

Summary of Elgin Academy and Elgin High School Combined ASG/LMG

Elgin is the main town in Moray and is home to around a quarter of Moray's population. The town has two secondary schools, and therefore two ASGs/LMGs – Elgin Academy and Elgin High School. The geographic area of Elgin can also be broken down into six intermediate data zones. Four of the six zones equate to the Elgin Academy area - Bishopmill East and Ladyhill, Bishopmill West and Newfield, Central West, and Cathedral to Ashgrove and Pinefield. The remaining two equate to the Elgin High School area - New Elgin East and New Elgin West¹. Population levels vary across the six intermediate data zones, ranging from 3235 in Central West to 4333 in Cathedral to Ashgrove and Pinefield.

It should be noted that there is a degree of variation within each intermediate data zone, for example Bishopmill East includes areas which may be described as traditional 'old' Bishopmill as well as some newer, private residential areas such as Marleonfield. Similarly, Bishopmill West includes Ministry of Defence housing, parts of 'old' Bishopmill as well as one of the traditionally more affluent parts of Elgin².

Main issues

The main issue for Elgin is the extreme variations in outcomes for the residents in different parts of the town. These are apparent over a range of issues including housing, income, attainment and health. The evidence suggests commonalities between some areas: for example, residents in the Central West and Bishopmill West areas appear to have positive outcomes across these key issues. In contrast, those in the Cathedral, New Elgin East and Bishopmill East areas experience poorer outcomes. New Elgin West follows more of a Moray-average trend.

Minor issues

Rates of economic activity vary throughout Elgin's six different areas and while these tend to reflect the age profile of each area there is a degree of variation within the Cathedral area in particular where there are elevated rates of individuals who are unemployed and long term sick / disabled.

Elgin is a relatively traditional Scottish town but there are pockets of ethnic diversity. While the 2011 Census captured these the evidence suggests that there are higher percentages of individuals speaking a language other than English at home – particularly in Central West.

Population

As Moray's economic hub and main town it is perhaps not surprising that Elgin has a younger population than the rest of Moray with higher proportions of working age people in all but one of the six areas. As might be anticipated, there is some correlation between a younger adult population and the proportion of children. Two areas in particular have a higher than average proportion of children: Bishopmill West and Cathedral, in relation to the 0-15 and 0-4 age-groups respectively. Five of Elgin's eight primary schools are situated in these areas, including Linkwood Primary which was established in 2017 to cater for future increases in school rolls.

The Cathedral area has the highest and second highest percentage of 16–29 year olds in Elgin and Moray respectively. Figures from the last two Censuses suggest an element of population movement by this age group into this area and movement out by the 45–59 age group. The reasons for movement is not clear although available housing tenure may influence the movement of young adults - the Cathedral area has a proportionately higher percentages of flatted accommodation as well as both private and social rented accommodation.

¹ Data zone names are abbreviated throughout this summary.

² Maps of each area are included at the end of this document.

Central West has a higher proportion of older people than both the Moray and Scottish averages. In addition, the population of over 60s in both Central West and New Elgin West increased by over 4% between the 2001 and 2011 Census which is double the rate for Elgin and this may have implications for the provision of older people's services.

Significant population changes in New Elgin between 2001 and 2011 are a result of the development of new housing estates. The population of New Elgin East and New Elgin West increased by 22% and 17% respectively, compared with an 11% increase in Elgin.

The predominant marital status of residents within each of Elgin's six smaller communities reflects their age profile and also has an interesting geographic split. While Bishopmill West, Central West and New Elgin West have higher than average proportions of married couples, the three more easterly areas have more single people and / or single parent households. In fact, Bishopmill East has the lowest percentage of married people and the joint second highest percentage of divorced people in Moray.

Identity

Overall, Elgin can be viewed as a traditionally Scottish town. There are higher percentages of people who describe themselves as 'White – Scottish' and who were born in Scotland than the Moray 'norm' in four of the six areas. The Cathedral area is slightly below average in this respect but Bishopmill West stands out in that a quarter of the population describe themselves as 'White – Other British'. As will be discussed later, this area contains some Ministry of Defence housing which may bear some influence on this.

There are, however, some interesting variations in relation to identity such as the 7% of residents in the Cathedral area who describe themselves as either 'White – Polish' or 'White – Other'. This is a higher percentage than both the Moray and Scottish averages for those two ethnic groups combined. In addition, 2.5% of the Central West population is Asian. This is significantly higher than the Moray average of 0.6% and just slightly lower than the Scottish average of 2.7%.

While the percentage of residents (aged 3+) who speak English well / very well is roughly on a par with the Moray and Scottish averages in New Elgin West and Bishopmill West the remaining four Elgin areas fall slightly below this average. The most notable difference is the Cathedral area (96.6% compared with 98.5% and 98.6% for Moray and Scotland respectively). Further, 6.2% of residents in this area, and 8.5% of residents in Central West report speaking a language other than English at home. It is interesting that the percentages of people speaking a different language at home in these areas do not appear to match the percentages of ethnic diversity captured at the last Census.

Interestingly, religion appears to reflect ethnic identity: 10% of the residents in the Cathedral area are Catholic, and 10% in the Bishopmill West area are 'Other Christian' which may relate to the Polish and English residents in these areas. Similarly, the slightly higher percentage of Asian residents in the Central West area is reflected in a slightly higher percentage of people who identify themselves as Muslim.

Housing

Four of Elgin's six areas are either on par with or above the Moray average in relation to people living alone. Where Central West has a higher percentage of older people living alone, it is people of working age who do so in the Bishopmill East, Cathedral and New Elgin East areas. As discussed above, these three same areas also have a higher percentage of lone parent/dependent children households than both the Moray and Scottish averages. Living alone may have implications for

social isolation and levels of support / unpaid care in relation to older people, those living with health problems and single parent families.

Home ownership is less common across Elgin than elsewhere in Moray: four of the six areas are either on par or below the Moray average. However, both Central West and New Elgin West have significantly higher percentages of home ownership in comparison with the Moray and Scottish 'norm'. There is a significantly higher percentage of private rented accommodation in Bishopmill West: double the Scottish average. This may be influenced by the provision of Defence Estate properties in this area to house RAF personnel and their families.

Social rented accommodation (both council and 'other') is above the Elgin and Moray averages in the Bishopmill East, New Elgin East and Cathedral areas. In fact over one third of housing in the Cathedral area is social rented and there is also a significantly higher percentage of private rented accommodation here in comparison with the Moray 'norm'.

With the exception of New Elgin West there is a proportionately higher percentage of flatted accommodation across Elgin. Bishopmill East and New Elgin East have double the Moray average and the Cathedral area is three times the Moray figure and is also above the Scottish average: 40.1% compared with 36.4%.

Both Bishopmill East and the Cathedral area have an above average percentage of 'other' type of household which includes communal living. As each of these areas has more young people and also more flatted accommodation one potential explanation for this is flat-sharing. In addition, three of Elgin's five registered old people's homes are located in the Cathedral area and this may be a contributory factor. Further, the Cathedral area has proportionately more long term sick / disabled individuals than the Moray average and this may indicate that other types of households have been established in this area to care for / support individuals with specific health needs.

There is a degree of variation across the town in relation to the number of cars per household. In particular Central West has relatively high rates of multiple car ownership. This might be explained by the higher rates of marriage and therefore two adult households. However, as there are relatively high percentages of people walking to work and to school, as well as good access to services, it might be inferred that multiple car ownership is perhaps less of a necessity here than is the case in Moray's more rural areas.

The Bishopmill West area is ranked as deprived in the latest SIMD data and this might explain the relatively higher levels of multiple car ownership in this area.

New Elgin East, Bishopmill East and the Cathedral area have higher percentages of households with no cars – perhaps due to their relatively close proximity to services but also perhaps due to lower income levels in these areas.

Economy and labour

Reflecting the age profile of the town, Elgin has a higher proportion of economically active people than the Moray average.

The New Elgin East, Bishopmill East and Cathedral areas all have higher proportions of people employed in lower income jobs such as skilled trades and elementary positions, predominantly in the 'wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' industry. Despite its relatively young age profile the Cathedral area has slightly elevated percentages of retired, unemployed and long term sick or disabled individuals when compared with the rest of Elgin. In fact

this area has the highest percentage of long term sick or disabled people in Moray. The latest SIMD data ranks the Cathedral area as deprived in relation to both employment and income.

It is interesting that as well as the lower income jobs and lower levels of economic activity, there is a higher percentage of residents employed in the public admin / defence industry and also proportionately more employed in associate professional jobs than the Moray 'norm' in the Cathedral area. Proximity to the town centre, and therefore to council headquarters and a range of businesses, might bear some influence on this.

There is also a variety of job type in New Elgin West including elementary, skilled trades and associate professional jobs. This diversity may help to explain why three of the five SIMD data zones in New Elgin West are ranked at 5 in relation to income and two are ranked at 3. The latter two are identified as the more traditional, older parts of New Elgin West and, interestingly, both are ranked at 2 in relation to education/skills and training, suggesting a link between low levels of attainment and lower level jobs.

Given the presence of MOD housing in the area, it is perhaps not surprising that public administration and defence / associate professional jobs are predominant in Bishopmill West. It is also interesting to note that there is a slightly elevated rate of people classed as economically inactive due to looking after home or family here. This reflects the higher proportion of children in this area and also mirrors the situation in Kinloss which is home to a very young population as a result of the proximity of Kinloss Barracks.

As might be anticipated due to its older population, Central West has a higher retirement rate than both the Elgin and Moray averages. Those who are economically active in this area are more likely to be employed in professional level jobs (Central West has twice the Moray average for this job type), and much lower percentages of people work in traditional industry or lower skilled jobs. This would suggest higher levels of income which might explain the higher levels of car and home ownership in this area.

Higher percentages of people in Bishopmill West, New Elgin East and New Elgin West travel by car. It can be inferred that employment at RAF Lossiemouth necessitates this for those in Bishopmill West. For those living in New Elgin the slightly further distance to the town centre might be an influencing factor, or perhaps individuals are employed out with Elgin. There is also evidence of slightly higher incidences of employment in the caring profession which might necessitate the use of a car, particularly in the case of home carers.

In contrast, residents in the Bishopmill East, Central West and Cathedral areas are more likely to walk to work than is the case in both Elgin and Moray generally.

Education

The evidence indicates not only a varying level of attainment across Elgin but also within the town's two ASG areas, particularly in the Elgin Academy ASG. This is interesting because pupils living in the same area are likely to attend the same secondary school. It raises the question of which factors, out with the control of the school, may affect attainment.

One of the most noticeable differences in the Elgin High School ASG is in relation to the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds in education. Those living in New Elgin East are much more likely to stay in education than those living in New Elgin West: 77.2% compared with 69.6%. As the proportion of school leavers entering higher education is much lower in New Elgin East, and the proportion

entering further education being very similar in the two areas, it might be inferred that more pupils from New Elgin East remain in school at age 16 and 17.

Despite this, those from the west of the area perform better in school based exams than those from the east. While pupils from New Elgin East perform below the Moray average across S4 and S5 those from New Elgin West are roughly on a par with the Moray average in S4 and also in relation to attaining one higher level exam. However performance falls below average in relation to multiple higher exams, and the below average S4 tariff score suggests that the grades achieved at this stage are relatively low.

Post-school destinations for pupils in this ASG generally reflect levels of attainment with fewer school leavers going into Higher Education, particularly in relation to those from New Elgin East where there is a much greater likelihood of going straight into employment after school. In addition, a slightly higher percentage of pupils from the east go into negative destinations than the Moray 'norm' – 11.2% compared with 9.1%.

Levels of adult qualification are generally low in the Elgin High School ASG and the more recent levels of attainment discussed above would suggest that this trend will continue.

As highlighted above, the variation in attainment is significantly more marked in the Elgin Academy ASG. The Bishopmill East and Cathedral areas perform significantly below the Moray average and also in comparison with the Central West and Bishopmill West areas.

Pupils from the latter two areas perform above the Elgin, Moray and Scottish averages across S4 and S5. This translates into higher percentages going into positive destinations – particularly for those from the Central West area where 97.8% enter a positive destination, making this area the joint second highest in Moray in this respect. Over half of school leavers from Central West and 45% from Bishopmill West go into Higher Education. Levels of adult qualification in these areas are also relatively high – Central West has the second highest percentage of adults qualified to degree level or above in Moray, which again suggests a potential correlation between parent / child attainment.

In contrast, levels of attainment in both S4 and S5 are below average in the Cathedral and Bishopmill East areas. In fact pupils in the Cathedral area have the lowest S5 tariff score and there is a lower proportion achieving one higher level exam here than anywhere else in Moray. New Elgin East is the second lowest in respect of each of these and both the New Elgin East and Cathedral areas were ranked as deprived with regards to education in the latest SIMD data.

Again, there is a corresponding low level of qualification held by the adult population in these areas with fewer people educated to degree level and 30% having no qualifications. While this is the highest percentage in Elgin it is significantly lower than the town of Keith (37.2%) as well as a number of Moray's coastal and rural areas.

Poorer attainment has implications for positive destinations immediately after leaving school and also for the longer term employment and earning potential of individuals. It is therefore interesting to note that a slightly higher percentage of young people from the Bishopmill East and Cathedral areas are more likely to enter a negative destination in comparison with the Moray average. The most common positive destinations for school leavers in these areas are further education – the Cathedral area is 10% higher than the Moray average in relation to further education, and employment.

In addition to two secondary schools, Elgin is home to eight primary schools which might imply a reduced need to travel by bus / car. While travel by bus is significantly lower than more rural parts of Moray and travel on foot more common, it is interesting that the percentage of students who travel by car is either just below or above the Moray average. Indeed it is surprising that despite lower levels of car ownership in the Cathedral area, over one third of pupils travel to school by car which is more than 10% above the Moray average. This is particularly surprising given that there are three primary schools in this area.

Health and social care

Given its younger age profile, together with lower proportions of people with a long term limiting condition and /or who report being limited by an existing long term condition, it is perhaps not surprising that people from Bishopmill West have a positive perception of health. What is interesting is that people in Central West – who are older, more likely to have a long term limited condition and also to feel limited by this condition, also report positive perceptions of health. Of further interest is the rate of emergency hospital admissions in these two areas: the rate per 100,000 for the 65+ age group is significantly above the Elgin and Moray average in the Bishopmill West area but significantly below these averages for the Central West area. Given the similarities between these two areas discussed throughout this summary it is surprising that the evidence suggests a difference in the health of the older people in each area.

As discussed earlier, there is a proportionately higher incidence of economic inactivity due to long term sickness / disability in the Cathedral area. This area closely follows Central West in relation to the percentage of residents with a long term limiting condition and, in correlation, there is a poorer perception of health here in comparison with the Moray 'norm'. Whereas the conditions affecting those in Central West are those most associated with older people, i.e. hearing and sight impairment or loss, there is a higher incidence of physical disability and mental health conditions in the Cathedral area. This area has the highest incidence of emergency hospital admissions for all age groups in Elgin, and is also above average for admissions for the 65+ age group. The latest SIMD data ranks the Cathedral area as deprived in relation to health.

Levels of unpaid care vary across Elgin. There is some correlation between the slightly higher than average level of provision in Central West and higher percentage of individuals living with a long term condition. In contrast, given the relatively poor health in the Cathedral area it is interesting that there is a below average provision of unpaid here. As discussed earlier, there are more single person households here which may suggest limited available support.

Anti-social behaviour / crime

Information relating to anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime is available for Elgin as a whole. Elgin has a higher incidence (per 100/population) in 5/8 ASB indicators, the most common one being noise related incidents.

Crime rates (per 1000/population) were 1.5 times higher than the Moray average in both 2012/13 and 2013/14. Elgin has a police station and this tends to increase the crime rate because some crimes which occur out with Elgin may be recorded at the police station. Being Moray's main town, Elgin can also be seen as the entertainment centre for Elgin with a number of pubs which may have an impact upon levels of crime.

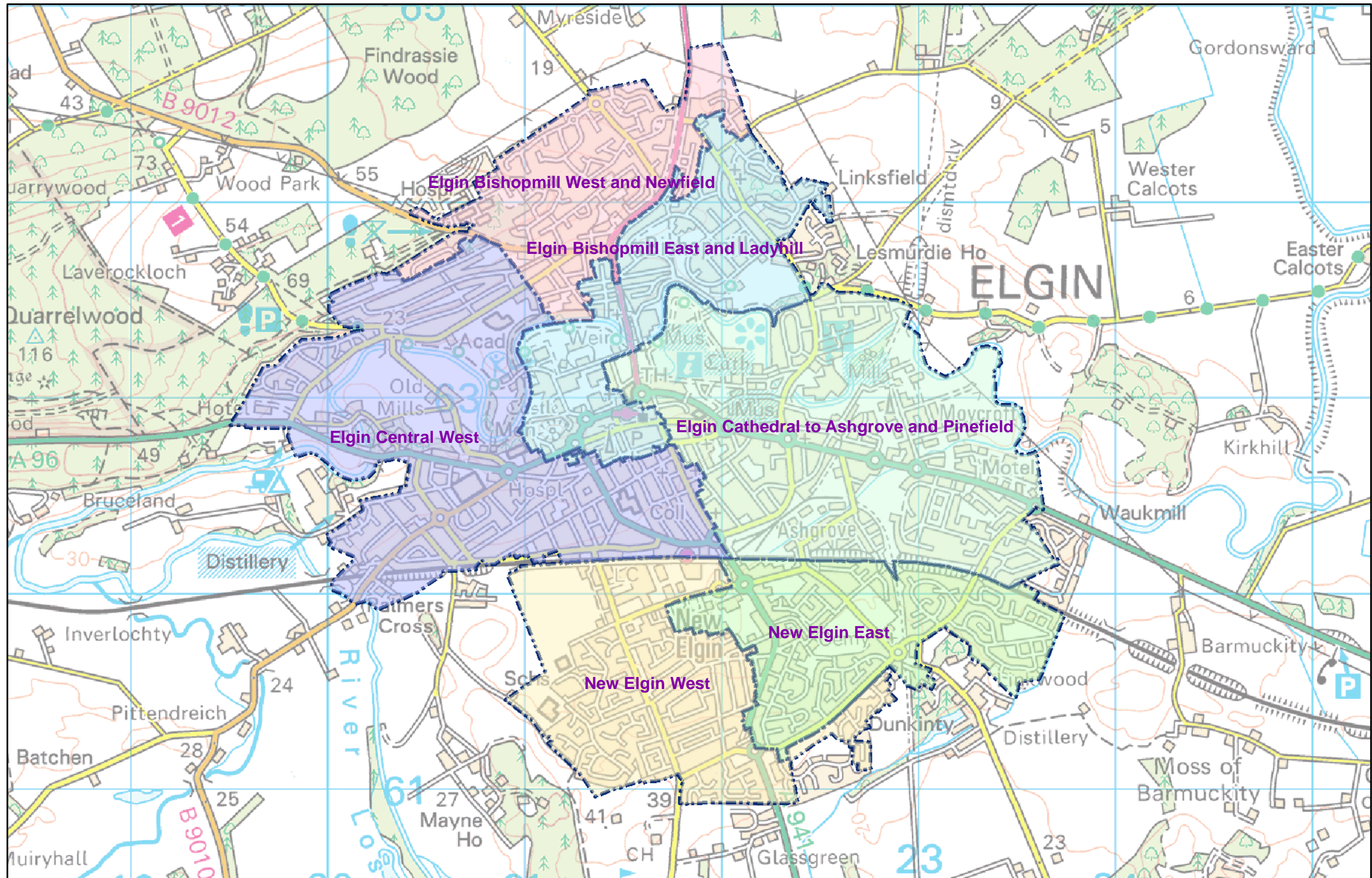
The latest SIMD data ranked both the New Elgin East and Cathedral areas as deprived in relation to crime.

Access to services

Being Moray's main town, Elgin provides a range of employment opportunities as well as to access essential services which can be accessed either on foot or via a relatively short drive. In addition, Elgin is serviced by several bus routes. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that journey times, both by car and public transport, are relatively short.

As discussed earlier, the Bishopmill West area is ranked as deprived in the latest SIMD data. However while it takes residents of this area approximately 5 minutes to drive to the nearest secondary school this is a relatively short journey compared to Tomintoul where it would take just under 30 minutes. Similarly, the journey time of 13 minutes by public transport to a GP is significantly less than the 98 minutes it would take someone living in Logie.

Maps of Elgin's Six Intermediate Data Zones (Census 2011)



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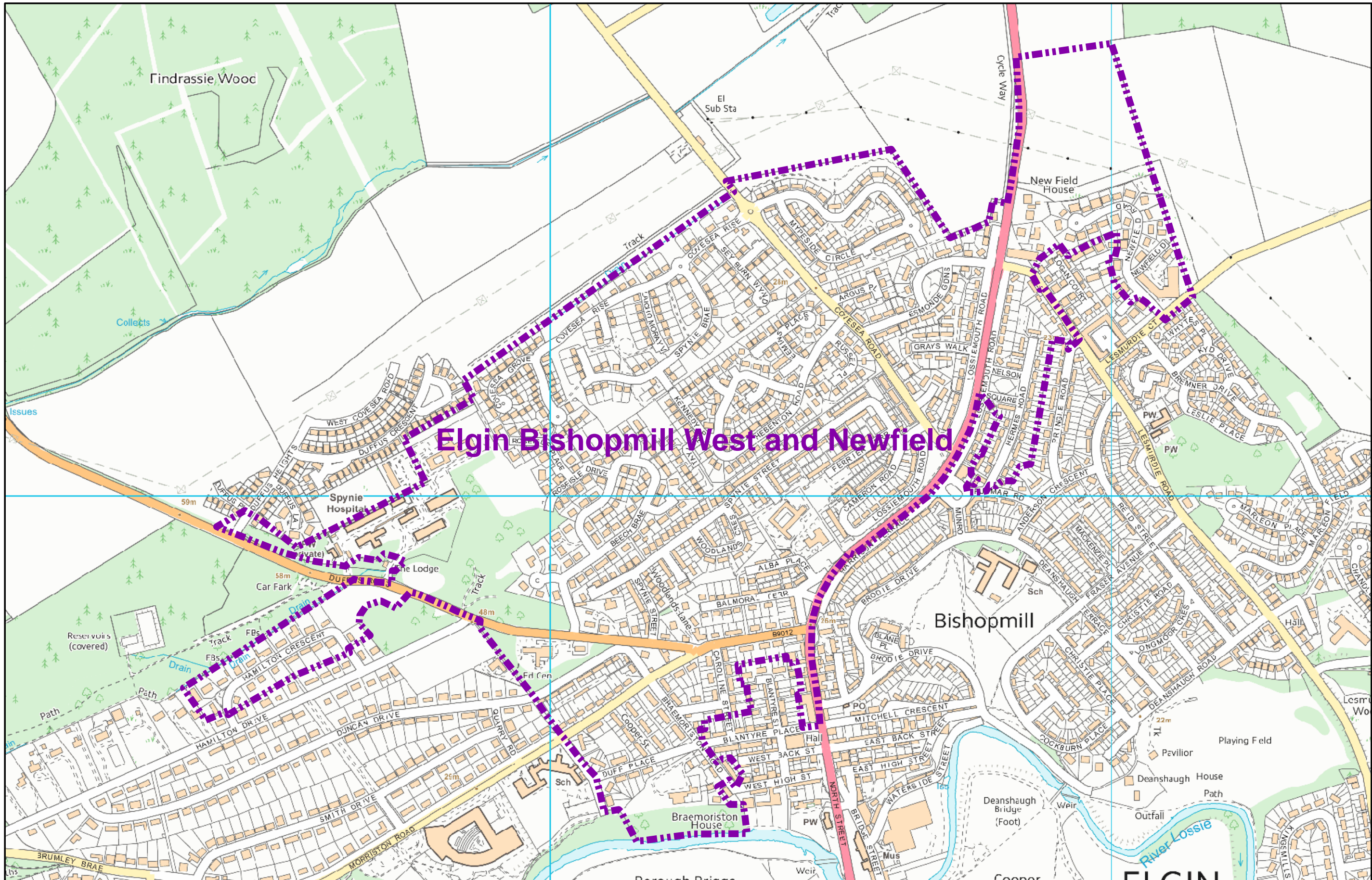
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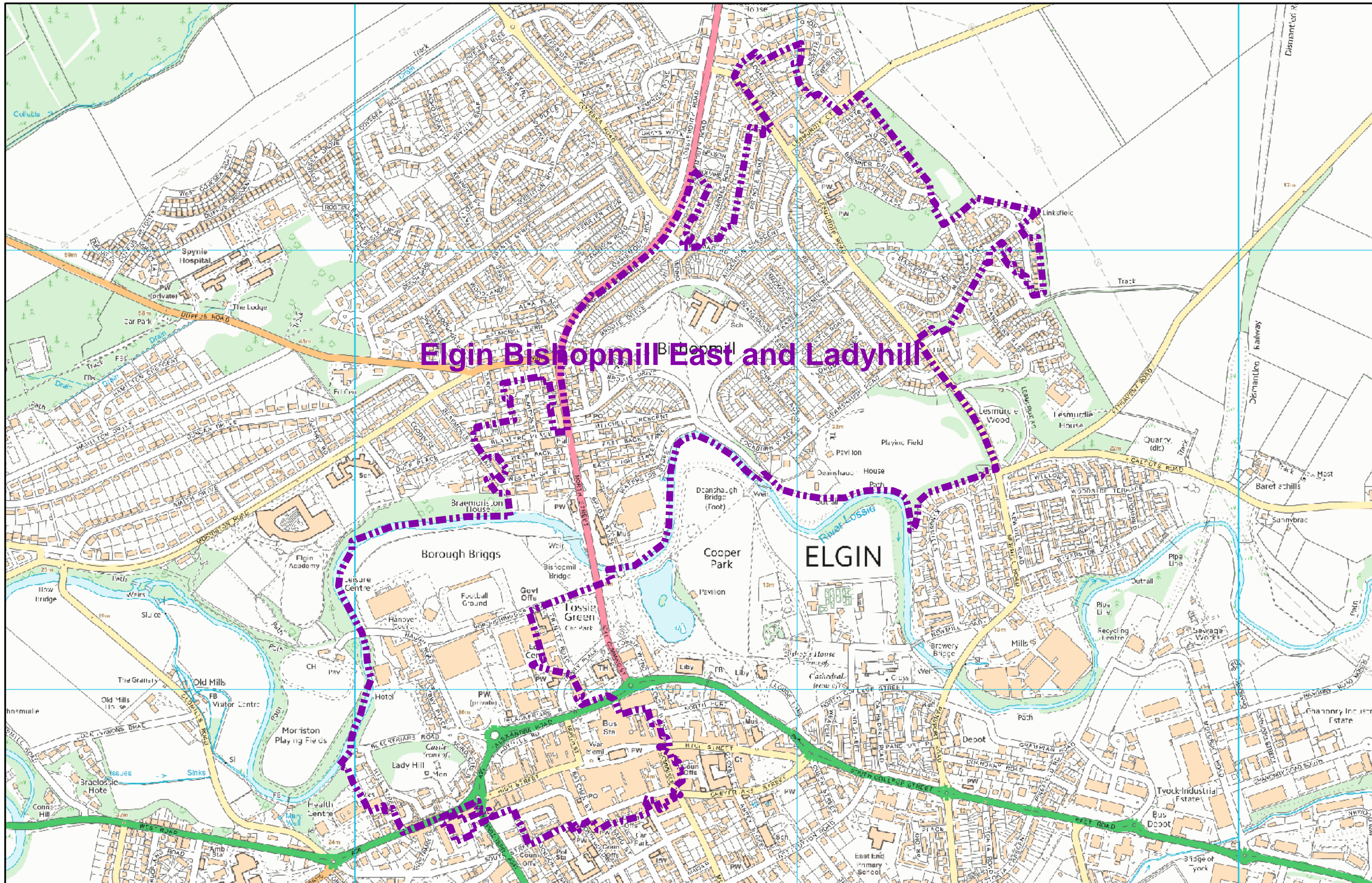
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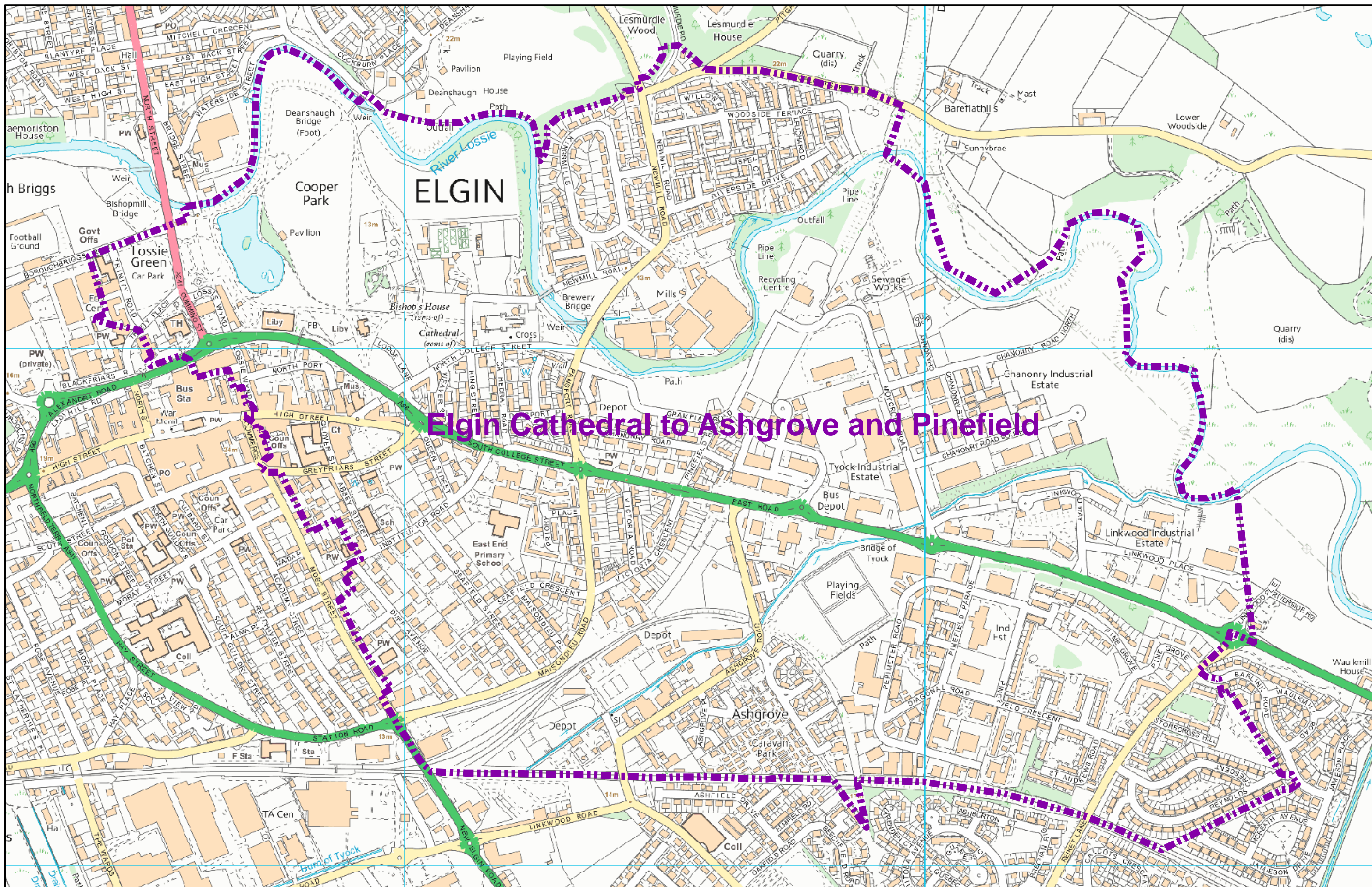
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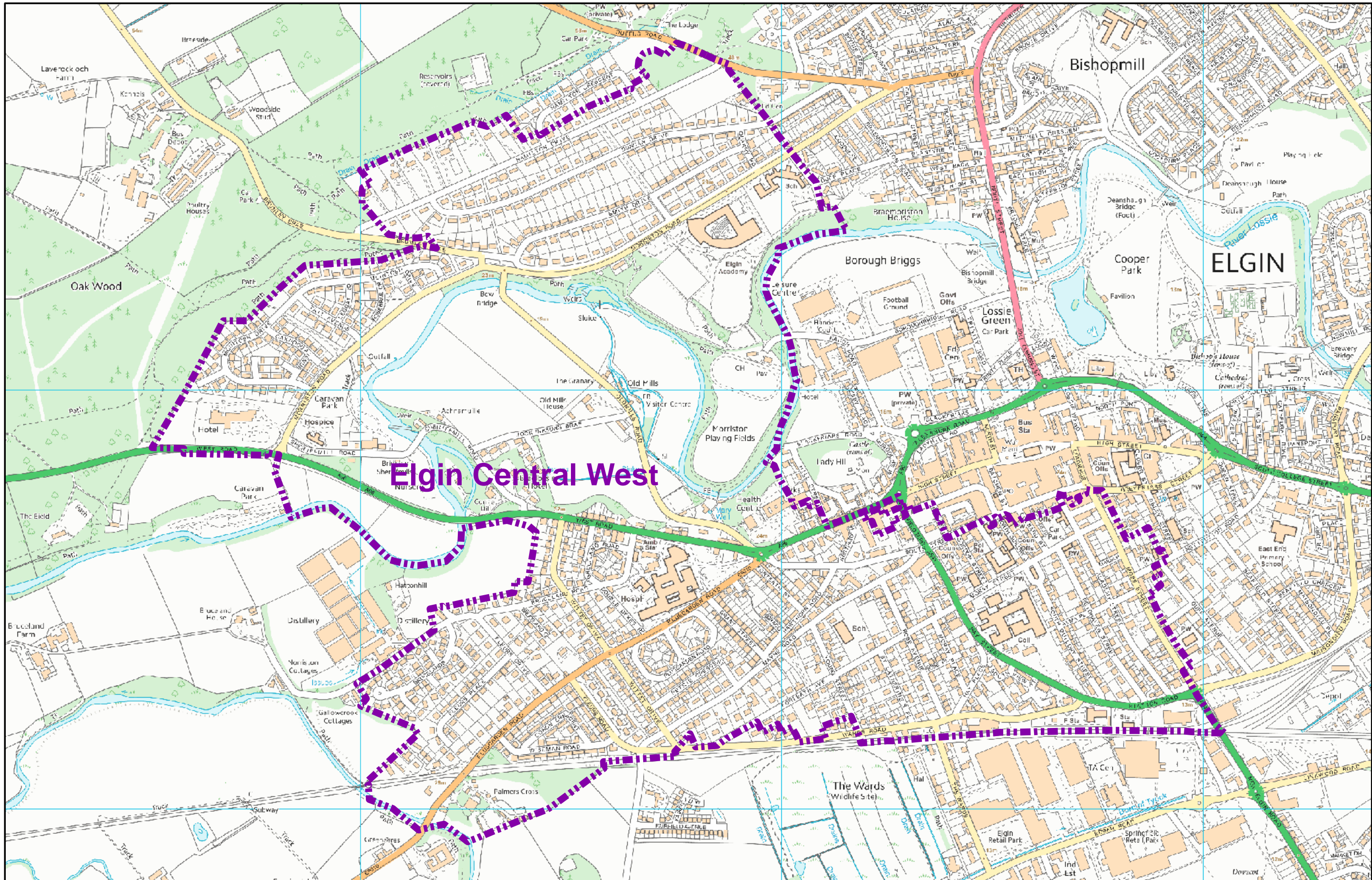
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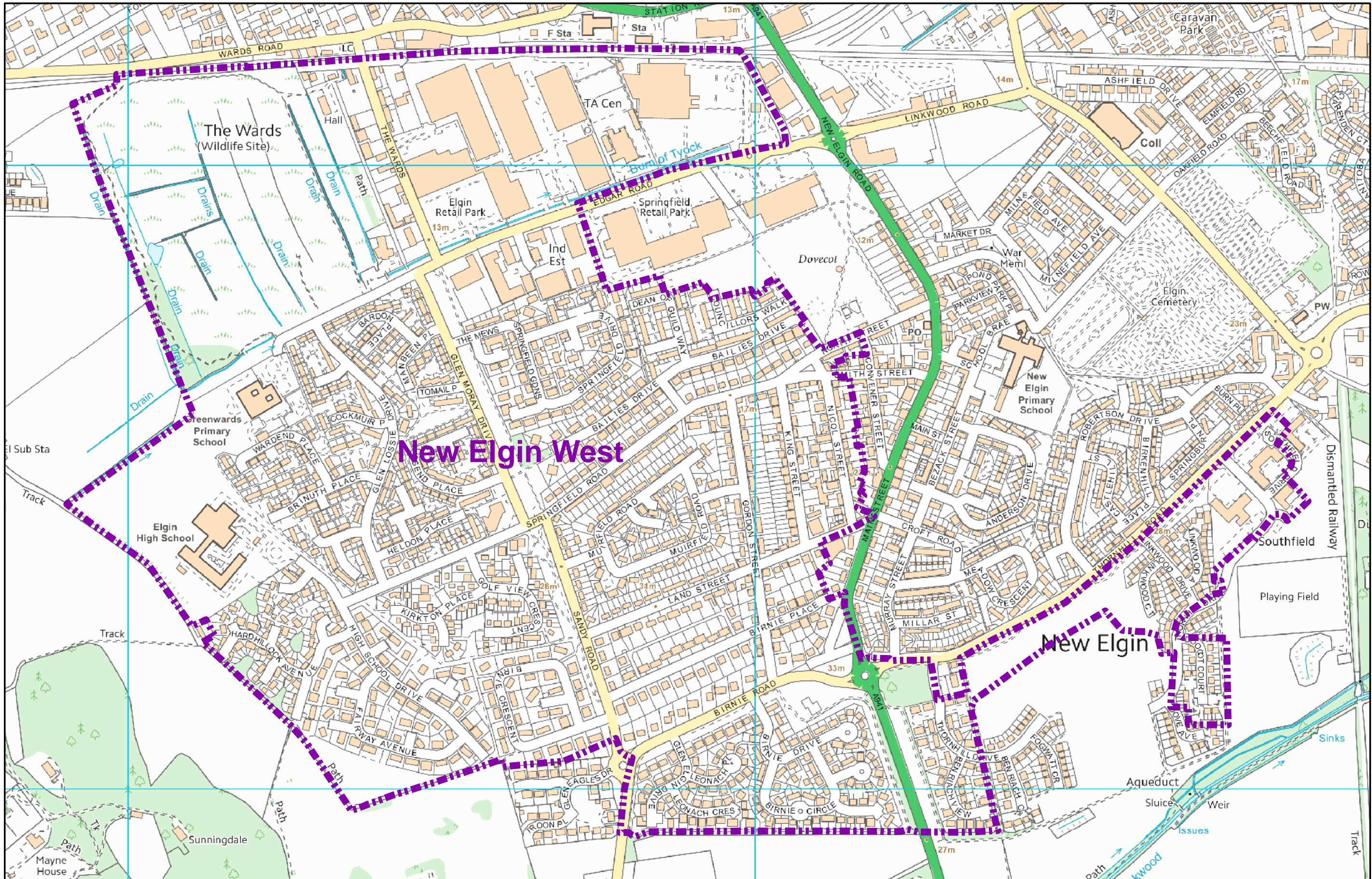
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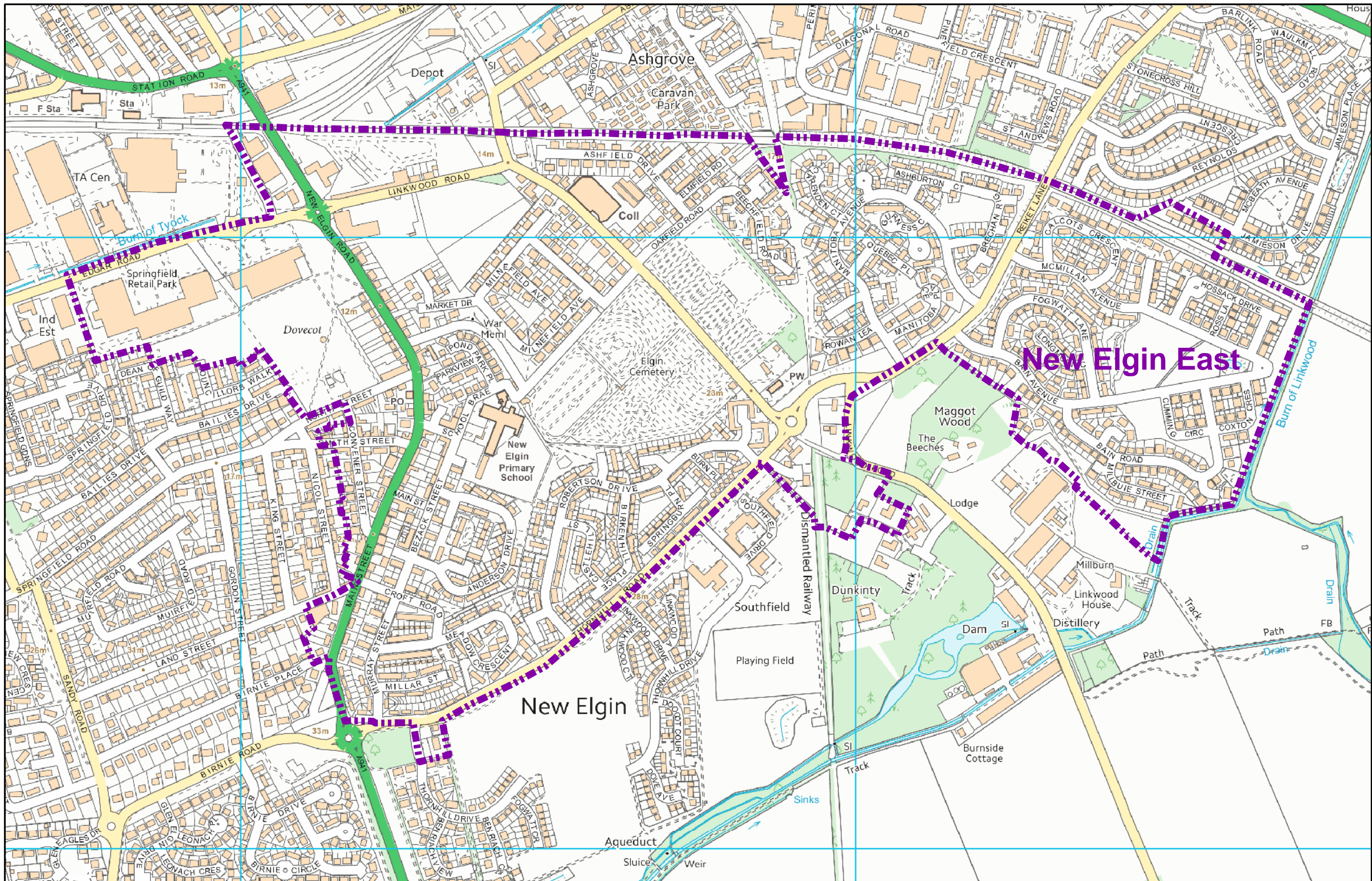
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