

# Reviewing the Management Plan for the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site

## Overview

### Old & New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site

• EDINBURGH •  
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



EDINBURGH WORLD HERITAGE

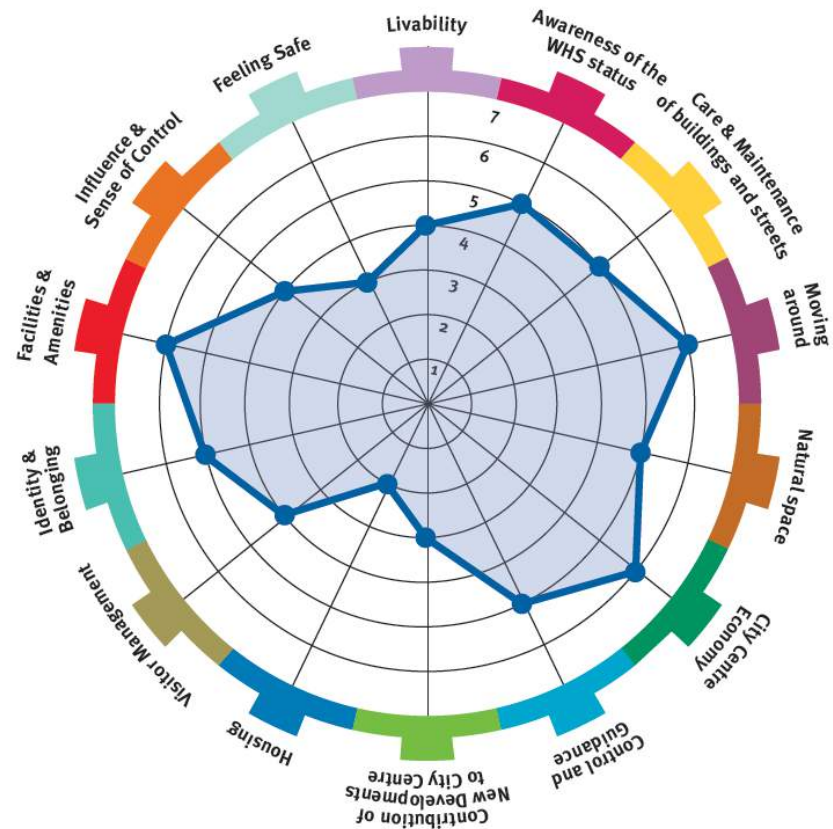


HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD  
EACHDRAIDHEIL  
ALBA

## Have Your Say ....

[consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/edinburgh-oldandnewtowns-managementplan-review](https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/edinburgh-oldandnewtowns-managementplan-review)





# Question 1: Awareness of World Heritage Site Status



Do you think there is good awareness of the World Heritage Site?



## Comments:

*Very few (if any) signs or other publicity. The proposed Information Centre being supported by EWH at the Tron Kirk would be a welcome addition. It is also worth stating that the level of awareness is very dependent on the need to know i.e. community councils and other heritage groups have a high awareness but in the general population the awareness is much lower which is disappointing.*

## Question 2: Care and maintenance of buildings and streets



Are buildings and spaces well cared for?



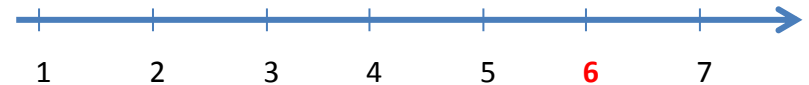
Comments:

*Care & maintenance of buildings is good but more general spaces much less so (e.g. litter, redundant street furniture etc.). In our view however, with the absence of grant funding, the situation may not be sustainable in the longer term. CEC Planning do not have sufficient resources for adequate enforcement of inappropriate itae or non-permitted development.*

## Question 3: Moving around



Can I easily walk and cycle using good quality routes?



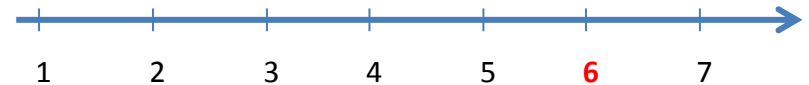
### Comments:

*Walking - excellent. Cycling - despite an arguably disproportionate level of funding is less so - in part due to topography and cobbles (and badly maintained road surfaces). However, the World Heritage site should take preference.*

## Question 4: Natural Space



Can I regularly experience good quality natural space?



Comments:

*However, a curate's egg - St Andrews Square suffers from over-commercialisation and poor planning enforcement - resulting in a significant detrimental reduction in the quality of that open space. However, Calton Hill (for example, is more sympathetically used and is better protected as a good quality, natural open space.*

## Question 5: City centre economy



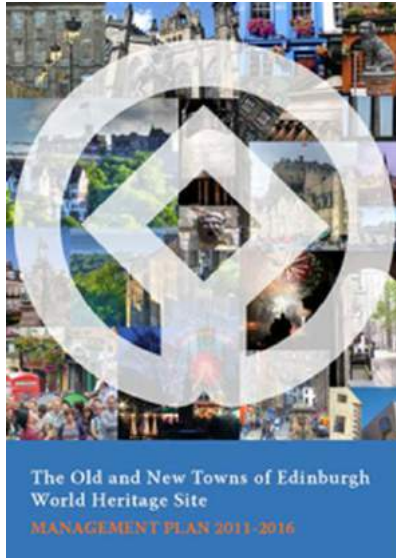
Is there an active local economy that helps to create a thriving place?



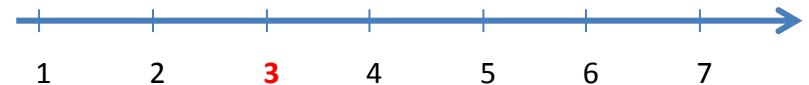
Comments:

*Again - mixed within the WHS. Princes Street - a poor offering. George Street - the jury's out..however, Broughton Street does have a thriving sense of place.*

## Question 6: Control and guidance



Do you feel the laws and guidance in place go far enough to protect what makes the Old and New Towns unique?



### Comments:

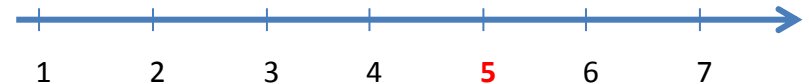
*Lack of enforcement, CEC don't walk the walk despite talking the talk. Lack of consistency in determining applications (too many decisions overturned by the DMC). Too many policies and too judgemental. Need to balance economic development vs. preservation of Edinburgh's heritage. Overall - a perceived lack of recognition as to the real value of the WHS and the longer term benefits vs. short term.*



## Question 7: Contribution of new developments to city centre



Is new development in the city centre making a positive contribution?



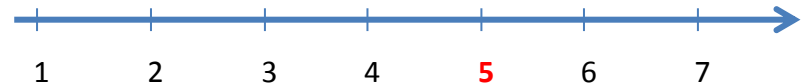
Comments:

*Interestingly the image is of a development just outside of the WHS !However, there is no buffer zone. There are some new developments with compliment and do make a positive contribution e.g. Harvey Nichols / Bus station but often - developments have too much bulk / height.*

## Question 8: Housing



Does housing support the needs of the community and contribute to a positive environment?



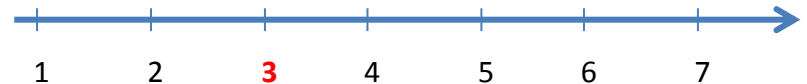
Comments:

*Perhaps better in the Old Town. 25% affordable housing requirement is excellent and should be retained. There are issues with tenement living which which the Statutory Notice scandal didn't help.*

## Question 9: Visitor and local needs



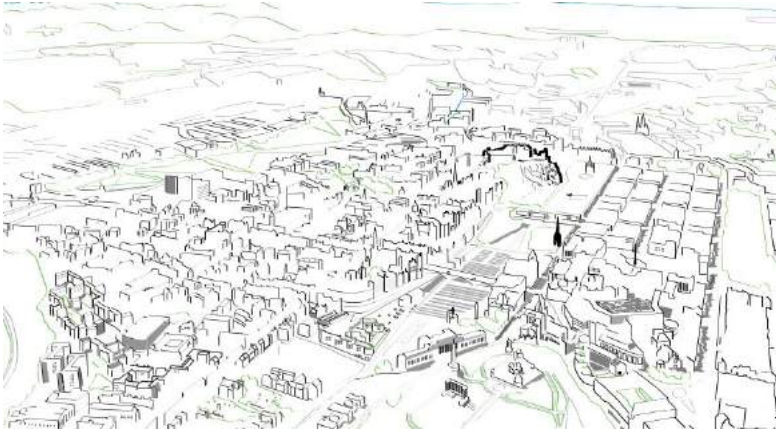
Is there a healthy balance between visitor and local needs?



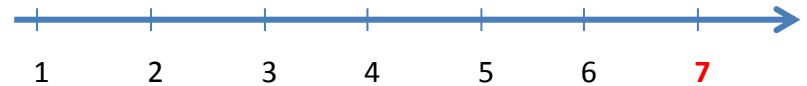
Comments:

*City centre balance has swung too much in favour of the needs of the tourist industry to the detriment of local residents. The new Town is better. Edinburgh uniquely has a lining city centre which should be maintained. Our view is that less could be more in terms of quality activities vs. the desire by many parties to extend the festival activities to become year-round events.*

## Question 10: Identity and belonging



Does this place have a positive identity and do I feel I belong?



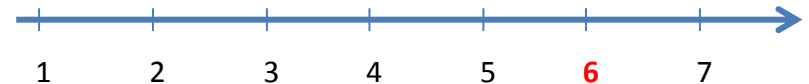
Comments:

*Many areas within the WHS have a strong local identity (like a big village) - majority of residents feel that they belong.*

## Question 11: Facilities and amenities



Do facilities and amenities meet my needs?  
For example shops, restaurants, schools, GPs  
etc.



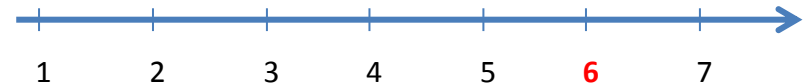
### Comments:

*Punches above its weight. All activities in city centre within easy walking distance - a major positive. Excellent cultural activities in all facets. Some concerns over sustainability with high level of additional residential developments in the pipeline with less than perfect infrastructure planning covering education, health care. Restaurants not a problem !*

## Question 13: Influence and sense of control



Do I feel able to participate in decisions and help change things for the better?



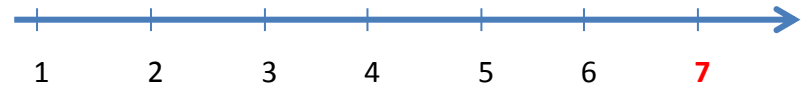
### Comments:

*Being involved with a Community Council does give a sense of active participation byut much less clear for general population. Neighbourhood Notification system does not work well enough - "disenfranchising" many. Perhaps too many consultations without adequate focus / communication of the outcome. However, recent Parking proposal - CEC listened to feedback which is good.*

## Question 13: Feeling safe



Do I feel safe?



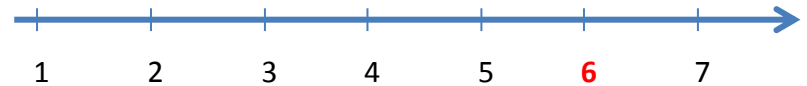
Comments:

*Yes - unanimously*

## Question 14: Livability



Is it enjoyable to live in, work in and visit the World Heritage Site?



Comments:

*Some issues however - LITTER, WASTE MANAGEMENT !*



# What is the shape of your city?

