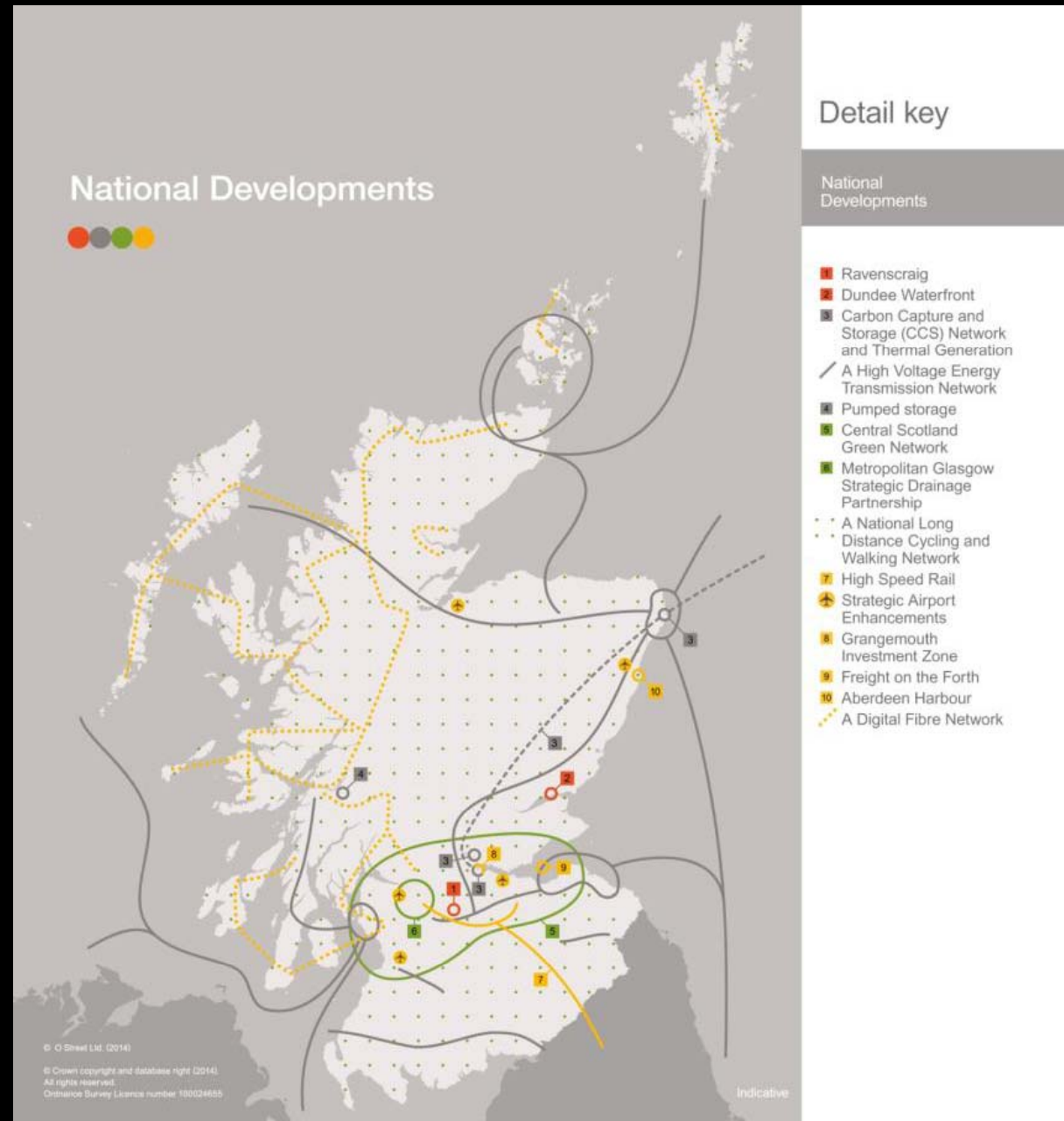


Placemaking in

WHITBURN

Chapter 03
Whitburn Contexts

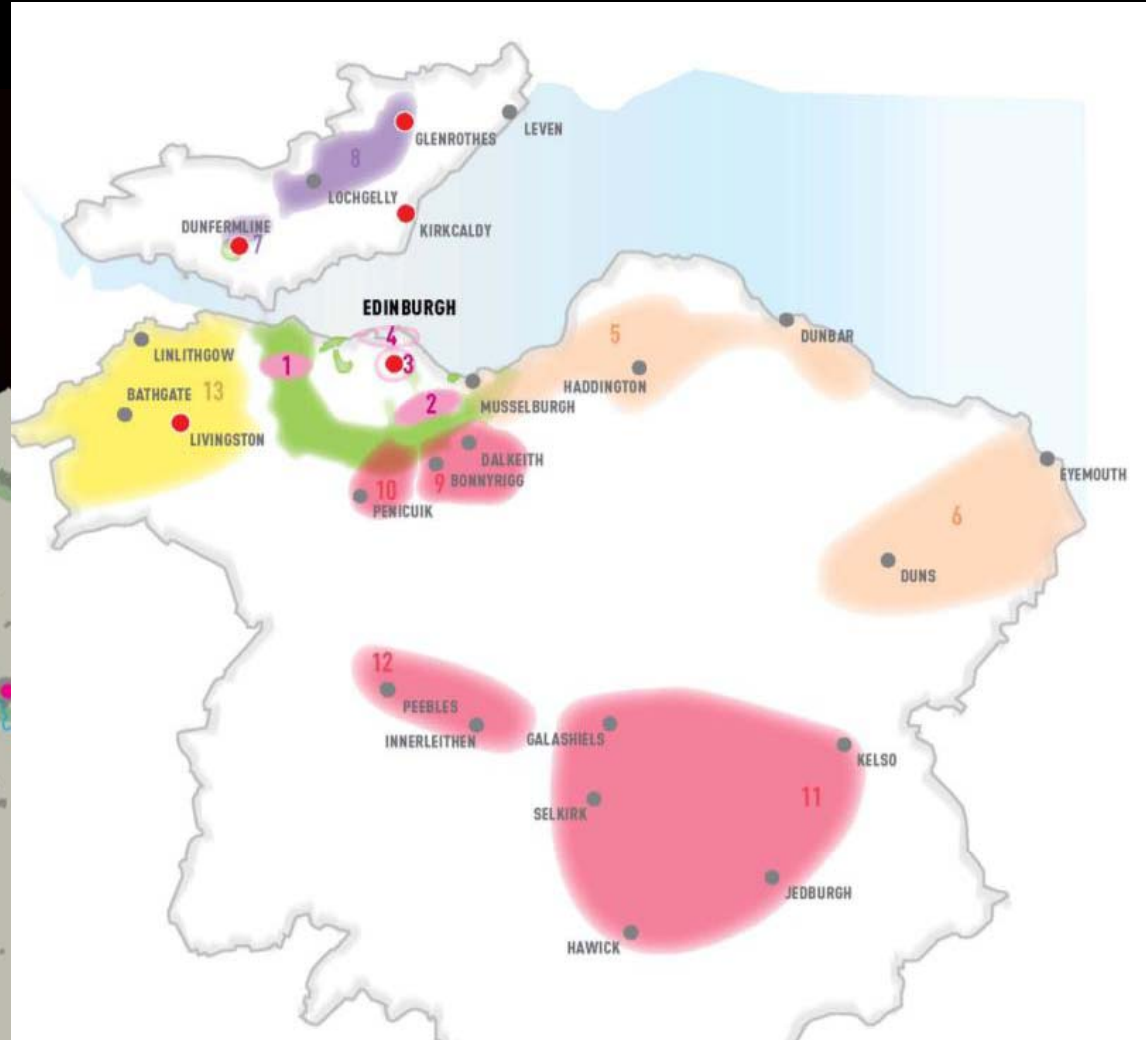
Whitburn – National Setting



Whitburn – Regional Setting



Whitburn – Regional Setting



Austin-Smith:Lord

Whitburn



Whitburn - context



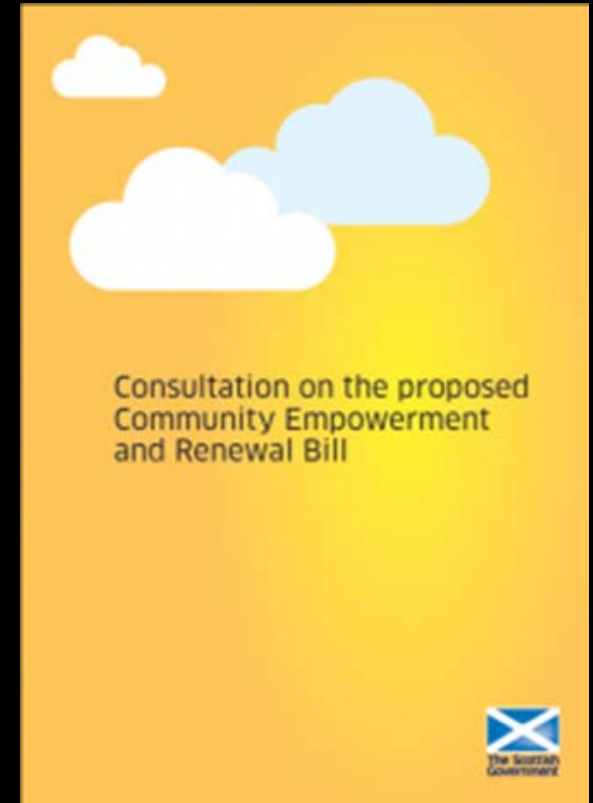
Socio-economic Comparators

Compared to West Lothian, Whitburn has...

- An **elderly population / less youth**
- **Poorer health** statistics
- **Higher unemployment** and income deprivation
- A higher population living in **deprived areas**
- More social housing and a high turnover of council housing
- **Lower levels of resident satisfaction**
- **Low internet access**
- **Improving attainment and positive destinations**

Market Change

- Private sector disinvestment
- Public sector consolidation
- Problems are national: *solutions* are local
- Whitburn town centre:
 - Market adjustment easier (than large towns/malls)
 - Investment is out-of-centre; but not too far away
 - Beyond shopping: leisure, residential, employment, community
 - New uses for vacant and derelict buildings / land
 - Adaptability and economic resilience – mutually supportive activity



Community Regeneration : Activity

- 100 business starts in Whitburn 2008-2013
- West Lothian Working Together
 - Access2employment / Community Development Trust
 - Skills Development Scotland
 - 94.3% Whitburn Academy leavers – positive destination
- High level of volunteering

Community Regeneration : investment

- Heartlands (more than 5000 homes?)
 - 200 homes = £50k investment in town centre
- £5m Partnership Centre 2016/17-18
- £100k Town Centre Improvement Fund
- Whitburn Shopfront Improvements Fund
- Heritage Lottery Fund application (Polkemmet)
- £1m King George V Park investment
- Community Sports Hub



Whitburn - context

