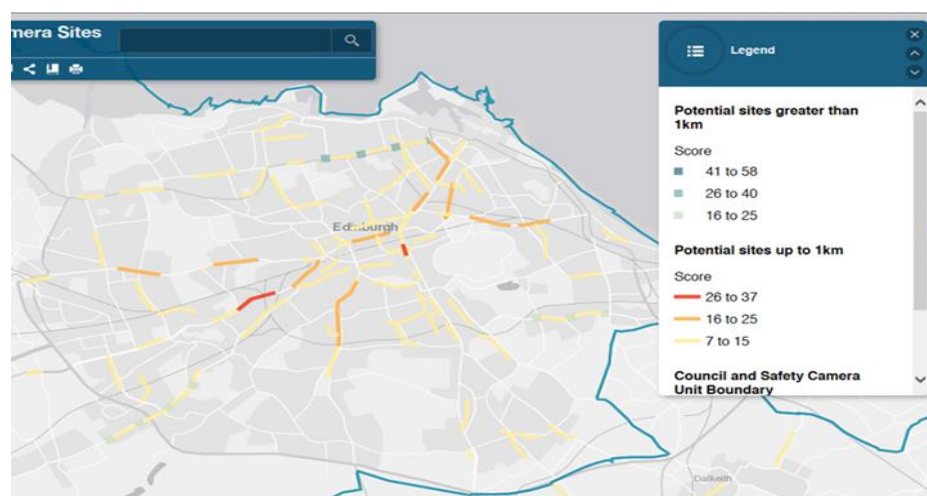### Introduction to site selection

Within the wider site prioritisation process, site selection is the exercise whereby potential new sites for safety camera enforcement are identified. All potential new sites must meet criteria with regard to the number of collisions, speed and site suitability, as outlined in the Scottish Safety Camera Programme Handbook.
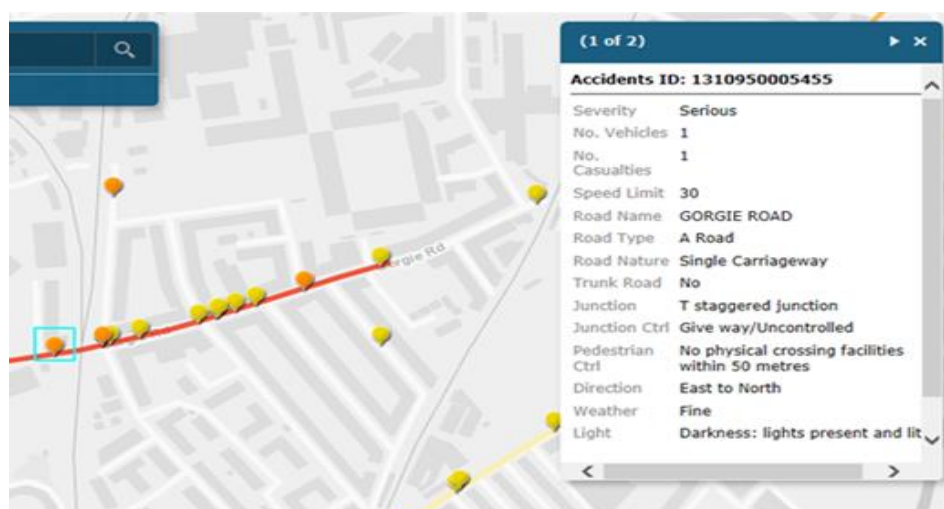
Developments in the site selection process

In winter 2015 the Scottish Safety Camera Programme Office (SSCPO) worked with Scottish Government GIS colleagues to support the site selection process, and complement the work already being undertaken by road authorities in assessing their networks for potential sites. The outcome from this work was the production of the first on-line, interactive map depicting potential safety camera sites in Scotland. The map displays potential sites, colour coded by score, and each of the collisions, colour coded by severity, that are attributed to the identified sites at a Local Authority level.

Figure 1: Potential sites identified in the City of Edinburgh. The site score range is displayed in the legend.

The map has an interactive element as users have the ability to select identified sites and collisions to produce pop-up boxes. For sites, information such as the collision count is included in the pop-up box and for collisions, details such as the number of casualties, weather and light conditions etc. are displayed.

Figure 2: Selecting a serious collision on a potential site with its pop-up box displayed.

Benefits of the site selection map

The map has delivered a number of immediate benefits. Along with the complementary raw data tables, the map has provided the Safety Camera Units and Police Scotland with a comprehensive analytical output which is easily accessible, and aids Local Authorities with the initial site selection stages. For the SSCPO, the map has supported a consistent and improved methodological approach to site selection.

Next steps

From liaison between the Safety Camera Units and Local Authorities, the SSCPO is looking to establish the data chain between Police Scotland, Local Authorities and Transport Scotland. The SSCPO are keen to develop the mapping tool for future site selection exercises, and all users were invited to comment and provide feedback on the map. Comments have been consolidated and a paper, with feedback prioritised by developmental need, has been sent to the mapping team. A workshop run by the mapping team to determine which recommendations can be further developed and establish GIS data checking practices is scheduled for June 2016.