

North Berwick Area Early Years Profile



Introduction

Support from the Start is a network of people and organisations who are working for the 'Best Possible Start for All Children in east Lothian. The network uses local knowledge and the information in this profile to work towards the following outcomes for children:-

- Have positive parenting & experience good attachments at an early stage
- Are ready to learn and achieve
- Can access quality child care experiences
- Are healthy & happy
- Are not living in poverty
- Have a good opportunity for play
- Are protected from harm

The North Berwick Area Support from the Start group was launched in June 2012. Its 'core group' has met on a regular basis since then jointly led by Sandra King who works for East Lothian Council as a Community Development Officer., and Joyce McIntosh who is the head teacher of North Berwick nursery.

The groups key achievement so far include:-

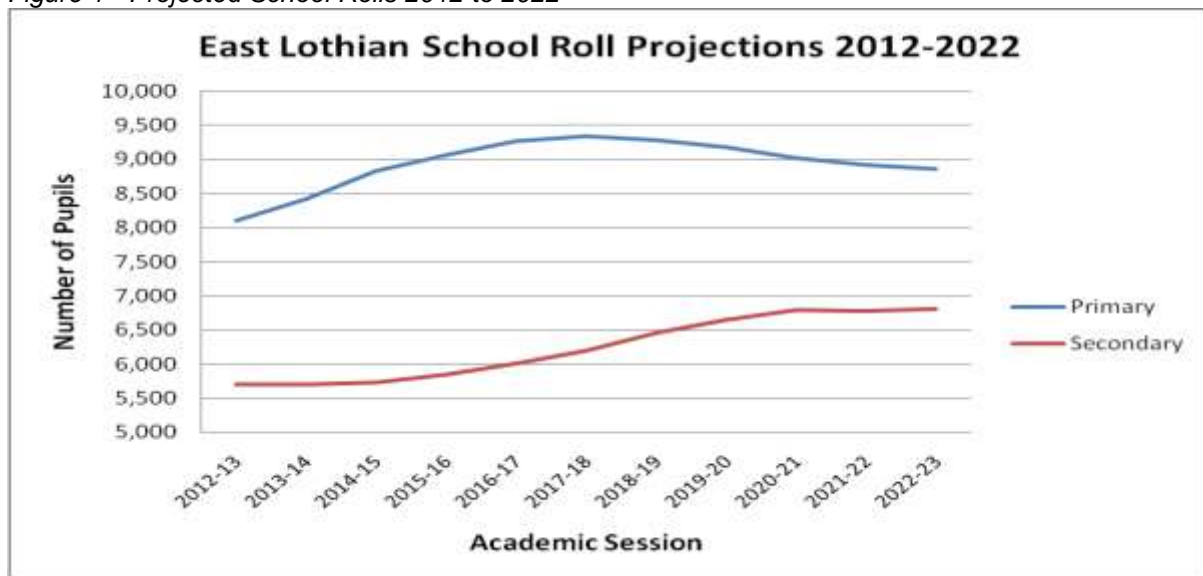
- Supporting development of the Confident Parents – Confident Children's group
- Supporting the development of Baby Massage in the area
- Supporting the development of the Raising Children with Confidence course for North Berwick parents
- Supporting music therapy placements for 0-8 year olds in North Berwick
- Improving links between services, practitioners and parents in the area
- Developing the 'Playing Out' project
- Working on new ideas for inclusion of income deprived families in an area of relative affluence

North Berwick Cluster Area Overview

North Berwick and its surrounding areas are situated at the eastern end of East Lothian. It includes the settlements and areas of North Berwick, Dirleton, Drem, Gullane, Aberlady and Athelstaneford. The area has one secondary school and five primary schools with attached nursery classes. It has a population of 12,402 (www.sns.gov.uk). This is some 13% of the population of East Lothian as a whole.

Across East Lothian as a whole the population is growing, with a growth rate of 7% since 2001 which has been largely mirrored in North Berwick. Since 2001 the population in the North Berwick Cluster has risen by 8.5%. This rise has been largest in the Gullane and Drem areas (13.5%) and lowest in the south of North Berwick (0%). It is expected that the population will continue to increase over the next ten years as a result of new house building and other factors. This is illustrated in the school roll figures projected below.

Figure 1 - Projected School Rolls 2012 to 2022¹



The school age population is expected to increase across East Lothian over the next decade (Fig. 1). The age distribution in North Berwick varies significantly from East Lothian. There is notably smaller percentage of working age adults living in the ward (53% compared to an average of 60% across East Lothian) and a significantly higher percentage of the population is of pensionable age – 28% compared to 21% across East Lothian (Table 1).

In the north of North Berwick this percentage climbs further to 37% while in the south of North Berwick the percentage of pensionable age falls to 23%, much closer to the East Lothian average

¹ East Lothian Council Education Department

Table 1 - Population age composition²

Population Percentage	North Berwick Cluster	East Lothian
Children & young people (0-15)	19%	19%
Working age (16-64)	53%	60%
Pensionable age (65+)	28%	21%

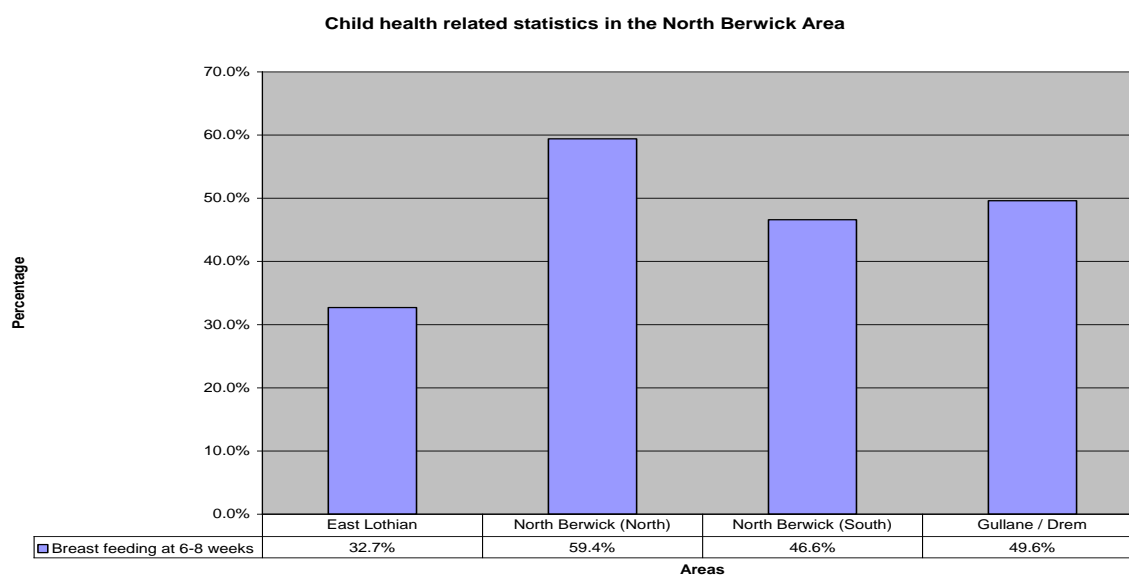
Health

Estimates from the General Register of Scotland indicate that in 2009 there were some 618 children aged 0–4 years living in the North Berwick Coastal ward.

Child health data for 2010 is generally very positive and above average across the North Berwick Cluster area, including breastfeeding rates well above the Scottish and East Lothian average and better than average child dental health in primary 1. For example, dental health in primary 1, in the North Berwick North area is significantly higher than the Scottish average (93% versus 62%) while in Gullane and Drem this drops to 80% but this is still significantly higher than the East Lothian rate of 72%.³

The percentage of babies exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks in the north of North Berwick stands at 59%, significantly exceeding the East Lothian and Scottish averages. However, this rate drops to 47% in the south of North Berwick, which is still high when compared with East Lothian or Scotland as a whole (Fig 2).

Figure 2 - Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks⁴



Education

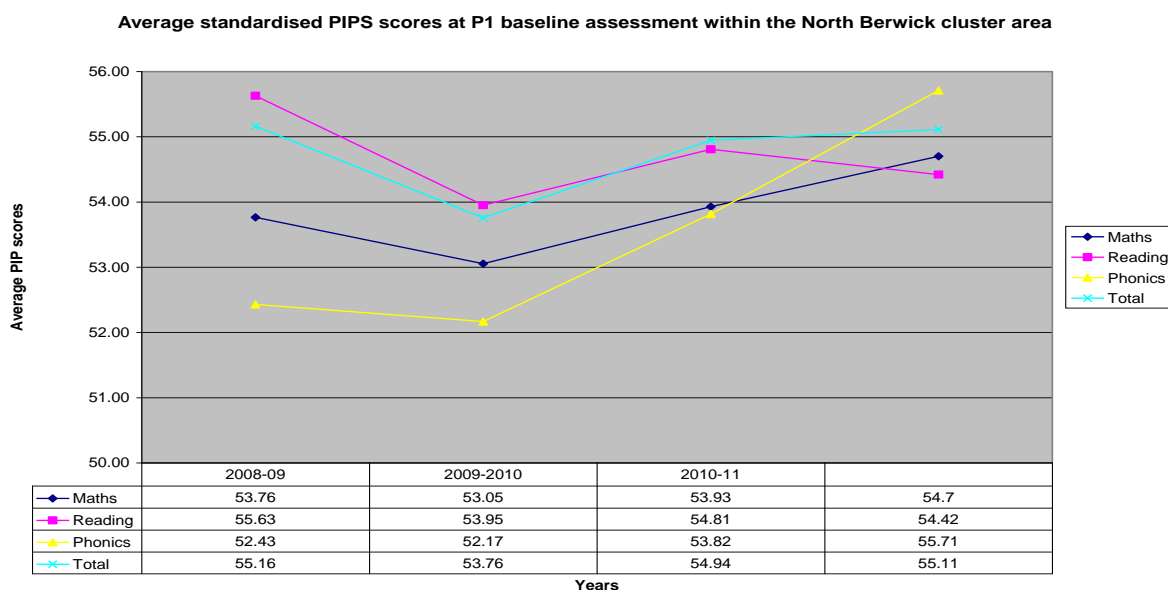
In primary one the standard assessment used to measure the abilities of new pupils in reading, writing and arithmetic show that North Berwick P1 pupils have consistently scored above the East Lothian average over the last four years (Fig. 3).

² www.sns.gov.uk

³ East Lothian Health & Wellbeing Profile 2010 ([Scottish Public Health Observatory](#))

⁴ East Lothian Health & Wellbeing Profile 2010 ([Scottish Public Health Observatory](#))

Figure 3 - Average standardised PIPS scores at P1 baseline assessment ⁵

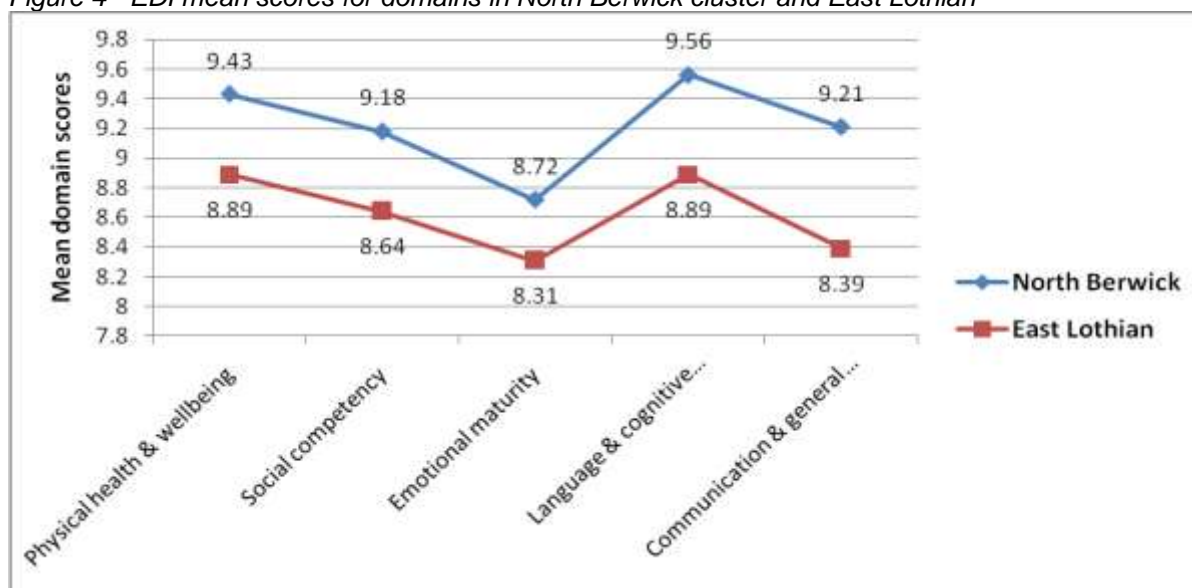


Early Development Instrument ⁶

Across all socioeconomic status groups, East Lothian 5 yr olds: do quite well in physical health and well-being and cognitive/language development domains; score average in social competency; and score less well in emotional maturity and communications and general knowledge domains.

Within the North Berwick cluster the overall range of scores of children was very similar to East Lothian as a whole (Fig 4) and compared well with all of the other cluster areas (Appendix 1). North Berwick has an almost identical pattern of scores to East Lothian as a whole but scores higher in all domains. It has the lowest percentage of children in East Lothian scoring low on at least one domain (Appendix 2).

Figure 4 - EDI mean scores for domains in North Berwick cluster and East Lothian



⁵ East Lothian Council Education Department

⁶ Geddes, R (2012) Early Development Instrument report – East Lothian Pilot 2012. Scottish Collaboration for Public Health Research and Policy, Edinburgh

Children & Young People

Given its population the North Berwick area has its fair share of pupils with additional support needs but significantly lower than expected levels of looked after pupils (at home and away), free school meal entitlement and pupils with disabilities (Table 2).

Table 2 - Children and Young People Facts & Figures ⁷

	North Berwick	East Lothian	%
Number of Pupils	1940	13,230	15%
Looked After Pupils (at home)	1	61	3%
Looked After Pupils (away from home)	9	103	7%
Pupils with ASN	352	1,923	15%
Disabled Pupils	12	189	6%
Free School Meal Registration	105	1,445	7%

From Primary and Secondary School Pupil Census 2010

Amenities

North Berwick has a range of services and resources available to its residents which are highlighted on the map in Appendix 3

There is also considerable wider amenity and green space available in and around North Berwick (see Appendix 4). Green spaces are the lungs of towns and cities and can contribute greatly to improving people's physical and mental health by providing places for informal recreation - walking, cycling, sitting, socialising and children's play - and breathing spaces to take time out from the stresses of modern life. They bring the countryside into urban areas and make it more accessible. Green space is any vegetated land or water within or adjoining an urban area and includes:

- green corridors like paths, disused railway lines, rivers and canals
- woods, grassed areas, parks, gardens, playing fields, children's play areas, cemeteries and allotments
- countryside immediately adjoining a town which people can access from their homes
- derelict, vacant and contaminated land which has the potential to be transformed

Summary

North Berwick Cluster covers the communities of North Berwick, Dirleton, Drem, Gullane, Aberlady and Athelstaneford. This short profile indicates that population health and wellbeing is generally good and well above average from an east Lothian or Scottish perspective.

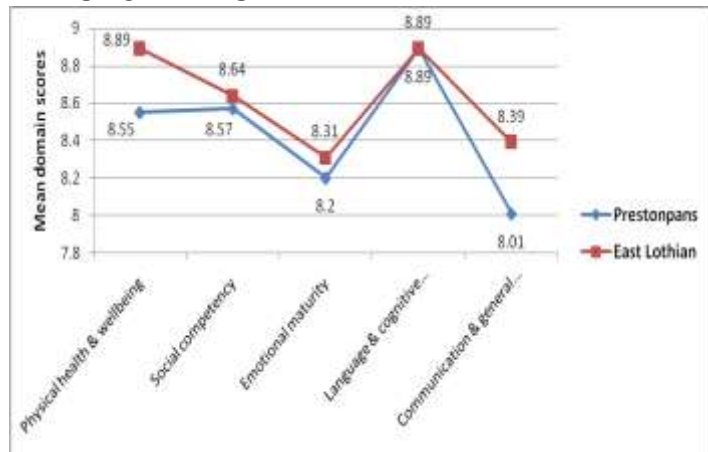
Educationally young people in North Berwick are well served and have good outcomes. It has the lowest percentage of children in East Lothian scoring low on at least one domain.

The area in general is well served for amenities and green space although there are access issues for some of the smaller communities outwith North Berwick.

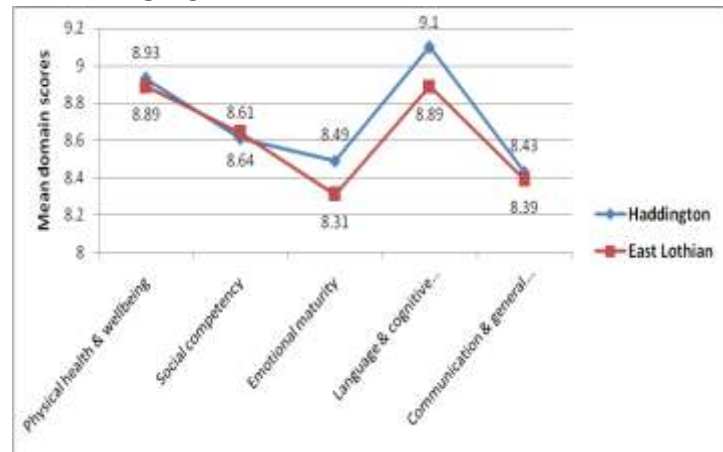
⁷ East Lothian Council Education Department

Appendix 1 - EDI mean scores for domains in cluster areas across East Lothian

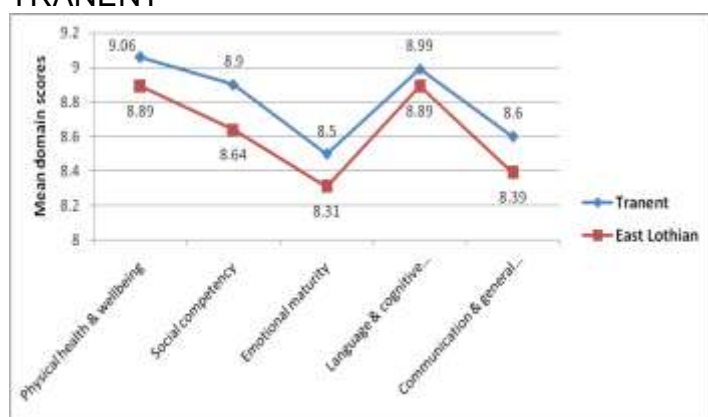
PRESTONPANS



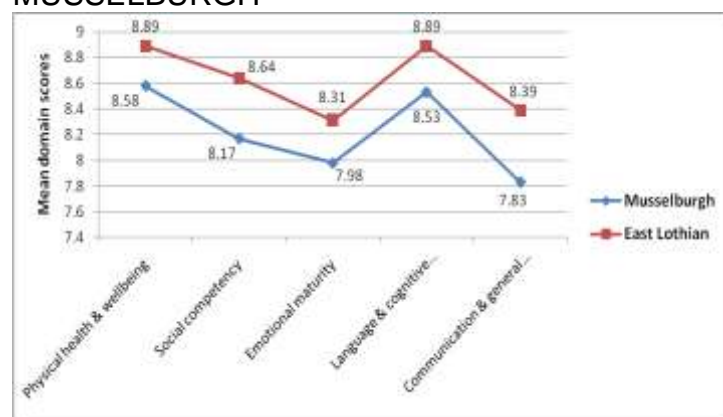
HADDINGTON



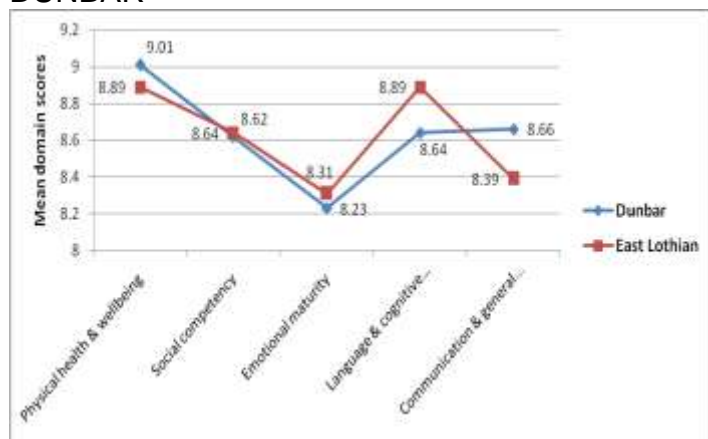
TRANENT



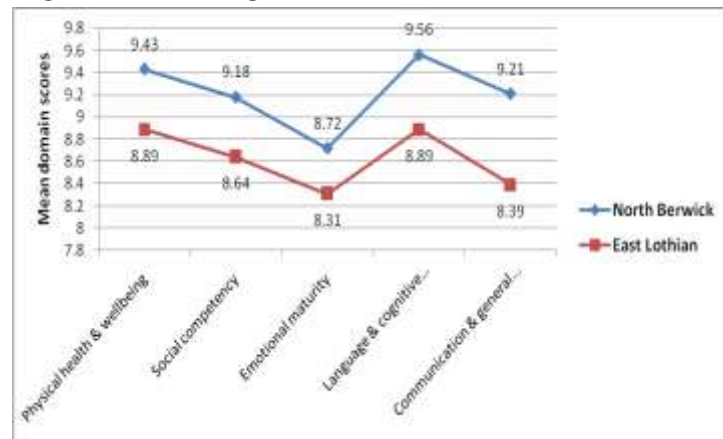
MUSSELBURGH



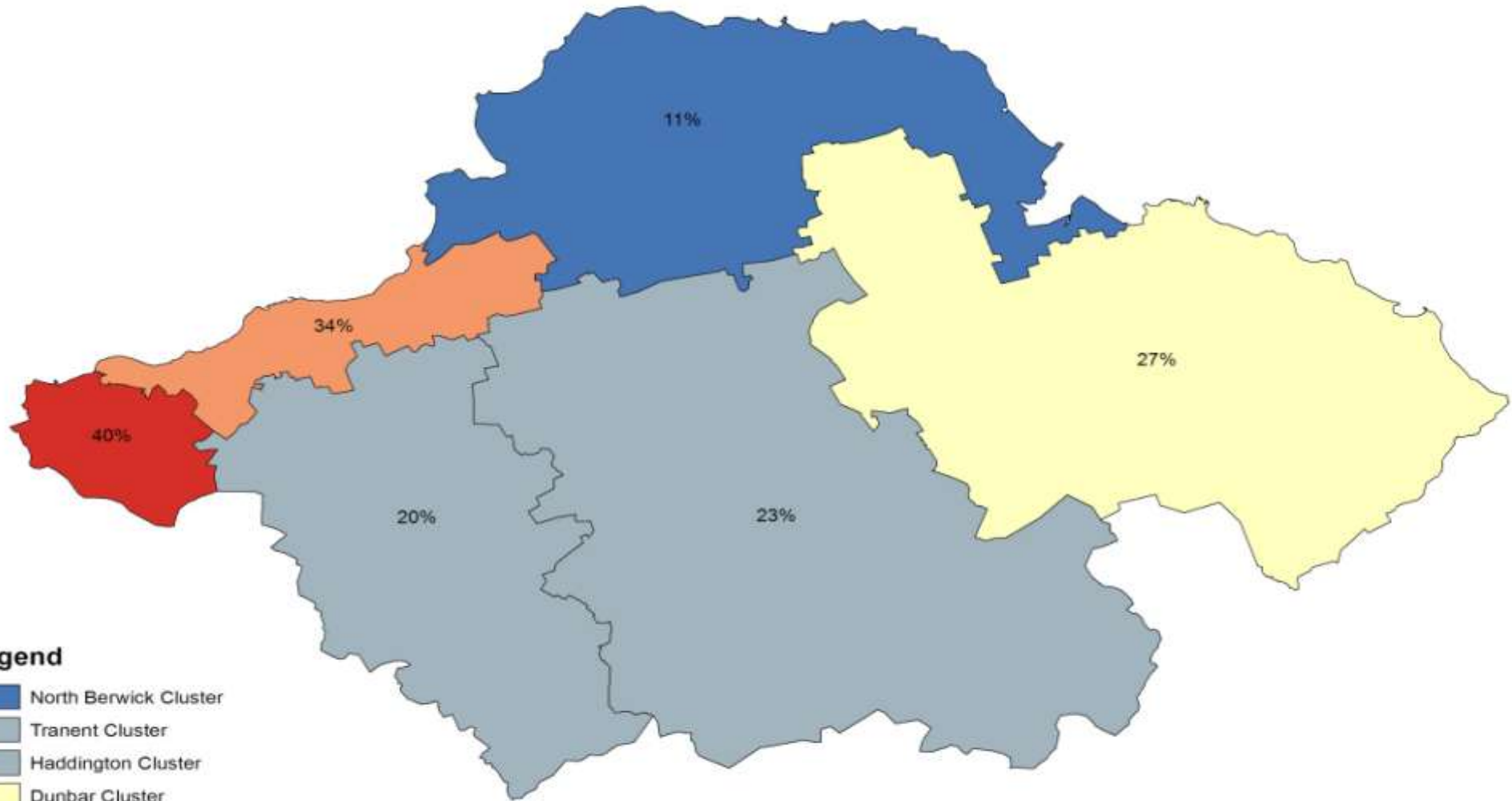
DUNBAR



NORTH BERWICK



Percentage of children who score low on one or more domains of development by cluster area

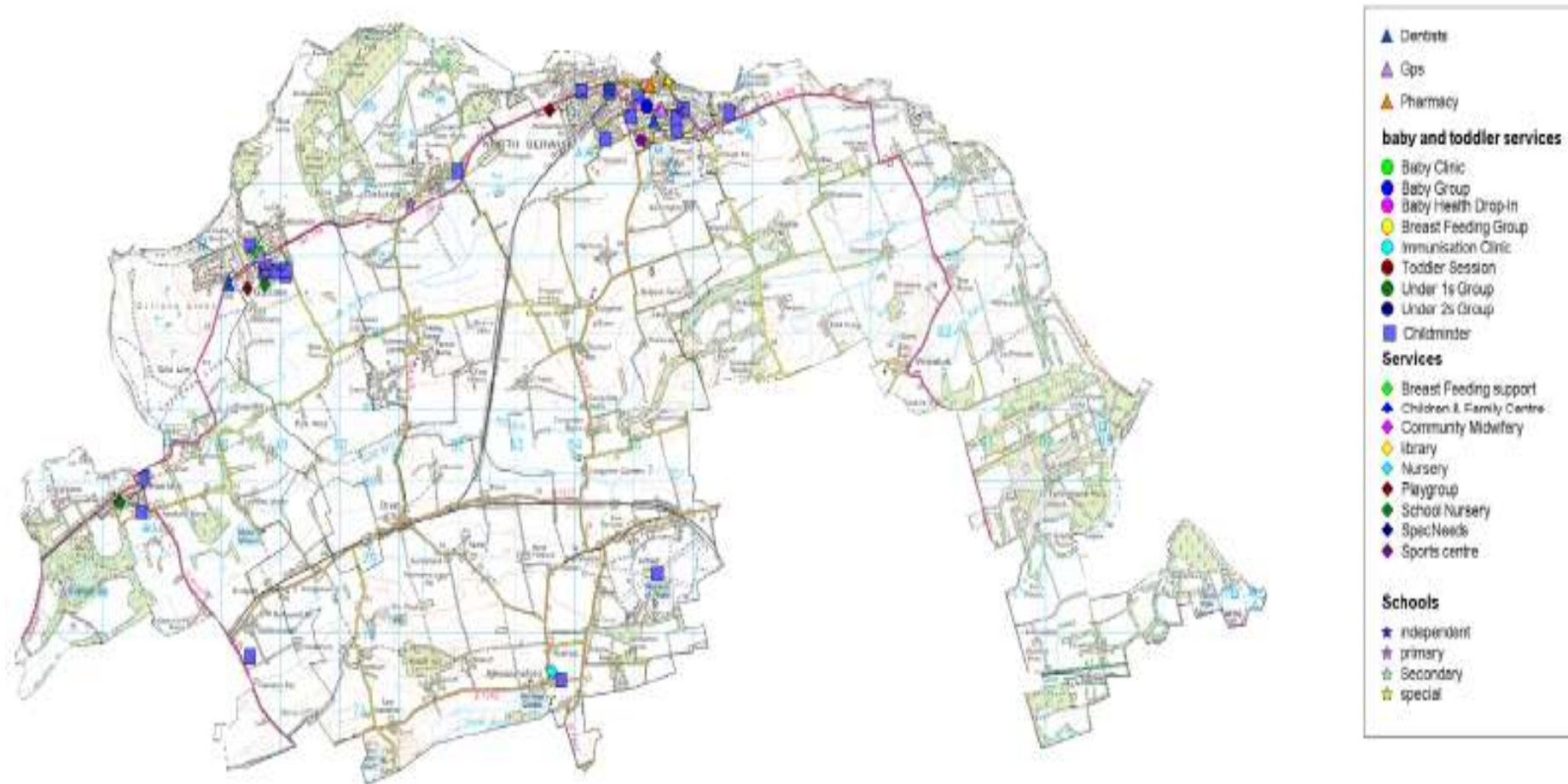


Legend

- North Berwick Cluster
- Tranent Cluster
- Haddington Cluster
- Dunbar Cluster
- Prestonpans Cluster
- Musselburgh Cluster

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Appendix 3 – Amenities and service in the North Berwick Cluster Area ⁸



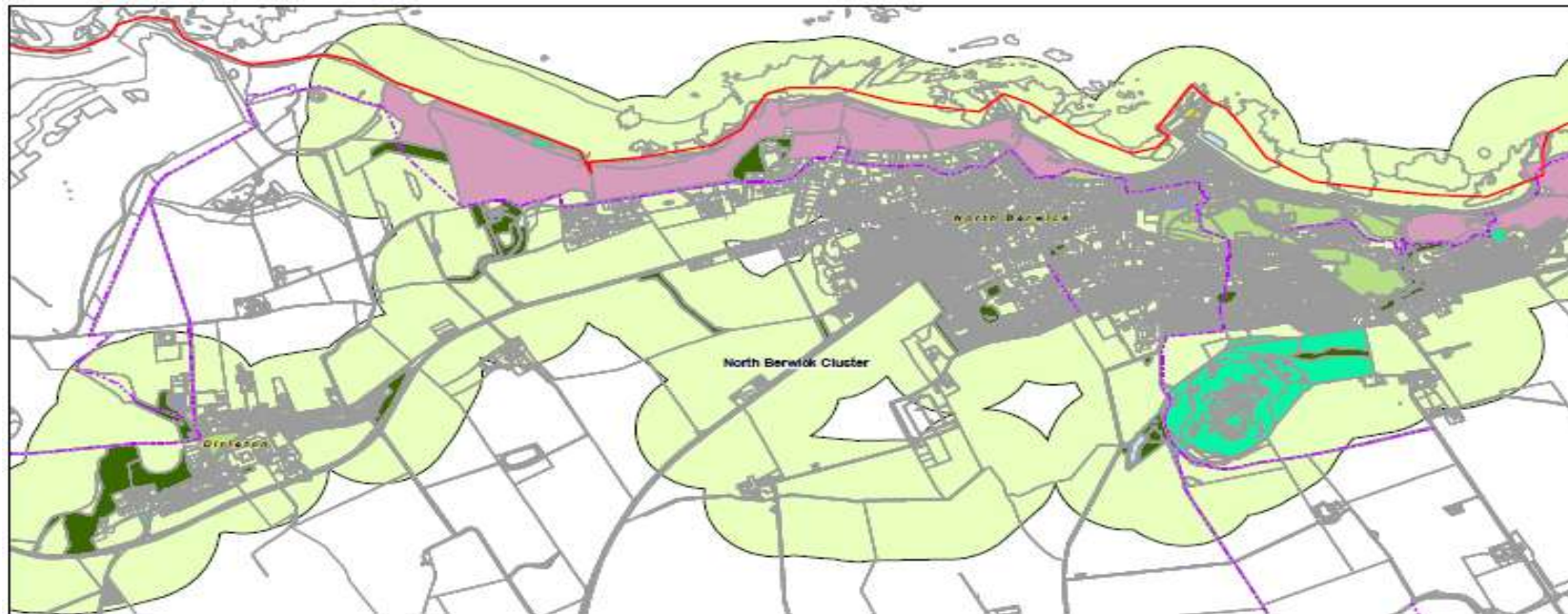
Produced by Carol Brown, HIU, NHS Lothian, 23 November 2011.

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Appendix 4 – Green network map for the North Berwick Cluster Area ⁹

⁸ All schools have access to educational psychology and school nursing services

⁹ This map was taken from the Open Space Strategy Consultation pages East Lothian Council's website (http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/5144/strategic_green_network-north_berwick_cluster)



Legend

-  Cluster Areas
-  Core Paths 2010
- Greenspace Primary Land Use Codes**
-  6.1 - Public park and garden
-  6.4 - Playspace
-  6.51 - Playing fields
-  6.52 - Golf courses
-  6.61 - Green access routes
-  6.62 - Riparian routes
-  6.71 - Woodland
-  6.72 - Open semi-natural
-  6.73 - Open water
-  6.82 - Churchyard
-  6.83 - Cemetery
-  6.9 - Civic space
-  Strategic Open Space Networks 300m Buffer

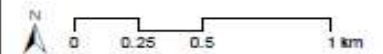
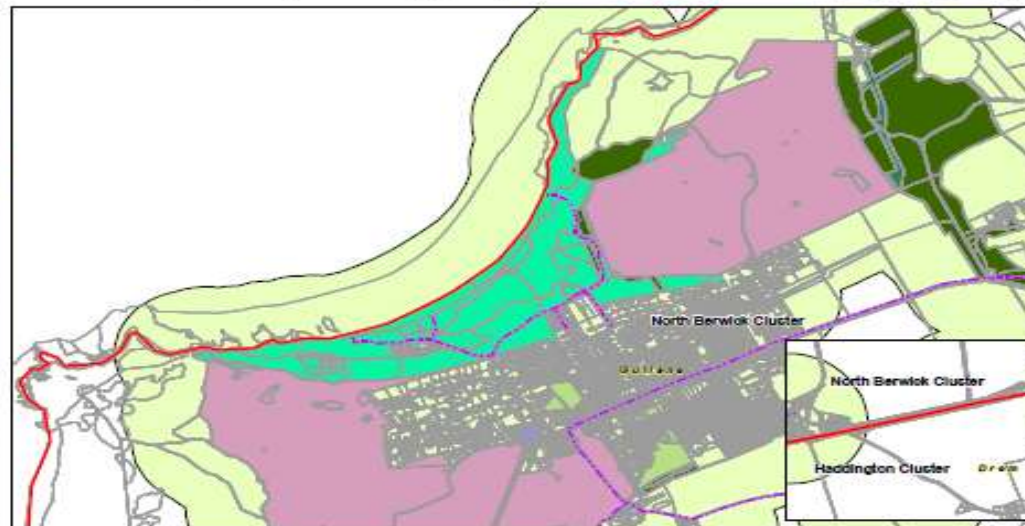


Figure 2d
Strategic
Green Networks
North Berwick Cluster

