

Voted the best neighbourhood in the UK and Ireland at the 2020 Urbanism Awards, the seaside suburb of Portobello is home to a very socially diverse population.

Constructed predominantly in the 19th century, the range of housing, from worker cottages and tenements to large detached villas caters for a mix of incomes, ages and backgrounds.

Despite its status as a highly desirable suburb of Edinburgh with good facilities and access into Edinburgh, the neighbourhood has avoided the levels of gentrification that many similar areas have faced elsewhere, and Portobello continues to support a range of local shops and facilities that appeal to a cross-section of society.

A strong sense of community and pride is also evident within the neighbourhood, which has resulted in a number of significant community-led projects being brought forward. Most notably the community purchase of Portobello Old Parish Church, the first community buy-out of its kind, is now home to a thriving venue for arts events.

The Wash House community centre provides a free youth club service and hosts a range of other regular activities which encourage health, wellbeing and education for the local community. Meanwhile, Tribe Porty is a community coworking and creative events space, which accommodates a collection of social entrepreneurs, freelancers, charities and SMEs.

The Portobello beach is a hub of activity, with swimmers, local rowing and sailing clubs and Scottish Beach Volleyball competitions. The Promenade boasts several local cafes and is the setting for Edinburgh's annual Big Beach Busk and other art and cultural events throughout the year. Community beach cleans help to maintain this much-loved local facility.

Sand, sea and a strong wave of community spirit make Portobello a truly special neighbourhood.

- COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CHILD, RESIDENT.

It's a really unique place, and we say all the time how happy we are to be based here with its mix of old and new.

- JACK CLARK, BUSINESS OWNER AND RESIDENT.



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DIVERSITY



NEIGHBOURLINESS



SERVICES



PLAYFULNESS



CULTURE

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