

Profile of Hawick

This report gives figures for Hawick based on small areas known as Intermediate Data Zones, which divide Hawick into 4 areas. These in turn can each be divided into 4 or 5 neighbourhoods known as Data Zones. Hawick's 4 Intermediate Data Zones are:

Burnfoot: comprises 4 Data Zones:

- Central (around Burnfoot Road and Borthwick Road)
- North (Henderson Road to Kenilworth Avenue)
- West (from the A7 to McLagan Drive)
- Southwest (around Mansfield Road and Hamilton Road)

Hawick Central: comprises the 5 Data Zones of:

- Miller Knowes
- Town Centre
- Trinity
- Weensland
- Wellogate

Hawick North: comprises the 4 Data Zones of:

- Commercial Road
- Silverbuthall
- Stirches
- Wilton Hill

Hawick West End: comprises the 4 Data Zones of:

- Drumlanrig
- Crumhall
- Crumhaughill/Parkdail
- Wilton Dean

Key to the text colouring in the following tables:

Red text = significantly worse than the Scottish average

Blue text = significantly better than the Scottish average

Brown text = not significantly different from the Scottish average

Black text = no differences can be calculated

Population information and vital statistics

Indicator: Proportion of the population that is aged under 16 years, 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	16.9
Scottish Borders average	16.5
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	26.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	14.4
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	16
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	13.7

Indicator: Proportion of the population that is aged 16-64 years, 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	64
Scottish Borders average	58.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	58.4
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	58.7
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	61
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	57.2

Indicator: Proportion of the population that is aged over 65 years, 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	19.1
Scottish Borders average	24.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	15
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	26.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	23
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	29.1

Scottish Borders has an older population than average for Scotland, with lower proportions of children and working-age people and higher proportions of pensioners. All of Hawick, with the exception of Burnfoot, has a higher proportion of older people and a lower proportion of children and working-age people, even for Scottish Borders. Burnfoot, by contrast, has a more youthful population profile than Scotland as a whole.

Indicator: Crude birth rate per 1,000 population , 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	9.1
Scottish Borders average	7.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	9.7
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	8
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	7.5
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	10

Indicator: Number of deaths per 100,000 population, age-sex standardised 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	1142.1
Scottish Borders average	1031.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	1349.4
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	1232.6
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	1416.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	1160.8

Scottish Borders has a lower birth rate than the Scottish average, due to a higher proportion of the population being past childbearing age. Despite the older population, the death rate is actually lower than the Scottish average, due to the population in Scottish Borders leading longer, healthier lives than average.

Despite the older-still population in most parts of Hawick, the town has a slightly higher birth rate than might be expected. This not significantly higher, however, due to the lower numbers involved at this level of geography. The death rate is higher in all parts of Hawick than the Scottish Borders average, although this is again not significant.

Life Expectancy

Indicator: Female life expectancy at birth (years), 2015-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	81.1
Scottish Borders average	81.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	78.1
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	84.5
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	82
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	80.5

Indicator: Male life expectancy at birth (years), 2015-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	77.2
Scottish Borders average	78.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	74.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	75.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	78.2
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	76.7

Life Expectancy At Birth is the age to which a baby born today is expected to live. It has always been higher for females than for males and has always been higher in Scottish Borders than the Scottish average.

Female life expectancy is better in Hawick than male life expectancy, but only the town centre has a significantly higher rate. All other parts of Hawick are around average or slightly lower, although not significantly so.

Premature Deaths

Indicator: Deaths under 75 years of age from Coronary Heart Disease Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	50.4
Scottish Borders average	30.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	81.8
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	53.8
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	47.6
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	18.4

Indicator: Deaths under 75 years of age from cancers Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	154.6
Scottish Borders average	143.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	136.5
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	140.2
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	212.2
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	189.8

Cancer and Coronary Heart Disease are the leading causes of death in Scotland, but have the most impact on older people. Death from these conditions before the age of 75 is considered premature, and is linked with Multiple Deprivation.

Scottish Borders residents lead longer, healthier lives than average for Scotland, and the rate of premature death from these two causes is significantly below the Scottish average. The rates in all parts of Hawick are not significantly different from this.

Indicator: Deaths by any cause of people aged 15-44 years Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	112.5
Scottish Borders average	115.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	207.4
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	137.6
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	185.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	122.2

The death of a younger adult by any cause is often unexpected and a higher death rate of under 45s is regarded as an indicator of deprivation. Scottish Borders has an insignificantly higher rate than the Scottish average. All parts of Hawick have an insignificantly higher rate than the Scottish Borders average. Burnfoot has the highest but this is not statistically significant.

Unemployment Claimant Count, latest stats

Indicator: Unemployment Claimant Count (July 2021) of people aged 16-64 as a percentage of the total (2019) population of that age group Source: Nomis/ NRS SAPE	Rate
Scottish Average	5.6
Scottish Borders average	5.0
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	11.2
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	7.5
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	6.6
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	5.3

Overall, the unemployment claimant count rate (the official measure of unemployment) is just under the Scottish average in Scottish Borders. All parts of Hawick have an above-average unemployment rate than the Scottish Borders average and most have a higher rate than the Scottish average. Burnfoot's unemployment rate is twice the rate of the Scottish average.

Indicator: Unemployment Claimant Count (July 2021) of people aged 16-24 as a percentage of the total (2019) population of that age group Source: Nomis/ NRS SAPE	Rate
Scottish Average	6.5
Scottish Borders average	7.1
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	18.7
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	11.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	11.5
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	7.2

The rate of youth unemployment is higher in Scottish Borders than in Scotland as a whole. It is higher still in all parts of Hawick, although it is hard to say whether the increase is statistically significant due to the localised numbers of people involved. The rate in Burnfoot is again outstandingly higher than elsewhere in Hawick.

Indicator: Unemployment Claimant Count (July 2021) of people aged 25-49 as a percentage of the total (2019) population of that age group Source: Nomis/ NRS SAPE	Rate
Scottish Average	6.2
Scottish Borders average	5.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	11.7
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	8.7
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	7.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	6.5

Unemployment among the “mid working-age” group is just below the Scottish average in Scottish Borders and higher than both the Scottish and Scottish Borders averages in all parts of Hawick.

Indicator: Unemployment Claimant Count (July 2021) of people aged 50-64 as a percentage of the total (2019) population of that age group Source: Nomis/ NRS SAPE	Rate
Scottish Average	4.2
Scottish Borders average	3.3
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	5.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	4.2
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	3.8
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	3.3

Unemployment is lower in the 50-65 age group and is lower still in Scottish Borders. However, it is still higher in all parts of Hawick than the Scottish Borders average and highest in Burnfoot.

Employment and income deprivation

Indicator: Percentage of the working-age population who are “employment deprived”, 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	9.3
Scottish Borders average	7.7
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	16.8
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	11.8
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	11.8
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	10.4

Employment Deprivation is a compiled list of indicators used by The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation to measure whether an area is socially excluded or deprived due to people not being in employment. Scottish Borders has significantly lower employment deprivation than the Scottish average but almost all parts of Hawick have significantly higher levels. Rates are again highest in Burnfoot, which is one of the measures that contributes to its high Multiple Deprivation ranking.

Indicator: Percentage of the working-age population who are “income deprived”, 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	12
Scottish Borders average	9.4
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	25.7
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	13.1
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	13.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	11.5

Income Deprivation is a compiled list of indicators used by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation to measure whether an area is socially excluded or deprived due to poverty and low income. This is a broader category of measures than just a lack of unemployment. Scottish Borders is significantly better than the Scottish average

Income Deprivation and Young People

Indicator: Percentage of children who live in “low-income families”, 2016 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	16.7
Scottish Borders average	12.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	30
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	17.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	12.9
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	10.5

“Children in low-income families” is one of several measures of child poverty, which is updated annually at regional level and less frequently at Data Zone level. In 2016, Scottish Borders had significantly lower levels of child poverty than the Scottish average, as did several parts of Hawick. Only Burnfoot stood out with significantly higher levels of child poverty, almost double the Scottish average.

Indicator: Percentage of young people who live in the most income-deprived quintile, aged 0-25 years, 2018 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	21.7
Scottish Borders average	7.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	100
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	18.5
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	0

As Scottish Borders has fewer areas of deprivation than other Local Authority areas, it has a lower proportion of children living in an income-deprived area than the Scottish average. Again, Burnfoot stands out as an area of Multiple Deprivation. Unsurprisingly, this means that all the children who live in Burnfoot live in an area of Income Deprivation.

Healthy weight – women and babies

Indicator: Percentage of pregnant women who are overweight or obese, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	24.7
Scottish Borders average	23.2
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	22
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	23.8
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	16.1
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	22.4

Healthy weight during pregnancy impacts on both the mother's and the child's wellbeing at birth. Maternal obesity is an issue but is not significantly worse in Scottish Borders or in any part of Hawick than the Scottish average.

Indicator: Percentage of children who are born a healthy weight, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	84.1
Scottish Borders average	82.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	88.3
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	85.1
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	85.7
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	88.3

Babies born outside a healthy weight range can be either underweight or overweight, each issue bringing a separate set of problems. Low birthweight is associated with deprivation as its most common cause is maternal smoking, which can also trigger premature birth. Prematurity and low birthweight can also occur naturally for a complex range of hereditary, congenital and medical reasons.

The trend towards older first-time parenthood has led to an increasing incidence of larger babies, who are more likely to need an assisted birth and cause complications for the mother.

Babies in Scottish Borders are not significantly more likely to be born outwith a healthy weight range than the Scottish average, nor are babies born in Hawick likely to be so.

Health and wellbeing – babies

Indicator: Percentage of births that are premature, 2017/18 - 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	8.4
Scottish Borders average	7
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	7.8
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	5.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	5.6
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	9

Premature birth is strongly associated with low birthweight, and also with maternal smoking and deprivation. Around 8% of babies in Scotland are born before 35 weeks' gestation, giving them a higher risk of long-term health conditions and developmental issues. Scottish Borders has an insignificantly lower rate than the Scottish average, and all parts of Hawick are not significantly different from this.

Indicator: Percentage of babies who are being exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks of age, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	31.2
Scottish Borders average	37.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	18.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	31.2
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	20.7
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	21

Breastfeeding for at least the first two months of life gives the child the best start and has many health and wellbeing benefits for the mother as well, so is strongly encouraged by health professionals. Persistently low levels of breastfeeding in a society or neighbourhood are regarded as an indicator of deprivation.

Scottish Borders has a significantly better rate of breastfeeding than the Scottish average but all parts of Hawick are below the Scottish Borders average. Most parts are also below the Scottish average, particularly in Burnfoot where the rates are lowest. These are not statistically significant, however, due to the low numbers involved.

Health and wellbeing – pre-school children

Indicator: Percentage of toddlers with “developmental concerns” at 27-30-month assessment, 2016/17 – 2018/19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	15.9
Scottish Borders average	13.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	20.1
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	19.6
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	17.9
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	13.4

All toddlers in Scotland are offered a 27-30 month assessment by their Health Visitor or other health professional. This gives the health professional an opportunity for early intervention if any early signs of developmental delay in their physical growth, social behaviour, motor coordination, sensory health and language development might be evident.

Around 16% of toddlers in Scotland are flagged as having a potential “developmental concern” at this stage. This enables early intervention and prevention measures to be used to provide the family with the right support and the child with the right pre-primary learning environment for their needs. Scottish Borders has an insignificantly lower rate of children with development concerns and Hawick is not significantly different from this.

Childhood Immunisations

Indicator: Percentage uptake of the “6-in-1” vaccine by the age of 24 months, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	97.3
Scottish Borders average	97.4
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	94.5
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	95.3
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	98.9
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	98.7

Indicator: Percentage uptake of the MMR vaccine by the age of 24 months, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	94.3
Scottish Borders average	95.6
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	89.7
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	94.4
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	96.8
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	98.7

All babies in Scotland are routinely offered the first doses of two vaccines in their first year: the “6-in-1” and the “MMR”, which immunise them against the most damaging childhood diseases. The second doses are offered before the child reaches school age. It is a parent’s choice to accept the vaccine and they are strongly encouraged to do so, as a 95% immunisation rate is considered necessary to protect unvaccinated adults and those with compromised immune systems. The impact on public health from these unvaccinated cohorts can carry forward into the next cohort, and even into the next generation.

The current immunisation rate in Scotland is 97% for the “6-in-1” and 94% for the MMR. MMR uptake is still being impacted from a disinformation campaign that occurred in the popular press in 2002, and uptake is currently just below what it needs to be to protect public health. The “6-in-1” was not affected and the uptake levels are as expected, given that there will always be a minority of children who cannot have the vaccine for medical reasons. Scottish Borders is around average, or insignificantly better, for both the vaccines, and no parts of Hawick are significantly different from the Scottish average

School-aged children: health and wellbeing

Indicator: Percentage of Primary 1 children who are a healthy weight, 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	76.2
Scottish Borders average	74.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	54.2
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	76.3
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	80
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	81.8

Childhood obesity is a complex issue which has attracted much attention in recent years. Children who are not a healthy weight when they start school are more likely to have poorer eating and physical activity habits, poorer dental health, poorer health generally and lower self-esteem. These traits are likely to snowball into poorer health and wellbeing outcomes in future years and can lead to lower life expectancy.

Just over three quarters of primary 1 children in Scotland are a healthy weight. Scottish Borders is insignificantly lower than the Scottish average, at 74.8%, which means that one in four children starting school in Scottish Borders is not a healthy weight. A small number of these may be clinically underweight, but for the rest, childhood obesity is a significant and growing problem. All of Hawick is insignificantly better than the Scottish average for healthy weight, except for Burnfoot, which is significantly worse, and where almost one in two primary school children is not a healthy weight when they start school.

Indicator: Percentage uptake of HPV vaccine in S3 girls, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	84.8
Scottish Borders average	87
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	80.3
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	85.1
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	86.7
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	89.1

The HPV vaccine is a new immunisation programme that protects girls and women against cervical cancer. Around 85% of girls in Scotland took up the vaccine and the rate in Scottish Borders is slightly above the Scottish average, although not significantly so. The rates in Hawick are not significantly different from the Scottish average, although, again, lowest in Burnfoot.

School-aged children: Dental health

Indicator: Percentage of Primary 1 children who have no dental disease experience, 2018/19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	71.5
Scottish Borders average	78.4
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	60
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	75
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	89.2
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	79.2

Indicator: Percentage of Primary 7 children who have no dental disease experience, 2018/19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	72.9
Scottish Borders average	78
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	55.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	71.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	91.2
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	88.9

Dental health is a complex issue and widespread poor dental health is regarded as an indicator of deprivation. In Scotland as a whole, around 3 in 10 children already have experience of tooth decay by the time they start school. However, the figures suggest that dental decay does not seem to be significantly worse in the Primary 7 cohort than the Primary 1 group.

Dental health is significantly better in Scottish Borders than the Scottish average, in both the Primary 1 and the Primary 7 groups. Within Hawick, dental health is a very localised issue and patterns are uneven. It is not significantly different in the town centre and fluctuates in the West End area depending on the age group. It is significantly better in the North Hawick area in both cohorts, but is significantly worse in nearby Burnfoot.

Emergency Hospital Admissions in Adults

Indicator: Emergency patient hospitalisations, all ages Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	7624.8
Scottish Borders average	7336.2
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	11888.1
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	8494.2
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	9207.9
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	7284.3

An emergency admission to hospital is often the result of unintended injury, an intentional act or a patient not receiving the right support in the right setting at the right time. Injuries can happen to anybody but a high rate of emergency hospital admissions puts a strain on the health service and is regarded as an indicator of deprivation.

Scottish Borders has a significantly lower rate of hospital admissions than the Scottish average but most parts of Hawick are above the Scottish Borders and Scottish averages. Both Burnfoot and North Hawick have a significantly worse rate than the Scottish average. Burnfoot's rate is worse by a strong margin.

Hospital admissions for major causes in adults

Indicator: Hospital admissions for Coronary Heart Disease Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	372.4
Scottish Borders average	336.7
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	646.8
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	279.7
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	528.5
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	338.7

Coronary Heart Disease is one of the “big three” causes of death and disablement in adults, along with cancer and stroke. These conditions are increasingly survivable but cause the patient to endure repeated and lengthy stays in hospital. As they are associated with diet and lifestyle, as well as a complex mix of non-lifestyle causes, high rates of these diseases are sometimes viewed as an indicator of deprivation.

Scottish Borders has a significantly better rate of hospitalisations for CHD than the Scottish average, and all parts of Hawick are not significantly different from this. However, several parts of Hawick have elevated rates and the rate is again highest in Burnfoot.

Indicator: Hospital admissions for Asthma Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	89.6
Scottish Borders average	53.7
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	79.9
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	65.9
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	70.8
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	113.4

Asthma is an incurable chronic condition of the airways that often begins in childhood and persists throughout life. Asthma usually leads to repeat hospital admissions and life-long management with medication, and an asthma attack can be fatal if not treated promptly. Asthma is triggered by environmental particles such as pollen, dust, animal hair and pollutants, and is not thought to be deprivation-related.

Scottish Borders has a significantly better rate of hospital admissions for asthma than the Scottish average. All parts of Hawick are not significantly different from the Scottish average.

Hospital admissions for “lifestyle diseases” in adults

Indicator: Hospital admissions for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017/18 – 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	277.4
Scottish Borders average	213.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	910.6
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	365
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	276.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	244.7

COPD is an obstructive lung disease that is similar to chronic bronchitis and emphysema and is found in men and women aged over 40. It is known as “smokers’ lung” as cigarette smoking is the primary cause of the condition. As such, high rates of COPD are associated with Multiple Deprivation.

Scottish Borders has a significantly lower rate of hospitalisations for COPD than the Scottish average and most parts of Hawick are not significantly different from average. The exception in Burnfoot which is significantly worse, and over four times the rate of the Scottish Borders average.

Indicator: Rate of alcohol related hospital admissions Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2019/20 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	673.3
Scottish Borders average	491.5
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	1148.3
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	1275
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	356.1
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	155.7

Alcohol-related harm is a serious public health issue in Scotland which presents a significant burden to the NHS, in terms of deaths, injuries and incapacity directly caused by alcohol, and that caused by secondary diseases such as cancer, heart disease and stroke that are triggered by alcohol consumption. NHS monitors all hospital admissions from any cause, in which alcohol was judged to be a contributing factor. Alcohol-related harm is an indicator of deprivation.

Scottish Borders has a lower rate of hospital admissions from alcohol-related harm than the Scottish average. Hawick has a complicated relationship with alcohol: the relatively deprived Hawick North area and the relatively less deprived West End both have very low rates of alcohol related hospital admissions, significantly below the Scottish average. Hawick town centre and Burnfoot present a different story and are both significantly higher than the Scottish average. The town centre has the highest rate, even higher than Burnfoot which has a high level of health-related deprivation.

Health indicators in older people

Indicator: Multiple emergency hospital admissions of people aged 65+ years Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	5456
Scottish Borders average	4987.7
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	9410.4
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	5882.1
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	8570.4
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	4414.8

A high level of emergency multiple admissions in older people is often avoidable, and a sign that more care is needed in the community to enable older patients to be supported at home for as long as possible. The issue of how the elderly should be cared for towards the end of their lives is one of the biggest challenges facing the NHS and our society. Multiple emergency admissions in the elderly are higher in deprived areas, as people in these areas are more likely to lack financial resilience, social networks and housing security that enable them to get the help they need.

Scottish Borders has a significantly lower level of multiple emergency admissions in the elderly, despite the higher proportion of elderly people in the region. This indicates that older people in Scottish Borders are remaining healthier and managing better for longer than average for Scotland. Hawick is again split: the West End and Town Centre areas do not differ significantly from the average, but the more deprived North Hawick and Burnfoot areas are significantly worse than the Scottish average, and around twice the level of the Scottish Borders average.

Indicator: Percentage uptake of bowel screening of those invited (over 50s), 2017-19 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	61.6
Scottish Borders average	67.3
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	56.1
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	66
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	69.7
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	68.3

Bowel screening is a highly effective way of detecting bowel cancer in the over 50s at an early stage, potentially saving thousands of lives through early intervention. The test is sent to every person between the age of 50 and 75 once every two years and the patient is responsible for completing the test and returning it. It is not painful or difficult but it can be unpleasant and embarrassing to talk about, which may deter some people from completing it. Overall, 62% of tests that are sent out in Scotland are completed and returned.

Scottish Borders has a significantly higher uptake of bowel screening than the Scottish average and most parts of Hawick also have a significantly higher uptake rate. The exception is Burnfoot, which has a significantly lower uptake rate than the Scottish average.

Environment

Indicator: Percentage of the population living within 500 metres of a derelict site, 2017 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	29.8
Scottish Borders average	38.9
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	92.2
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	100
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	82.1
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	70.8

Hawick is a compact town with a history of densely-packed, town-centre woollen mills clustered around the Teviot and Slitrig rivers. Almost all of these are now gone, leaving behind a legacy of derelict sites which are slowly being reclaimed. Despite the scenic setting of Hawick, set in the picturesque Cheviot hills and the high quality of its Victorian townscape and its clean green and blue natural environments, many people in the town live close to the site of an old mill or factory. People in Scottish Borders, and in all parts of Hawick, are significantly more likely than the Scottish average to live close to a derelict site. This detracts from the many positive features of the urban environment in Hawick and is a community safety and wellbeing hazard for everyone, particularly children. It is also a waste of resources and the town's proud industrial heritage when a building that could be brought back into use is left to decay.

Access to services

Indicator: Percentage of people living in the 15% most access-deprived communities in Scotland, 2018 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	15
Scottish Borders average	28.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	0

People in almost all of the Scottish Borders region, apart from the main towns, are severely access-deprived, meaning that they lack access to the essential and non-essential services and the fast mobile phone and internet services that people elsewhere in Scotland take for granted. 29% of Scottish Borders residents live in the 15% most access-deprived neighbourhoods in Scotland, which is significantly above the Scottish average.

Happily, none of these is in Hawick, or so the SIMD figures initially suggest. Hawick is a reasonably self-contained settlement and the biggest town in the region, meaning that the most essential services can be obtained locally. Arguably, Hawick is cut-off from the rest of the region and does lack services for a town of its size but not enough to cause severe access deprivation for the majority of people of all ages.

Indicator: Percentage of young people who live in the most access-deprived quintile, aged 0-25 years 2018 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	20
Scottish Borders average	33.8
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	18.5
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	27.1
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	14.1

Children and young people feel the effects of access deprivation more than older people as they are bigger users of more specialised and niche services such as sports and leisure, educational technology, late-night entertainment and higher education. Accessing these services so that they do not feel left-behind due to where they live involves travelling further and having more parental support than their urban counterparts, who can access the service by hopping on a bus.

A significantly higher proportion of young people in Scottish Borders live in the most deprived quintile (20%) of neighbourhoods, indicating that they feel above-averagely access-deprived. The findings for Hawick are more split. A significant proportion of young people in Hawick North and an insignificant proportion in Burnfoot were in an above-averagely access-deprived neighbourhood. Only those living in the West End and the Central parts of the town are significantly less likely to be in a most-access-deprived quintile. This is an imperfect measure as it measures areas, rather than people, and is calculated by mathematical modelling. It nevertheless shows that access deprivation does exist for young people in Hawick.

Crime

Indicator: SIMD Crude Crime rate per 1,000 population 2019 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	28.6
Scottish Borders average	19.2
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	51.2
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	32.6
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	24.9
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	21.2

The Scottish Index of Deprivation measures “deprivation due to crime” using a range of recorded offences which disproportionately impact on the safety and wellbeing of the residential environment, such as housebreaking, drugs offences, malicious damage and vandalism, violence, hate crime, arson etc. Degradation due to crime is the most visible sign that a neighbourhood is deprived and failure to tackle it can lead into a hopeless spiral of multiple deprivation which can persist for years. Cleaning up a neighbourhood and making it safer and more desirable to live in can involve anything from community resilience to large-scale demolition and rebuilding, depending on how deep-rooted the problem is. In the meantime, residents of these areas might be forgiven for feeling unsafe in, and ashamed of, their own neighbourhood, which they are unable to escape from.

Scottish Borders has a significantly lower SIMD crime rate than the Scottish average, and most of Hawick is not significantly worse than average; in fact the West End area is also significantly better than average. The exception is Burnfoot, which has a significantly higher crime rate that is over twice the Scottish Borders average.

Indicator: Percentage of young people aged 0-25 living in the “most-deprived” quintile due to crime, 2018 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	21.7
Scottish Borders average	9.3
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	81.5
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	57
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	0
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	0

Young people are particularly disadvantaged from being brought up in a run-down and crime-blighted environment, and the stigma can stay with them for years. 9.3% of young people in Scottish Borders live in an environment that is above-averagely deprived due to the effects of crime, which may seem too many but is significantly below the Scottish average. None at all live in Hawick North and Hawick West End. The problem is more concentrated in Hawick town centre and particularly in Burnfoot, which are both significantly above the Scottish average. Over 80% of young people in Burnfoot live in a neighbourhood which is relatively deprived due to the effects of crime.

Road traffic safety

Indicator: People who are killed or seriously injured in a road traffic accident Age-sex standardised rate per 100,000 population, 2016-18 Source: ScotPHO OPT	Rate
Scottish Average	58.9
Scottish Borders average	68.1
Hawick: Burnfoot Intermediate Data Zone	28.8
Hawick Central Intermediate Data Zone	62.4
Hawick North Intermediate Data Zone	63.5
Hawick West End Intermediate Data Zone	62.3

Scottish Borders has an insignificantly larger rate of people who are killed or seriously injured in a road traffic accident. This is to be expected from a rural area. Most accidents and everyday bumps and collisions occur in urban areas but in rural areas they are disproportionately more likely to be fatal. This is often due to speeding and overtaking on unfamiliar, narrow, unlit country roads.

People who live in Hawick are more likely to depend on private transport if they work outside the town, due to the lack of alternative public transport. This puts them more at risk of a road traffic accident as driving a motor vehicle is one of the least safe modes of transport. Most parts of Hawick have rates somewhat above the Scottish average but this is not significant. Burnfoot is insignificantly below the Scottish average, possibly due to the lower car ownership in the area and the relative safety of the residential streets tucked well away from the main A7 road.