

Edinburgh has been voted the most desirable city to live in the UK, ahead of places like London, York and Bath.

A YouGov poll of 10,000 adults from across Britain saw Scotland's capital come top for "atmosphere" and its positive reputation. The city also performed well for its culture, cuisine and shopping. Other indicators used to judge Edinburgh's desirability were safety, the friendliness of locals and the cost of living. The Placeindex study, carried out in July, ranked each city on 11 key indicators. Included were ease of getting around, investment potential and the media "buzz" generated by different places.

'Enviably quality'

When the scores for each indicator were combined, Edinburgh emerged the highest ranked city in the index, beating off its nearest rivals York, London, Cambridge and Bath.

The report said: "Not only does Edinburgh have lots to offer but the city is safe to visit, easy to get around and the local people are helpful and friendly. "Aside from its entertainment and leisure offerings, it is also considered a city worth investing in." The city's council leader, Jenny Dawe, welcomed the results as further confirmation of the capital's positive reputation. She said: "Edinburgh has much to be proud of and provides an enviable quality of life. We all contribute to the city's success and, while the council has an important role, there are many others who need to be given credit." The result comes despite disruption caused by the city's tram works and the continuing bin dispute.