

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Licensing Sub-Committee
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	14 May 2026
<b>BY:</b>	Depute Chief Executive – Resources and Economy
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	Trade Request for Additional Taxi Stances
<b>REPORT STATUS:</b>	Public

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## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Sub-Committee of a request for the creation of additional taxi stances throughout East Lothian.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the Trade request outlined herein, and, if satisfied of the reasons for the request, agree to proceed as requested.
- 2.2 Authorise the Service Manager – Governance, and such staff as they may designate, to proceed with the necessary public advertising process relative to the creation of new taxi ranks.
- 2.3 Receive a further report from the Service Manager – Governance advising of the outcome of this process and of any objections received, with a view to formally establishing said taxi stances thereafter.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Section 19, a licensing authority may, after consultation with representatives of the taxi trade in their area, appoint stances for taxis. Before doing so, the licensing authority is obliged to give notice to the Chief Constable and also advertise the proposal in a local newspaper, giving members of the public 28 days to make representations on the proposal, which representations shall be taken into account by the licensing authority in coming to their final decision.

3.2 East Lothian Council's Licensing Authority was approached with concerns about the inadequate provision of taxi ranks in East Lothian, with particular mention of Tranent, Musselburgh, and Blindwells.

3.3 A public consultation was published between 27 January 2026 and 10 March 2026, which received 28 responses.

To the first question of whether additional taxi stances were required:

- No – 10 responses
- Yes – 18 responses

Of the respondents who believed additional stances were required, the following responses were received when asked where these were required:

- Musselburgh – 17.86%
- Tranent – 35.71%
- Prestonpans – 14.29%
- Haddington – 10.71%
- North Berwick – 14.29%
- Dunbar – 3.57%

3.4 There were a number of responses that commented on existing stances being used by the public. It should be noted that local authority parking attendants have no powers to issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) to vehicles parked in designated taxi stances.

3.5 The Sub-Committee should note that the Blindwells development has not yet been adopted by East Lothian Council and therefore has no authority to designate taxi stances.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None. The Council has a statutory power to designate taxi stances in terms of Section 19 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

#### **5 RESOURCE AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Finance: There would be certain costs involved in physically marking out any new taxi stance on the surface of the road, plus any associated signage deemed necessary, as well as the outlays involved in advertising the proposal.

5.2 Human Resources: None

5.3 Other (e.g. Legal/IT): None

5.4 Risk: None

## 6 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 *Select the statement that is appropriate to your report by placing an 'X' in the relevant box.*

An Integrated Impact Assessment screening process has been undertaken and the subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on: equality and human rights; tackling socio-economic disadvantages and poverty; climate change, the environment and sustainability; the Council's role as a corporate parent; or the storage/collection of personal data.

or

The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and impacts have been identified as follows:

Subject	Impacts identified (Yes, No or N/A)
Equality and human rights	
Socio-economic disadvantage/poverty	
Climate change, the environment and sustainability	
Corporate parenting and care-experienced young people	
Storage/collection of personal data	
Other	

## 7 APPENDICES

- 7.1 Current positions of taxi stances in Musselburgh, Tranent, Haddington and Dunbar
- 7.2 Proposed additional positions of taxi stances at Wallyford, Tranent, Prestonpans and North Berwick
- 7.3 Summary of consultation responses

## 8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

## 9 AUTHOR AND APPROVAL DETAILS

### Report Author(s)

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<b>Designation</b>	Team Leader – Licensing and Landlord Registration
<b>Tel/Email</b>	01620 8206923 / sfitzpatrick1@eastlothian.gov.uk
<b>Date</b>	17 April 2026

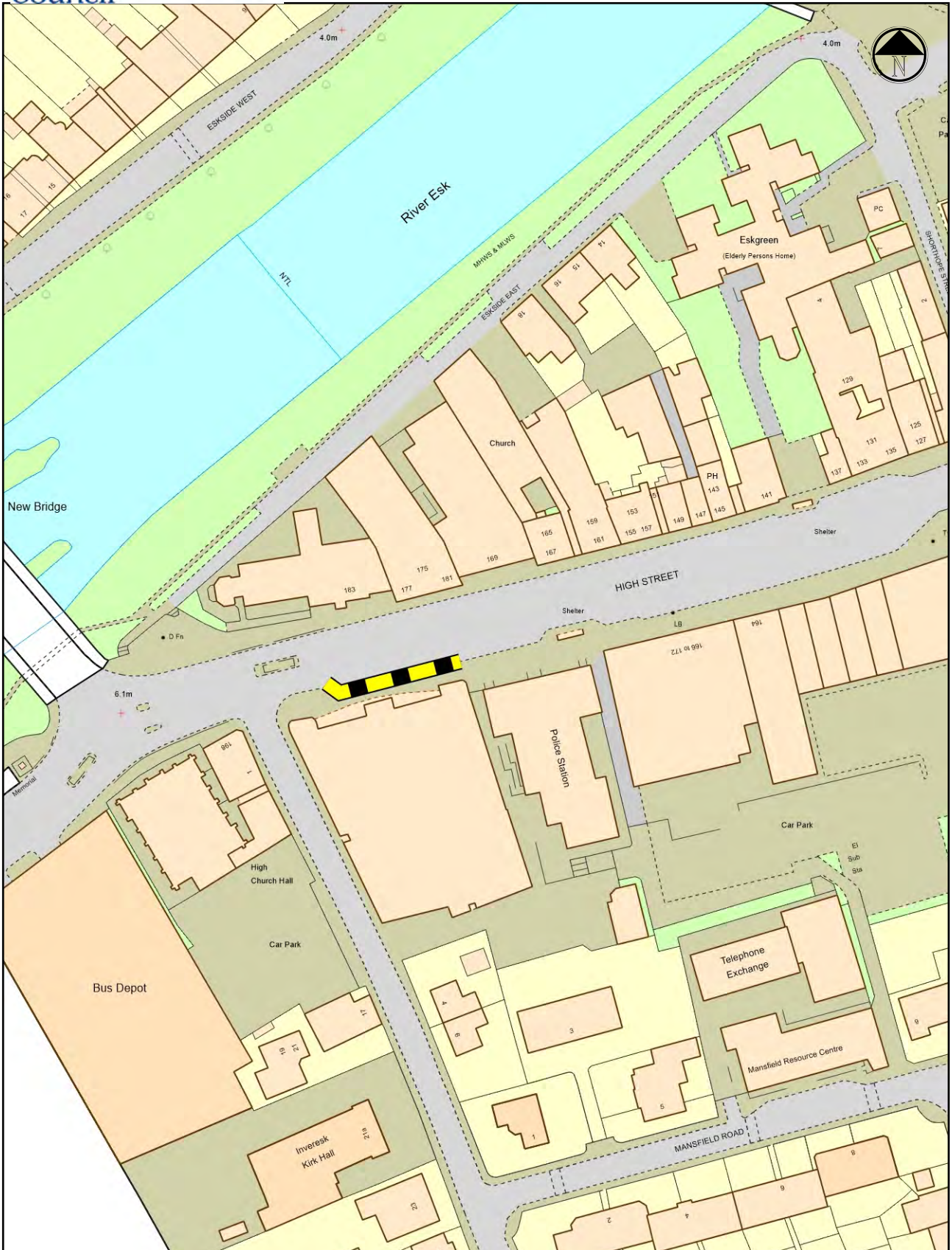
### Head of Service Approval

<b>Name</b>	Hayley Barnett
<b>Designation</b>	Head of Corporate Support
<b>Confirmation that IIA and other relevant checks (e.g. finance/legal) have been completed</b>	Yes
<b>Approval Date</b>	22 April 2026



East Lothian  
Council

Scale: 1:1250  
Date: 21 January 2026

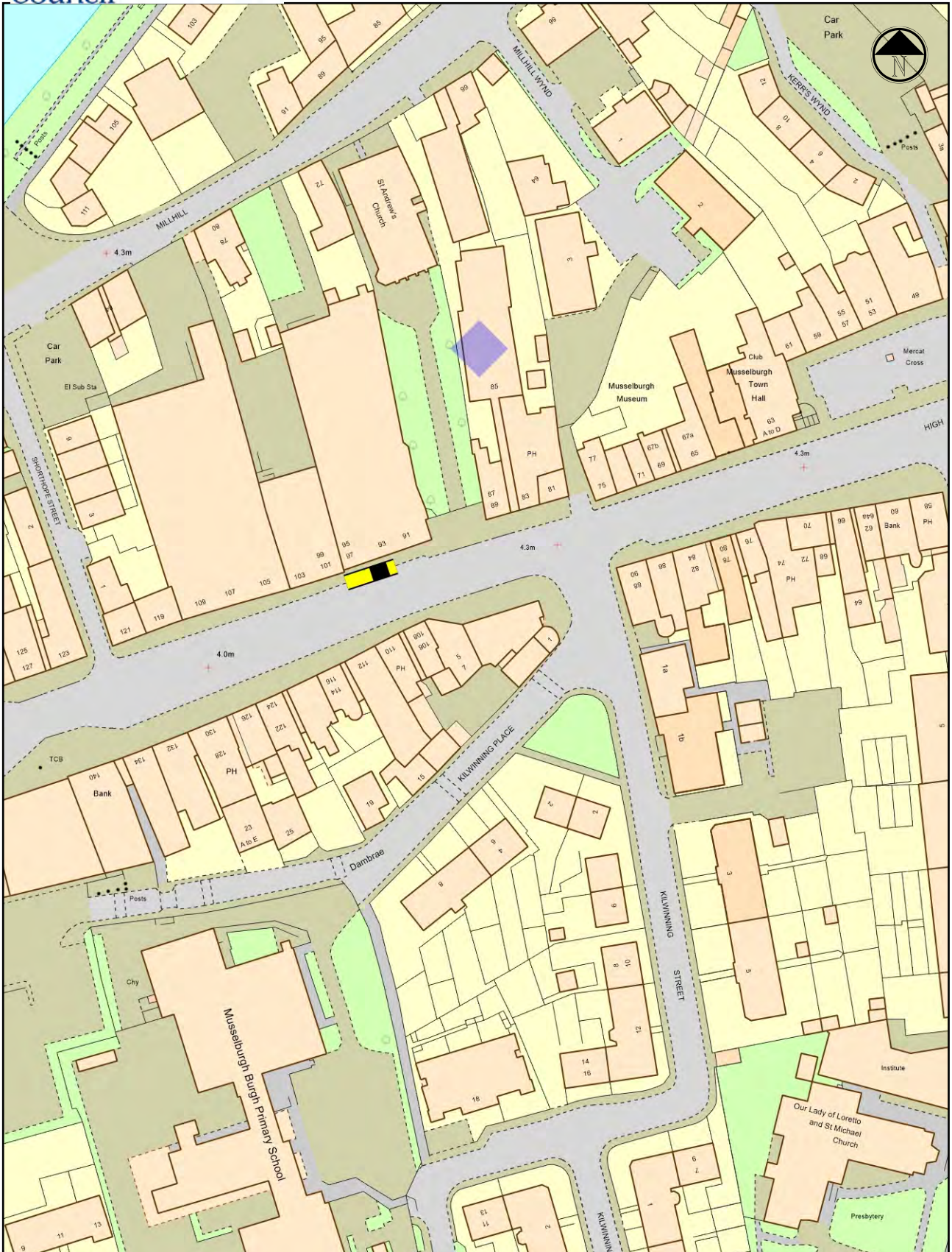


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Date: 21 January 2026

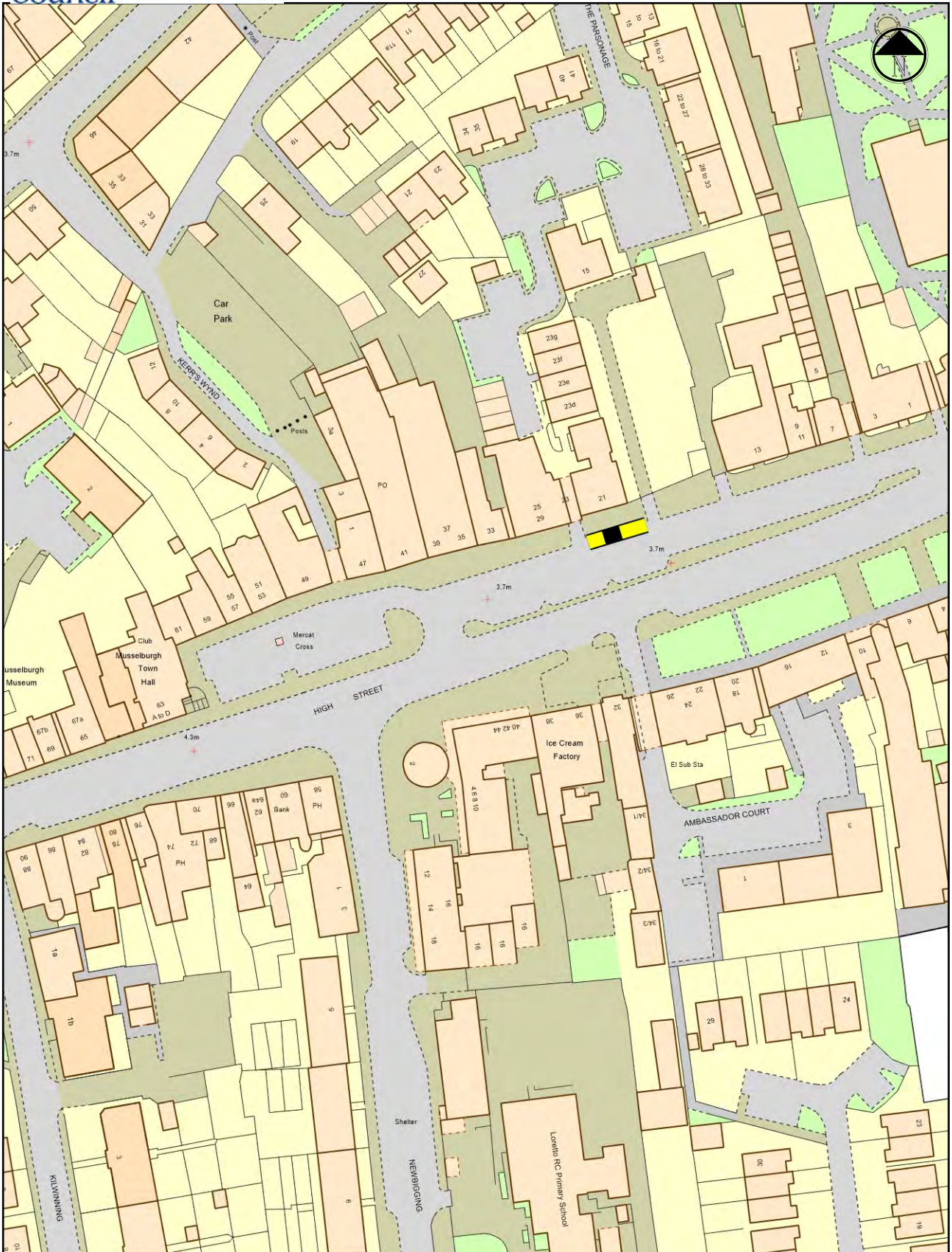


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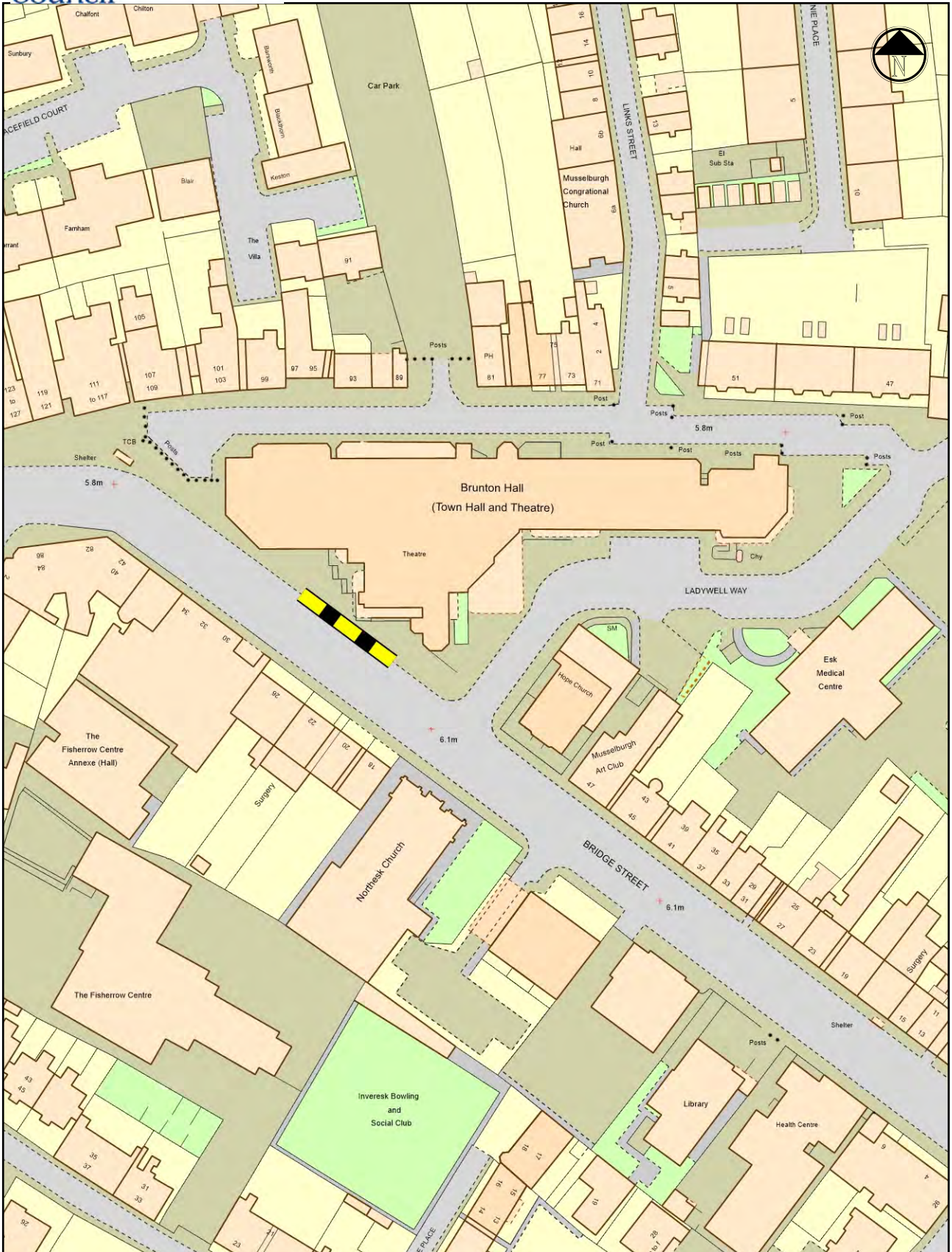


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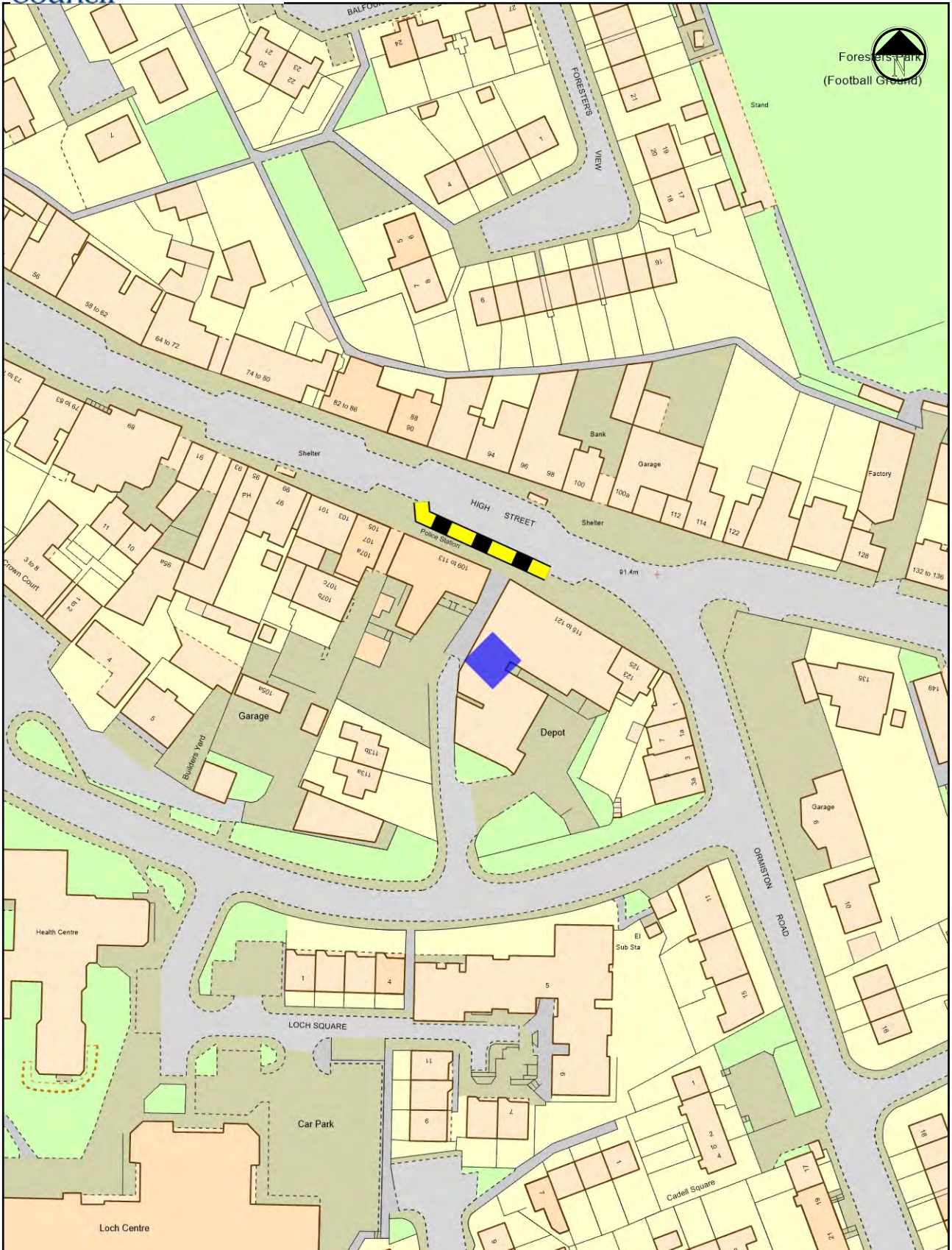
High Street, Tranent, EH33 1LW

### CURRENT POSITION

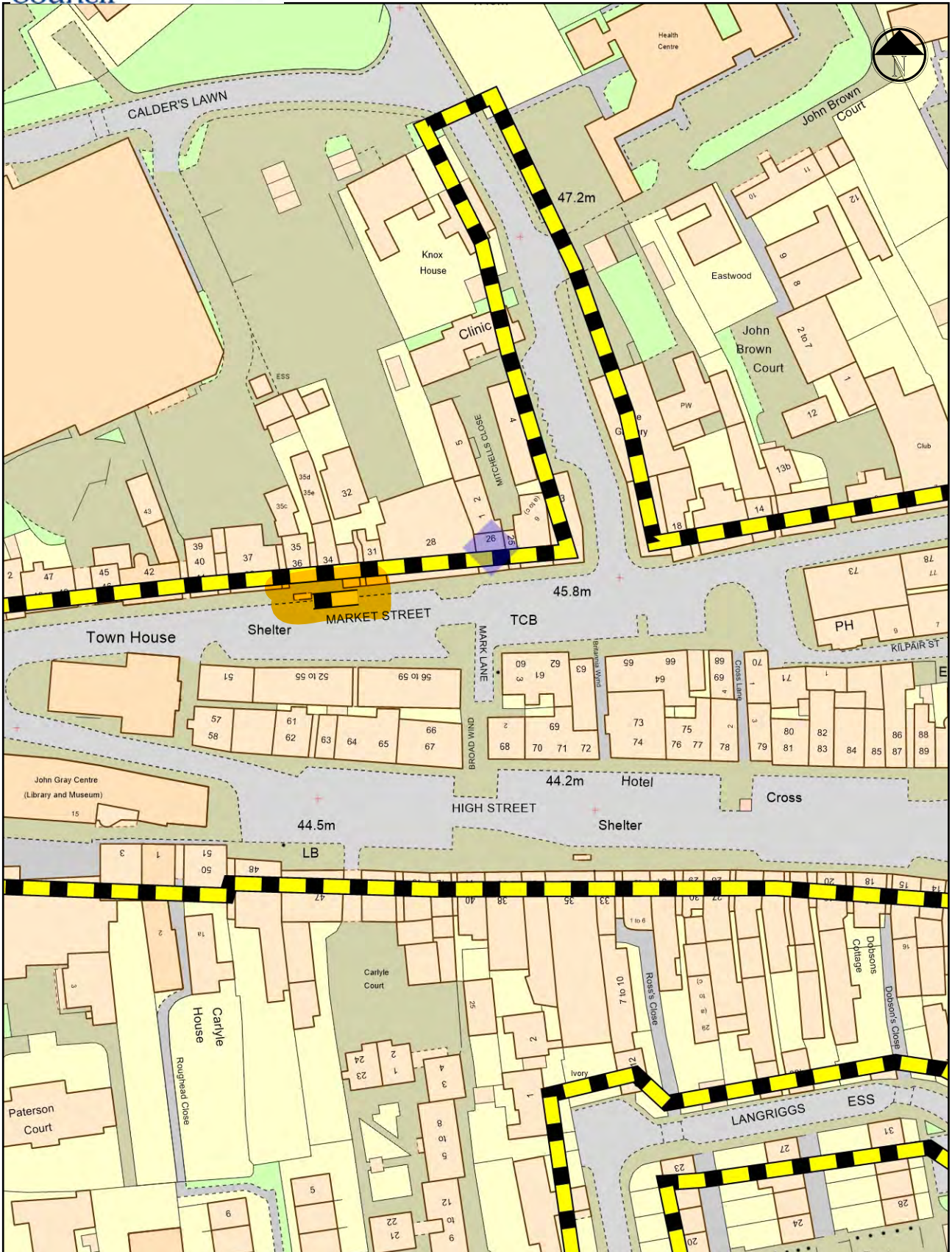


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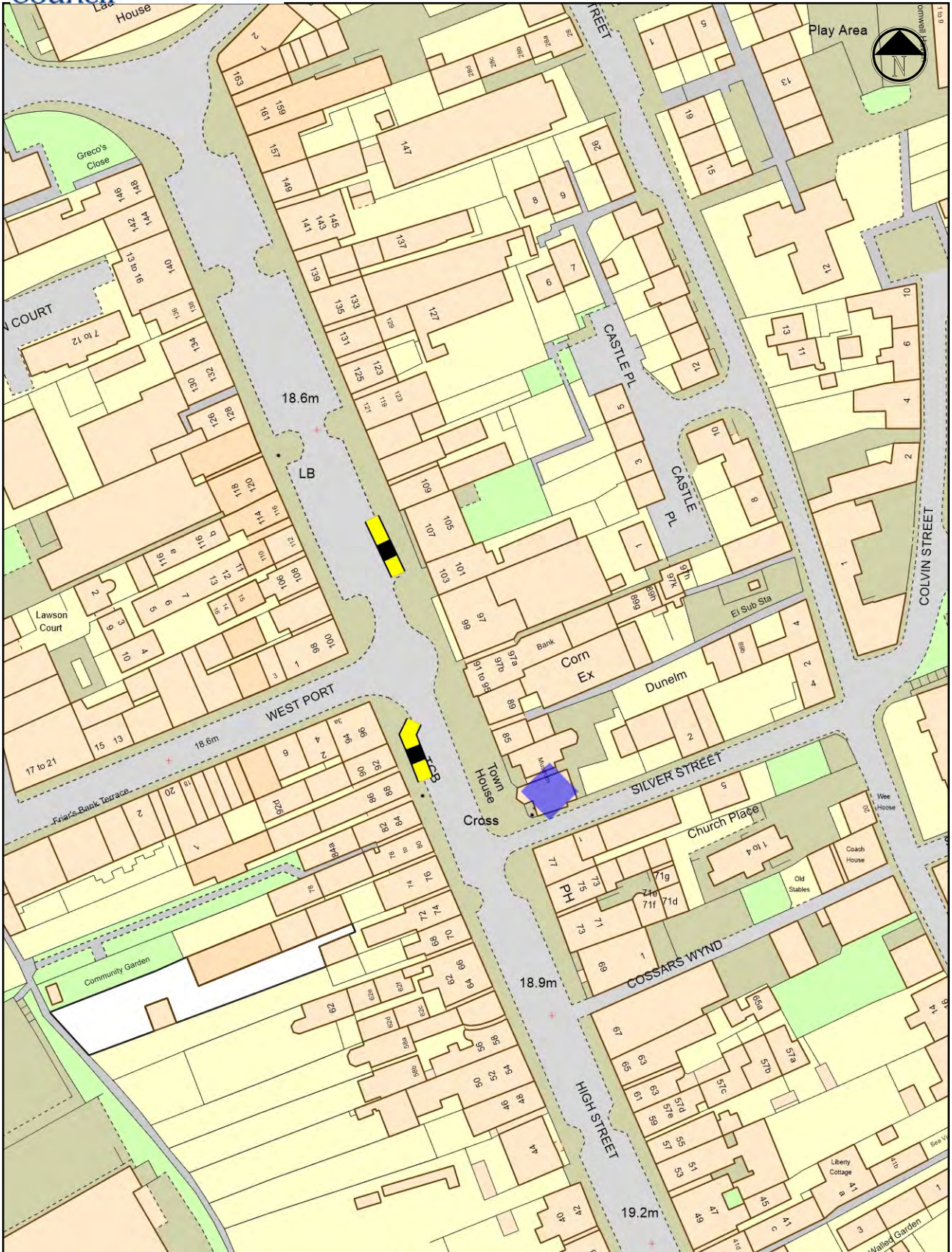
High Street, Dunbar, EH42 1ES

### CURRENT POSITION

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# PROPOSED SPACES - WALLYFORD



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Date: 10 April 2026  
Time: 14:50:58  
User: Sheila Fitzpatrick

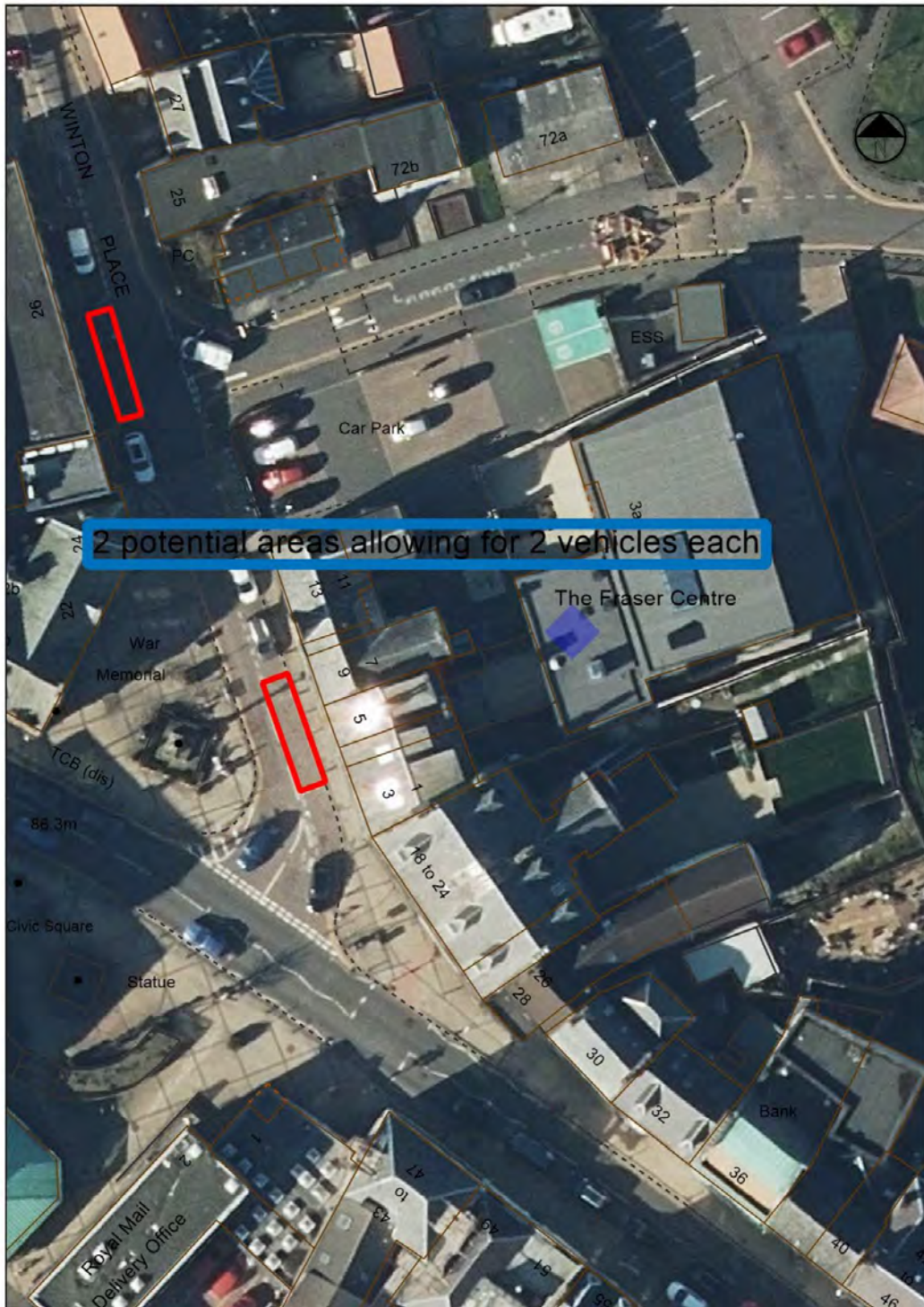


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# PROPOSED SPACES - TRANENT



Scale: 1:500 Date: 15 April 2026  
Time: 13:07:20 User: Sheila Fitzpatrick



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# PROPOSED SPACES - PRESTONPANS



# PROPOSED SPACES - NORTH BERWICK



Scale: 1:500  
Date: 10 April 2026  
Time: 15:06:57  
User: Sheila Fitzpatrick



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## **Summary of Taxi Rank Provision consultation responses**

### **Responses from:**

Taxi trade	8	28.57%
Local resident	16	57.14%
Visitor to East Lothian	0	0%
Community Council	2	7.14%
Elected member	1	3.57%
Other	1	3.57%

### **Are additional taxi ranks required?:**

Yes	64.29%
No	35.71%

NB: multiple sites for new ranks were suggested by 17.86% of respondents

### **If additional ranks are required, where?**

Dunbar	3.57%
Haddington	10.71%
Musselburgh	17.86%
North Berwick	14.29%
Prestonpans	14.29%
Tranent	35.71%

### **Comments received in response to 'Are there any particular areas with the previous locations where ranks should be situated?'**

- 1) Please have access to taxis in Whitecraig.
- 2) Near bus stops preferably. Along by the Brunton Hall and one near the Ravelston/Ship Inn would be good for anyone coming of buses from the town.
- 3) Train station or town centre (Church Road behind existing bus halt?) due to expected demand increase after parking charges and increased visitors by train who then require taxi to visit Tantallon or Dirleton or golf course but currently rely on private bookings (North Berwick).
- 4) NB train station.
- 5) Winton Place Tranent where the previous rank was situated.
- 6) If possible, there was an old taxi rank at Winton place Tranent. It would be good if there was two rank spaces there again. The current taxi rank in Tranent is used by customers parking for the Italian restaurant and also local shops
- 7) At the police station rank were hampered by private cars parking wardens cant do nothing due to the legality. Make this rank taxi only 24/7 would be a start. Overflow rank either next to war memorial or up at asda (Tranent).
- 8) There needs to be more spaces in Tranent, there used to be 2 x taxi ranks now just 1 on the High Street (outside police station) which is consistently full of parked cars for the local restaurant and fast food delivery drivers. Winton place one needs to be reinstated and Bridge Street.
- 9) There is currently no taxi rank provision within Wallyford, which is a growing community with a busy train station.
- 10) The existing spaces should be reduced to 2 spaces. With a new rank created off the high street in the Loch road area. This would allow additional disabled spaces x 2 plus 2 general

use space for the chemist's and police station access. There is no reason why so many taxis need parked on high street. When 1 leaves the rank another can drive round to take the space.

- 11) During school pick up no taxis are available to the public sometimes you wait 45 mins after a certain time no taxis available you should allow uber it may encourage AC taxis to put more taxis on.
- 12) Tranent - Winton Place / Prestonpans - High Street & Hawthorn Road / Blindwells - within the new development and travel hub / Musselburgh - racecourse and North High Street
- 13) Tranent - there is not space for 5 vehicles. You can get 4 maximum and that is only if there are no cars parked there! Traffic Warden or Police don't do anything about it. There needs to be another rank in Tranent, either at Winton Place or at Asda, Haddington Road / Prestonpans - there is no rank in Prestonpans, there needs to be one at Hawthorn Road and High Street / Musselburgh - North High Street does not hold 4 vehicles, 3 maximum. There is no indication on what the 3 sites locations are. I am intrigued as to which one takes 5 vehicles on the High Street. Once more, traffic and cars parking in the rank makes it very difficult.
- 14) Any area. I notice that your consultation does not cover wheelchair accessible taxis. There is an issue with a lack of wheelchair accessible taxis in east lothian as a whole.
- 15) Tranent closer to Thomason's.
- 16) Musselburgh racecourse, Musselburgh harbour, North High Street. Haddington near Roodlands.
- 17) The problem we have is in Tranent we can never get on the rank , reason is private cars , vans , etc so don't know what can be done regarding this , you'll never ever stop it happening.

