

# **Open Space Strategy**

**Draft**

**Action Plan**

**for**

**City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership Area**

**February 2010**



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## Introduction

This is a draft action plan which accompanies the draft Edinburgh Open Space Strategy. It has been prepared for public consultation from 26 March to 21 May 2010. It should be read alongside the draft strategy, which can be viewed at Council libraries or at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/openspacestrategy](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/openspacestrategy).

This action plan includes:

- maps showing which areas fall within open space standards proposed in the draft strategy
- actions to improve open space provision in terms of those standards
- other actions which would help meet open space needs
- other open space issues relating to this Neighbourhood Partnership area, including those raised during public consultation in 2009.

The Council is interested in your views on the standards proposed in the draft strategy, the actions proposed here, and the other issues identified in the last section. A public

workshop is being held in each Neighbourhood Partnership area during the consultation period. Find out where your nearest one is at the above website or by contacting the project team using the details below.

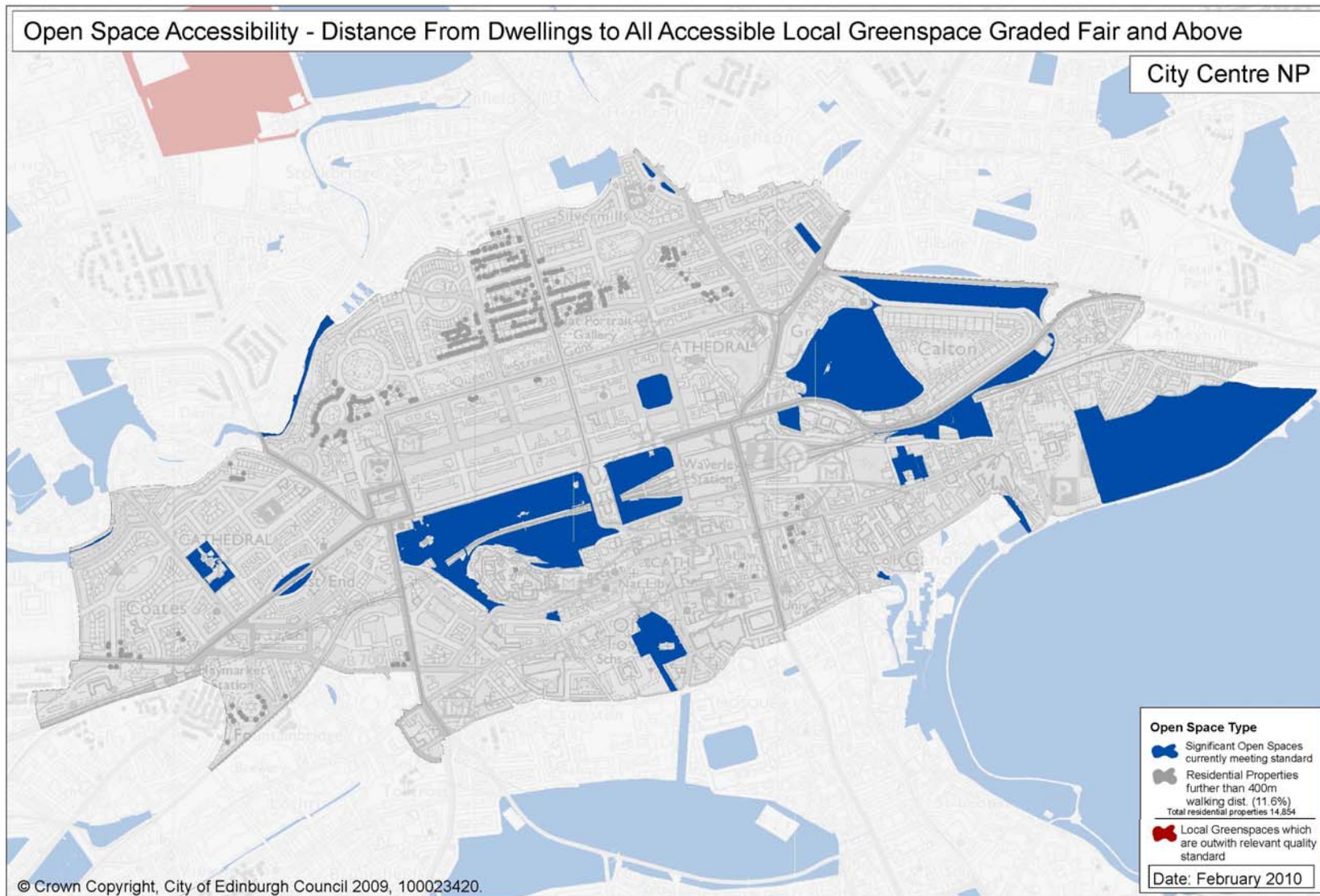
All comments should be received by 21 May 2010 using the following contact details:

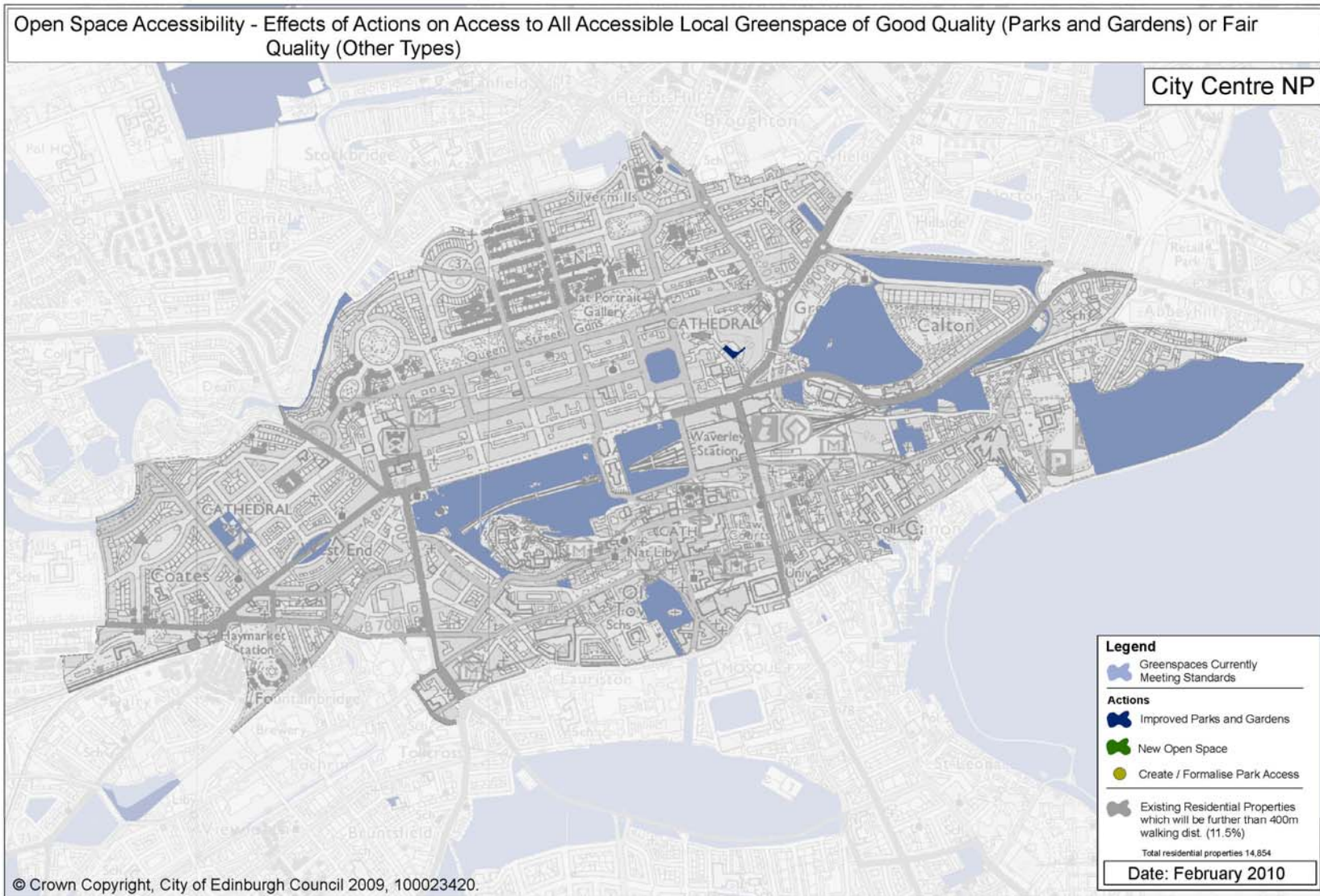
Open Space Strategy Project  
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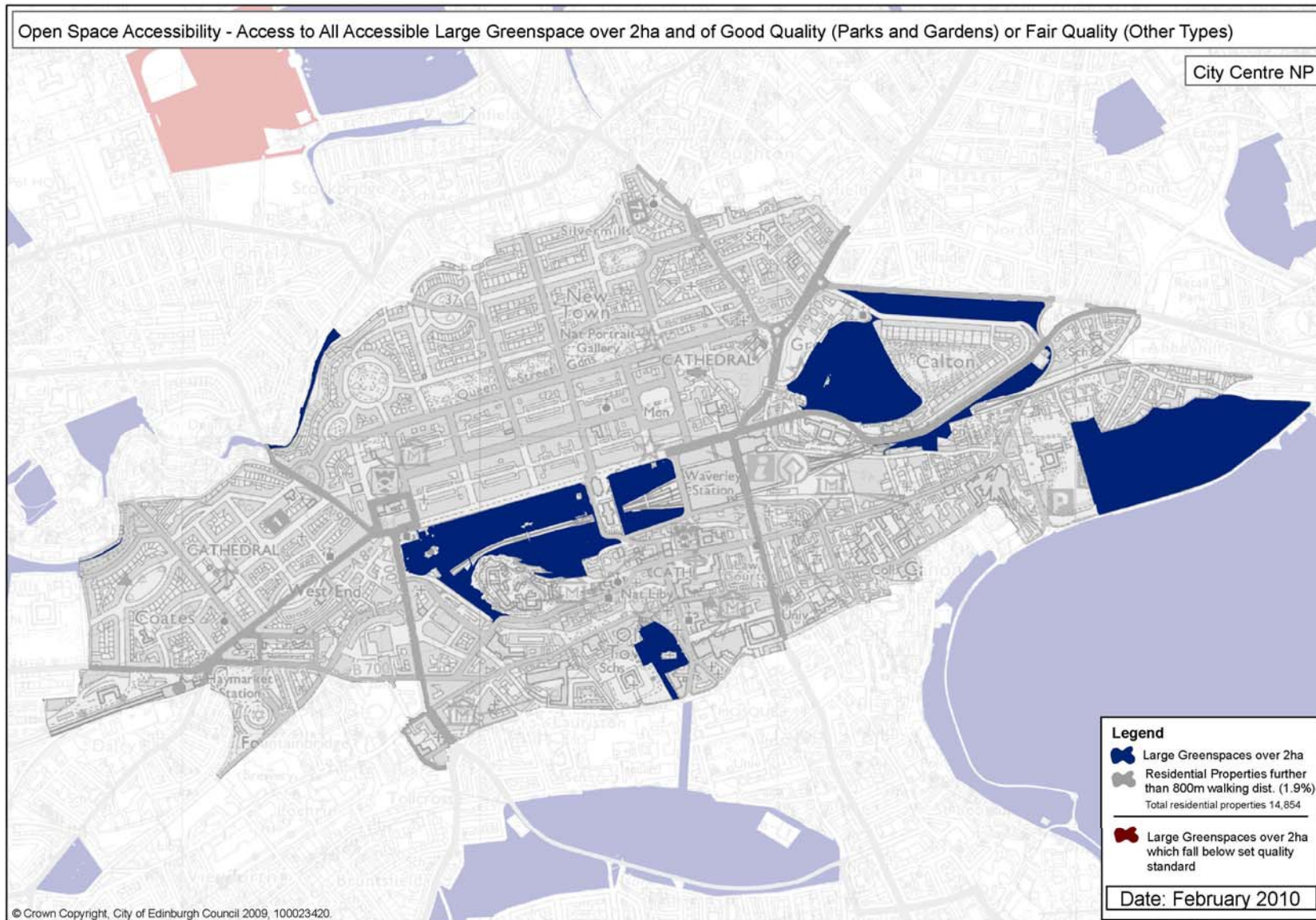
T: 0131 469 3411

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/openspacestrategy](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/openspacestrategy)

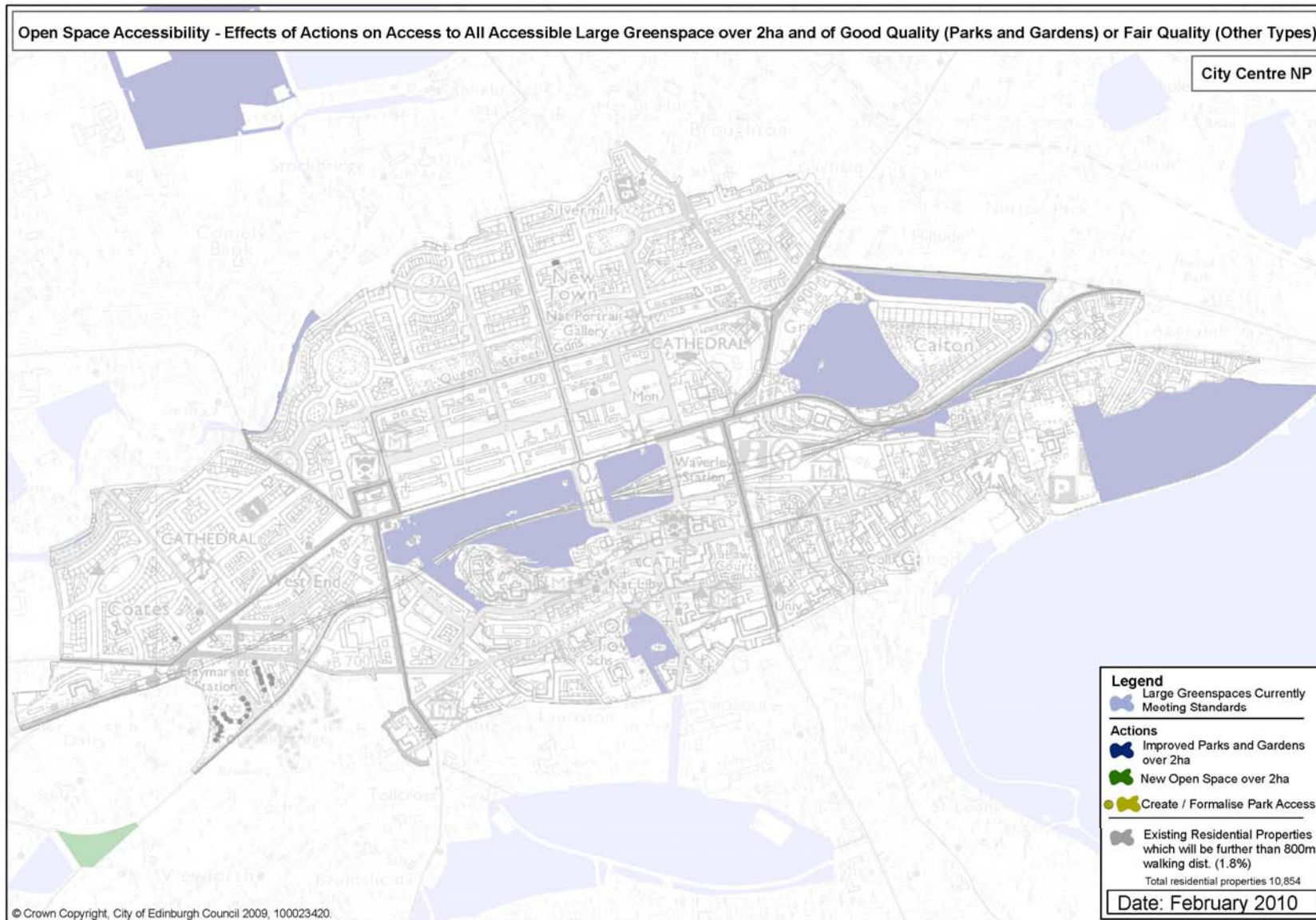












## STRATEGIC ACTIONS

### Charlotte Square Gardens



**Area:** 1.07 ha

#### Description:

The project involves assessing the potential for allowing greater public access to the private gardens with the long term aim of securing greater access. There is some support for increased level of access among many owners but this is not universal. The square is a component of the 'String of Pearls' plans for Princes Street and would help support Council objectives to create a successful and vibrant city centre.

The project will build on the work already undertaken by Edinburgh World Heritage who have carried out a conservation study of the garden with a view to identifying enhancements.

**Timescales:** Initial phase 2010 - 2015.

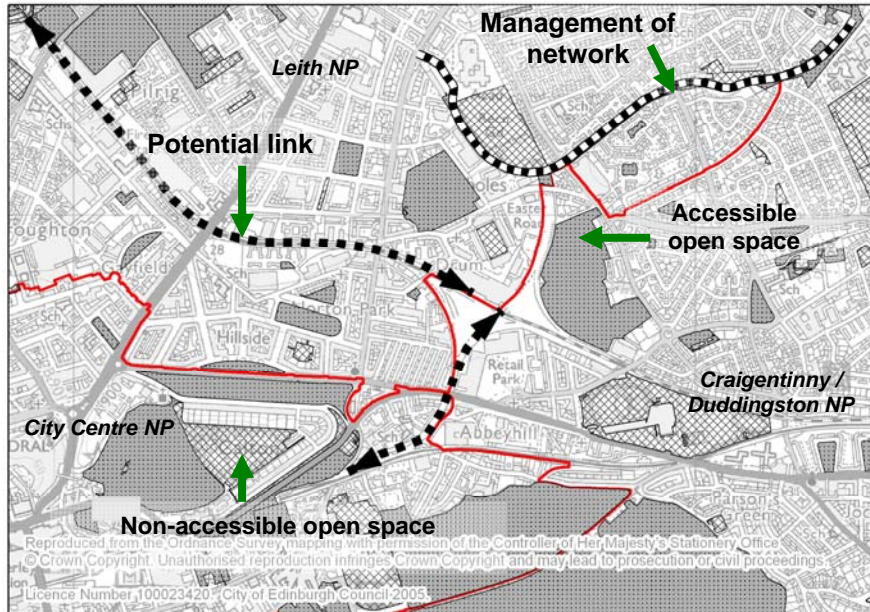
**Lead:** Edinburgh World Heritage / City Development / SfC

#### Funding Source & Cost

CEC involvement in initial phase to be met by existing budgets.

## GREEN NETWORK ACTIONS

## Powderhall and Abbeyhill Railway

**Description:**

New green corridors linking to Lochend Park and the Water of Leith from Abbeyhill/Meadowbank, subject to future requirements for the Powderhall and/or Abbeyhill loop railway lines. Identified as a transport safeguard in the Edinburgh City Local Plan. Green corridor to the west of Abbeyhill to be delivered through the Lochend Butterfly Project.

**Timescale:** Subject to agreement with Network Rail.

**Lead:** CEC/developer

**Funding Source & Cost:**

Within development sites, funding would be the responsibility of developers. Public funding for those sections in public ownership will require to be identified.

## OTHER ACTIONS AND ISSUES

The following actions relate to projects and proposals that do not contribute to meeting open space standards but will lead to local improvements in open space provision:

- Rutland Square (PRI 15) – Edinburgh World Heritage are investigating the possibility of enhancing public access to the garden in conjunction with improving the space. Discussions have been held with owners. Rutland Square Association is currently considering options.
- Wardrops' Court (CIV 6) – project part of City Centre Environmental Improvement Masterplan involves improving the appearance of the close by cleaning stonework and screening bin stores.
- Chessel's Court (CIV 13), – project part of City Centre Environmental Improvement Masterplan involves enhancing the appearance, function and structures of the close.