74.5 years). In the Whitecraig zone female life expectancy drops to 77.1 years (compared to a Scottish average of 79.5)

(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2010)

Across Musselburgh the overwhelming majority of people described their own health as either ‘Good’ or ‘Fairly Good’ during the 2011 East Lothian Residents Survey.

### How would you currently rate your own health?



East Lothian Residents Survey 2011

In the same survey 16% of respondents in Musselburgh West stated that someone in their household had a long term illness, health problem or disability which limits their daily activities or the work they can do. This was lower than reported in Musselburgh East (20%) and significantly lower than the reported East Lothian average of 22%.

### Illness and Hospital Admissions

In 2010 the Musselburgh West Ward had a rate of emergency hospital admissions of 800 per 10,000 people. The rate for Musselburgh East and Carberry during the same period was 741 per 10,000.

- Both of these are lower than the rate for East Lothian (814 per 10,000) and Scotland as a whole (1,002 per 10,000)
- There is considerable variation across the area when this information is broken down into intermediate zones (as shown in the table below)

**Hospital admissions per 10 000 people  
(age standardised)**

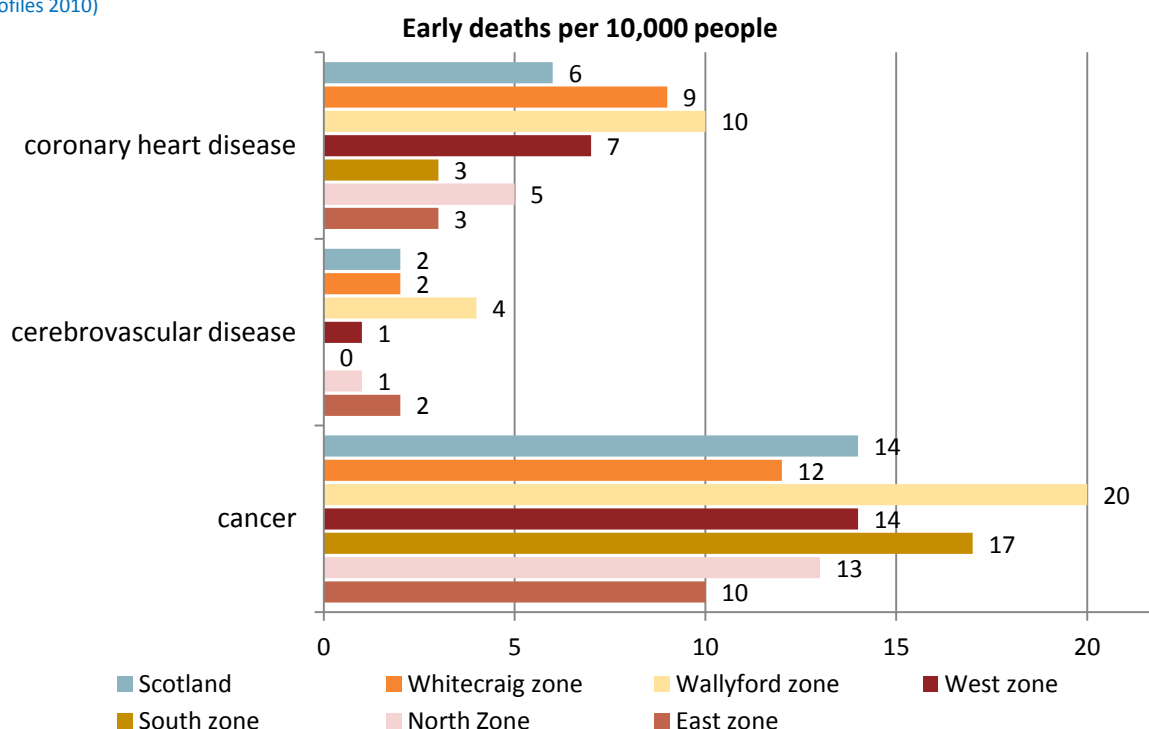
	East Lothian Av.	Muss. East zone	Muss. West zone	Muss. South zone	Muss. North zone	Wallyford zone	Whitecraig zone
Emergency admission	638	614	524	558	602	655	736
Alcohol related	109	98	71	80	101	99	122
Drug related	9	6	7	9	7	8	6
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	16	16	20	13	20	11	23
Coronary Heart Disease	38	45	27	28	25	48	44
Cerebrovascular Disease	17	15	18	15	25	14	20
Asthma	47	45	27	35	36	32	55
Fall in the home (65+)	71	93	42	78	88	104	107
Psychiatric	30	25	29	23	34	26	37

(ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2010)

- When broken down even further to the 32 datazones that make up the Musselburgh area the differences are even more evident - the rate of emergency hospital admissions in these areas ranges from 391 to 1742 per 10,000 people.

### Mortality

Early deaths (classified as deaths under the age of 75 years) are recorded under 3 main causes – cancer, coronary heart disease and cerebrovascular disease. (ScotPHO – Health and Wellbeing Profiles 2010)



- Across the Musselburgh area there is considerable variation in the rates of early deaths (as can be seen from the graph below)
- In most cases however a considerable proportion of the Musselburgh area has early death rates equal to or above the Scottish average

### Local Access to Health Services

As part of the East Lothian Customer Survey (2009) residents were asked how easy was it to access a range of health related services using their normal means of transport.

- 94% across the Musselburgh area stated that it was easy (or very easy) to get to a GP. This compares to only 71% of people across East Lothian stating it was easy.
- 96% in Musselburgh East and 95% in Musselburgh West reported that it was easy (or very easy) to travel to a chemist or pharmacy. Only 89% of people across East Lothian agreed.
- In Musselburgh West 93% of people said it was easy (or very easy) to access local hospital services however this figure fell sharply in Musselburgh East where only 79% felt it was easy and 7% reported that it was 'very difficult'.

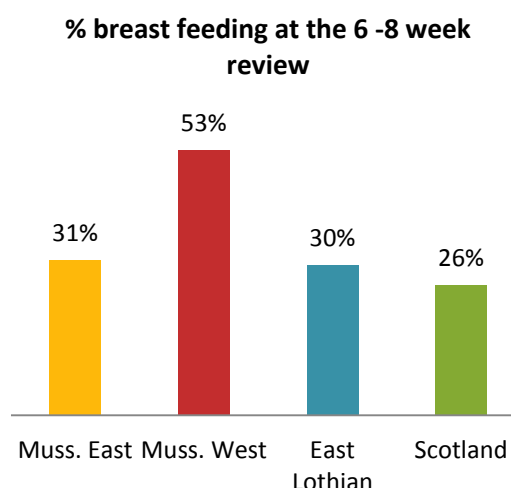
### Maternity and Child Health

Population estimates from the General Register of Scotland indicate that in 2011 there were:-

- 911 children aged 0 - 4 years living in Musselburgh East
- 496 children aged 0 - 4 living in Musselburgh West

Health data regarding children in East Lothian is, in the main, very positive, including breastfeeding rates well above the Scottish average and a similar situation regarding child dental health in primary 1. However there is significant variation across the area.

- Smoking during pregnancy in Musselburgh is below the Scottish average at 20%.
- 44% of babies in Musselburgh East and 60% in Musselburgh West are being exclusively breast fed at their first visit from a Health Visitor.
- However, as the graph to the left indicates this figure drops across the area by the time of the 6-8 week review, and falls to 30% in Wallyford and Whitecraig. (2011, [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))



- Teenage pregnancy rates across Musselburgh are marginally above the Scottish average – with approx. 5 teen pregnancies over 3 years per 100 females aged 13-19.
  - There appears again to be variation across the wards – from 8 per 100 females aged 13-19 in the Wallyford and Musselburgh West zones 0 in Musselburgh South



## Young People's Attitudes to Health

In the 2012 Students Evaluation of Experience Survey

- 95% of S2 and P6 pupils across the area agreed that at school they were 'encouraged to live a healthy life'
- 77% also reported that they were 'able to get information about health services in East Lothian', compared to 83% across East Lothian.

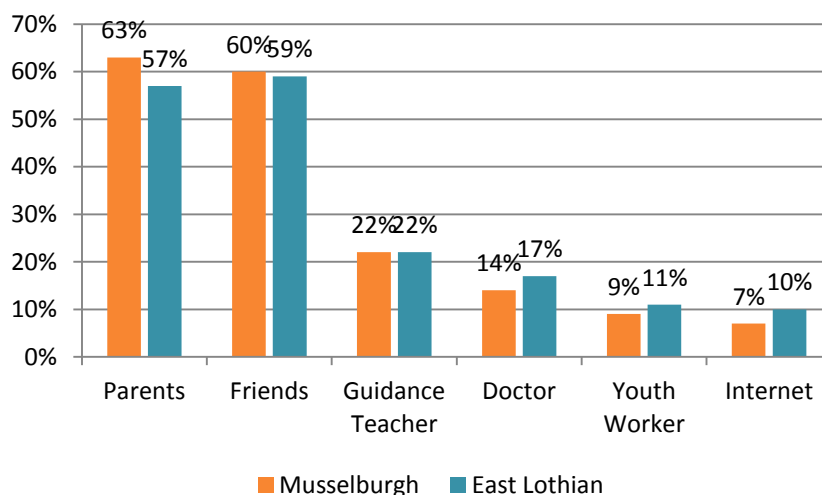
As part of developing the East Lothian Youth Vision young people across Musselburgh were asked - 'what would help to improve your health?'

- 63% of those surveyed believed that free sports activates would improve their health
- 50% thought that more health promotion in schools would help
- 43% said that Health Drop-in Services for young people make a difference

Young people were also asked where they go for advice and information regarding health issues.

- In Musselburgh parents were the most popular choice, followed by friends and guidance teachers
- Only 7% of young people in Musselburgh said that they sought health advice and help from the internet.

**Where do you go for help with sensitive health issues?**



(Youth Vision 2008)

## Care and Social Care

According to the 2001 census:-

- 10 % of the population across the Musselburgh area provide unpaid care to a friend or family member
- 2.3% of these carers are providing more than 50 hours of care per week
- 18% of households have 1 or more carers in residence

Who is providing this care in the Musselburgh area?

- the average age of a person providing voluntary care is 48
- 2% are aged under 16
- 20% are aged 65 or over
- 60% of carers are female
- 56% are also employed

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

93 of the 272 vulnerable children either Looked After at Home, Looked After and Accommodated or otherwise on the child protection register are from the Musselburgh area.

- This is 34% of the total – significantly higher than the 25% share of the population that live in the wards
- 64 (or 24% of the total) are from Musselburgh East
- 29 (11% of the total) are from Musselburgh West

<b>Residence prior to Placement by Ward</b>	<b>At Home</b>	<b>Foster Care</b>	<b>Formal Kinicare</b>	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Child Protection</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Dunbar & East Linton	2	15	4	2	4	27
Fa'side	13	12	3	3	20	51
Haddington & Lammermuir	10	11	2	2	11	36
Musselburgh East & Carberry	16	21	7	7	13	64
Musselburgh West	2	15	2	8	2	29
North Berwick Coastal	6	4	0	0	4	14
Preston Seton Gosford	6	19	8	5	9	47
Out of area	0	2	1	0	1	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>272</b>

#### **Proportion of children living in Poverty**

- 9 of the 20 East Lothian datazones with the highest level of child poverty are in the Musselburgh area – and 8 of those are in Musselburgh East.
- Only 2 of the 20 datazones with the lowest level of child poverty in East Lothian are in the Musselburgh area – both of these are in Musselburgh West

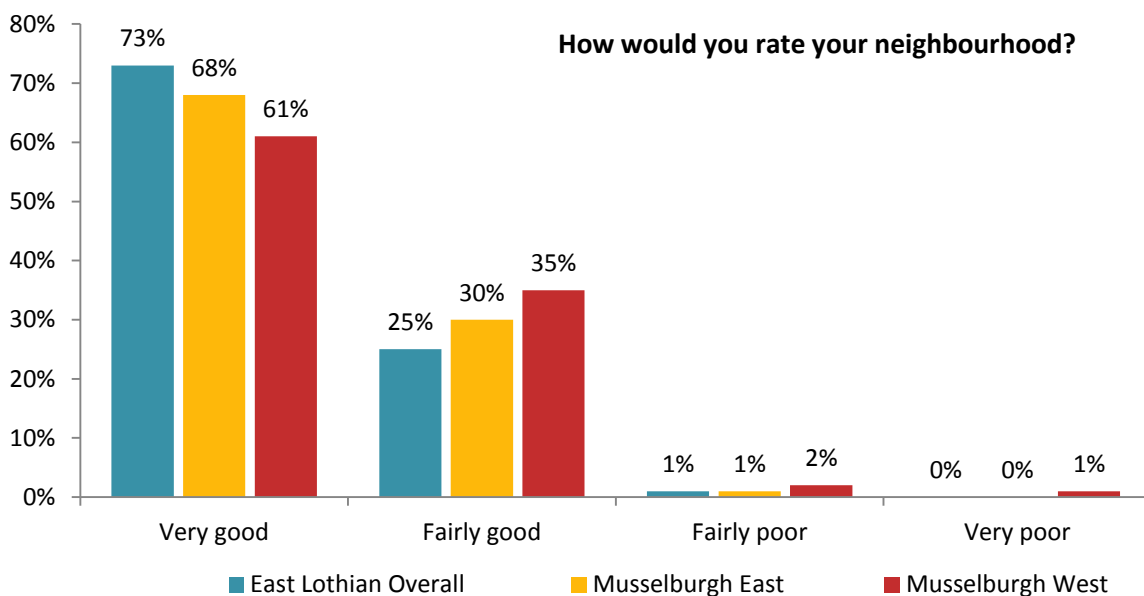
#### **Percentage of children in poverty**

	Number of datazones amongst the 20 with the Highest Rate of child poverty	Number of datazones amongst the 20 with the Lowest Rate of child poverty
Musselburgh East & Carberry	8	0
Fa'side	6	2
Preston Seton Gosford	5	4
Musselburgh West	1	2
Dunbar & East Linton	0	2
Haddington & Lammermuir	0	4
North Berwick Coastal	0	6

## Neighbourhood and Place

The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) showed that 99% of people surveyed thought that East Lothian was a good place to live.

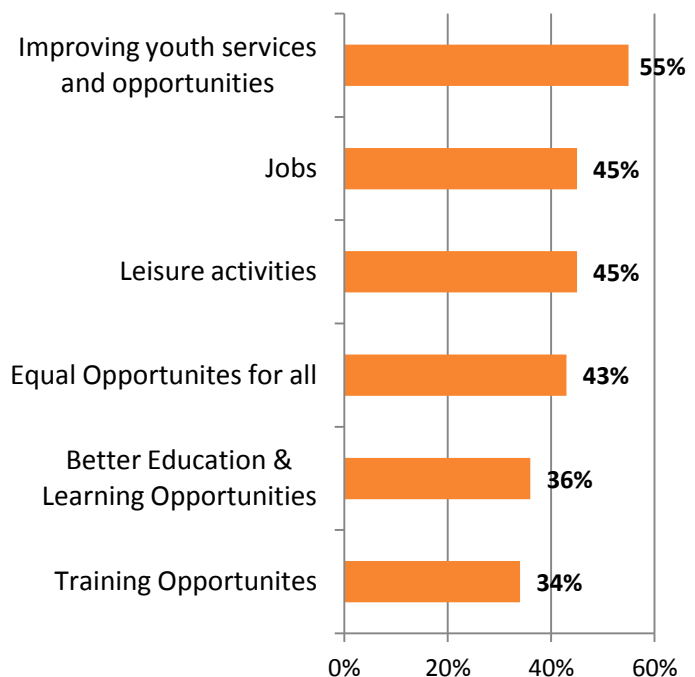
- The results were generally similar when people were asked about their own neighbourhoods
- 98% of people in Musselburgh East rated their neighbourhood as a 'fairly good' or 'very good' place to live.
- 96% of people in Musselburgh West rated their neighbourhood as a 'fairly good' or 'very good' place to live.
- In both areas however residents were more likely to rate their neighbourhood as only 'fairly good' and in Musselburgh West more residents than average rated their neighbourhood as 'fairly poor' or 'very poor'.



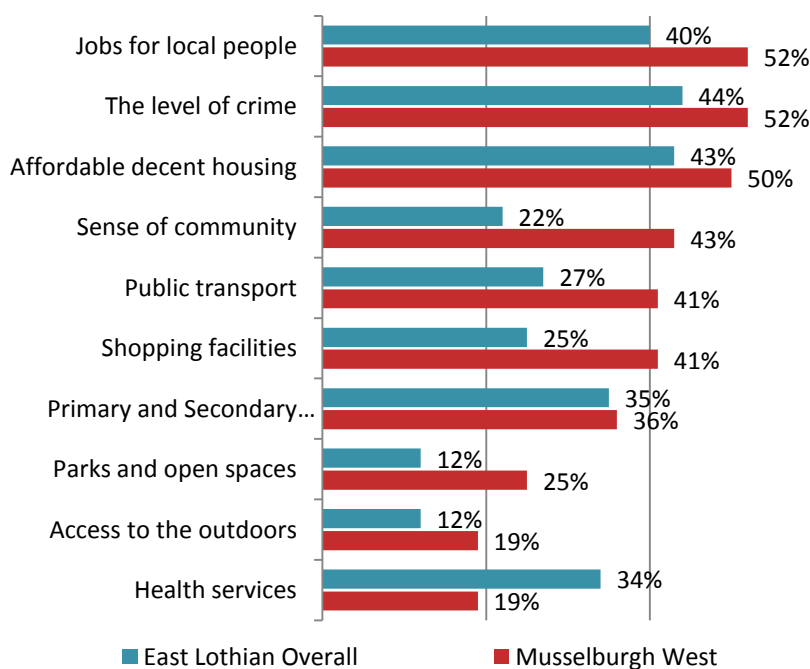
For the East Lothian Youth Vision young people were asked what things could be done to improve the quality of their life in East Lothian.

- Young people in Musselburgh were more likely to say improving youth services and opportunities was important than across East Lothian (55% vs. 47%)
- They were also more likely to say that Equal Opportunities were important (43% vs. 37%)

Other suggestions made by young people in Musselburgh included reducing the cost of leisure activities, improving public transport and more places for young people to go.



The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) asked people what was most important in making somewhere a good place to live.

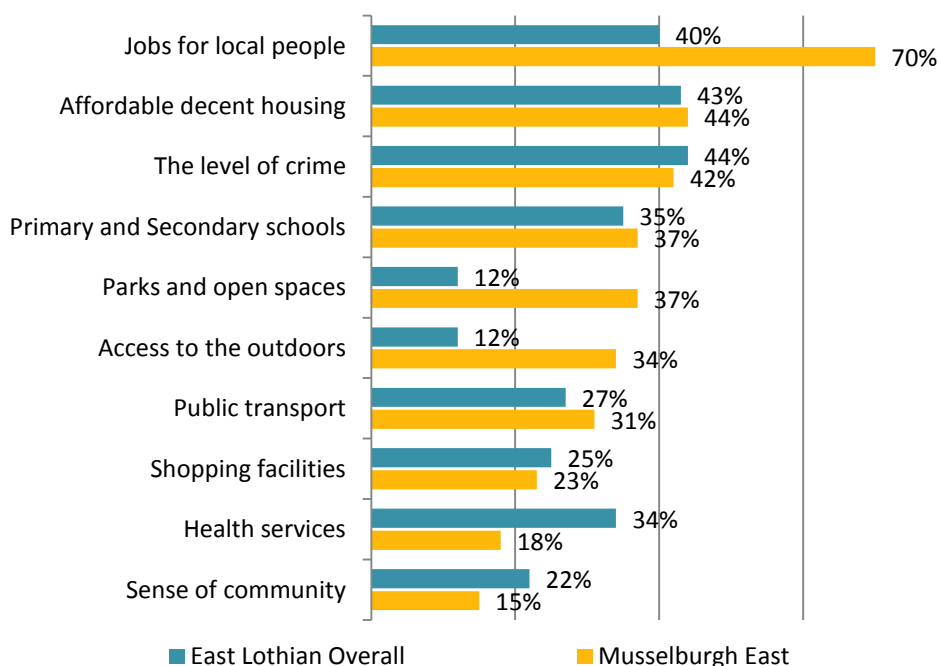


- Jobs, crime levels and the availability of affordable, decent housing were the most important issues for people in Musselburgh West – all rated as more important there than across East Lothian as a whole
- The importance of achieving a ‘Sense of Community’ was also strongly prioritised (43%), almost double the rate across East Lothian
- Public transport and shopping facilities were also given significantly more importance in this ward

(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

In Musselburgh East the priorities were very similar.

- Here however ‘Jobs for local people’ were prioritised by 70% of people, compared to 40% across East Lothian as a whole
- ‘Parks and Open spaces’ and ‘Access to the Outdoors’ were both given significantly more importance in this ward than across the rest of East Lothian – 37% and 34% respectively compared to 12% across the county

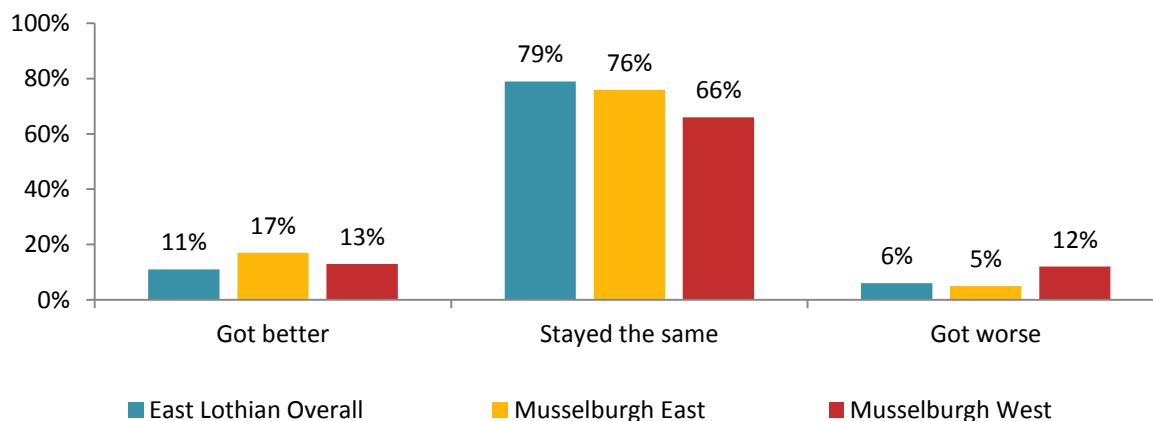


(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

The survey also asked people how they thought their neighbourhood had changed:-

- Across both wards people were more likely to report that their neighbourhoods had got better – particularly in Musselburgh East
- Twice as many people in Musselburgh West than the rest of East Lothian thought that their neighbourhood had gotten worse over the past 5 years

**How has your neighbourhood has changed over the past 5 years?**

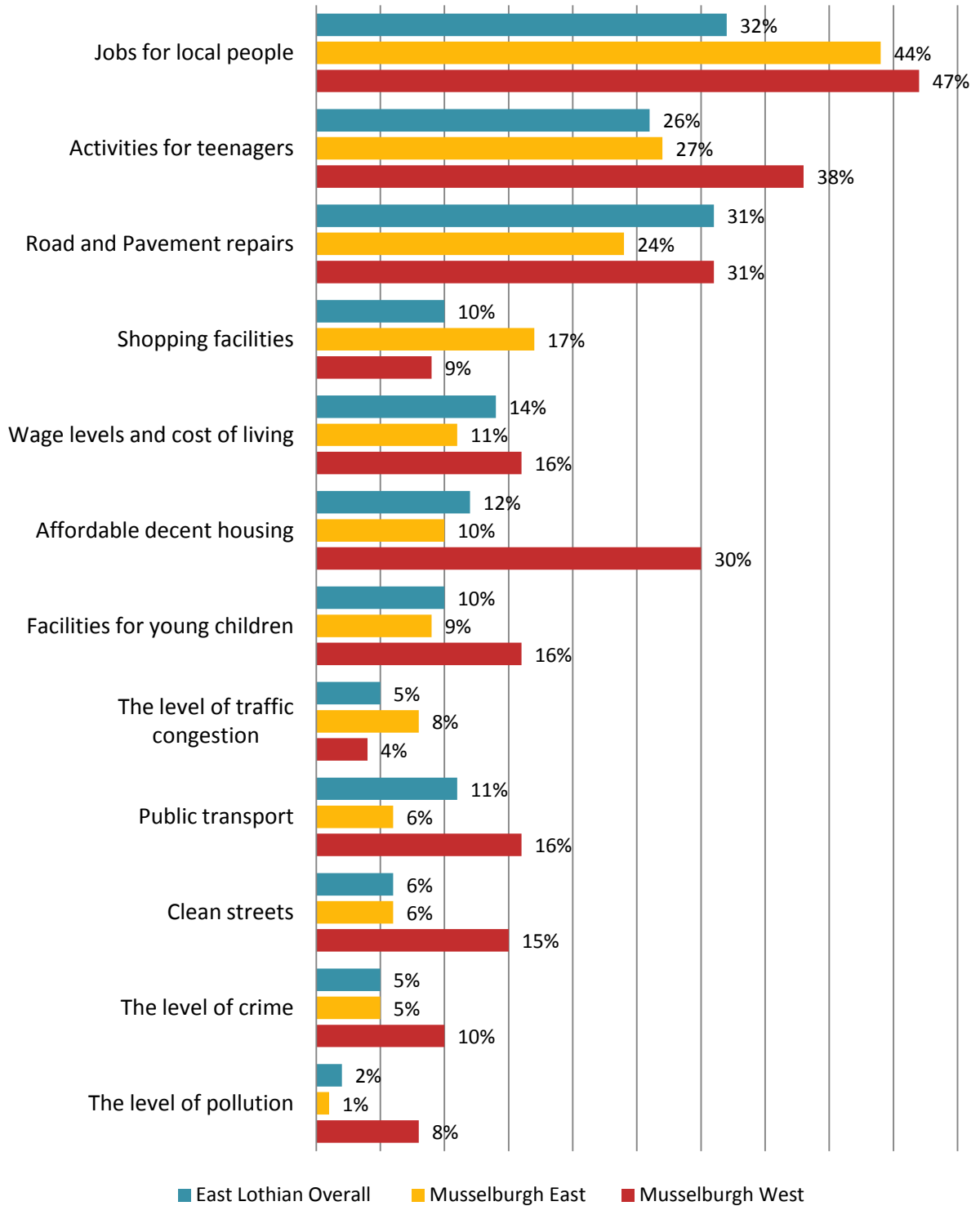


(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

It also asked ‘what most needs improving’ in the area. The graph below shows the top 12 things (from a list of 24) that people in the Musselburgh area thought were in need of significant improvement in their area.

- The single highest scoring improvement needed in both areas , highlighted by 47% of respondents in Musselburgh West and 44% in Musselburgh East, was the need for ‘local jobs for local people’
- Activities for teenagers was also highlighted as a specific need in the area, particularly by respondents in Musselburgh West
- Other things that people in Musselburgh West rated as needing improvement more than those across the rest of the county included:
  - Affordable decent housing – 30% compared to 12%
  - Public Transport – 16% compared to 11%
  - Facilities for young children - 16% compared to 12%
  - Clean Streets – 15% compared to 6%
  - Level of Crime – 10% compared to 5%
  - Level of pollution – 8% compared to 2%
- In Musselburgh East there were only two areas of improvement given greater priority than across the rest of the county
  - Shopping facilities – 17% compared to 10%
  - Levels of traffic congestion – 8% compared to 5%

### Which most needs improving in your neighbourhood?



## Housing

There are 11,112 dwellings in the Musselburgh area.

- 6057 are in the Musselburgh East and Carberry ward
- 5055 in the Musselburgh West ward
- 2% of dwellings across the ward are vacant
- 0% are 2<sup>nd</sup> or holiday homes
- In Musselburgh West there is an average of 22.63 dwellings per hectare (compared to 3.17 per hectare in Musselburgh East and 0.66 per hectare across East Lothian). This makes it the ward with the highest population density in East Lothian

(2011, [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

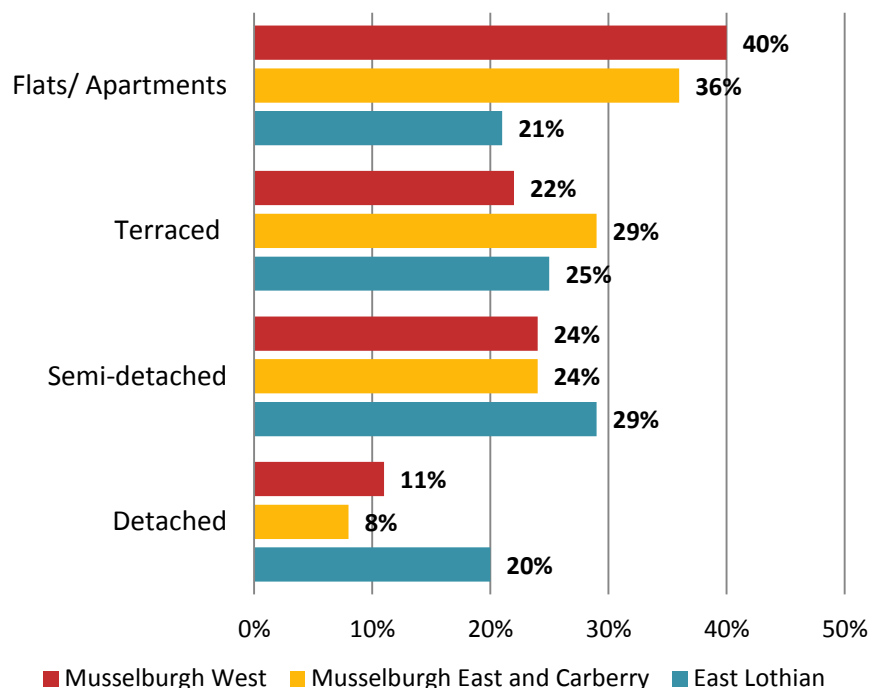
% of dwelling in by Council tax band			
	Musselburgh East	Musselburgh West	East Lothian
% dwellings in bands A-C	73%	57%	55%
% dwellings in bands D-E	19%	34%	26%
% dwellings in bands F-H	8%	9%	19%

(2011 [www.sns.gov.uk](http://www.sns.gov.uk))

### What types of housing is most common in the Musselburgh area?

([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

- Flats or apartments are the most common form of housing in the Musselburgh area, far more common that throughout East Lothian as a whole
- Within the Musselburgh area there is an average of 2.25 people living in each household - slightly below the East Lothian average of 2.33.



- The average number of rooms per dwelling is 4.5 – although in Musselburgh West more than half the dwellings have only -3 rooms.
- Musselburgh West is the most densely populated area of East Lothian – with 22.5 dwellings per hectare
- 12% of households in the Musselburgh area have too few rooms per resident - compared to 9.5% across East Lothian. There is however significant variation within the wards with overcrowding in Whitecraig, for example, reaching 16.5% ([www.scrol.gov.uk](http://www.scrol.gov.uk))

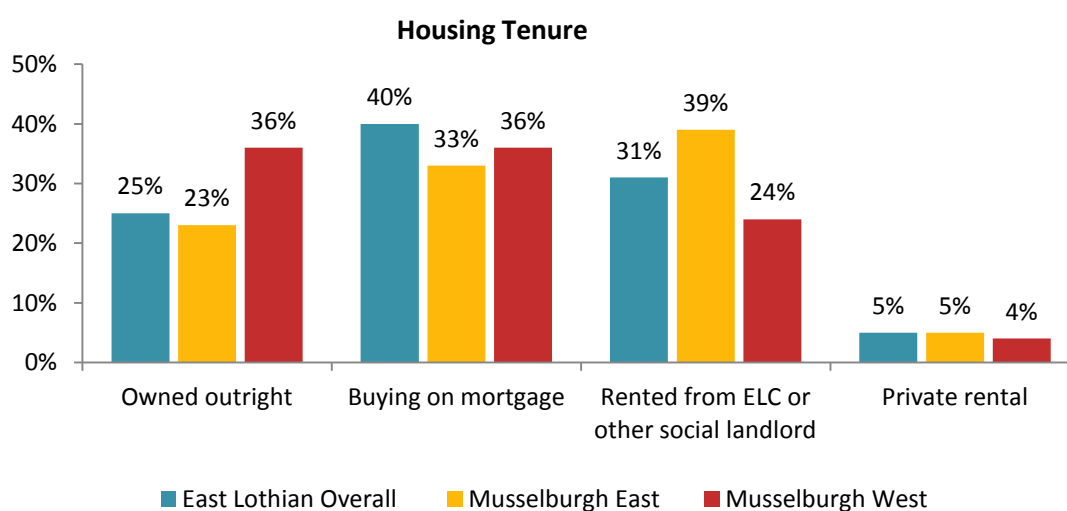
## Housing Tenure

The Local Authority Housing Bulletin September 2012 reported that:-

- There were 147 homes bought/sold in East Lothian in July 2012– this is 28.9% lower than the number sold 1 year previously
- The average house price in East Lothian July 2012 was £221 312 – 10% lower than 1 year previously
- The average house price in East Lothian however remains 37% higher than Scottish average
- The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) showed that 20% of people across the Musselburgh area think that access to ‘affordable, decent housing’ needs to be improved (compared to 12% across East Lothian as a whole).

Across the Musselburgh East and West ward patterns of tenure are similar to East Lothian as a whole however

- In Musselburgh East significantly more people are renting from East Lothian Council or other social landlords – 39%
- In Musselburgh West 36% report owning their own homes outright



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)



## Council Housing

In March 2012 East Lothian Council had 2362 council homes in the Musselburgh Area:-

- 1863 in Musselburgh
- 307 in Wallyford
- 177 in Whitecraig
- 15 in Old Craighall

This represents 28% of the total East Lothian Council housing stock at this time.

The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) showed that in Musselburgh East and West wards 63% of residents who had used the Council's Housing Repairs Service stated that they were satisfied with the service.

## Housing Association Homes

East Lothian Council's website provides information on the total number of Housing Association stock available across the county. At the beginning of 2013 this stood at 1985 dwellings.

Of these 548 (28%) are in the Musselburgh East and West wards,

- 347 in Musselburgh town
- 158 in Wallyford
- 43 in Whitecraig

## Homelessness

2% (or 935 households) in East Lothian experienced homelessness in 2010/11. 63% of applicants were found to be in 'priority need' meaning that they have the right to permanent accommodation provided they weren't intentionally homeless. The most common reasons for homelessness across East Lothian are 'relationship breakdown' and being 'asked to leave'.

- As of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, 258 households were in temporary accommodation across the ward. This included 116 children.

Under section 11 of the Homelessness etc (Scotland) Act 2003 housing providers and creditors have a responsibility to notify Local Authority homelessness services of households at risk of homelessness due to eviction so that, where possible, homelessness can be prevented. In 2010/11, 25 landlords and 219 creditors across East Lothian gave notice of potential evictions.

A question about homelessness featured in the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011).

- In the Musselburgh East and West ward 3% of respondents reported that it was a 'very serious' problem in their area (compared to 7% across the county)
- This survey also showed that 50% of those within the Musselburgh East and West who had used homelessness services, were satisfied with the services they received.

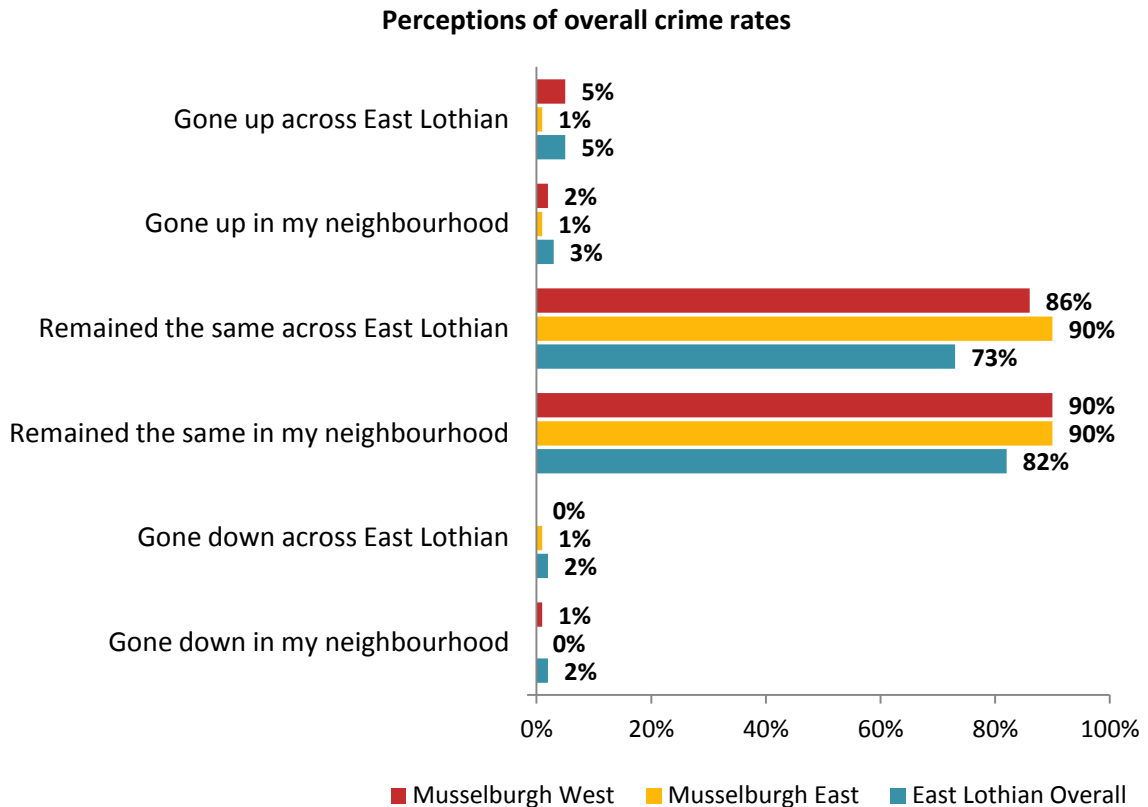
## Crime and Safety

East Lothian is a relatively safe place to live, with levels of serious crime and disorder that are significantly below the Scottish average.

However crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime can undermine community cohesion and has an impact upon local people's quality of life.

### How do people think crime rates have changed?

The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) asked residents how they thought crime rates had changed in their neighbourhood and across East Lothian.



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

- Very few residents across the Musselburgh area felt that crime had gone up – either across East Lothian or in their own neighbourhoods
- Overwhelmingly people from both wards felt that levels of crime had remained stable in their neighbourhoods and also across East Lothian as a whole
- Elsewhere in the survey respondents were asked whether they felt crimes against property or individuals were a serious problem in their area. In Musselburgh West respondents were marginally more likely to report that these were a 'quite serious problem' in their area.
- They were also more likely to report that 'drug-taking' was a serious or very serious problem in their area (8% compared to 4% in Musselburgh East) although less likely to report that 'alcohol abuse/misuse' was a serious problem (6% compared to 10% in Musselburgh East)

### Do crime rates vary across the area?

Across East Lothian there are communities that do experience a higher than average volume of crime and anti-social behaviour particularly within more deprived areas and in town centres.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) has identified 11 small areas in East Lothian (known as data zones) that have higher levels of specific crimes, including crimes of violence, drug offences, domestic house breaking, minor assault and vandalism.

- Of these 3 are in Musselburgh East:
  - an area to the west of the High St falls into the “5-10% most deprived” category;
  - an area to the East of the High St towards Pinkie, falls into the ‘10-15% most deprived” category;
  - a further area towards Wallyford also falls into the ‘10-15% most deprived” category.
- There is also 1 area within Musselburgh West, around North High St and Bridge St, that falls within the “10-15% most deprived” in Scotland.

### How many crimes are reported in each area?

Lothian and Borders Police regularly publish the number of crimes reported in each area, organised in 5 groups. The table below shows the number of crimes:-

- reported in each area
- how many crimes are reported for every 10,000 people living in each area
- and whether the number of reported crimes has gone up or down compared to the previous year

	East Lothian 2011/ 2012			Musselburgh East 2011/ 2012			Musselburgh West 2011/ 2012		
	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11
<u>Group 1:</u> Crimes of Violence	98	10	↓ 29%	12	9	↓ 57%	19	19	↓ 24%
<u>Group 2:</u> Sexual Crimes	95	10	↓ 34%	14	10	↓ 40%	9	9	↓ 44%
<u>Group 3:</u> Crimes of Theft / Dishonesty	1940	198	↓ 4%	231	165	↓ 7%	509	503	⬆ 33%
<u>Group 4:</u> Vandalism, Fire raising, malicious mischief	1057	108	↓15%	140	100	↓ 14%	215	212	↓ 6%

	East Lothian 2011/ 2012			Musselburgh East 2011/ 2012			Musselburgh West 2011/ 2012		
	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11	Number of reported crimes	Crimes / 10,000 people	% change from 2010/11
Group 5: Other Crimes – including Drug Related Crimes and offensive weapons	666	68	↓ 39%	94	67	↓ 52%	153	151	↓ 42%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3856</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>↓ 15%</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>↓ 24%</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>↓ 1%</b>

(from Lothian and Borders Police - Measuring our Performance, March 2012)

This Lothian and Borders Police publication shows that for most categories of crime the rate of reported incidences is dropping across the county.

- The exception is 'sexual crimes' - here there has been a 34% increase across East Lothian in reported crimes from 2010/11.
- At the same time 'crimes involving theft/ dishonesty' have increased significantly by 33% in Musselburgh West.
- In Musselburgh West the rate of reported crime per 10,000 people is significantly higher than the Musselburgh East average - with nearly double the number of crimes of theft / dishonesty being recorded.

### Fear of Crime

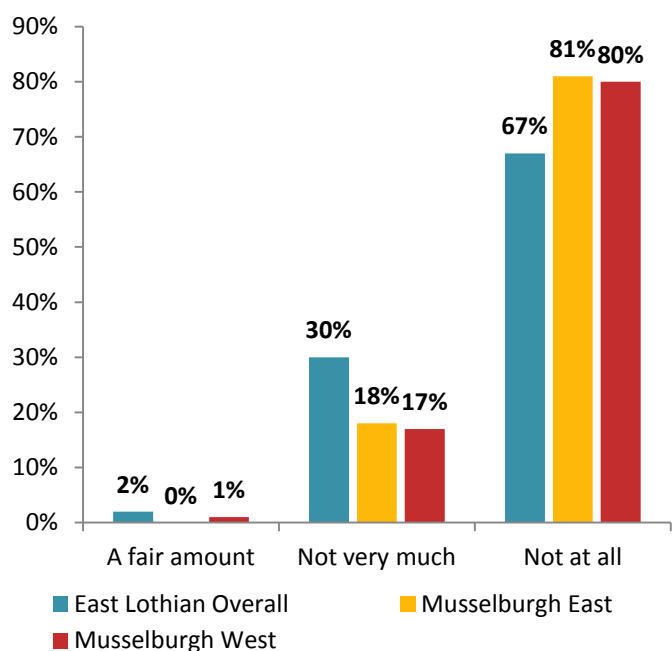
People's fear of crime does not always reflect the actual rate of crime occurring in their local areas. The East Lothian residents Survey (2011) asked residents –

**To what extent do you feel threatened by crime in your neighbourhood?**

These results show that:-

- Residents across Musselburgh were more likely to say that they did not feel threatened by crime at all than people across East Lothian

For the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy young people across East Lothian were asked about how safe they felt in their local environments. In Musselburgh 80% reported feeling safe compared to 83% across East Lothian.



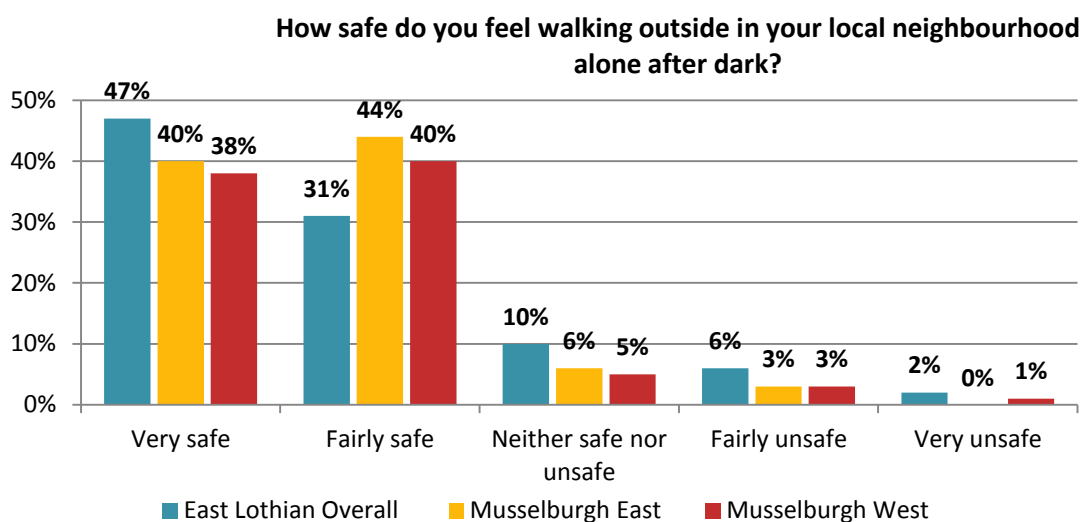
(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

Things that made young people feel unsafe in Musselburgh included:-

- Drug users - 70%
- Drunks in the street - 52%
- Walking through dark areas – 46%
- Areas which are known for being unsafe- 45%
- Groups of young people they didn't know - 40%
- Individual young people known to be bullies - 34%
- Walking through areas where they don't live - 22%
- Groups of adults they didn't know – 17%

Surveys also show that “how safe people feel in their neighbourhoods” varied significantly depending on the time of day.

- 91% in Musselburgh East and 84% in Musselburgh West reported that they felt ‘very safe’ walking alone in their neighbourhoods during the day
- Nobody in either ward stated that they felt unsafe walking in their neighbourhood during the day
- 95% of students questioned as part of the Student Evaluation of Experience Survey 2012 agreed that they felt safe in their local area during the day



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

- After dark the situation was different with only 40% of those in Musselburgh East and 38% of those in Musselburgh West reporting in the East Lothian Residents Survey that they felt ‘very safe’ walking alone
- 4% of people surveyed in Musselburgh West reported they felt ‘fairly unsafe’ or ‘very unsafe’ walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark – although across East Lothian this figure rose to 8%.
- 79% of young people agreed they felt ‘safe to go out in their local neighbourhood during the evening’, comparable with responses from across the county

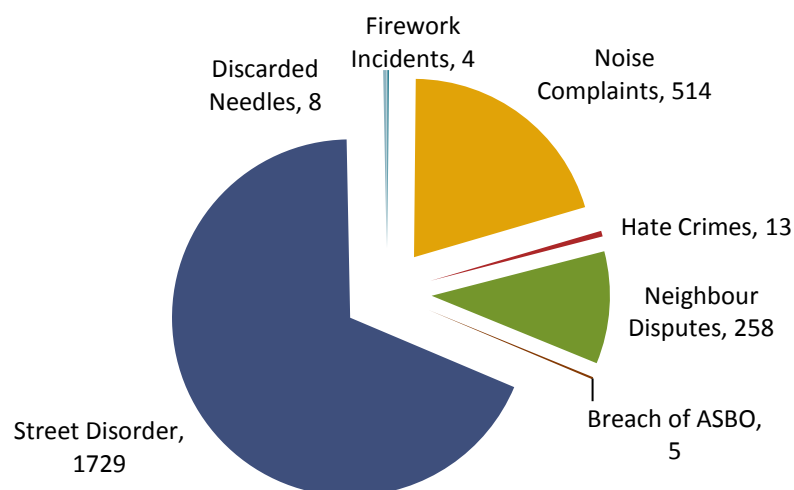
## Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour covers a range of incidents reported to the police and East Lothian Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Hotline including noise complaints, street disorder, hate crimes, snowball incidents, fly-tipping and more.

- Throughout 2012 there were 7395 anti-social behaviour incidences recorded in East Lothian
- 2531 of these (or 34%) were in the Musselburgh area
- 1729 (68%) of these incidences were classed as Street Disorder

	Musselburgh East	Musselburgh West
Noise Complaints	247	267
Firework Incidents	1	3
Hate Crimes	6	7
Breach of ASBO	2	3
Neighbour Disputes	191	67
Discarded Needles	3	5
street disorder	742	987

Lothian and Borders Police



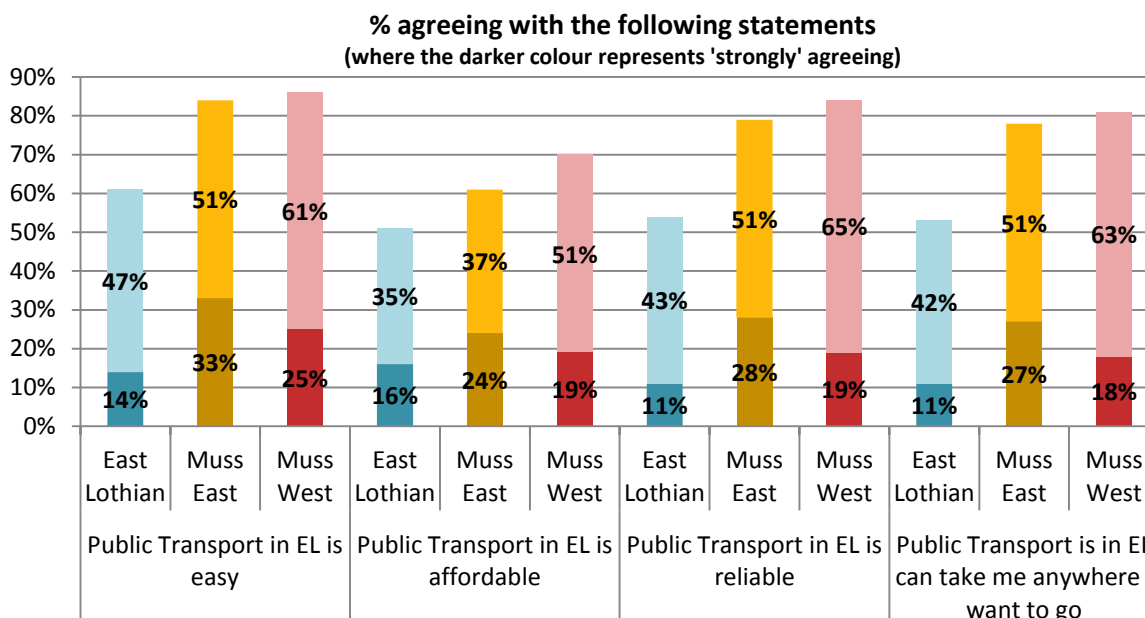
**Types of Anti-social behaviour across the Musselburgh area**

- Included within the category of noise complaints are noise from neighbours, vehicles, industry and licensed premises. Across the Musselburgh area 84% of all noise complaints related to noisy neighbours
- In Musselburgh West 24% of noise complaints related to vehicles (compared to only 3% in Musselburgh East)
- Neighbourhood disputes were almost 3 times as likely to be recorded in Musselburgh East than Musselburgh West (191 incidents compared to 67)
- 92% of the Hate crime incidences recorded across Musselburgh were cases involving racial hatred.

## Travel and Transport

In 2011 the East Lothian Residents Survey asked people about their perceptions of public transport across East Lothian for the first time.

As the graph below demonstrates, people across the Musselburgh East and West wards were generally more satisfied with the services they received than people across East Lothian as a whole.



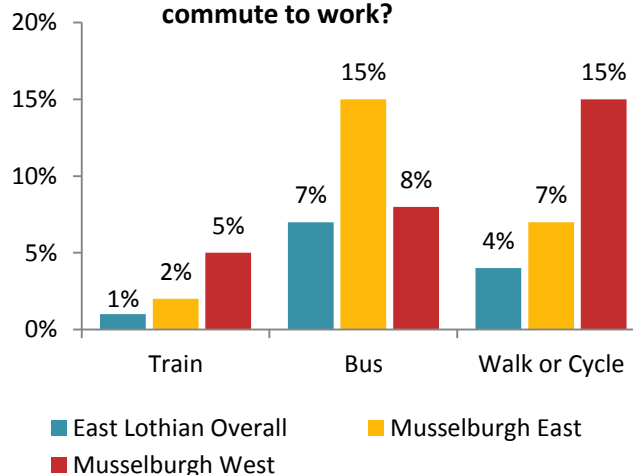
(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

- on average more than double the number of people across Musselburgh agreed with the statements that public transport was reliable, affordable, easy and could take them where they wanted to go
- In the 2012 Student Evaluation of Experience Survey 94% of P6 and S2 pupils in the ward agreed that they could access regular public transport, bus or train, where they live (compared to 88% across East Lothian)
- 90% also agreed that they could afford to use public transport in East Lothian

Respondents were also asked about their main mode of travel to commute to work.

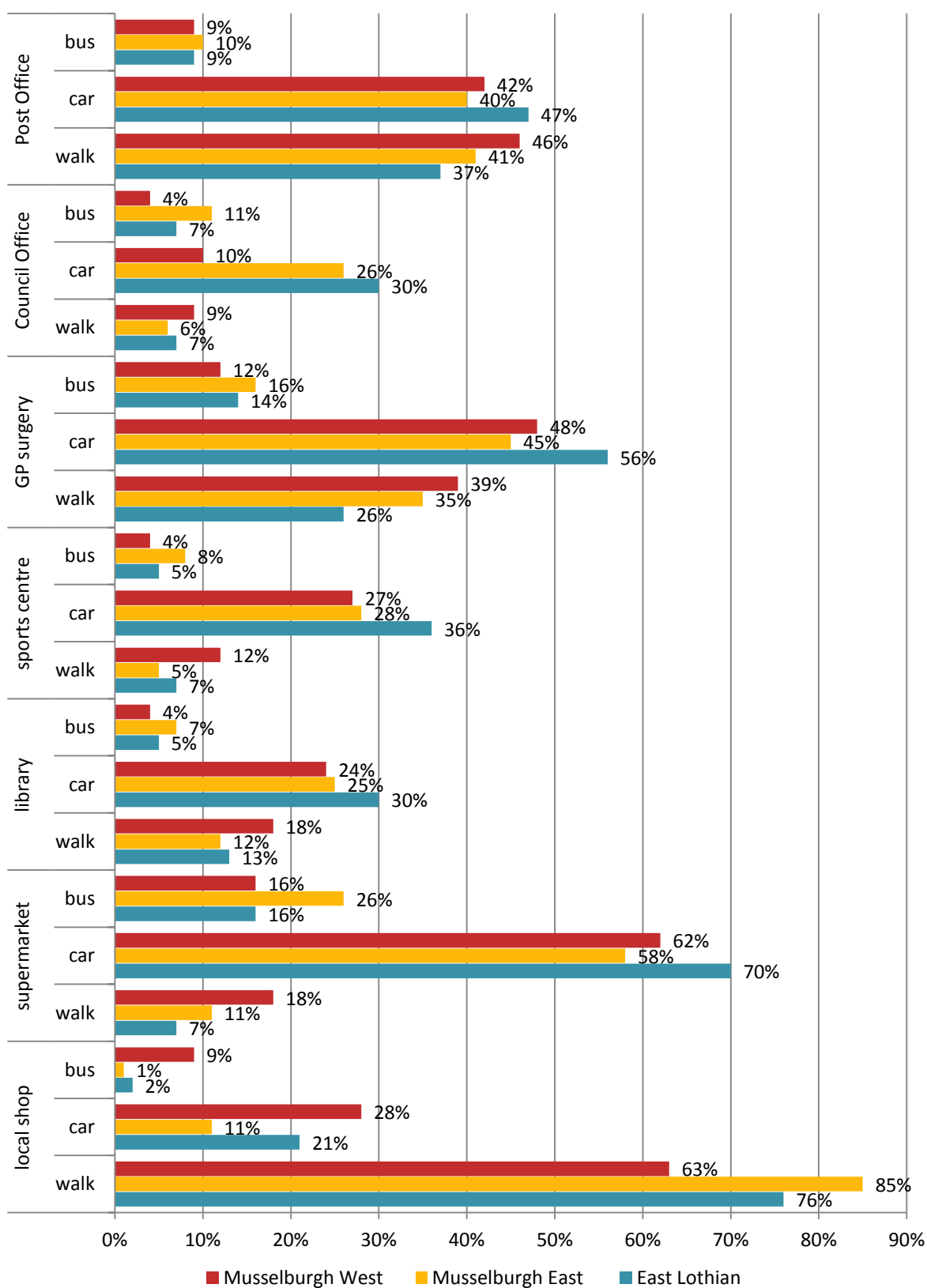
Despite the high opinions of public transport recorded above the majority reported mainly using the car to travel to work - 73% in Musselburgh East and 68% in Musselburgh West. This was however still significantly below the overall rate of 84% of people across East Lothian who mainly use the car to commute to work.

### What is the main mode of travel used to commute to work?



(East Lothian Household Survey 2011)

Elsewhere in the same survey people were also asked how they 'usually travel' to a range of other common locations.



- Respondents across the Musselburgh East and West wards appear consistently more likely to walk to local services than others across East Lothian
- they were also more likely to use the bus for a range of common local trips.



## The Environment

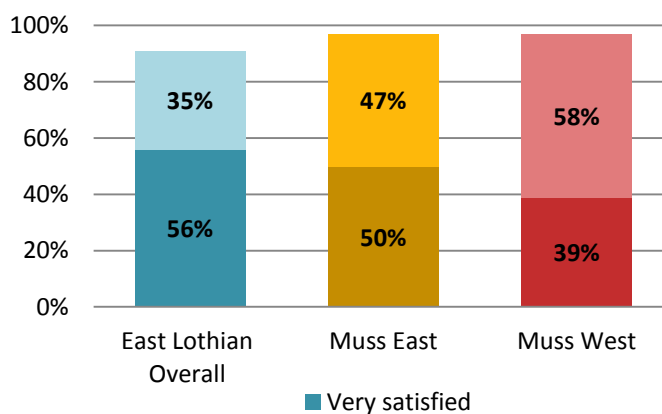
East Lothian has a range of public open/green spaces including coastal and countryside sites, woodlands, parks, amenity open spaces, green corridors, village greens, play areas, school grounds and civic spaces.

### The quality of the local environment

The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) found that people across East Lothian are generally satisfied with the parks and open spaces in their communities.

- results from across the Musselburgh area are generally higher than those for East Lothian overall
- people were however less likely to say they were 'very satisfied', particularly in Musselburgh West
- in the same survey 5% of people from the Musselburgh East and West wards thought that pollution was an issue that needed to be addressed in their area (compared with 2% of people across East Lothian).

Community satisfaction with parks, gardens and open spaces



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

Ambient air quality across the wards is worse overall than East Lothian averages. Indicators of air quality include:-

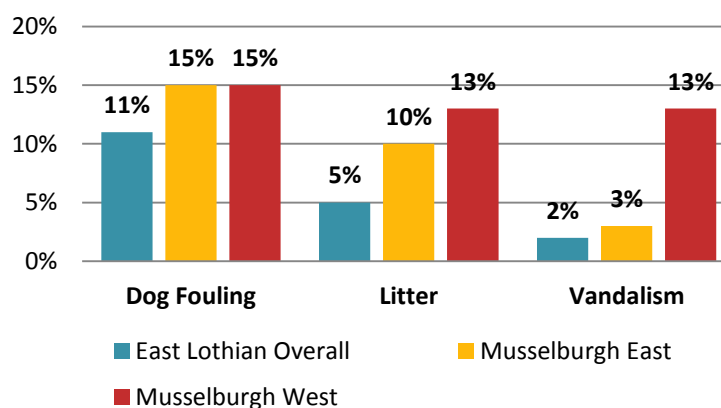
- NO<sub>2</sub> (Nitrogen Dioxide) concentration / m<sup>3</sup>. For this indicator the concentration in the Musselburgh East ward was 15.8 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> and 16.5 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> in Musselburgh West in 2002-4 (compared to an East Lothian average concentration of 11.5)
- PM<sub>10</sub> concentration / m<sup>3</sup> (particle pollution generally caused by diesel combustion, construction, mining and quarrying). Here the concentration was 14 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> in Musselburgh West and 13.9 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> in Musselburgh East compared to 13.1 micrograms / m<sup>3</sup> across East Lothian.

At a neighbourhood level however environmental quality concerns – like dog fouling, litter, graffiti, abandoned vehicles, and noise nuisance - affect people's perceptions of their environment.

The East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) asked residents which environmental complaints were common or very common in their neighbourhoods.

The results, in the graph right,

% reporting these things were common in their neighbourhood



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

show that respondents in the Musselburgh West ward felt that all of the listed environmental complaints were more common in their area than across East Lothian as a whole.

- This was particularly true in relation to perceptions of vandalism in Musselburgh West

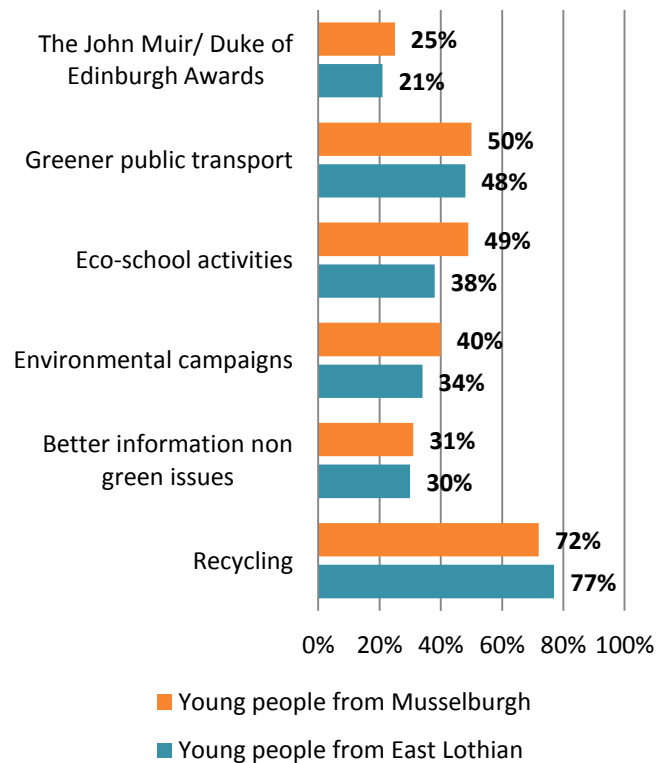
### Young People and the Environment

While preparing East Lothian Youth Vision in 2008 young people across the County were surveyed on a number of issues including what they thought could help the environment. The results are shown to the right.

Young people completing the Student Evaluation of experience Survey 2012 were asked if they knew how to care for the environment.

- 94% agreed that they could give an example of how they care for the environment
- 48% agreed they have opportunities to get involved with environmental issues in their local neighbourhood

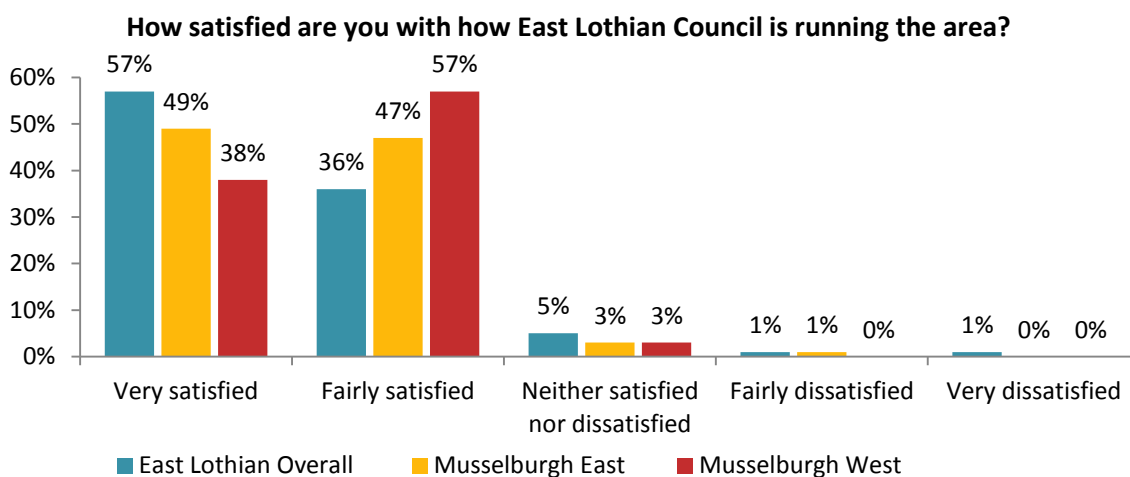
**What would help the environment?**



## Perceptions of East Lothian Council and Satisfaction with Services

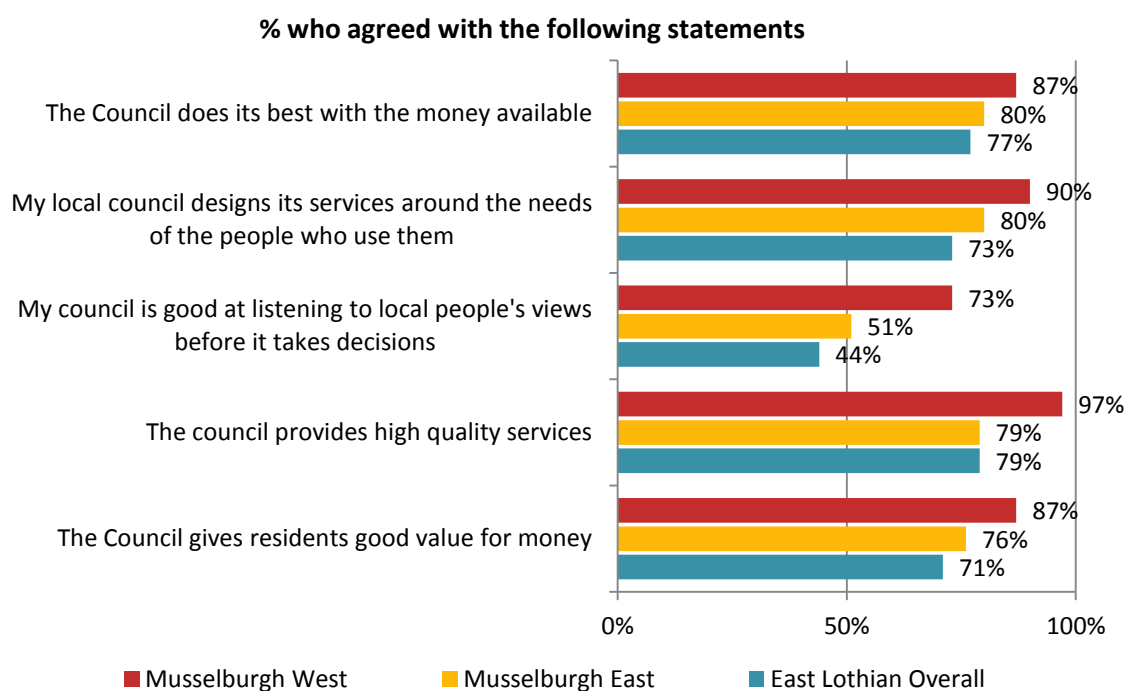
East Lothian Council is the principle service provider within the county – with a responsibility for providing many of the services and facilities residents rely on in their daily lives.

As part of the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) people were therefore asked how they felt East Lothian Council was doing in their area.



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

- 96% of respondents in Musselburgh East and 95% in Musselburgh West reported that they were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the way East Lothian Council was running the area, although in these wards respondents were significantly less likely to say they were 'very satisfied' than overall

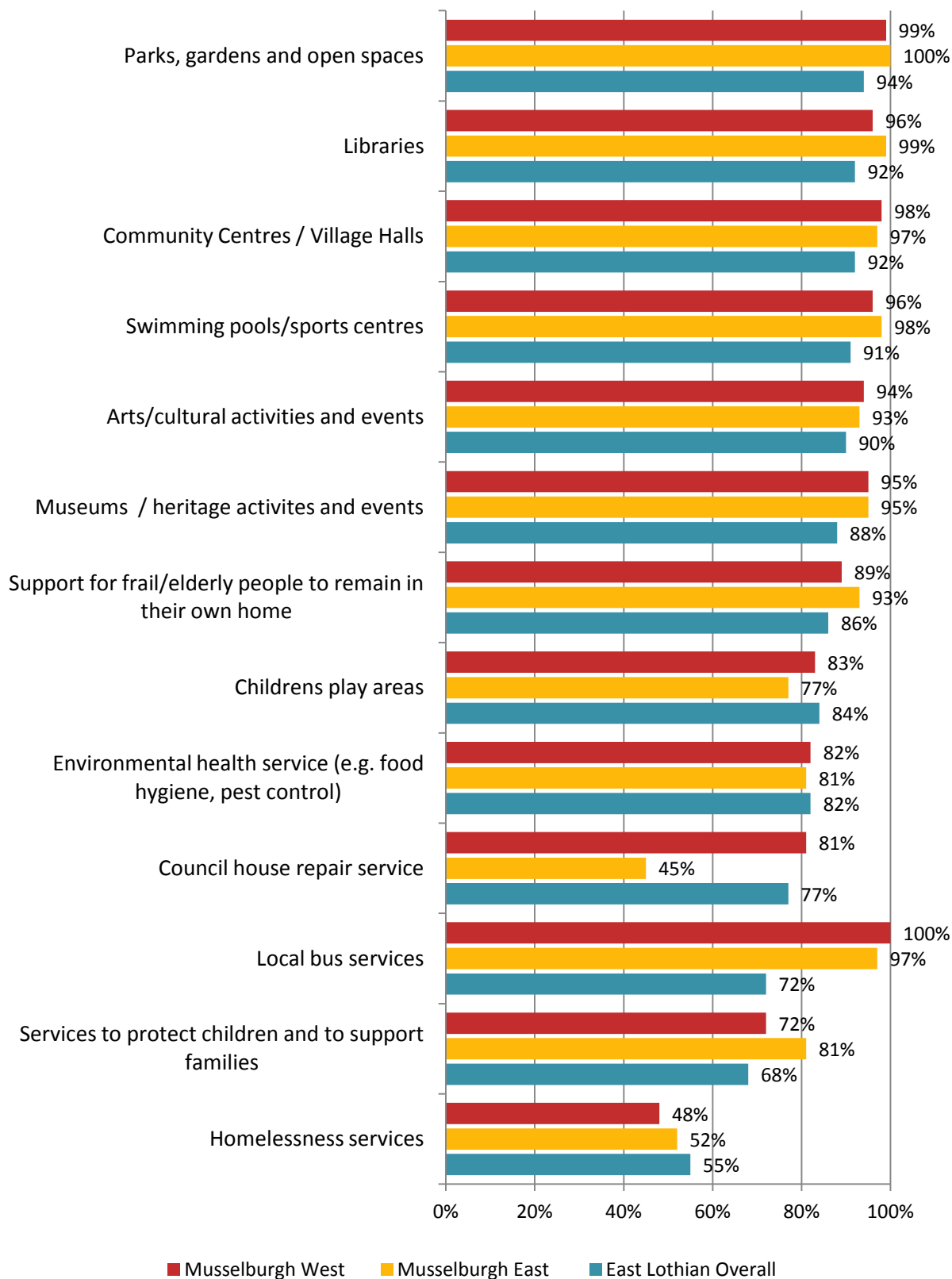


(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

Across the Musselburgh area people were generally more likely to report positive assessments of the council's performance than across East Lothian as a whole

The survey also asked people about their level of satisfaction with the East Lothian Council Services they used.

**% of users very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the following Council services**



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

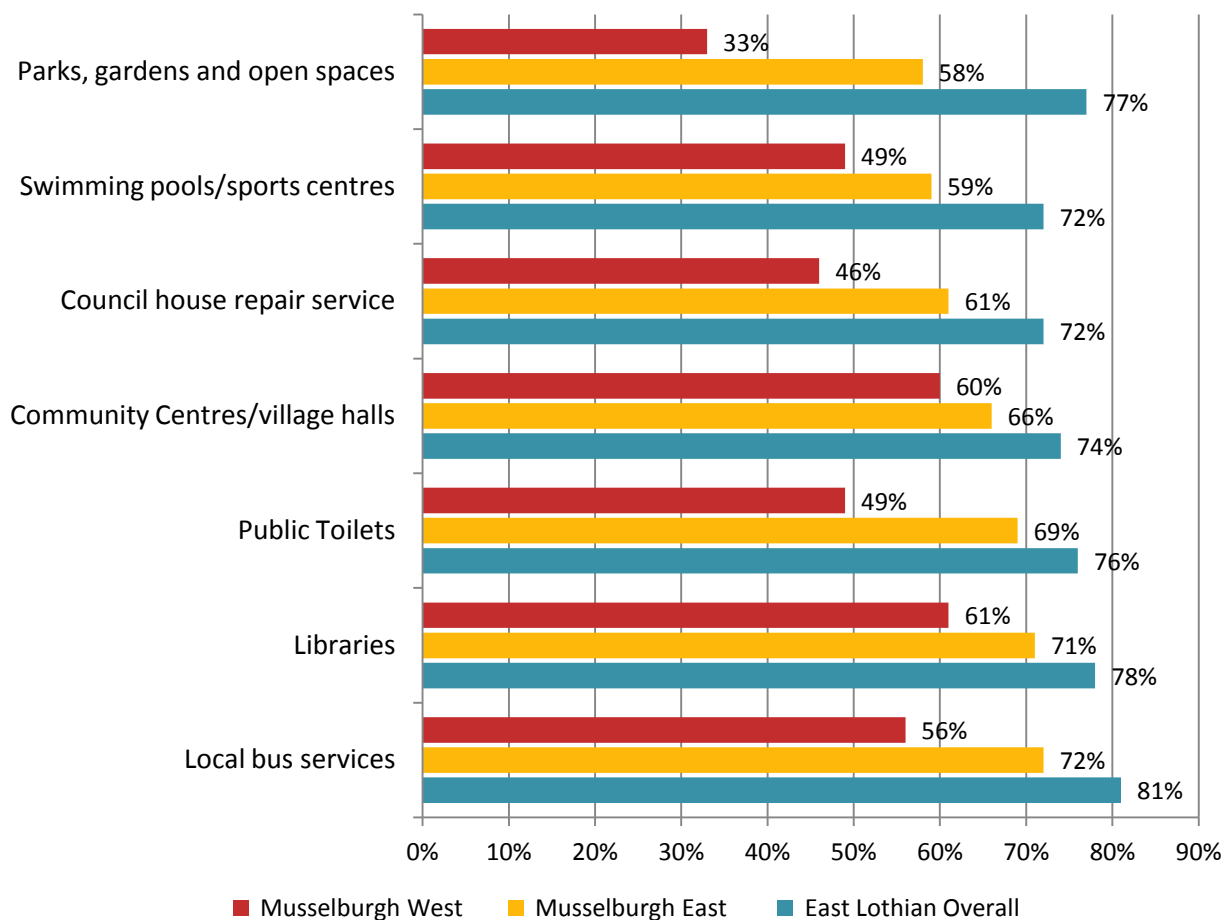
Overall residents in the Musselburgh area expressed higher levels of satisfaction with services than those across East Lothian as a whole.

As part of the same survey people were asked what services they thought were most important for the Council to provide for communities.

The graph below shows those services prioritised by more than 50% of respondents in either of the wards.

- In all cases people across the Musselburgh area gave a lower priority to each service than was given across the county

**What services are most important for the Council to provide?**



(East Lothian Residents Survey 2011)

## Community and Participation

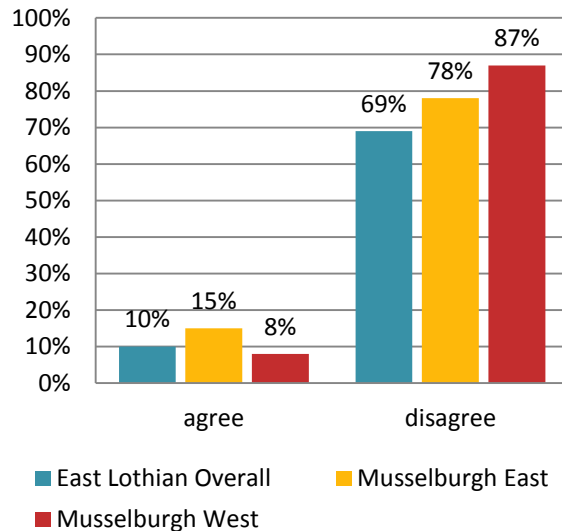
The results of the East Lothian Residents Survey (2011) show that ‘a sense of community’ is important to the people of the Musselburgh area.

- Across the Musselburgh wards 29% of people rated ‘a sense of community’ as one of the most important factors in making an area good place to live – with this figure peaking at 43% in Musselburgh West
- An average of only 7% across the area reported that they could influence decisions affecting their local area (with 58% in Musselburgh West and 42% in Musselburgh East reporting that they ‘don’t know’)

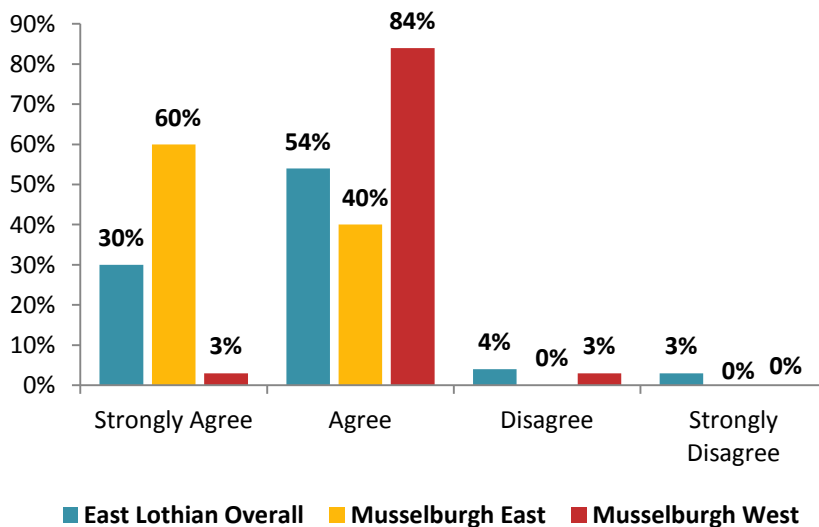
The same survey showed that that 9% of people in Musselburgh had volunteered within their communities over the past 12 months (although the actual figure is likely to be much higher as people do not always associate their participation in groups / campaigns etc as ‘volunteering’). This compares to 14% across East Lothian.

- The most popular types of volunteering were with: -
  - church groups
  - children’s activities both in and outside school
  - hobbies, arts and social clubs

**I would like to be more involved in the decisions my council make that affect my local area**



### Do you agree that your neighbourhood could assist in responding to extreme weather events?

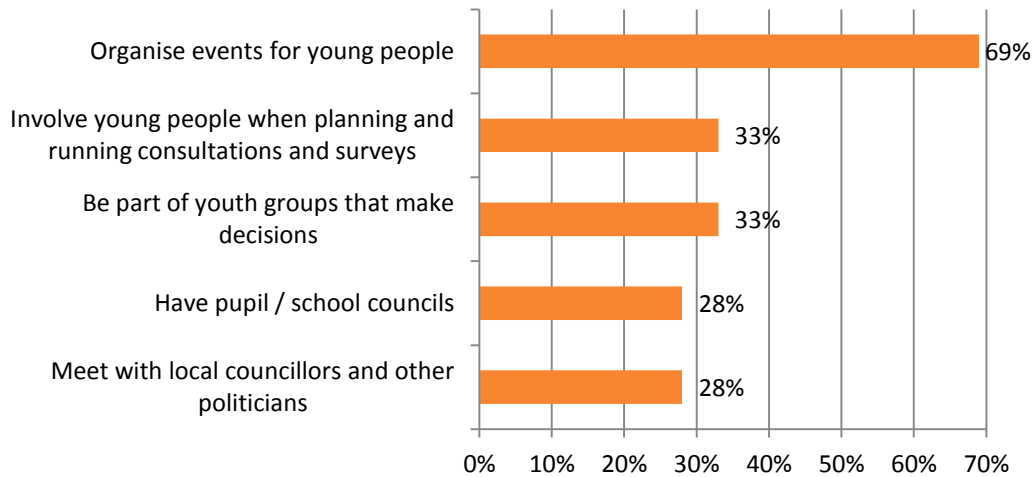


Despite both the graph above, and proportionally low levels of volunteering in the area, suggesting that most people do not want to become more involved in their communities the respondents to the survey seemed generally willing to help in their local areas to address specific needs eg. extreme weather events.

## Involving Young People

- 79% of P6 and S2 pupils across the area agreed that they could contribute to how decisions are made in schools in the Student Evaluation of Experience Survey 2012.
- 73% also agreed that young people's views are listened to

As part of developing the East Lothian Youth Vision Strategy young people were asked what were the best ways to ensure that young people had a chance to contribute to decisions that affect them more broadly.



The graph above shows what young people in Musselburgh thought were the best ways to do this. Other suggestions they made included using the media, through text messaging, through the internet