

Friends of the Earth Environmental Justice East London Scoping Report

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INTRODUCTION:

The Environmental Justice Scoping research aims to answer the following objectives:

1. Present key socio-economic data for Newham and Tower Hamlets.
2. Assess development pressures and how they are impacting local communities.
3. Assess decision making structures and their impact.
4. Examining what environmental networks exist in East London.

These objectives were met by:

- Carrying out desk research, collating socio-economic data describing Newham and Tower Hamlets.
- Interviewing 8 community representatives, asking the following five questions:
 1. What are the main environmental concerns in East London?
 2. How much influence have local people got with regard to environmental issues?
 3. Are you aware of any environmental networks in the area?
 4. How are development pressures impacting on communities?
 5. What hopes/expectations would you have for an environmental network?

Section 1 contains socio-economic data for Newham and Tower Hamlets, and Section 2 summarises and collates interviews from community representatives.

Section 1: Socio-economic data for Newham and Tower Hamlets

NEWHAM SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA:

Map of Newham

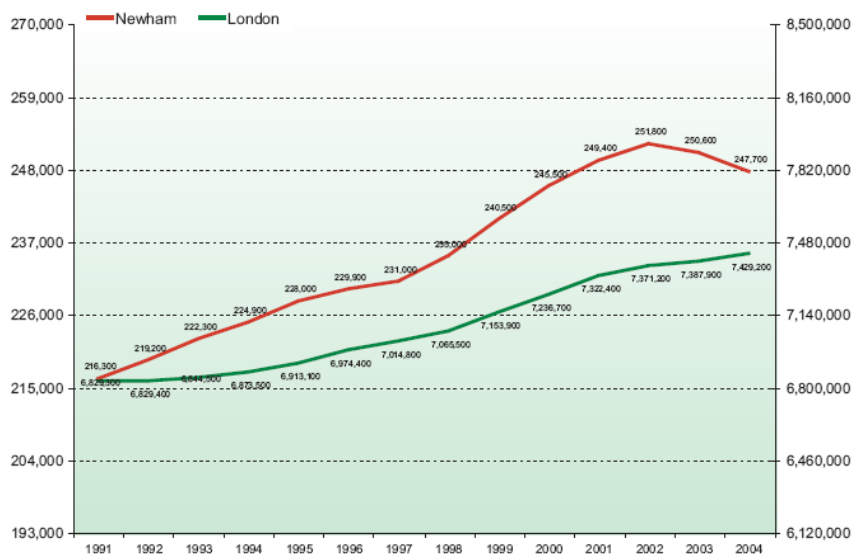


Population:

The total population of Newham is reported to be 247,700 by the latest 2004 Mid-Year Estimates (MYE), provided by ONS. This represents a 1.2% (-2,900) fall in population between 2003 and 2004. In the same period the population of London is reported to have increased by 0.6% (41,300). Newham has been ranked the 11th most populated borough in London.

Newham's population grew steadily between 1991 and 2002, though at a faster rate than London. However since 2002 a slight yearly decrease has been noted. Figure 2.1 below shows the population growth in Newham in numbers. Since 1991, Newham has seen a 14.5% increase in the population from 216,300 to 247,700 in 2004, whereas for the same period the growth for London was 8.8%. The ONS explains the recent drop in population in Newham between 2003 and 2004 due to more people moving out of the borough than moving in. It was somewhat offset by the high birth-rate in the borough. This drop is in contrast to local administrative data which continues to show a growth in population, and is under review.

Figure 2.1 Population Growth in Newham and London (1991 - 2004)



Each gridline is at approximately 5% variation from baseline.
 SOURCE: 2004 Mid-Year Population Estimates (MYE), Office of National Statistics

Ethnic Diversity

The latest ethnicity figures are available from 2001 census. Newham had the largest proportion of non-White ethnic groups in the country. Almost two-thirds (61%) of Newham's population was from non-White ethnic groups (Brent has the highest percentage of ethnic minorities, when White-Irish and Other-White are grouped with ethnic minorities). Newham was reported to have the second highest percentage of Asians in England and Wales, with the second largest percentage of Bangladeshis in England and Wales (Tower Hamlets lead in both these statistics). It also had the second highest percentage of Black Africans in England and Wales in 2001. The ethnic diversity of an area can be measured using the Simpson's Diversity Index. It is a measure that is often used to quantify the bio-diversity of a habitat. It takes into account the number of individuals in categories present, as well as the relative abundance of categories.

The Simpson Index represents the probability that two randomly selected individuals in the habitat belong to the same group. By looking at the sixteen different ethnic groups from the 2001 Census, Newham is the second most diverse local authority in England and Wales, with Brent being the most diverse.

The index score for Newham is 5.87 while for Brent it is 6.46 (from a maximum score of 16). The higher score is mainly because Brent has a significant White Irish population. By applying the Simpson's Diversity Index across Newham, Manor Park emerges as the most diverse with a score of 7.19 out of 16. Only three community forums (Manor Park, Forest Gate and Green Street exceed the Newham score of 5.87 (7.19, 6.98, 6.72 respectively). The least diverse populations are in North Woolwich & Silvertown (2.95) and Canning Town (2.85).

The data shows that Newham has quite a mixed population, with the north/ north-east part of the borough having more ethnic diversity than the south/ south-west. Research by the GLA on ethnic diversity of wards by Simpson's Diversity Index shows that in 1991, 6 of the 15 most ethnically diverse wards in England and Wales were in Newham (Monega, Upton, St Stephens, Kensington, Central and Manor Park). By 2001, this had increased to 9 of the 15 most ethnically diverse wards

in England and Wales being in Newham (Little Ilford, Manor Park, Wall End, Green Street East, Green Street West, East Ham Central, East Ham North, Plaistow North and Forest Gate South). Moreover, the Simpson Diversity Indices were all considerably higher in 2001 than in 1991.

There is considerable variation in the distribution of ethnic groups across the borough. The White population in particular is concentrated in the south of Newham whilst the Asian and Asian British population is located in the north. The Black and Black British population has a higher concentration in the west of the borough.

Local Conditions:

Population Density

Population density is measured as the number of people per hectare. The 2004 Mid Year Estimates show that Newham had a population density of 68.8 people per hectare, and it was ranked thirteenth among London boroughs (Table 3.1 below). Newham is a relatively low-density population area within London boroughs. Density by Newham wards is reported in Table 3.2. The figures suggest that the north of the borough is more densely populated than the south of the borough, with Green Street (east and west) showing relatively high density.

Table 3.1 People per Hectare in the London Borough of Newham (2004 MYE) compared with the most densely populated London Boroughs

Ranking	London	People per hectare
1	Kensington and Chelsea	153.4
2	Islington	119.9
3	Hammersmith and Fulham	110.5
4	Westminster	109.5
5	Hackney	108.9
6	Tower Hamlets	104.7
7	Lambeth	99.3
8	Camden	98.7
9	Southwark	87.8
10	Wandsworth	81.3
11	Haringey	74.8
12	Lewisham	70.6
13	Newham	68.8

SOURCE: 2004 MYE, ONS

Table 3.2 People per Hectare in Newham by Ward (2005)

Newham Ward	Persons per hectare
Beckton	21.9
Boleyn	138.2
Canning Town North	49.2
Canning Town South	69.0
Custom House	59.3
East Ham Central	124.8
East Ham North	132.8
East Ham South	71.7
Forest Gate North	104.3
Forest Gate South	124.8
Green Street East	186.2
Green Street West	170.4
Little Ilford	73.6
Manor Park	96.7
Plaistow North	140.3
Plaistow South	88.3
Royal Docks	16.3
Stratford and New Town	34.6
Wall End	98.9
West Ham	97.8
Newham Average	67.1

SOURCE: GLA, 2005

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) is a measure of multiple deprivation at small area level. Multiple deprivation is measured since people living in an area may be subject to more than one form of deprivation. The overall IMD is a weighted area level aggregation of specific dimensions of deprivation. The IMD 2004 is derived from seven separate 'domains' of deprivation:

- Income
- Employment
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education, Skills and Training
- Housing
- Crime and Disorder
- Living Environment

Summary measures of the IMD 2004 are also derived by the ONS at district and county level. The SOA level Domain Indices and IMD 2004, together with the district and county level summaries are referred to as the Indices of Deprivation 2004 (ID 2004). The IMD 2004 can be compared with the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 (IMD 2000), which shares a similar methodology but differs in several ways. One of the main differences is that the geographical base of the IMD 2004 is the lower-level geography of Super Output Areas (SOAs), which provide a smaller and more consistent population base for comparison instead of wards as used in earlier indices. Another difference is that the domains have been changed and incorporate a wider range of data, in particular they include information on crime and environment.

According to the IMD 2004 scores (Table 3.3 below), Newham was the eleventh most deprived area by average of SOA scores in England and Wales and the fourth most deprived borough in

London (after Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Islington). This represents an improvement from the IMD 2000 scores when Newham was ranked the fifth most deprived in England and the third most deprived in London. Newham showed a widespread level of deprivation. Of the 159 SOAs in the borough, 27% were ranked in the 10% most deprived in England, and another 50% were in the 10% to 20% most deprived. None of the Newham SOAs were in the 50% least deprived in England. Table 3.4 below shows the percentage of deprived areas in Newham and London's SOAs.

Table 3.3 Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 – Most Deprived Boroughs in London and England by Average Scores of SOAs

National Rank	London Rank	Local Authority
1		Liverpool
2		Manchester
3		Knowsley
4	1	Tower Hamlets
5	2	Hackney
6	3	Islington
7		Nottingham
8		Easington
9		Kingston upon Hull, City of
10		Middlesbrough
11	4	Newham
Range (1 -354)		Range (1 -33)

SOURCE: Indices of Deprivation 2004

Table 3.4 Indices of Deprivation 2004– Proportion of SOAs in Newham and London in Ranked Decile Groups in England

Decile group in England	Newham SOAs %	Newham SOAs Cumulative %	London SOAs %	London SOAs Cumulative %
0-10% most deprived	27%	27%	10%	10%
10-20% most deprived	50%	77%	17%	27%
20-30% most deprived	19%	96%	16%	43%
30-40% most deprived	4%	100%	13%	56%
40-50% most deprived			10%	66%
<hr/>				
40-50% least deprived			9%	35%
30-40% least deprived			8%	26%
20-30% least deprived			7%	18%
10-20% least deprived			7%	11%
0-10% least deprived			4%	4%
Number of SOAs	159		4,765	

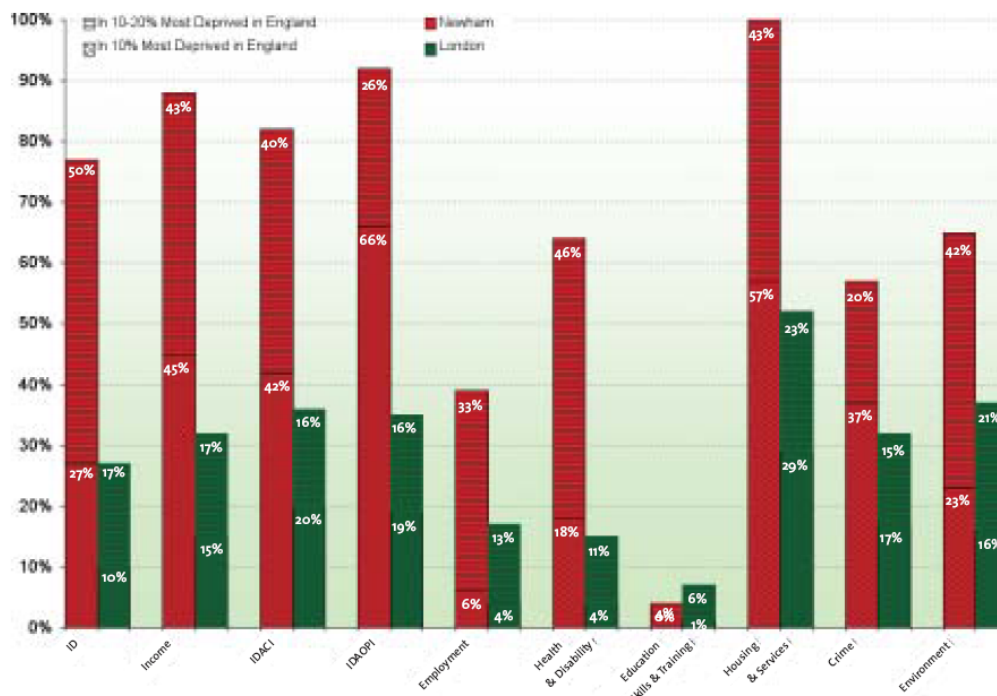
SOURCE: Indices of Deprivation 2004

The most deprived SOAs were in the south-west of the borough. Through averaging the SOA scores, Canning Town ranked as the most deprived community forum in Newham, followed by North Woolwich and Silvertown and Plaistow for overall ID 2004 scores. The least deprived community forum within Newham was East Ham (although it should be cautioned that it would still rank among the more deprived areas within the wider England context).

Figure 3.4 below shows the proportions of Newham SOAs and London SOAs in the 10% and 20% most deprived SOAs in England. In relation to barriers to housing and services, virtually all of Newham was ranked within the 20% most deprived. This was also the most common aspect of

deprivation across London. With regard to income, health and disability, crime and living environment domains, over 50% of Newham SOAs were among the 20% most deprived in England. Although still disproportionately present, the prevalence of deprivation was not as high in Newham for the employment domain. Education skills and training was the only domain where Newham SOAs were not disproportionately represented amongst the 20% most deprived in England.

Figure 3.4 Percentage of Newham and London SOAs in 10% and 20% most deprived in England by ID 2004 Domain



SOURCE: Indices of Deprivation 2004
 Note: IDACI = Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index; IDAOPI = Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index

Household Composition

Newham had the highest proportion (37.5%) of households with dependent children in England and Wales (Census 2001). Of the total households, 15.7% were lone parent households (with either dependent or non-dependent children) (Table 3.5). This proportion was higher than in London (11.1%). Single person households in Newham (34.0%) were proportionally similar to that in London (34.7%), while married and cohabiting couples were proportionally lower in Newham than in London (34.8% compared with 42.0%). The highest proportions of lone parent families were in Canning Town, West Ham and Beckton community forums; whereas married couples were predominantly in Green Street, East Ham and Manor Park community forums (Table 3.6). Table 3.7 shows that, a high proportion of households headed by Asian or Asian British people were married couples (46.5%) compared with other ethnic groups (20.3% of White, 18.2% of Black or Black British). Single pensioner households were proportionally higher among households headed by White ethnic group, which reflects the age distribution of this group. A quarter of households headed by Black or Black British people were lone parents. Looking at Table 3.5, Table 3.6 and Table 3.7 comparatively, it can be seen that other households with dependent children in Newham were twice the size in proportion to London. Higher rates of this group were in Forest Gate, Green Street and Manor Park and the ethnic breakdown seems to confirm that this feature of Newham could be due to the existence of extended families in the Asian or Asian British population that reside in these community forums.

Table 3.5 Household Composition in Newham (2001)

	Newham		London
	Count	%	%
All households	91,821		3,015,997
One person:			
Pensioner	10,140	11.0	12.7
Other	21,111	23.0	22.0
Total Single Person	31,251	34.0	34.7
Married couple households and no others			
All pensioners	2,882	3.1	5.4
No children	5,373	5.9	8.5
With dependent children	14,836	16.2	15.2
All children non-dependent	3,703	4.0	4.9
Total Married	26,794	29.2	33.9
Cohabiting couple households and no others			
No children	2,654	2.9	5.3
With dependent children ²	2,256	2.5	2.5
All children non-dependent	208	0.2	0.3
Total Co-habiting	5,118	5.6	8.1
Lone parent households:			
With dependent children	10,922	11.9	7.6
All children non-dependent	3,480	3.8	3.5
Total Lone Parent households	14,402	15.7	11.1
Other households:			
With dependent children	6,426	7.0	3.7
All student	614	0.7	0.5
All pensioner	312	0.3	0.4
Other	6,904	7.5	7.7
Total Other	14,256	15.5	12.2
Total With Dependent Children	34,440	37.5	29.0

SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (KS20)

Table 3.6 Household Composition in Newham by Community Forum (2001)

Percentage of households	Percentage of households										
	Beckton	Canning Town	East Ham	Forest Gate	Green Street	Manor Park	North Woolwich and Silvertown	Plaistow	Stratford	West Ham	Newham
Lone pensioner	8.0	12.8	12.0	9.4	11.1	9.8	8.8	13.4	12.1	11.0	11.0
Lone non-pensioner	26.9	22.4	17.9	25.9	19.3	19.8	30.0	24.5	28.5	25.0	23.0
All pensioner	1.9	4.1	4.6	2.9	3.6	3.2	2.6	4.4	3.0	3.1	3.5
Married, no children	6.9	5.9	6.6	5.3	5.0	5.4	6.1	6.4	5.1	6.0	5.8
Married, dependent children	15.0	10.9	20.1	15.6	19.9	20.6	8.8	13.7	10.7	13.5	16.2
Married, non-dependent children	3.0	4.4	5.0	3.8	4.8	4.2	2.9	4.0	3.2	3.7	4.0
Cohabiting, no children	4.6	1.9	2.3	3.1	1.8	2.3	5.4	2.9	4.1	2.2	2.9
Cohabiting, dependent children	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.5	1.7	2.1	3.6	2.5	2.4	3.0	2.5
Cohabiting, non-dependent children	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Lone parent, dependent children	14.7	16.8	10.3	10.9	9.9	10.8	13.4	11.8	11.8	15.1	11.9
Lone parent, non-dependent children	2.8	5.0	3.8	3.5	4.0	3.6	2.7	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.8
Other, with dependent children	5.8	5.5	7.2	8.0	10.0	8.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	6.0	7.0
Student	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.7	0.7
Other	6.7	6.0	6.8	8.2	8.1	8.2	10.2	6.4	8.5	6.7	7.5

SOURCE: ONS 2001 CENSUS (KS20)

Note: As these figures are aggregated from small areas in the Census, the totals do not exactly equal the borough Census figures because of output area counts being adjusted for confidentiality. The variation is small, but it exists.

The lowest score per series is highlighted with light grey and highest with dark grey; read across rows.

Table 3.7 Household Composition by Ethnicity (2001)

	Total Households	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or Other
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	91,823	46,372	2,060	20,022	20,703	2,666
One Person	34.0%	44.1%	33.7%	13.2%	33.0%	23.6%
- pensioner	11.0%	18.3%	4.3%	2.8%	4.4%	2.7%
- other	23.0%	25.8%	29.4%	10.4%	28.5%	21.0%
One Family and no other	50.4%	45.5%	49.5%	61.8%	50.0%	55.5%
All pensioners	3.1%	5.1%	1.0%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%
Married Couple Households	26.0%	20.3%	17.8%	46.5%	18.2%	39.6%
- no children	5.9%	7.0%	3.8%	5.0%	3.9%	8.9%
- with dependent children	16.2%	8.6%	11.8%	36.7%	12.4%	26.1%
- all children non-dependent	4.0%	4.7%	2.2%	4.8%	1.9%	4.6%
Cohabiting Couple Households	5.6%	6.9%	7.6%	2.2%	5.9%	4.6%
- no children	2.9%	4.2%	3.8%	0.7%	2.0%	2.5%
- with dependent children	2.5%	2.4%	3.4%	1.4%	3.6%	2.0%
- all children non-dependent	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
Lone Parent Households	15.7%	13.2%	23.0%	11.8%	25.0%	10.5%
- with dependent children	11.9%	8.9%	20.3%	8.9%	21.3%	7.6%
- all children non-dependent	3.8%	4.3%	2.7%	2.9%	3.7%	2.9%
Other households	15.5%	10.3%	16.8%	25.1%	17.0%	20.9%
- with dependent children	7.0%	2.8%	7.7%	15.0%	8.4%	7.6%
- all student	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%
- all pensioners	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
- other	7.5%	6.5%	8.2%	9.2%	7.7%	11.4%

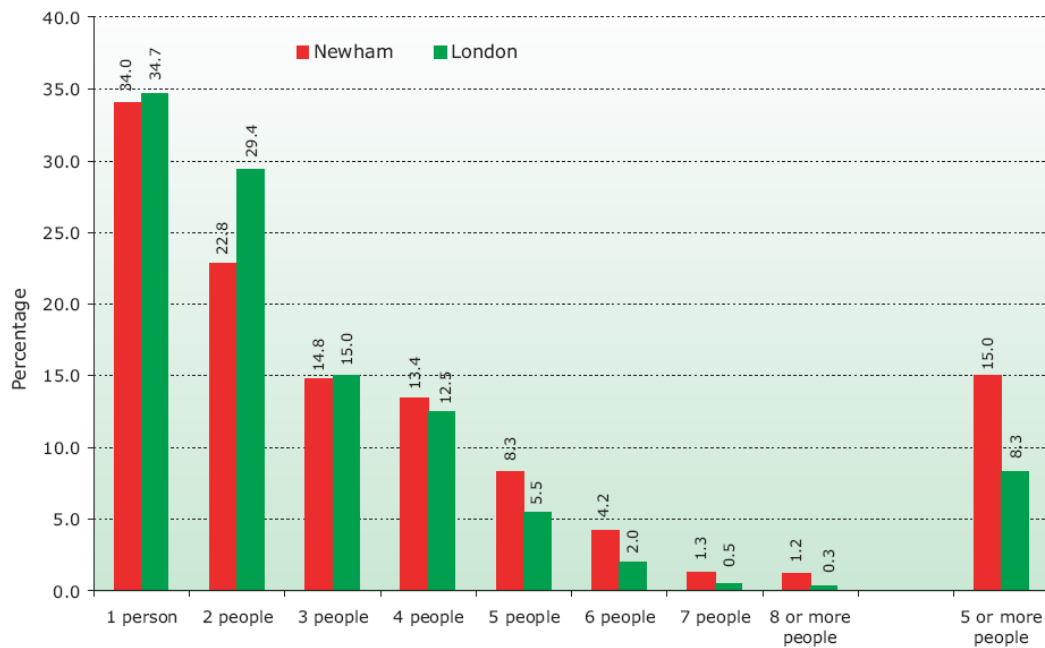
SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (ST106); column percentages

The lowest score per series is highlighted with light grey and highest with dark grey; read across rows

Household Size

The average household size in Newham was 2.6 persons per household (Census 2001). It was the highest size compared to all London boroughs – the average across London was 2.3 people per household. As shown in Figure 3.5, Newham had a higher proportion of large households with 5 or more people (15.0%) compared to London (8.3%).

Figure 3.5 Household Size (2001)



SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (UV051)

Household Size

Households with Cars or Vans

In Newham 48.9% of households had cars or vans (Census 2001). Within Newham, Stratford and New Town ward had the highest percentage (58.9%) of households with cars or vans; Beckton ward had the lowest percentage (42.1%). Table 3.8 below also shows households with one, two, three and four or more cars. Custom House ward had the highest percentage of households with 2 or more cars or vans (12.6%) followed by Wall End ward (12.5%). The distribution of car ownership in Newham shows higher proportions of households with no cars or vans to the west of the borough which are also nearer to tube, train and DLR stations.

Table 3.8 Households with Cars or Vans by Ward

Newham Ward	Percentage of Households (Number of Cars or Vans)					
	All Households	None	One	Two	Three	Four or more
Beckton	5,117	42.1	46.0	10.1	1.4	0.4
Boleyn	4,605	48.4	41.4	8.6	1.2	0.4
Canning Town North	5,096	54.8	37.2	6.9	0.9	0.2
Canning Town South	4,799	55.4	36.4	7.1	0.9	0.2
Custom House	4,753	43.7	43.7	10.5	1.7	0.4
East Ham Central	4,178	47.5	42.5	8.3	1.5	0.2
East Ham North	3,409	44.4	44.3	10.1	0.9	0.3
East Ham South	5,041	44.6	43.3	10.6	1.4	0.1
Forest Gate North	5,101	47.9	42.2	8.8	0.8	0.3
Forest Gate South	5,237	52.3	37.8	8.2	1.2	0.4
Green Street East	4,037	45.4	43.8	9.1	1.3	0.4
Green Street West	3,824	44.1	44.2	10.0	1.4	0.3
Little Ilford	4,824	50.3	40.8	7.5	1.1	0.3
Manor Park	4,301	48.6	40.9	8.9	1.3	0.4
Plaistow North	5,129	52.5	39.6	6.8	0.8	0.3
Plaistow South	4,714	46.5	42.9	9.0	1.2	0.4
Royal Docks	2,761	46.4	42.8	9.2	1.4	0.1
Stratford and New Town	5,529	58.9	35.4	4.8	0.8	0.1
Wall End	4,294	42.3	45.2	10.5	1.7	0.3
West Ham	5,072	54.0	37.7	7.0	1.2	0.2
NEWHAM	91,821	48.9	41.2	8.5	1.2	0.3
LONDON	3,015,997	37.5	43.1	15.8	2.9	0.8

SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (KS17)

The lowest score per series is highlighted with light grey and highest with dark grey; read by columns

Travel to Work

The figures in Table 3.9 below show that over half (52.2%) of Newham residents used some form of public transport (underground, train or bus) to travel to work. This was higher than the comparable figure for London (42.1%). The travel pattern of London differed greatly from England overall (only 14.9% of people in England travelled to work by public transport). Table 3.10 offers a comparison for the choice of Newham as a workplace and/or as residence. Just over a third of Newham residents worked in the borough in 2001 and nearly half of the employees in Newham lived in Newham. Newham residents also chose to work in Tower Hamlets (11%), Westminster (10%), City of London (6%) and Camden (4.5%). Less than 4% of Newham residents worked outside of London. Almost 12% of employees in Newham commuted from outside of London. Redbridge (9%), Barking (7%) and Havering (5%) were the three boroughs in London where the highest proportion of Newham employees lived after Newham.

Table 3.9 Method of Travelling to Work of Newham Residents

	Newham		London	England
	Count	%	%	%
Works mainly at or from home	7053	8.2%	8.6%	9.2%
Underground; metro; light rail; tram	26251	30.4%	18.8%	3.2%
Train	8351	9.7%	12.2%	4.2%
Bus; minibus or coach	10497	12.1%	11.1%	7.5%
Taxi or minicab	413	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%
Driving a car or van	23324	27.0%	33.5%	54.9%
Passenger in a car or van	1956	2.3%	2.5%	6.1%
Motorcycle; scooter or moped	728	0.8%	1.4%	1.1%
Bicycle	1188	1.4%	2.3%	2.8%
On foot	6351	7.3%	8.4%	10.0%
Other	316	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
Total working³	86428	100%	100%	100%

SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (KS15)

Table 3.10 Workplace - Residence Comparison for Newham

Where do Newham residents work?				Where do Newham employees live?			
Employed in:	Persons	%	Cum.	Coming from:	Persons	%	Cum.
Newham	31,324	36.31%	36.31%	Newham	31,324	46.65%	46.65%
Tower Hamlets	9,125	10.58%	46.89%	Outside London	7,983	11.89%	58.54%
Westminster	8,556	9.92%	56.81%	Redbridge	6,027	8.98%	67.52%
City of London	5,015	5.81%	62.62%	Barking	4,467	6.65%	74.17%
Camden	3,850	4.46%	67.09%	Havering	3,405	5.07%	79.25%
Outside London	3,270	3.79%	70.88%	Waltham Forest	3,252	4.84%	84.09%
Redbridge	2,970	3.44%	74.32%	Tower Hamlets	1,840	2.74%	86.83%
Islington	2,713	3.15%	77.47%	Hackney	1,077	1.60%	88.43%
Barking	2,698	3.13%	80.59%	Greenwich	986	1.47%	89.90%
Hackney	2,391	2.77%	83.37%	Enfield	667	0.99%	90.90%
Waltham Forest	2,157	2.50%	85.87%	Lewisham	658	0.98%	91.88%
Southwark	2,091	2.42%	88.29%	Southwark	580	0.86%	92.74%
Kensington	1,500	1.74%	90.03%	Bexley	576	0.86%	93.60%
Lambeth	1,152	1.34%	91.37%	Haringey	524	0.78%	94.38%
Havering	947	1.10%	92.46%	Bromley	426	0.63%	95.01%
Greenwich	737	0.85%	93.32%	Barnet	387	0.58%	95.59%
Hammersmith	734	0.85%	94.17%	Lambeth	387	0.58%	96.17%
Haringey	675	0.78%	94.95%	Islington	351	0.52%	96.69%
Enfield	584	0.68%	95.63%	Camden	286	0.43%	97.11%
Wandsworth	530	0.61%	96.24%	Brent	270	0.40%	97.52%
Brent	518	0.60%	96.84%	Ealing	226	0.34%	97.85%
Ealing	430	0.50%	97.34%	Wandsworth	211	0.31%	98.17%
Barnet	407	0.47%	97.81%	Croydon	202	0.30%	98.47%
Lewisham	385	0.45%	98.26%	Westminster	161	0.24%	98.71%
Hounslow	277	0.32%	98.58%	Merton	145	0.22%	98.92%
Hillingdon	216	0.25%	98.83%	Hammersmith	126	0.19%	99.11%
Bromley	204	0.24%	99.07%	Harrow	103	0.15%	99.27%
Croydon	183	0.21%	99.28%	Hounslow	98	0.15%	99.41%
Merton	144	0.17%	99.45%	Sutton	94	0.14%	99.55%
Bexley	136	0.16%	99.60%	Hillingdon	88	0.13%	99.68%
Richmond	136	0.16%	99.76%	Kingston	79	0.12%	99.80%
Kingston	80	0.09%	99.86%	Kensington	70	0.10%	99.90%
Sutton	64	0.07%	99.93%	Richmond	58	0.09%	99.99%
Harrow	61	0.07%	100.00%	City of London	6	0.01%	100.00%
TOTAL	86,260			TOTAL	67,140		

SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (SW5101)

Housing

Tenure

The total number of dwellings by tenure and the changes over the past four years is shown in Table 4.1; the percentages are shown in Figure 4.1. The proportion of Council owned property (Local Authority) has decreased by 2.2% between 2002 and 2005 whereas Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) saw a growth of 1.9% within the same interval. The proportions of all other categories show minor increases. The distribution of housing tenure varies across community forums. As shown in Table 4.2, East Ham community forum had the highest percentage of owner occupiers and Beckton community forum had the highest percentage of RSL properties. Just over half of all dwellings in Canning Town community forum were Local Authority housing. The percentage of privately rented property was highest in North Woolwich and Silvertown community forum.

Tenure by Ward

Map 4.1 shows the distribution of owner occupied housing. It shows a low proportion of owner occupied housing towards the west and south west of the borough. Map 4.2 shows the distribution of social housing, most of which is towards the west and south west of the borough, with pockets of high social housing in the north east, south and in the centre of the borough. High proportions of private rented housing are found towards the north and east of the borough with a pocket in the west of the borough (Map 4.3).

Housing Tenure by Ethnicity

The 2003 Housing Needs Survey carried out by the London Borough of Newham collected information on housing tenure by ethnicity. The results (Table 4.3) show that Asian or Asian British households make up the largest proportion of owner occupiers, while those from a White background are more likely to be outright owners. Residents from Black or Black British ethnic groups show the highest proportions of Council tenants and tenants of Registered Social Landlords, whereas those from Chinese or other ethnic groups are more likely than other groups to privately rent their property.

Housing Condition

The overall quality and condition of housing varies across tenures. Table 4.4 shows the number of unfit households by housing type (e.g. Council, RSLs, private, etc). Figures are available for 2002-2005 and show the number and percentage of dwellings that are deemed to be unfit. In 2005, just over 11% of dwellings in Newham were considered to be of an unfit standard, with the majority of these dwellings in private sector housing (88.3%).

Table 4.1 Tenure of Dwellings in Newham (2002 - 2005)

HIP Data Year	Local Authority	RSL	'Other' public sector	Owner Occupied*	Private Rented*	Total
HIP 2005	19,317	11,899	455	45,176	20,296	97,048
HIP 2004	19,899	12,101	274	44,025	19,965	96,264
HIP 2003	21,078	10,347	287	43,487	19,721	94,920
HIP 2002	22,493	9,733	287	42,945	18,245	93,703

SOURCE: Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Reports 2002-2005, Housing Department, London Borough of Newham

* Estimates based on proportions of 2001 data (68.8% and 31.2%)

Figure 4.1 Tenure in Newham (2002 - 2005)

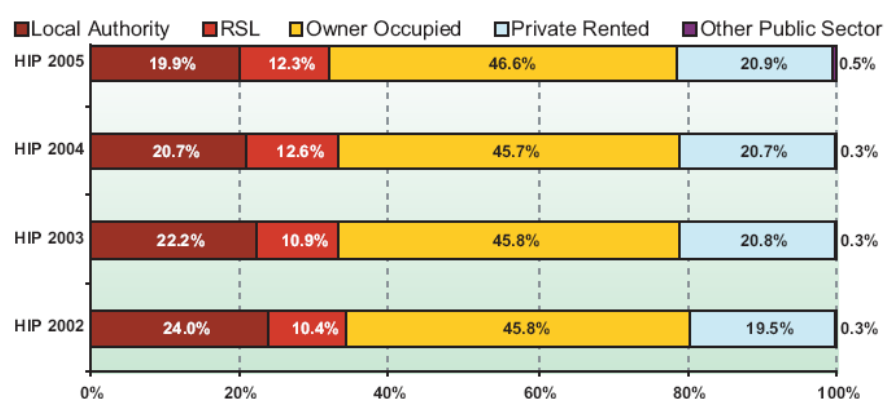
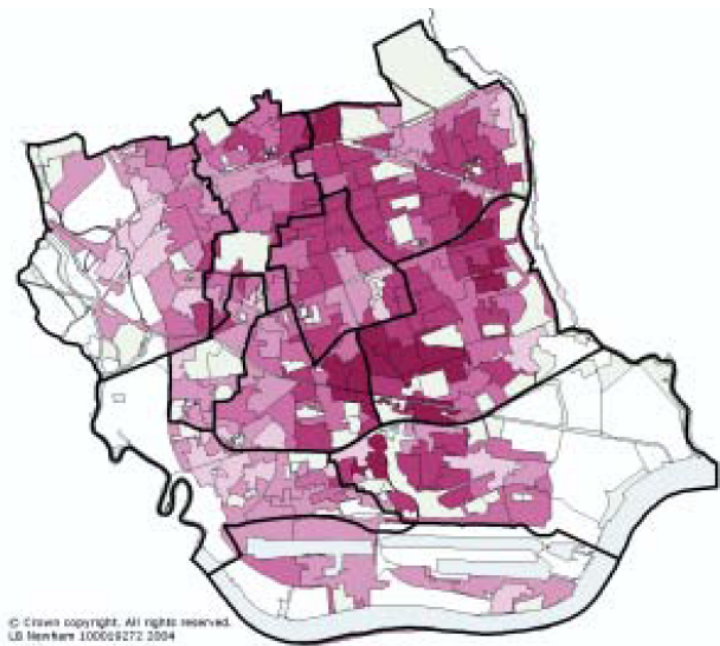


Table 4.2 Tenure by Community Forum¹ (2003)

	% by Tenure				
	Owner Occupier (Owned Outright)	Owner Occupier (With Mortgage)	Local Authority	Registered Social Landlords	Privately Rented
Beckton	18.7	30.3	15.6	23.2	12.3
Canning Town	10.8	23.7	51.7	7.2	6.6
East Ham	23.2	46.4	12.1	2.5	15.9
Forest Gate & Green Street	12.6	37.3	20.3	11.3	18.7
Manor Park	18.2	39.7	13.2	5.1	23.8
North Woolwich and Silvertown	12.0	19.6	23.6	15.3	29.6
Plaistow & West Ham	18.5	30.5	25.7	10.8	15.6
Stratford	14.7	15.3	31.9	21.9	16.3
Newham	16.76	33.10	21.94	10.80	17.40

SOURCE: Housing Needs Survey (2003)² Housing Department, London Borough of Newham

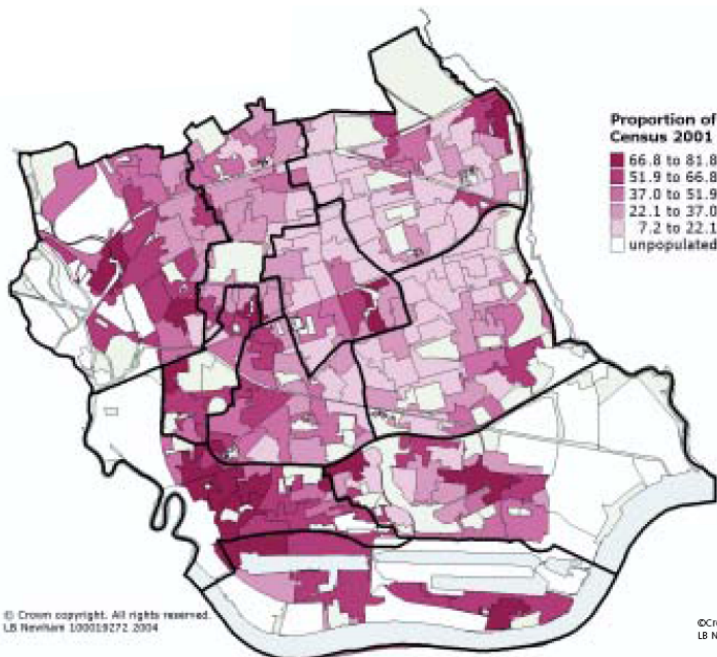
Map 4.1 Proportion of Owner Occupier Housing by SOA, Census 2001



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Map 4.2 Proportion of Social Housing³ by SOA, Census 2001



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Map 4.3 Proportion of Private Rented Housing by SOA, Census 2001

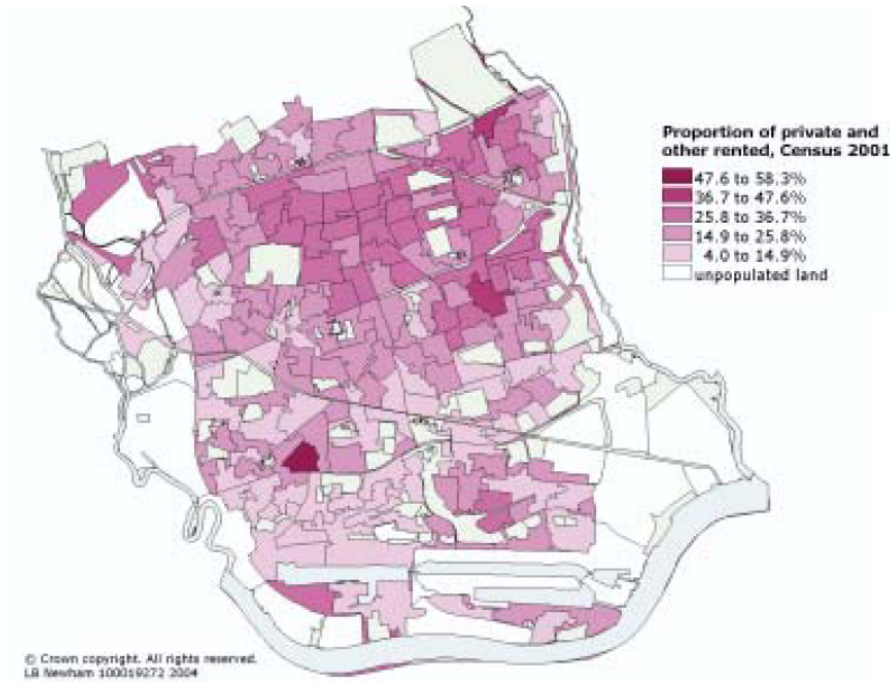


Table 4.3 Tenure Profile for Newham Residents by Ethnicity

Tenure	% White	% Mixed	% Asian or Asian British	% Black or Black British	% Chinese or Other Ethnic	Newham
Owner-occupied no mortgage	21.1	15.6	14.6	11.3	9.3	16.8
Owner-occupied with mortgage	26.1	36.3	46.6	29.6	39.0	33.1
Local Authority	23.4	23.2	17.1	26.7	10.9	21.9
Registered Social Landlords	10.5	11.5	6.4	16.3	15.2	10.8
Private Rented	18.9	13.3	15.3	16.1	25.6	17.4

SOURCE: Housing Needs Survey 2003⁴, Housing Department, London Borough of Newham

Homelessness

The total number of homeless households in temporary accommodation has increased over the last five years and was at 5,752 in 2004/05 (see Table 4.6). As can be seen from Figure 4.4, the majority (56%) of homeless households have been in temporary accommodation for more than a year whilst 7% have been in temporary accommodation for over five years.

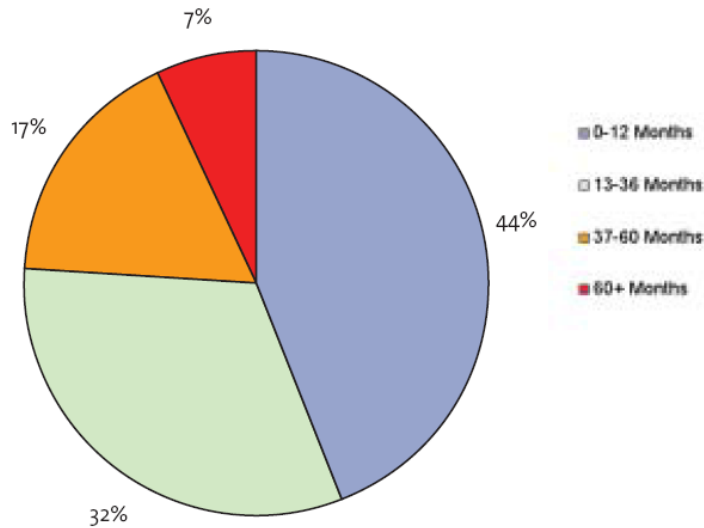
In a wider context, Newham had the highest number of households in temporary accommodation in London in October 2005. The Greater London Authority (GLA) produces statistics on homelessness by London authorities every month. In October 2005, Newham had 6,673 residents in various forms of temporary accommodation (GLA, homelessness in London bulletin, 69, October 2005). Figure 4.5 shows the percentage of homelessness applications accepted and rejected in Newham for the period 1999-2005.

Table 4.6: Homelessness Figures (2000-2005)

	2000/01	2001/02	H.I.P. 2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Households accepted as homeless and in priority need	1,495	1,377	1,388	1,519	1,294
- of which with dependent children and pregnant women	1,196	982	1,048	1,001	926
Homeless households (and homeless at home) in priority need in temporary accommodation at 31st March	3,303	4,010	5,005	5,306	5,752
- of which in bed and breakfast style accommodation	698	1,022	856	325	240

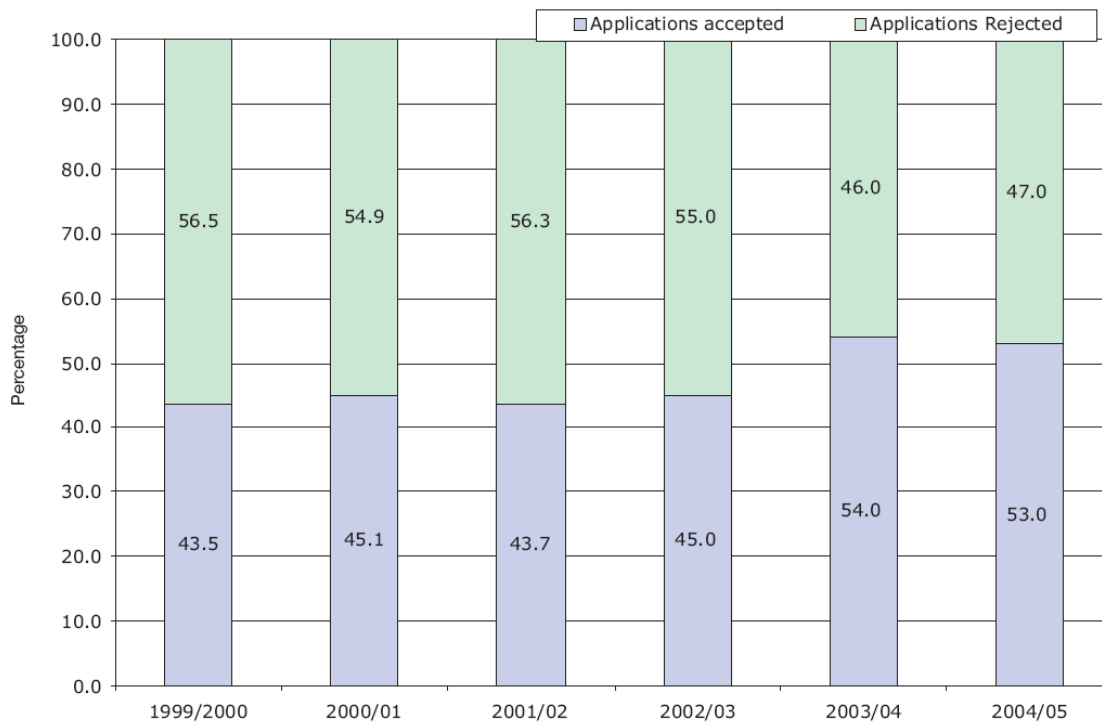
SOURCE: Housing Investment Programme Reports, (2000-2005), Housing Department, London Borough of Newham

Figure 4.4: Percentage of Time (in months) Homeless Households have spent in Temporary Accommodation



SOURCE: Homeless Person Unit (2005)

Figure 4.5 Breakdown of Temporary Accommodation Applications (1999-2005)



SOURCE: Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) figures Housing, London Borough of Newham (2005)

Economic Activity/Inactivity and Unemployment

Economic activity in the working age population (women aged 16 to 59 years, men aged 16-64 years) in Newham was 63.7% in the year June 04 to May 05. This was lower than in both London (74.7%) and England and Wales (78.6%). Unemployment in Newham, at 7.2%, was higher than in London (4.5%), and more than double the rate in England and Wales (3.2%)

The rate of economic activity in England and Wales remained relatively stable between May 1997 and May 2005 (rolling four quarter average). However, it fell slightly in London from 77% in 2000 to just under 75% in 2005. In Newham, economic activity fell between 2000 and 2003, when it took an upward turn. However a decline was noted in 2005.

Unemployment rate for Newham, London and England and Wales

In October 1997 unemployment in Newham was almost 14% (rolling four quarter average), and had dropped to 7.2% in October 2005. The gap between Newham and London had narrowed and was in close proximity to the rate of the inner London average. The gap between Newham and the Great Britain average was still more marked than with that with Greater London. From October 2004 to October 2005 the employment rate remained constant for Newham, whereas it dropped by 0.4% in inner London, and 0.1% in Greater London whilst remaining constant for Great Britain.

Unemployment Claimant Count Rates

The unemployment claimant count rate, as measured by the Office of National Statistics shows the number of people who were unemployed and claiming benefits as a percentage of the economically active population (Table 6.1). This will be smaller than the unemployment rate because not all those who are unemployed will be claiming benefits. In 2005 (11 month average), Newham's unemployment claimant count rate increased marginally from the previous year. It was the seventh highest in London, at 1.3% above the London average. In the last five years, unemployment claimant counts have been highest in Tower Hamlets and Hackney and lowest in Richmond-upon-Thames and Kingston-upon-Thames, with the City of London remaining the lowest in both years. Figure 6.3 shows highest and lowest levels of unemployment claimant count rates compared with Newham. The unemployment claimant count rate in Newham between January 2001 and November 2005 remained on average between 4.5% to 5%. This appears to follow the London trend.

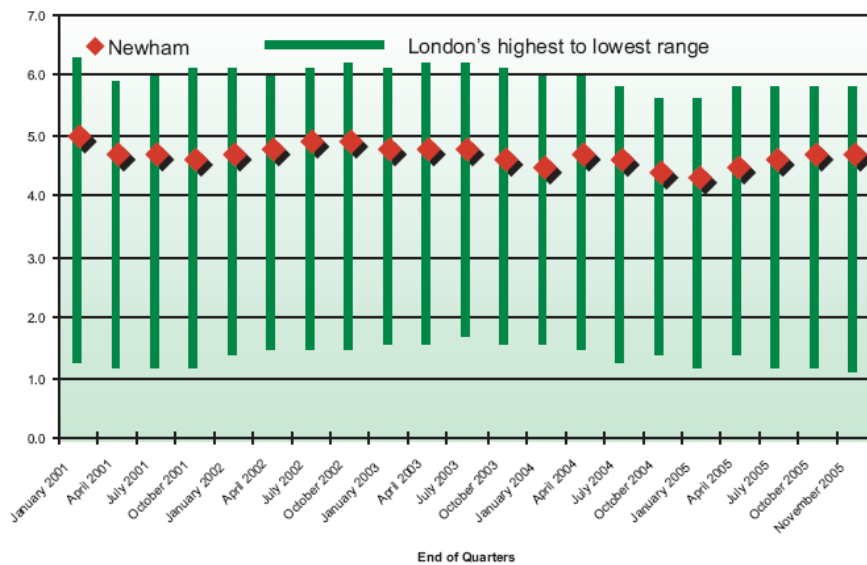
With respect to Newham's unemployment claimant count rate between March 1997 and December 2005, in March 1997 the unemployment claimant count rate in Newham was around 9.5% and by December 2005 it had dropped to 4.8%. It appears to have levelled off around the last 4 to 5 years, keeping with the trend for London and England and Wales.

Table 6.1: Unemployment Claimant Count Rate of Boroughs in London - Highest 10 vs. Lowest 10 and London Average (2005)

	2004 (Jan-Nov) Rate	2005 (Jan-Nov) Rate
London Average	3.3	3.3
HIGHEST 10		
Hackney	5.7	5.6
Tower Hamlets	5.7	5.5
Haringey	5.1	5.2
Southwark	5.3	5.1
Lambeth	5.2	5.1
Islington	5.0	4.7
Newham	4.5	4.6
Lewisham	4.7	4.6
Brent	4.5	4.3
Waltham Forest	4.2	4.2
LOWEST 10		
Hounslow	2.3	2.4
Harrow	2.3	2.3
Bromley	2.1	2.2
Bexley	2.1	2.1
Kensington and Chelsea	2.1	2.0
Sutton	1.7	2.0
Havering	1.7	1.8
Kingston-upon-Thames	1.6	1.6
Richmond-upon-Thames	1.5	1.4
City of London	1.5	1.3

SOURCE: Unemployment Claimant Count, ONS (2005)

Figure 6.3: Unemployment Claimant Count Rates London's Highest to Lowest range and Newham Comparison (January 2001 - October 2005)



SOURCE: ONS (2005) Unemployment Claimant Count

Income Domain of ID 2004

The income deprivation domain of the Indices of Deprivation 2004 (ID 2004) is produced from the numbers of adults and children in households receiving income support, income based job seekers allowance, working families tax credit, disabled person's tax credit and the number of National Asylum Support Service supported asylum seekers receiving subsistence only and accommodation support. The income scale gives the actual number of income deprived people which amounted to 76,338 in Newham (31% of the total population as at 2004). Newham was ranked the most deprived borough in London for this domain and the seventh most deprived in England.

The proportion of Newham and London SOAs within each banding in England is displayed in Table 6.2. It shows that nearly 90% of Newham SOAs rank within the 20% most deprived in England. The distribution of SOAs across London is also skewed towards greater deprivation.

Table 6.2 Income Deprivation Proportions of SOAs in Newham and London in Decile Ranked Groups in England

Deprivation decile	Newham SOAs	Newham %	Newham Cumulative %	London SOAs	London %	London Cumulative %
0-10% most deprived	72	45%	45%	715	15%	15%
10-20% most deprived	68	43%	88%	810	17%	32%
20-30% most deprived	17	11%	99%	667	14%	46%
30-40% most deprived	2	1%	100%	571	12%	58%
40-50% most deprived				477	10%	68%
<hr/>						
40-50% least deprived				381	8%	32%
30-40% least deprived				334	7%	24%
20-30% least deprived				334	7%	17%
10-20% least deprived				238	5%	10%
0-10% least deprived				238	5%	5%
Number of SOAs	159			4,765		

SOURCE: Indices of Deprivation (2004) ODPM

Map 6.1 shows the SOAs in Newham where income deprivation was highest. As can be seen income deprivation was more concentrated in the south west of the borough - in parts of Canning Town and Beckton. By averaging SOA scores, Canning Town was ranked the most income deprived community forum in Newham, followed by North Woolwich and Silvertown. The least deprived community forum by this measure was East Ham. The ID 2004 also provides information on Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI) and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People (IDAOPI). These indices are the proportions of the age groups (under 16 and aged 60 and over respectively) in receipt of or in a family in receipt of means-tested benefits. The distribution of SOAs shows that the majority of people in these groups in Newham were affected by severe income deprivation (Table 6.3).

Map 6.1 ID 2004 Income Deprivation by SOA

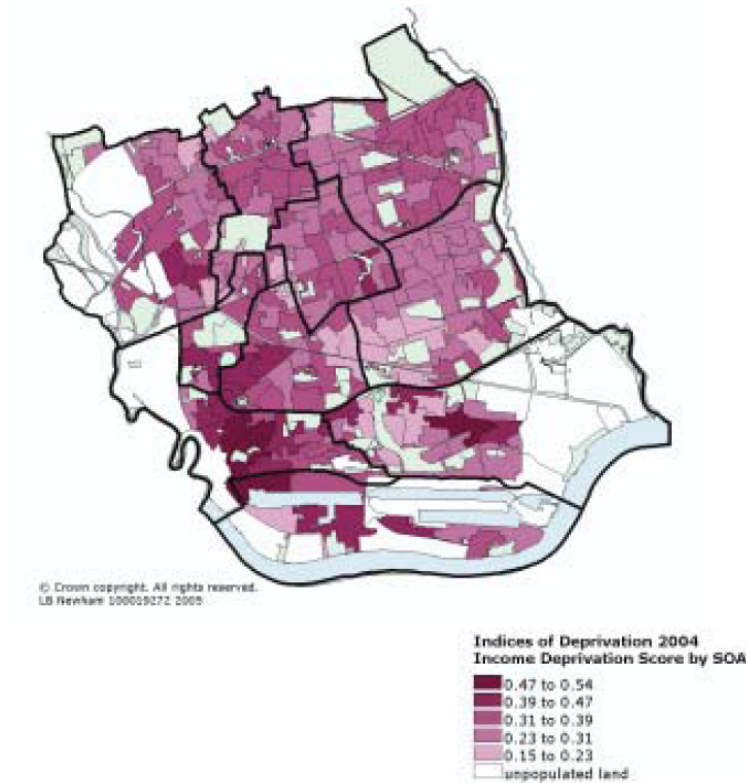


Table 6.3 Children and Older People Income Deprivation Proportions of SOAs in Newham and London in Decile Ranked Groups in England

Deprivation decile	Child Income Deprivation				Older People Income Deprivation			
	Newham %		London %		Newham %		London %	
0-10% most deprived	67	42%	953	20%	105	66%	905	19%
10-20% most deprived	63	40%	762	16%	41	26%	762	16%
20-30% most deprived	28	18%	667	14%	6	4%	667	14%
30-40% most deprived	1	1%	524	11%	5	3%	524	11%
40-50% most deprived			429	9%	1	1%	477	10%
40-50% least deprived			381	8%	1	1%	381	8%
30-40% least deprived			290	6%			320	7%
20-30% least deprived			287	5%			232	5%
10-20% least deprived			238	5%			274	6%
0-10% least deprived			234	5%			223	5%
Total Number of SOAs	159		4,765		159		4,765	

SOURCE: Indices of Deprivation (2004): ODPM

Benefit claimants

Benefits are an indicator of low income households and sometimes a proxy measure of poverty and deprivation. Income Support is awarded to people aged under 60 years and on a low income. Income Support claimant data for Newham is presented in Table 6.4. Other benefits, which identify households in low income, are housing benefit and council tax benefit. These are presented in Table 6.5.

Income Support

Table 6.4 above shows the number of Income Support claimants in May of each year. The number of residents in Newham claiming income support has been falling since 2000. The introduction of Child Tax Credit (2003) had a significant effect on the number of Income Support claimants

between 2003 and 2004. The 2004-2005 change shows a 1.1% drop.

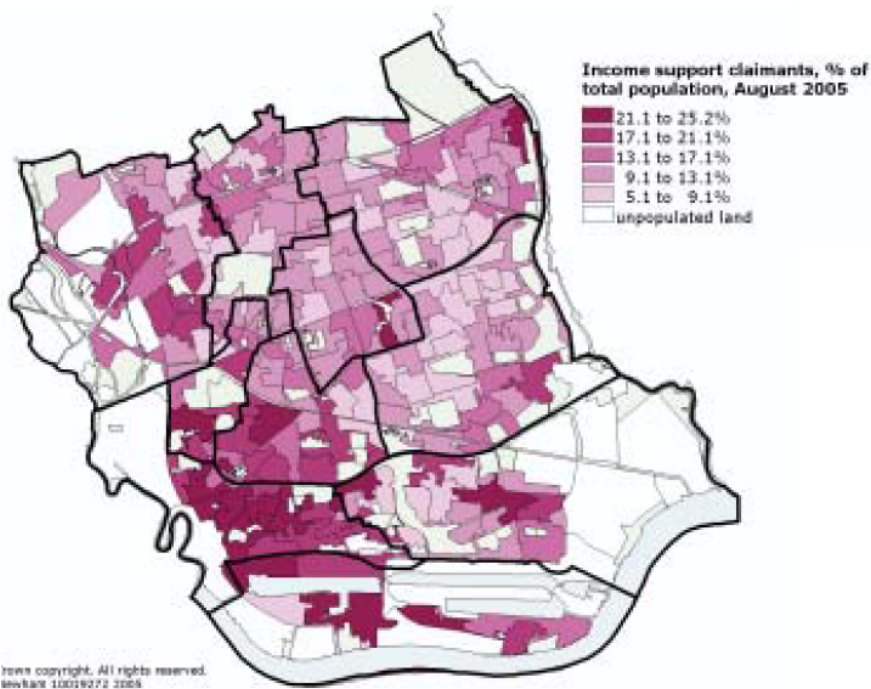
Map 6.2 shows those areas in Newham which have high percentages of people in receipt of Income Support. In particular, SOAs in the south west of the borough have greater concentrations of residents in receipt of Income Support in keeping with the map 6.1 detailing income deprivation. In 2005, Canning Town had the highest percentage of the population claiming Income Support in Newham and East Ham had the most SOAs with low percentages of claimants.

Table 6.4 Income Support Claimant Numbers in Newham (2000-2005)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% change 03-04	% change 04-05
Income Support Claimants	30,700	29,100	28,000	28,500	18,500	18,300	-54.1%	-1.1%

SOURCE: ONS (2005) Income Support Claimants
 * Average until May 2005.

Map 6.2 Income Support Claimants by SOA (August 2005)



Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit

In 2004/05 the total number of households in Newham claiming Housing Benefit was 40,485 (42.1% of households in Newham). This is a 4.6% increase from the previous year. The number of claimants who were council tenants increased and the number of RSL tenants or private tenants decreased slightly from the previous year. In 2004/05 Council Tax Benefit was claimed by 33,299 (34.6%) households in Newham, of which 7,424 (7.2% of total Newham households) were owner occupiers.

Table 6.5 Housing Benefit Claimants in Newham (2000/01 - 2004/05)

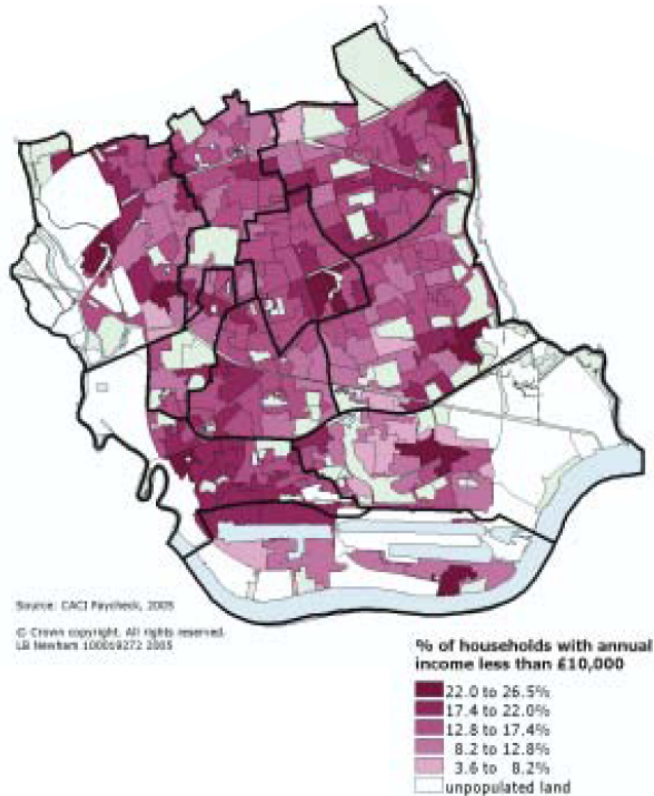
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	% Change 2001/02- 2002/03	% Change 2002/03- 2003/04	% Change 2003/04- 2004/05	% of households (2004/05)
Total Housing Benefit Claimants	36,560	38,261	38,699	40,485	-4.7%	-1.1%	4.6%	42.1%
Council Tenants	15,229	14,742	15,372	16,301	-3.2%	-7.2%	6.0%	16.9%
Registered Social Landlords	8,731	8,082	8,625	8,585	-7.4%	-3.3%	-0.5%	8.9%
Private	7,575	7,607	7,731	7,567	-0.4%	-0.8%	-2.1%	7.9%
Total Council Tax Benefit Claimants								
	30,231	31,851	32,040	33,299	-5.4%	-0.9%	3.9%	34.6%
Owner Occupiers	6,726	6,129	6,925	7,424	-8.9%	-14.3%	7.2%	7.7%

SOURCE: Housing Department, London Borough of Newham (2005)

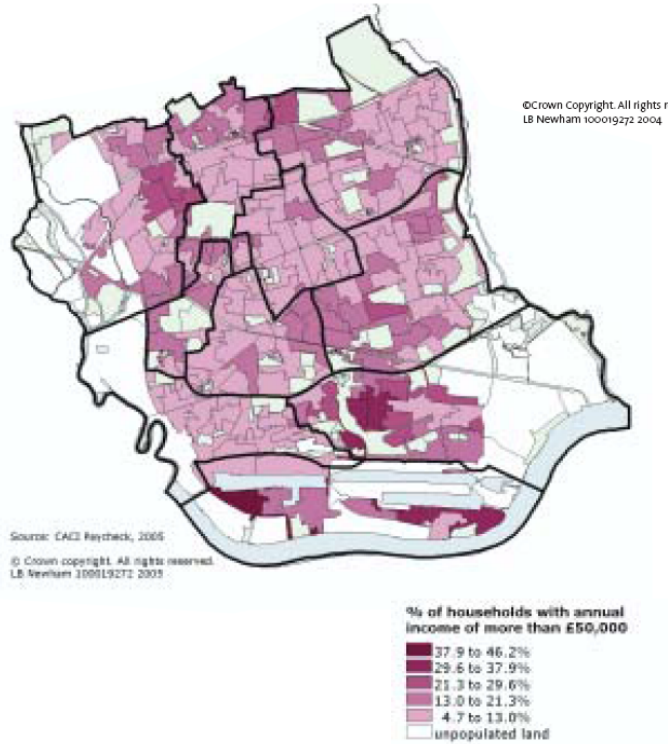
Income Distribution

CACI provide an alternative data source on income, based on national surveys, and administrative data at SOA level. In 2005 the average household income from all sources in Newham was £28,948, which represented an increase of 4.9% from the 2004 average of £27,600 (CACI) compared with 5.6% increase nationally. However, the average household income in Newham was lower than both the London and the national averages of £37,073 and £31,008 in 2005.

Map 6.5 Proportion of households with less than £10,000 income

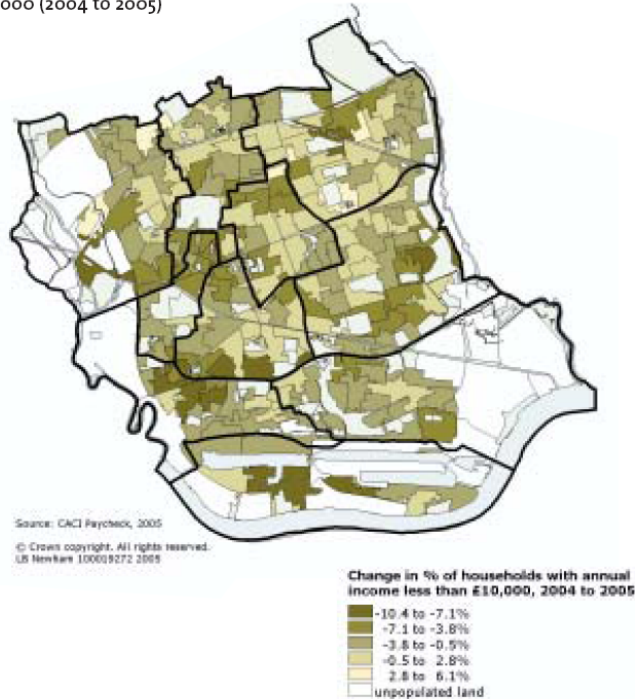


Map 6.6 Proportion of households with more than £50,000 income

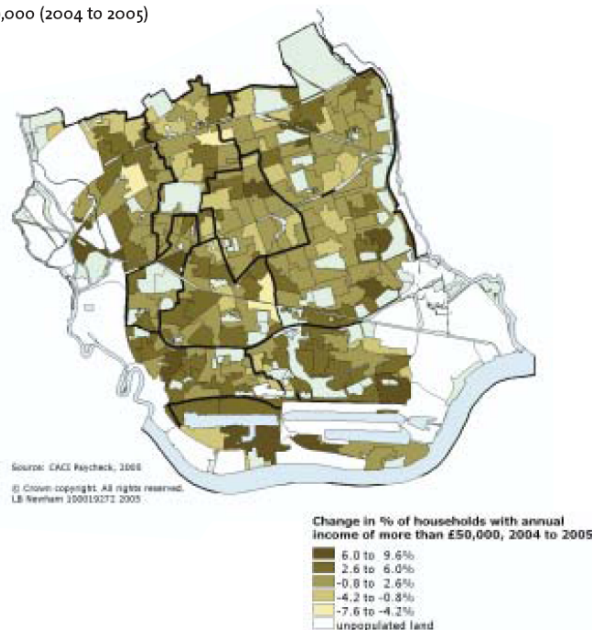


Map 6.5 shows those areas in Newham where there were high percentages of households with an annual income of less than £10,000. Areas in the extreme north east of the borough and in the south west have higher concentrations of low income households (below £10,000 pa). In contrast Map 6.6 shows the areas where household income was greater than £50,000 per annum. These areas of high levels of household income are located in the far south of the borough in Custom House ward (Beckton community forum area).

Map 6.7 Change over 5 years in % of Households with Annual Income Less than £10,000 (2004 to 2005)



Map 6.8 Change over 5 years in % of Households with Annual Income More than £50,000 (2004 to 2005)



Maps 6.7 and 6.8 show the change in the percentage of households with incomes of less than £10,000 a year and more than £50,000 a year over a five year period. As can be seen in Map 6.7, most areas in Newham have seen a reduction in the number of households earning less than £10,000 per annum. Only a few SOAs in the north of the borough have seen an increase in the number of households earning less than £10,000 per annum. In contrast Map 6.8 indicates that areas in the north, east and centre of the borough have seen a fall in the number of households earning more than £50,000 per annum, whilst the south west and in particular parts of Royal Docks and Custom House have seen an increase in the percentage of households earning more than £50,000 per annum.

The highest average income was in North Woolwich and Silvertown community forum (£40,424), followed by Beckton (£33,493) and West Ham (£29,600). Average household income rose in all of the community forums over the previous year, with the highest rates of growth (19.6%) recorded in North Woolwich and Silvertown, Canning Town (11.9%) and West Ham (10.39). Relatively low rates of growth were recorded in Manor Park (2.6%) Forest Gate (2.5%) and Green Street (1.1%). Canning Town community forum had the lowest average household income in 2005.

Income distribution in 2005 by ward shows that Canning Town South had the highest proportion of people earning less than £10,000 and Royal Docks had the highest proportion earning £50,000 or more.

Table 6.11 Household Income Distribution by Ward (2005)

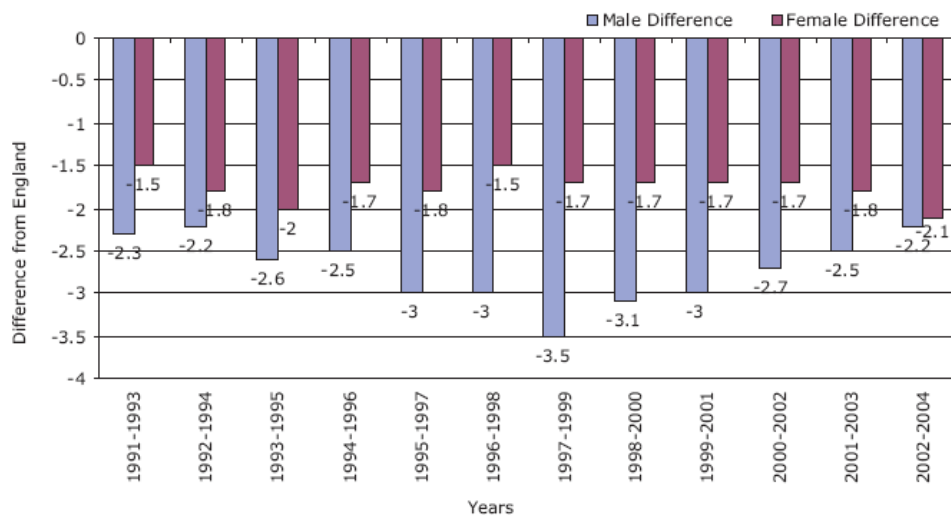
Ward	£0,000-£10,000	£10,000-£20,000	£20,000-£30,000	£30,000-£40,000	£40,000-£50,000	£50,000-£100,000	£100,000 +
Beckton	11.2%	19.9%	20.8%	16.7%	11.7%	17.9%	1.7%
Boleyn	16.5%	26.2%	22.8%	14.9%	8.7%	10.3%	0.7%
Canning Town North	16.7%	25.5%	22.8%	15.2%	8.9%	10.3%	0.6%
Canning Town South	18.5%	27.0%	22.8%	14.5%	8.1%	8.6%	0.4%
Custom House	14.8%	24.0%	22.0%	15.4%	9.6%	13.1%	1.1%
East Ham Central	13.5%	25.3%	23.9%	16.2%	9.5%	10.9%	0.6%
East Ham North	17.2%	27.2%	23.4%	14.9%	8.3%	8.7%	0.4%
East Ham South	13.5%	23.7%	22.9%	16.3%	10.1%	12.7%	0.8%
Forest Gate North	12.8%	22.0%	22.0%	16.5%	10.8%	14.9%	1.2%
Forest Gate South	14.1%	24.3%	22.6%	15.7%	9.6%	12.7%	1.1%
Green Street East	16.1%	26.5%	23.6%	15.4%	8.7%	9.2%	0.4%
Green Street West	14.3%	26.0%	24.4%	16.3%	9.2%	9.5%	0.4%
Little Ilford	17.2%	26.5%	23.3%	15.1%	8.5%	9.0%	0.4%
Manor Park	14.4%	24.4%	23.0%	16.0%	9.7%	11.9%	0.8%
Plaistow North	14.4%	24.4%	23.2%	16.2%	9.7%	11.4%	0.7%
Plaistow South	13.0%	23.1%	22.9%	16.6%	10.4%	13.2%	0.9%
Royal Docks	10.2%	17.0%	17.8%	14.9%	11.4%	23.8%	4.9%
Stratford and New Town	15.3%	24.7%	22.5%	15.3%	9.3%	11.9%	1.0%
Wall End	13.9%	24.6%	23.5%	16.3%	9.8%	11.3%	0.6%
West Ham	14.9%	24.2%	22.8%	16.0%	9.7%	11.7%	0.7%
Newham	14.6%	24.3%	22.6%	15.7%	9.6%	12.2%	1.0%

SOURCE: CACI 2005 PAYCHECK (CACI Copyright. All Rights Reserved)
 Note: The lowest score per series is highlighted with light grey and the highest with dark grey; read by columns

Health

Life Expectancy

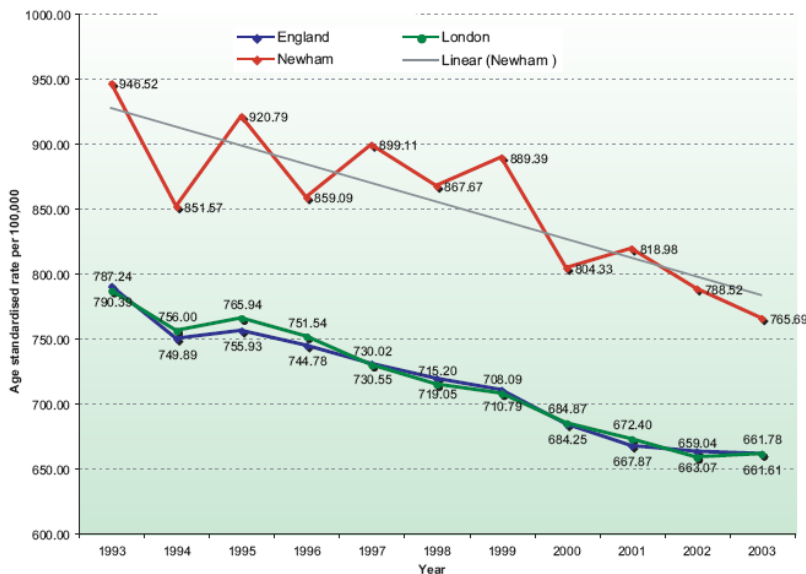
Figure 8.1 Difference between Newham and England Life Expectancy



SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical and Health Indicators, 2005

In Newham, life expectancy is lower for both men and women when compared with the London and England figures. For the period 2002-2004, Newham's life expectancy for men was 2.1 years lower than London and 2.2 years lower than England. Over the same period, female life expectancy in Newham was 2.3 years below the London figure and 2.1 years below the England figure. Since 1991 in Newham, there has been an average increase for males of 1.8 years compared with an average increase of 2.08 years in England and 2.1 years for London. Female life expectancy in Newham has seen a slight drop in recent years, contrary to an improving trend in London and England.

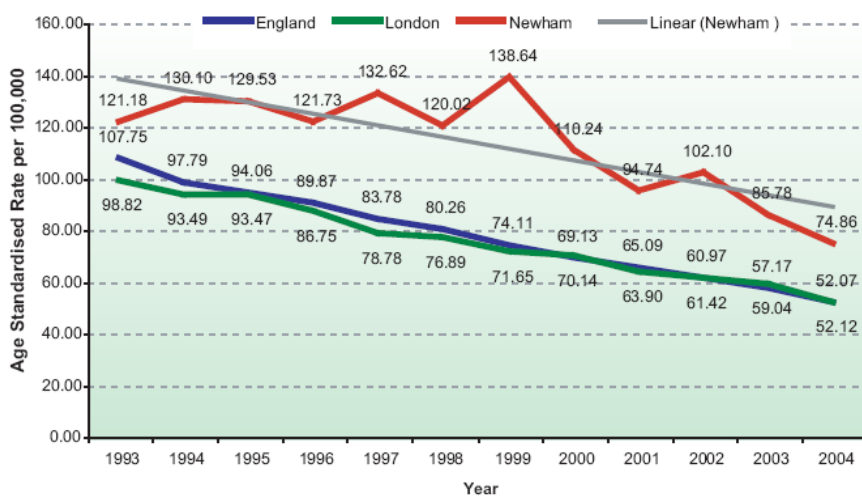
Mortality



Mortality Rates from All Causes

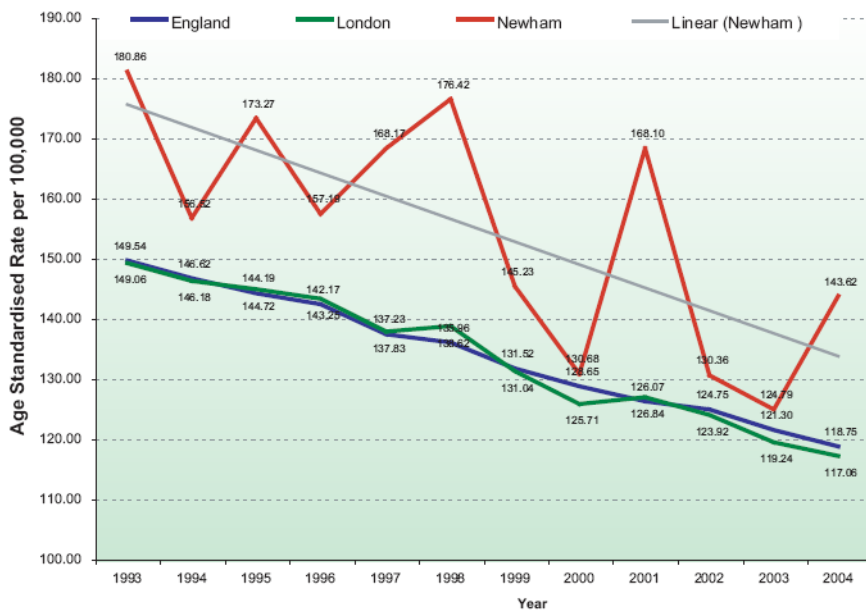
SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical Health Indicators (2005) ONS

Mortality rates in London and the rest of the country are broadly similar, and are steadily falling. Mortality rates in Newham are falling at roughly the same rate as in London and England. However, death rates in Newham are still higher than in London and England.



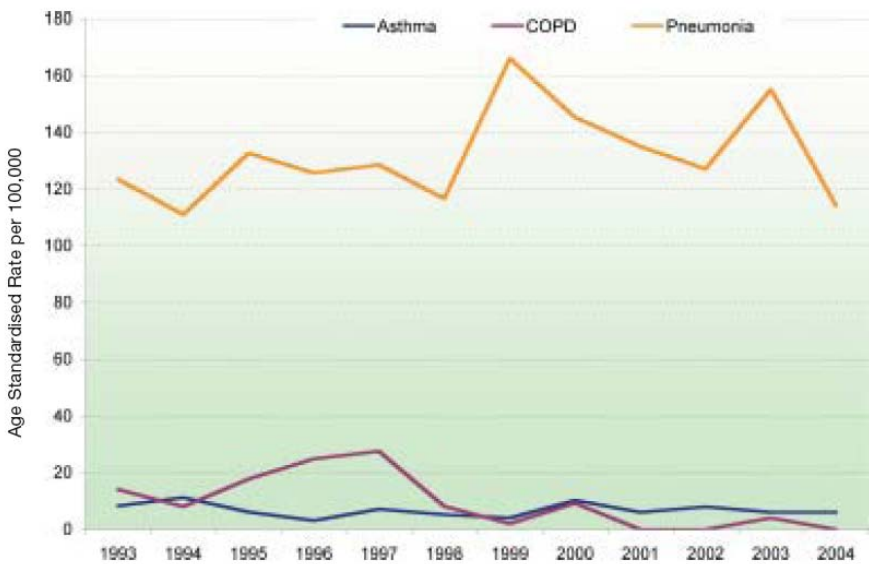
Mortality Rate from Coronary Heart Disease

SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical Health Indicators (2005) ONS



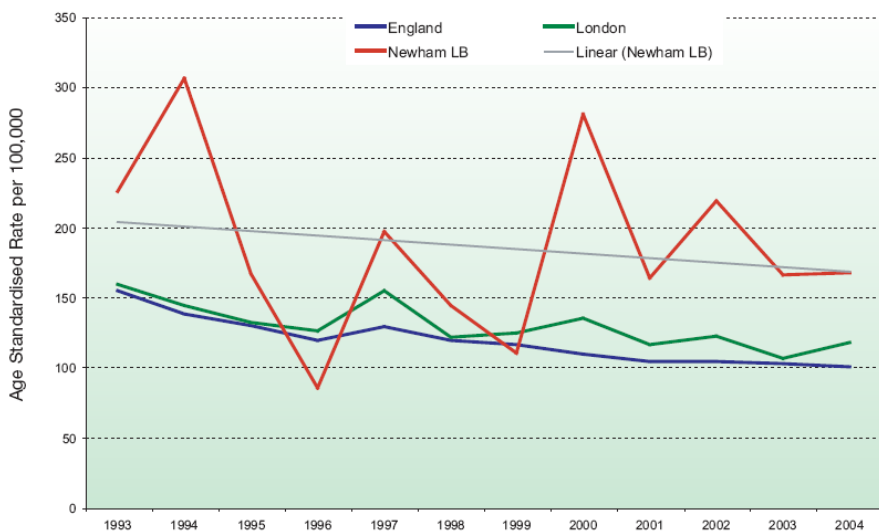
Mortality Rate from All Cancers

SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical Health Indicators (2005) ONS



Mortality Rate from Respiratory Diseases in Newham

SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical Health Indicators (2005) ONS



Standardised mortality ratios for Asthma in Newham

SOURCE: Compendium of Clinical Health Indicators (2005) ONS

Environment and Regeneration

Air Quality

Air pollution is measured at two points in Newham, Cam Road in Stratford and Wren Close (Tant Avenue until March 2003) in Canning Town. These points measure a whole host of pollutants from Ozone, to Nitrogen Dioxide and are measured as parts per billion (ppb).

The data show that in both locations Ozone levels (O₃ppb) have broadly increased whilst Nitrogen levels (NO₂ppb) have remained consistent. Both Carbon Monoxide (COppb) and Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂ppb) have shown decreases in levels over time. The overall decrease in most pollutants suggests improvements in the air quality in Newham (Table 9.2).

Cam Road	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005*
O ₃ Average ppb	10	15	15	16	17	18	15	16
NO ₂ Average ppb	33	29	27	28	26	28	27	29
CO Average ppb	1.4	1	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
SO ₂ Average ppb	6	5	3	4	3	4	3	3

Tant Ave./Wren Close*	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005*
O ₃ Average ppb	14	17	17	18	18	23	19	20
NO ₂ Average ppb	26	25	23	24	23	23	22	24
CO Average ppb	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
SO ₂ Average ppb	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	2

SOURCE: Environmental Health, London Borough of Newham

*2005 data until end of April

Bus Transport

Just over 106 million passenger journeys were made on the 29 bus routes that run predominantly through Newham in 2004/05, representing an increase of 8% from the previous period 2003/2004. The most popular bus route was number 86, which had just over 10 million passenger journeys made. The route with the least number of passenger journeys was 323 with 514,966 passenger journeys in 2004/05.

Bus Route	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05
5	4,036,215	4,656,920	4,937,912	5,284,154	5,976,312	6,630,878
58	4,771,002	5,066,177	5,156,160	5,741,641	6,164,318	6,414,018
69	5,208,317	5,890,486	6,179,594	6,742,829	7,091,520	7,606,816
86	6,058,440	7,058,054	7,412,073	8,957,595	10,005,940	10,561,498
101	3,781,664	3,945,296	4,173,003	4,446,625	4,657,163	4,947,544
104	2,679,123	3,915,527	4,373,345	4,610,667	5,071,712	5,306,288
108	2,567,137	2,500,652	2,488,408	2,255,402	2,361,002	2,647,048
115	2,017,570	4,019,186	4,323,639	4,601,382	6,041,607	7,081,815
147	3,603,955	3,963,631	3,999,360	4,345,920	4,341,114	4,687,814
158	2,973,942	3,242,072	3,290,125	3,610,512	3,975,268	4,391,722
173	1,416,438	1,437,592	1,451,892	1,453,468	1,524,774	1,646,726
238	2,501,305	3,232,225	3,590,826	3,823,623	4,145,022	4,412,182
241	1,951,601	1,991,820	2,147,793	2,075,835	1,970,952	2,014,599
257	3,860,273	4,379,395	5,003,030	5,517,313	5,909,936	6,419,863
262	3,152,316	3,275,219	3,245,503	3,518,536	4,117,745	4,560,602
276	3,077,276	3,361,180	3,608,829	3,777,636	3,748,227	4,170,555
300	1,081,793	1,741,158	1,967,049	2,004,079	2,269,441	2,548,759
308	768,229	979,685	955,755	1,083,911	1,106,510	1,142,689
309	894,384	1,246,032	1,321,124	1,454,859	1,359,224	1,329,384
323	-	-	-	42,011	370,809	514,966
325	1,484,705	1,532,908	1,604,487	1,654,894	1,704,988	1,740,349
330	2,101,893	2,272,098	2,356,008	2,446,398	2,562,898	2,817,322
366	1,183,967	1,318,265	1,818,995	1,962,921	1,983,295	2,167,841
376	433,758	1,044,516	1,238,295	1,318,216	1,369,171	1,484,270
473	2,089,882	2,203,320	2,215,418	2,855,918	3,096,876	3,228,585
474	818,491	1,261,965	1,366,154	1,536,032	1,626,636	1,683,830
D8	375,450	982,332	1,082,770	1,067,836	1,130,909	1,272,394
52	2,195,418	2,218,462	2,392,665	2,596,185	2,750,936	2,868,841
W19	-	385,392	527,502	553,663	629,144	651,023
Total	67,084,544	79,121,565	84,227,714	91,340,061	99,063,449	106,950,221
% Increase from previous year		+18%	+6%	+8%	+8%	+8%

SOURCE: TfL (2004) Note: Figures in bold indicates that the route was introduced during that year

Leisure Environment

Green Parks - Green Flags

Newham has 25 parks with 338.7 hectares of publicly accessible green space; the London Borough of Newham manages approximately 164 hectares, with the rest managed by external partners. Four of the 25 parks have been awarded a Green Flag.

Leisure Centres Visits

Newham has four leisure centres - Atherton, Balaam, East Ham and Newham. All of these are managed by Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL), a "Not for Profit" organisation, although the council retains ownership. There are ten libraries in Newham. The locations are shown on Map 9.1. The number of visits to leisure centres in Newham increased by 3.8% between 2003/04 and 2004/05. Around 6.4 visits per person in Newham were made last year, representing an increase from the

previous year. Together, East Ham and Atherton leisure centres attracted nearly 64% of the total number of visitors, Newham accounted for 24% and Balaam for the remaining 13%. In addition to the leisure centres, the Royal Victoria Dock Watersports Centre (RVDWC) is based in Newham and provides opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in a variety of water based activities such as sailing and canoeing.

	Visits to Newham Leisure Centres	Visits per 1000 population	% Change from previous year	Leisure Visits in Newham
1998/99	1,141,961	4,941	-	
1999/00	1,076,934	4,569	-5.6%	
2000/01	1,068,928	4,535	-0.1%	
2001/02	1,278,815	5,430	19.6%	
2002/03	1,555,579	6,378	21.6%	
2003/04	1,537,805	6,136	-1.1%	
2004/05	1,577,082	6,367	3.8%	

SOURCE: Culture and Community, London Borough Of Newham (1997/98 - 2004/05)

Regeneration and Development

Major changes have been planned for Newham over the next twenty years. The regeneration of the Thames Gateway area, with new residential and commercial areas, was already planned before London was awarded the 2012 Olympics.

Three key areas that are set to undergo regeneration and development are:

- 1) **Stratford and the Lower Lea Valley.** This contains: the Stratford City development on the former rail lands, as well as sites for regeneration in the existing Stratford town centre and its environs; the Olympic Park with the Olympic's core facilities and legacy proposals; the Canning Town redevelopment and redesign schemes as well as other associated projects.
- 2) **Royal Docks.** These comprise large areas of waterside land with further development expected in new districts like Silvertown Quays as well as in, or around, existing key facilities such as the ExCeL exhibition centre, the University of East London, Royals Business Park and London City Airport.
- 3) **East Beckton.** In addition to providing development opportunities arising from the improved access provided by the proposed Thames Gateway Bridge and East London Transit, this area is now identified as a main centre for relocating businesses displaced by the building of the Olympic facilities.

The Thames Gateway project will provide much needed housing and jobs. 35% of the new housing built as part of the TG project will be placed in Newham. By 2020 there could be 50,000 new homes built in the borough.

Estimated New Homes and Jobs

Site	New Homes	New Population	New Jobs
Olympics and Legacy	8,100	17,820	12,000
Stratford City	5,800	12,760	35,000
Stratford Town Centre environs/ Rest of Lower Lea Valley	5,000	10,000	5,000-10,000
Canning Town	6,200	12,320	5,100
Royal Docks / Beckton	11,000	22,000	14,000
Total	35,200	74,900	71,100-76,100

Source: Regeneration & Development Division, London borough of Newham (2005)

Population growth in the borough will be quite substantial, with an estimated 74,900 extra inhabitants on top of the 247,400 that already live in Newham.

Transport Planning and Development

There are several new transport schemes underway in the borough:

- 1) The new Stratford combined international and domestic station on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.
- 2) Further extensions to the Docklands Light Railway – the service will eventually extend to Woolwich Arsenal.
- 3) Crossrail, the rapid east-west (and west-east) service. One branch of Crossrail will serve Stratford, Forest Gate and Manor Park, the other will serve Custom House and the Royal Docks.
- 4) The Thames Gateway Bridge (TGB)

Major New Regeneration Developments

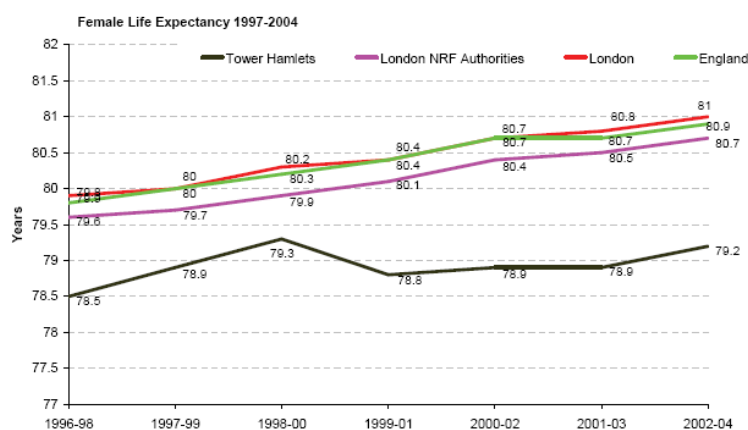
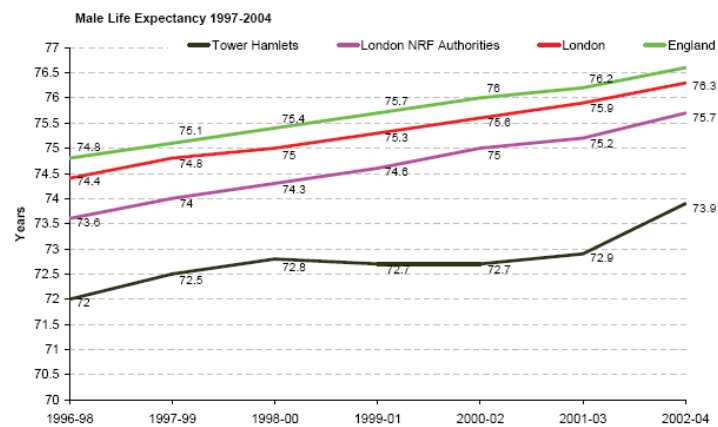
- 1) Olympics and Paralympics (Olympics Zone/Lower Lea Valley): A new, 500 acre Olympic Park (OP) will be created, two thirds of which will be within the borough of Newham. To accommodate this building, several changes in local infrastructure including demolition, land remediation, bridge building and laying down of power cables. 9,076 new residential units will be built for the Olympics, with the transition to legacy use within five years. This will bring 8,108 new homes to Newham (4,054 affordable – 50%).
- 2) Stratford Rail Lands – Stratford City: This is a collection of sites within the north west of the borough. A 1.2 million square metres development, called Stratford City, will be built on the rail lands. Included within this will be 4,800 new homes (30% affordable), 465,000 sq metres of office space. The development will also include parks, water features and open space.
- 3) Canning Town Housing and Town Centre Development: Predominantly an area of post-war council housing which has been identified for redevelopment by the council. When completed the local population density will be much higher, with 6,200 developments replacing the current 1,900.
- 4) Silvertown Quays: Located south side of the Royal Victoria Dock – 20.4 hectares of land. Mixed use development to combine a National Aquarium, 5,000 new homes & 40,000 sq metres of office space, local shops, a new primary school and local library.
- 5) Gallions Approach: Royal Quay: Adjacent to the Royal Albert Dock Basin. Proposal will see 444 new residential units.

- 6) Royal Albert Basin: Anticipated 2,530 residential units and 500 live/work units of which up to 50% will be affordable.
- 7) Excel Centre Development: Major hotel developments – 1,200 beds and planning permission for roughly 1,400 residential units.
- 8) Royals Business Park: Eventually will provide office space for some 8,000 workers.

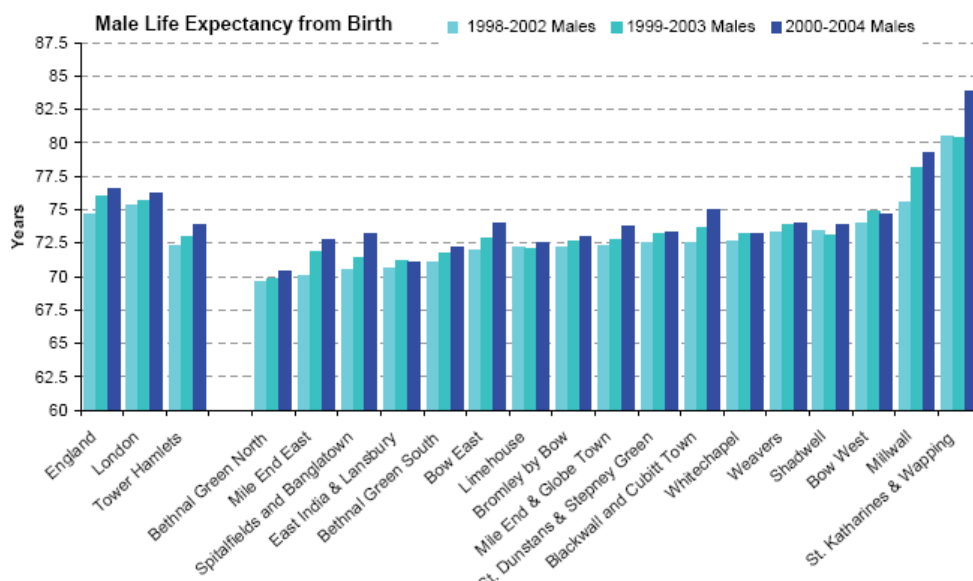
TOWER HAMLETS SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA:

Life Expectancy: Borough Trends

- Men: 73.9 years (2002-4), up from 72.0 (1996-8)
- Women: 79.2 years (2002-4), up from 78.5 (2002-4)
- Mortality rate from heart disease per 1,000: 160.9 (2002-4), down from 187.8 (1996-8)
- Mortality rate from cancer per 1,000: 153.3 (2002-4), down from 167.4 (1996-8)

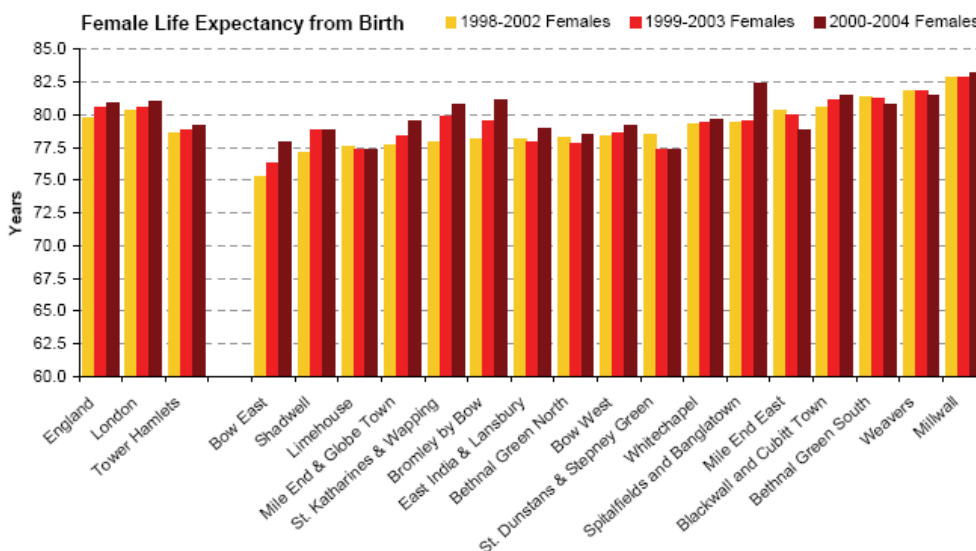


Life Expectancy: Ward Trends



According to the most recent data, wards with the lowest average male life expectancy rates were in the following wards:

- Bethnal Green North (70.5)
- East India & Lansbury (71)
- Bethnal Green South (72.2)

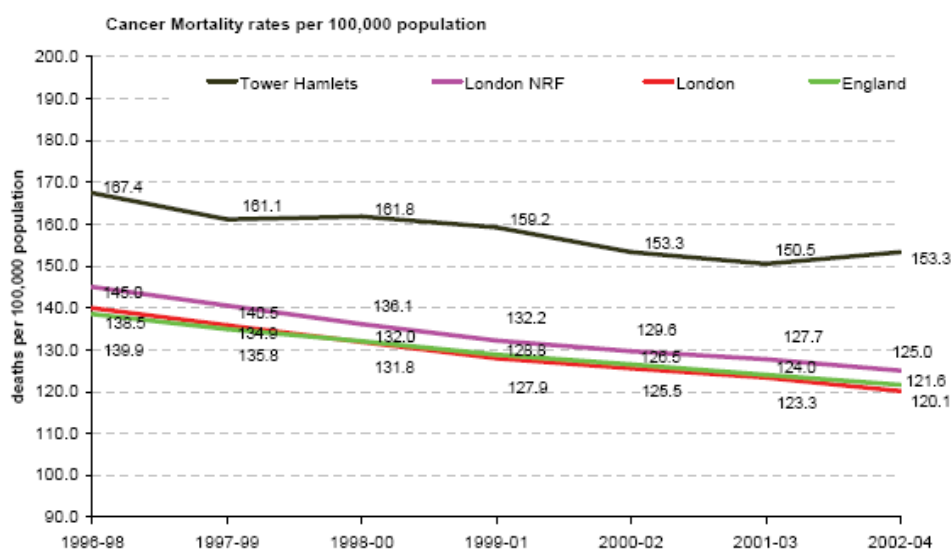
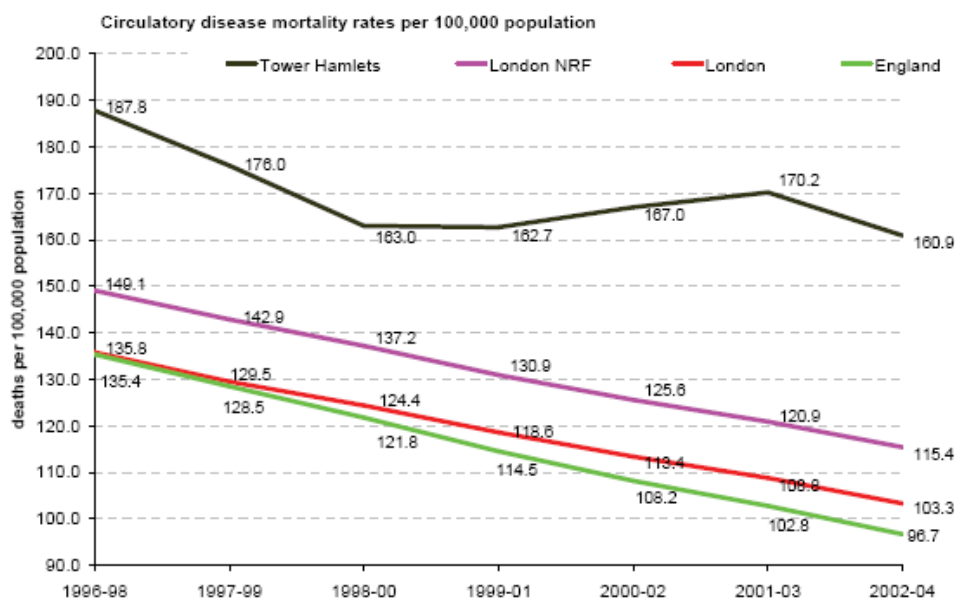


Wards with the lowest female life expectancy were:

- St. Dunstan's & Stepney Green (77.4)
- Limehouse (77.4)
- Bow East (77.9)

The vast majority of wards have shown improvements in male life expectancy rates, with the most significant increases in St. Katharine's (up by 3.45 years), Spitalfields (up by 1.9 years) and Blackwall & Cubitt Town (up by 1.3 years) although slight decreases in male life expectancy occurred in Bow West (down by 0.2 of a year), East India & Lansbury (down by 0.1 of a year) and Whitechapel (down by 0.01 of a year). Female reductions in life expectancy were larger and occurred in Mile End East (down by 1.2 of a year) Bethnal Green South (down by 0.5 of a year), Weavers (down by 0.4 of a year) and Shadwell (down by 0.1 of a year).

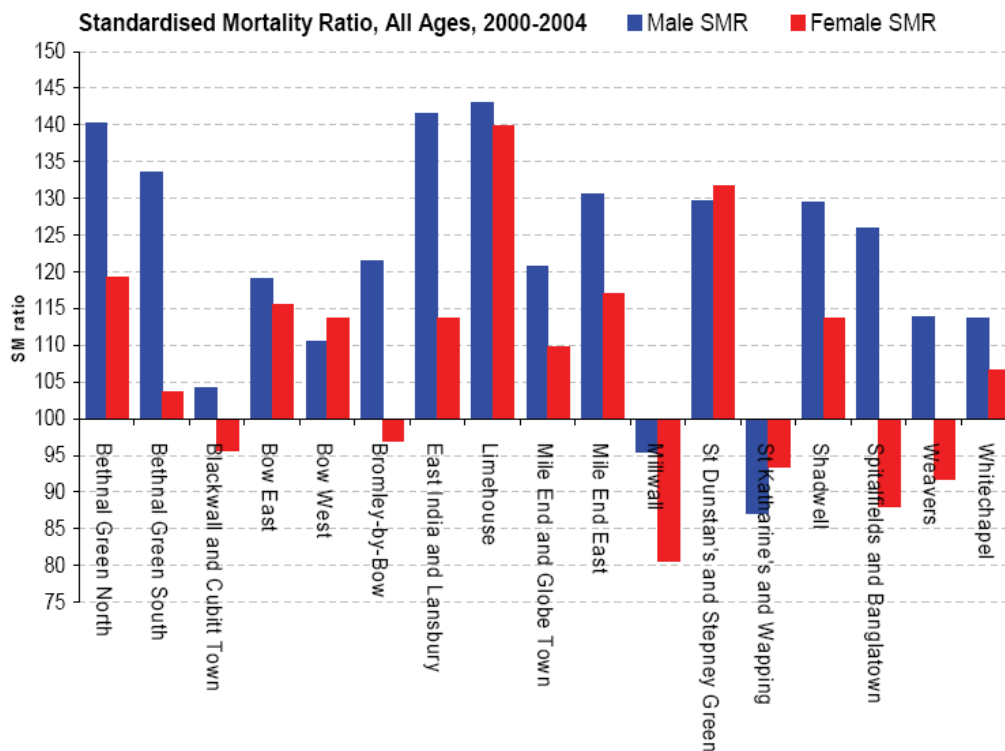
Standardised Mortality Rates: Borough Trends



Mortality rates have decreased considerably since 1996. The rate has reduced by 14% for deaths from circulatory diseases, and by 8.42% for deaths from cancer. There is slow progress toward the cancer floor target of a 20% reduction by 2010, and limited success against the circulatory diseases target of a 40% reduction by 2010.

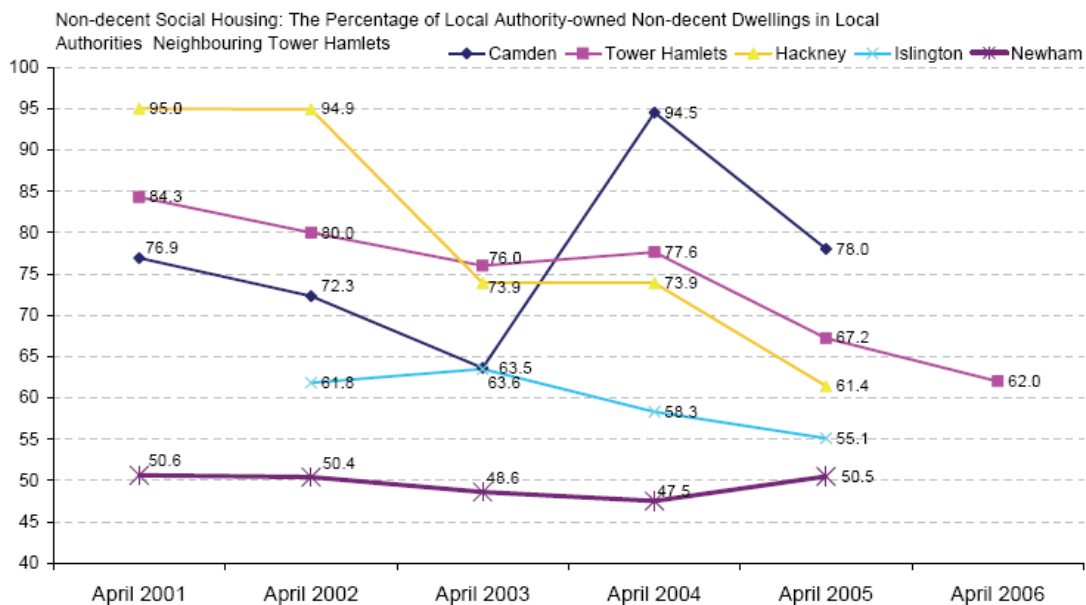
Standardised Mortality Rates: Ward Trends

- Although the majority of wards remain above the national average, most have seen substantial improvements since 1999-2003. The fastest improving male SMR rates have been in Spitalfields (down by 23.5 points), Mile End and Globe Town (down by 15.5 points) and Blackwall and Cubitt Town (down by 10.1 points).
- Wards where male SMR rates have increased most are Weavers (up by 5.3 points), Mile End East (up by 4.3 points) and St Dunstan's & Stepney Green (up by 3.3 points).



Non Decent Council Owned Housing: Borough Trends

- In Tower Hamlets 62% of council owned dwellings were non-decent in April 2006 using latest data available from the Tower Hamlets Housing Directorate. This level represents a 26.5% drop in non-decent dwellings since 2001-02 (84.3%).
- Tower Hamlets can only be compared with other local authorities in London using data up to April 2005. Non-decent council stock in Tower Hamlets ranked second then. Camden (78%) ranked highest and Hackney (61.4%) ranked third.



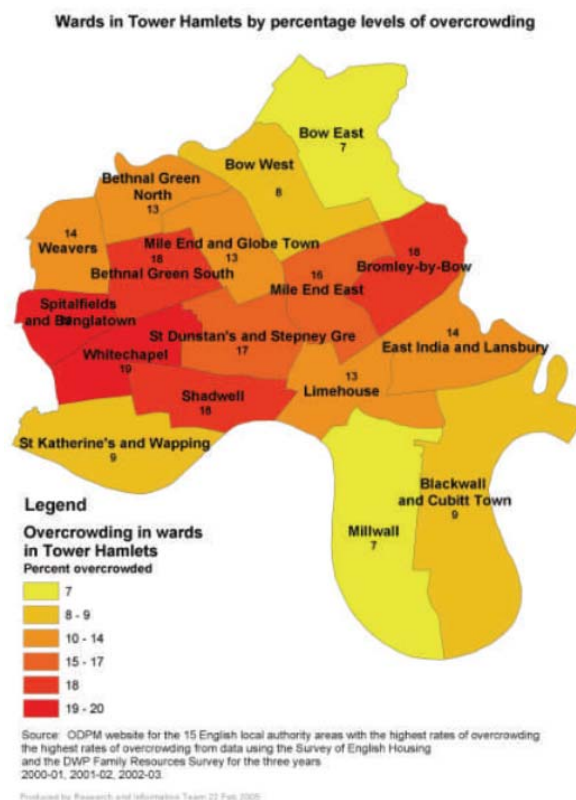
Overcrowding: Ward Trends

The wards with the highest proportion of overcrowded housing are:

- Spitalfields & Banglatown
- Whitechapel
- Mile End and Globe Town
- Bromley by Bow

The wards with the lowest overcrowding levels are:

- Bow West
- Millwall
- Bow East
- Blackwall and Cubitt Town
- St Katharine's and Wapping



Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004: Health Deprivation and Disability Domain

This domain identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or who are disabled, across the whole population.

Data included in this domain are:

- Years of Potential Life Lost (1997-2001).
- Comparative Illness and Disability Ratio (2001).
- Measures of emergency admissions to hospital (1999-2002).
- Adults under 60 suffering from mood or anxiety disorders (1997-2002).

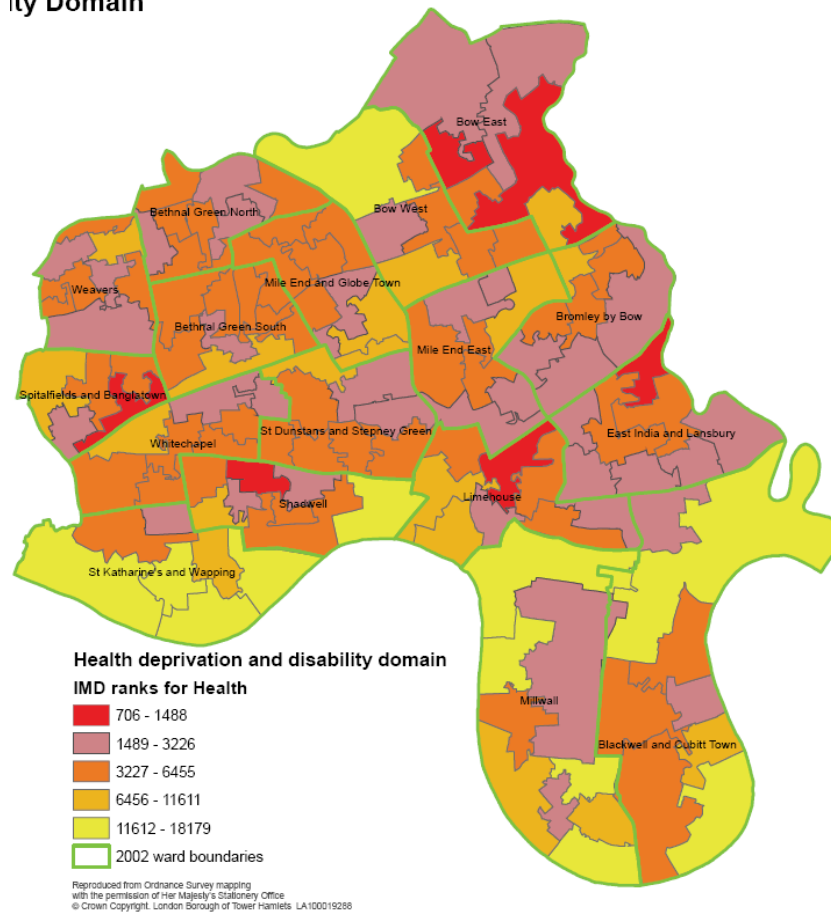
Across London less than 1 per cent of Super Output Areas (SOAs) are among the worst 5% in the country, indicating that generally there are low levels of health problems in London. The map shows that there are 5 wards on Tower Hamlets containing SOAs that rank in the top 10% in the country for poor health and these are in:

- Limehouse (rank 406)
- Bow East (ranks 895 and 1,111)
- Shadwell (rank 1,192)
- East India and Lansbury (rank 1,185)
- Spitalfields and Banglatown (rank 5,276)

These areas are also largely concentrated in similar areas to those suffering from employment

deprivation and this collocation is understandable due to the number of people unable to work due to health problems who are collecting Incapacity Benefit, which contributes significantly to both domains.

Health Deprivation Domain



IMD 2004: Employment Deprivation Domain

The map below comprises indicators selected specifically to show employment deprivation. It shows areas as these are ranked within a national hierarchy of employment deprivation. The lower the rank, the higher the level of deprivation is within that area.

- At borough level, Tower Hamlets ranks 32 out of 354 English district authorities for employment deprivation.
- Approximately one fifth of areas within the borough are within the top 10% most employment deprived in England.

Wards experiencing particularly high levels of deprivation according to these measures include:

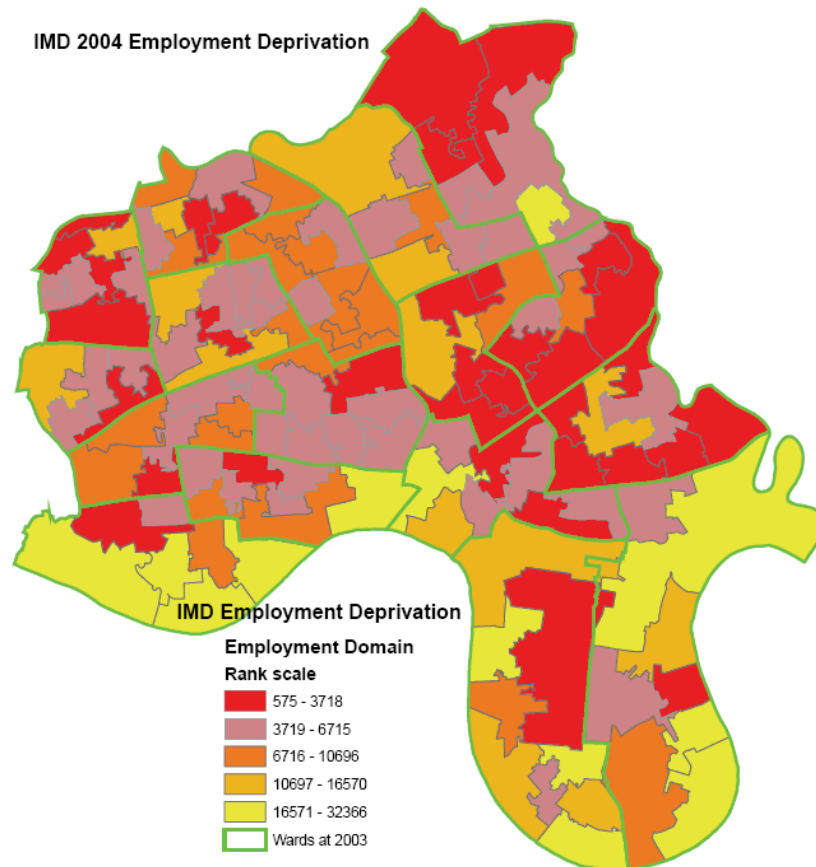
Employment Deprivation:

- St Dunstan's and Stepney Green
- Bromley by Bow
- Bow East
- Limehouse
- East India and Lansbury

The IMD picks out certain areas experiencing higher levels of deprivation than is found in

neighbouring areas. Highest employment deprivation was recorded as being found in the following wards:

- Limehouse (two areas with 32 % and 26% unemployment)
- Bethnal Green South (one area with 26% unemployment)
- Bow East (one area with 25% unemployment)
- Spitalfields and Banglatown (25%)
- Bromley by Bow (25% unemployment)
- Mile End East (25% unemployment)



IMD 2004: Income Deprivation Domain

The map below shows income deprivation for Tower Hamlets. Areas are ranked within a national rank of income deprivation. The lower the rank, the higher the level of deprivation is within that area.

- At borough level, Tower Hamlets ranks 8 out of 354 English district authorities for income deprivation.
- Approximately two thirds of areas within the borough are within the top 10% most income deprived in England

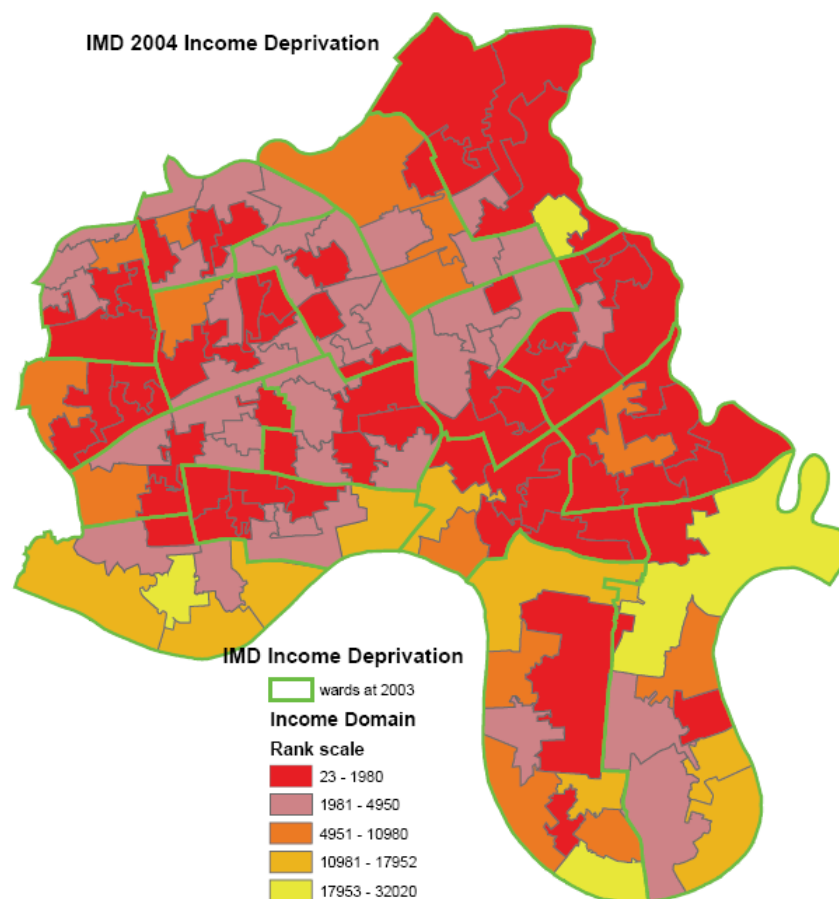
Wards experiencing particularly high levels of income deprivation according to these measures include:

Income Deprivation

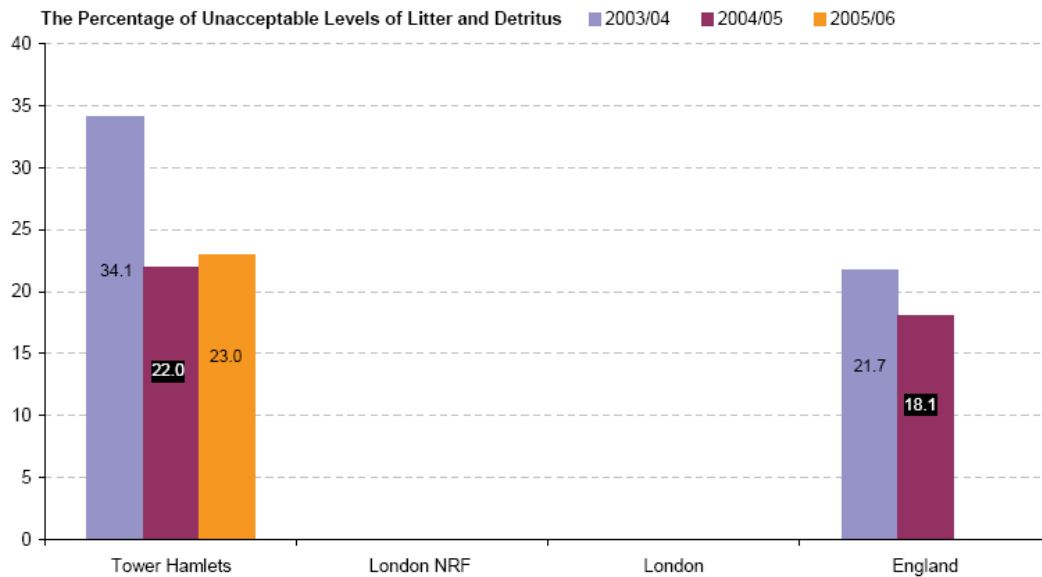
- Limehouse
- St Dunstons & Stepney Green
- Bromley by Bow
- Bow East
- Mile End East
- Lansbury and East India

By local area, highest income deprivation levels were recorded as being found in the following wards:

- St Dunstan's and Stepney Green (ranks 23rd, 65% of households are income deprived)
- Limehouse (ranks 26th, 65% of households are income deprived)
- Whitechapel (ranks 137th, 55% of households are income deprived)
- East India and Lansbury (two areas, ranking 148th and 167th with 55% and 54% of households that are income deprived)



Unacceptable Levels of Litter and Detritus

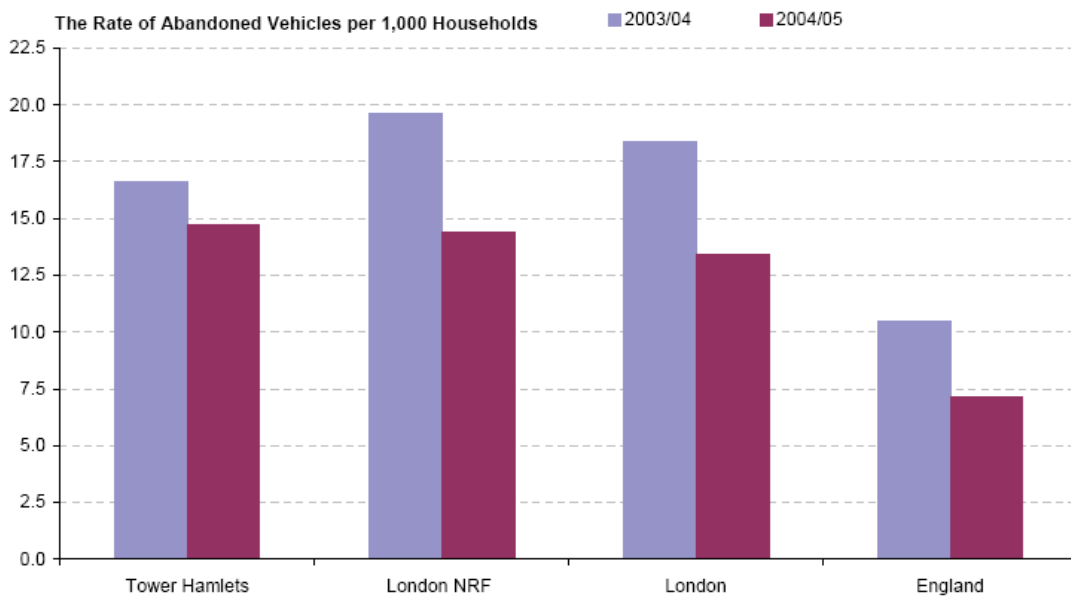


Satisfaction with Local Parks



In 2000/1 resident satisfaction levels with parks in Tower Hamlets were 10 percentage points (18.9%) behind the England level. In 2003/4 this gap has widened and there is now a 15 percentage point difference, (26.3%) between residents satisfied with parks and green spaces in England compared to residents who are satisfied with parks in Tower Hamlets.

Abandoned Vehicles



In Tower Hamlets the rate of abandoned vehicles in 2003/4 was 16.6 per 1,000 households and in 2004/5 this rate had dropped to 14.7 abandoned vehicles per 1,000 households. This represents an 11.5% drop in the rate b

Section 2: Interviews with East London representatives

Eight community representatives were interviewed, asking them five key questions pertinent to the concept of 'environmental justice'. Below follows a collation of their responses, with a summary list of issues at the start of each question.

1. What are the main environmental concerns in East London?

Summary List of Issues:

- A lack of interest generally in environmental issues, both by politicians and citizens.
- Recycling, in terms of access to it, and consistency of service provision for it.
- Noise levels, due to road traffic, air traffic, and anti-social behaviour.
- Promoting a sense of well-being and safety.
- Parks management – enhancing a sense of safety for them to be used by vulnerable citizens.
- Traffic congestion.
- Parking space.
- The disappearance of 'informal spaces'.
- The unknown impact of huge regeneration schemes (Thames Gateway; Olympics).
- A process of gentrification through regeneration.
- Street trees – their management.
- Enabling police neighbourhood teams to develop local knowledge.
- Detritus and fly tipping are commonplace; and who to contact to clear it up.
- Air quality.
- Land contamination.
- Subsidence.
- Tap water safety.
- Reliability of utilities.
- Youth crime/antisocial behaviour.
- Appearance and maintenance of housing.

John Saunders, Stratford Community Forum:

- There's a lack of interest from people, politicians and Newham council on this issue. There's lots of education in schools eg on recycling though.
- In 2002, Newham council set up waste disposal with Barking & Dagenham, and Havering - and they do it together; this contract has just got going.
- Recycling is poor, compared with other boroughs. The issue doesn't come up in community forum meetings, and the council and the Mayor of Newham doesn't prioritise this. He's not an environmentalist, unless there's money to be had. So Friends of the Earth will have to find a way in - don't expect a welcome!

John Connor, Manager, Froud Centre, Aston-Mansfield:

- Most people think of things physical - dog mess, and the general state of pavements, and cars. Also, noise levels, people gathering on the streets, and the opposite - deserted streets.
- The question is, what is a 'quality' environment? Having a sense of well being, and feeling safe.
- Therefore, the physical, hard stuff, goes hand-in-hand with the emotive stuff, so that an environment 'feels' right.

- For example, if you consider 'keep fit' activities, these need a *place* to do it - a river bank, a park - a 'landmark' environment. Here in Newham, the parks are dead.
- The 'soft landmark' environment includes busy roads, and community support officers, to enhance the sense of safety for users.

Rev Brian Lewis, Vicar of St Michael's Church, Froud Centre:

- Rubbish on the streets;
- Recycling access;
- The major developments will have an impact later; no for the time being though. To date, the Olympics have had no impact, but will. Congestion and strain on the transport system will become evident. It may encourage private houses to become rented dwellings, for short term let.

Alan Partridge, Co-ordinator, Harold Road Community Centre:

- Lack of social housing is an environmental issue. The vast amount of houses being built are not obtainable, because they're too costly. This is the number one problem.
- Every corner is being built on - 'informal' open space is disappearing.
- Huge schemes like the Olympics and Thames Gateway are affecting the environment and will all the more in future.
- Around Marshgate Lane [Stratford], you could escape from the hustle and bustle. But post 2012 we'll have a sanitized park, which is not what I want. Not many people knew about the spaces that existed in that area, which is what made them attractive to visit.
- Traffic is problematic; parking space is a struggle. It will lead to friction, with even less space to park. So social issues are linked in with the physical environment.
- There's been a lot of cleaning up - many polluting industries have now gone from Newham (but therefore the jobs have gone too).
- Broadly speaking, Newham is becoming a dormitory - living in Newham, and working elsewhere, creating a lot more housing, whilst working elsewhere. This is not good for the environment and travelling to work.
- There are social changes - a gentrification process is taking place in several parts of the borough. This is linked to environmental issues.
- Street trees - Newham has not been good at managing them - cutting them, and planting new ones. They are problematic, especially in autumn, where they block out street lighting and damage foundations of houses.
- Park management - this is *not at all good*. Some parks get dominated by a few yobs who intimidate and consequently the park doesn't feel safe. Park keepers are needed, but the borough says it can't afford it. Yet if they had supervisors from 3pm onwards, this would help - a few staff looking after the parks would allow many more people to use them.
- The police having neighbourhood teams is a good idea, but need to stay on the same patch for years to build up their local knowledge.

Sandra Erskine & Ann Lally - Community Activists, Beckton, Newham:

- Beckton is a tip and dumping ground; and in Newham generally, its physical appearance has gone down the pan. For example, East Ham - its full of rubbish, rats running around like they're having a party. Why can't something be done about this? Bins need emptying! People fly tip personally, and on an industrial scale. The unfinished bridge in Beckton is a good example - its now full of rubbish.
- Pick-up services of waste is inconsistent. Recycling used to be good - but now its inconsistent.

I've seen orange recycling bags being simply loaded into ordinary dump trucks! Why bother separating stuff for recycling when there's such inconsistency in services?

- Air quality - you can feel the difference of air quality whilst travelling on the A406 to Beckton - you can smell it. Gallions Reach stinks - eateries there are deserted. A sewage incineration plant deals with 35, 500 people's crap.
- There will be extra plane traffic soon - every 30 minutes. A new runway is being added, with extra flights as a result. This will also lead to further noise pollution. Ann has now got chronic asthma because of all of this regeneration.
- There are 47 'hotspots' (areas of land contamination) on Winsor Park Estate. Mosquitos breed there.
- Subsidence is also a huge problem in Beckton. It's all marshland.
- There was an e-coli tap water scare in Beckton recently.
- The utilities were laid down in Beckton close together, which means that if there's a problem with one utility, all are lost - gas, electricity, and water. Last winter, we had days of lost amenities. Equipment was given out, and not collected back. There was no compensation.
- Crime issue - It would be useful to have a forum to find out *why* young people behave in the way they do. The Mayor should invest in researching people's opinions.
- Appearance of property - it is down to landlords to enforce things. They need to be held accountable to enforce their own tenancy rules, because this contributes to a sense of well-being. This means sorting out maintenance (which is currently appalling on the Winsor Estate) and getting rid of detritus like old mattresses and rubbish in front of people's houses and on the street.

Michael Gavan, Unison:

- Environmental concerns are not high on most people's agenda in Newham; they are squeezed out by concerns over housing, lack of resources and jobs. Big concerns over the Olympic process – local people have no say and question marks hang over whether the long term impact will be positive or negative. According to Michael, there are not many high profile environmental groups operating in the area (although he admits it is not his area of expertise!)
- Traffic – massive issue. With the Olympic development, a lot of people are concerned that not enough thought has been put into how the new development will affect overall levels of traffic, which will increase and bring much higher levels of pollution. Newham Council has not done enough to focus on this.
- Green spaces – the Olympic Park will bring more space in the future. However, here and now, the amount of Green Space in Newham is fairly limited. There is Central Park which is a decent size and West Ham Park. Apart from these two, spaces are really small and insufficient.
- Sports facilities – fairly thin on the ground. Four leisure centres with swimming pools and fitness centres run by Greenwich Leisure Limited.

Emma Neale, Links UK:

- Excessive litter and detritus – there are issues here surrounding ineffective collection facilities and a lack of empowerment within vulnerable communities which, if it existed, would allow communities to take more direct action for themselves. For example, people who live in temporary accommodation and are new to their area are generally not plugged into the local process – they don't know how or who to contact to ask to have general detritus removed from their locality.
- Generally high levels of pollution and traffic congestion – what can be done to monitor and reduce this?

- There are a good number of green spaces in East London but they are not well used. The reason for this is that people are scared to use them. Victoria Park, in Hackney, is an excellent facility but fear still presides after a woman was stabbed to death there while jogging a few years ago. This is also the case with many public spaces in Newham. Vulnerable groups, the young and old, are often too scared to spend time in parks.

2. How much influence have local people got with regard to environmental issues?

Summary List of Issues:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence is limited in Newham, because of the system of local government in place; other East London boroughs (notably Waltham Forest) is perceived as much more open to the influence of local people. • However, organised collective community action <i>does</i> make a difference. • The 'Respect' campaign is a positive example of citizen participation. • Even basic information sharing with citizens is perceived to be lacking in Newham, let alone people having an influence on decisions that affect them. • There is a negative perception of campaigning – there are very few observable outcomes, so there is a reluctance to get involved.

John Saunders, Stratford Community Forum:

- There is an elected Mayor - so this influence is limited.
- The only path is through the nine community forums - so it's worth speaking to each of these and approaching all councillors. Or get a group of local councillors to influence the council system. Newham is totally different to Tower Hamlets in this regard, where there could be more sway.

John Connor, Manager, Froud Centre, Aston-Mansfield:

- We have a pretend form of democracy in Newham. The Community Forums are a pretend consultation process, because it's all controlled - there's no mandate to speak to anyone else, therefore people don't have a significant say in the decision making process.
- However, organised collective action by the community *does* make a difference. People taking on a citizen's role to make things happen has impact - for example, when there was a community event some time ago which focused on getting rid of rubbish.
- However, when the agenda for local action is set by statutory agencies, local influence is gone. Newham councillors complain they can't influence Olympic decisions, but this is a naive attitude.
- The 'Respect' campaign made an impact on the environment though. It was a targeted campaign, which was effective, but was down to one personality in the end who made things happen.

Rev Brian Lewis, Vicar of St Michael's Church, Froud Centre:

- Not at all at present. The Respect campaign did have, for a while. But at present, people don't have a route. Community Forums are being disbanded, because they're an irritant! Community Forums are being 'rebranded'. The Local Strategic Partnership, under the title of 'Civic Partnership' is going to be revamped as well.

- Community Forums were a route to voice concerns, but this is no longer an effective route.

Elahe Panahi, Centre Manager, St John's Community Centre:

- The Community Forum has died. It has shifted from people influencing, and turned into people being an audience. The structure has gradually changed. More and more councillors are leading on behalf of local people, and council officers. It would be worth doing a piece of research on the community forums and what came of them, and their rationale. There was a glimmer of hope.
- The Mayor uses his councillors by getting his ideas from them, rather than the people. There's no 'organic' help. In reality, it's absolutely authoritarian. Where does he get his ideas from? No-one's in a position to challenge.
- The principle of local participation is taken more seriously in other boroughs, where there is more possibility to influence decisions. In Newham, it's stuck in service provision, which keeps you dependent.
- This area [North Woolwich] is the best example of how development and changes have left people behind - and not even in terms of progress, design and strategy - but simply in terms of *sharing information!* - let alone, influencing things.
- There were a series of consultations concerning the City Airport. The most vocal and educated came, but ordinary people were absent. The DLR consultation was last minute, and not appropriate communication. It felt that the 'machine' was coming to the area, with no emotions, no consideration. It was happening, and that was that. *Forget 'justice' without accountability!* Where is the accountability of "community leaders" to represent the people?
- In summary, in North Woolwich, in terms of environmental justice, consultation is always a shambles. There is a lack of information for people; a lack of consultative structures that are inclusive; and a lack of coherence – it's very piecemeal, and doesn't generate any consistency.

Alan Partridge, Co-ordinator, Harold Road Community Centre:

- Not a lot. The system of local government in Newham as it's run is *not* very democratic. So decision influence is minimal.
- Even the Community Forums' power is being diminished. Local councillors don't have much say either. The locally elected Mayor is a one-party state, and very few people can hold him to account, and that's the problem.
- Community Forum steering groups are being abolished and there may be neighbourhood action groups instead - which would have no feed into the Local Strategic Partnership, but would be able to tell lead councillors of any concerns they have. This is new - the decision was only recently made, and with no consultation with community forums.
- The elected Mayor can't make decisions that can please everyone - I accept that. But he's so entrenched in his position, he holds what seems an invincible position.
- *Would other East London boroughs have more of a say?* Waltham Forest is more balanced - it listens to opinions more carefully.
- Having said the above, there has been some listening happening with regards to having a casino in Newham. The bid was put in without reference to anyone, but it's now not going forward.
- In summary, local people don't have much of a say in decision making processes regarding the environment, or indeed anything else.

Sandra Erskine & Ann Lally - Community Activists, Beckton, Newham:

- There needs to be accountability. For example, the National Grid was going to do an odour

testing survey. But then they said it was not feasible, so it was not done.

- No matter how much we campaign we couldn't get any further. So we gave up. There was a 'put up or shut up' attitude towards us. They said they provided a hotline and no-one rung it. But why should people ring? There is no outcome.
- Councillors do nothing, except get paid to sit on a committee.
- When we've campaigned, we've been so busy addressing issues, that we could do with finding others to take up the campaigning- some young people's involvement. But there's an attitude of 'you can do it for us' - and this attitude is difficult to break, and get others to participate in community action.
- The system is designed to wear people down, and give up. We make noise, but it takes away power. You can influence, but it doesn't necessarily make an impact. You need community *action*. This means different people taking part, which in turn makes community action, which influences policy.
- Its also about people seeing *outcomes*. We need a paid worker.
- Initially, we [Sandra & Ann] made an impact. My motivation was that I did it for my children. We got involved, ran after school clubs and organised summer play schemes and outings; we didn't want kids on the street. I gained through it, through training, and conferences etc. I was not paid though.
- You gain confidence, and experience. You can influence things, but also *need* community action. Everyone took a role in doing things - from public speaking, to folding paper! Crucially though, something should not depend on one person though.

Michael Gavan, Unison:

- Not a lot. The council used to have Community Forums which, although not perfect, gave people an opportunity to raise issues and concerns in public. However, these forums have now been discontinued. The only real space that ordinary people can use is the letters page in the *Newham Recorder*. The Mayor does do his question time but the people who are allowed to attend the sessions are 'vetted'. This is done in two ways – if you pre-book a space and it is known that you will ask a difficult question you will not be allowed; if you turn up on the door you have to submit your question and if it is not acceptable then you'll not be allowed to ask it.
- *What about Crossrail and the Olympic Development?* There is a lot of scepticism around Newham with regard to the Olympics - for example, Carpenter's Road has just been closed and this is an indicator that things will be disrupted; people are starting to open their eyes to how much disruption there will be over the next few years. People who live on the Clay's Lane estate are being moved out and have had no say in the process – the residents will not have felt particularly empowered by the process. The prevailing attitude from authority figures over Clay's Lane was, 'you live in shit anyway so why are you bothered?' What is a two week sporting event really going to achieve in terms of real change?
- Crossrail does not appear to be a big issue at the moment in Newham. Most people are not aware that Crossrail is happening and are not informed. Generally in Newham, you only get to know things if you make the effort to find out. The vast majority of people are not informed and are not in the right network to find out.

Emma Neale, Links UK:

- The opportunities to feed in to the decision making process are there. Community forums and access to local councillors should be quite good. However, a lot of people do not understand the process and need educating about who to approach to express concern. In addition, there are some issues over ownership of services. As a number of previously council-run services are

now sub-contracted, it is not immediately clear with whom responsibility lies.

- To some extent local people are not sufficiently motivated to take action. More could be done at the individual level to improve people's immediate surroundings – more responsibility at the individual level will have a positive knock on effect of improving the look of communities in general.

3. Are you aware of any environmental networks in the area?

Summary List of Issues:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• East London Groundwork (Green Gym)• Forestry Commission• Green Party• Friends of Queen's Market• Cycling Campaign• Allotment Association in Newham• Lee Rivers Trust• Lee Valley Park

John Saunders, Stratford Community Forum:

No. The Green Party is the only one I can think of, and this is not an active party, apart from elections. Although the Newham Cycling Group would be worth approaching.

John Connor, Manager, Froud Centre, Aston-Mansfield:

- East London Groundwork (Green Gym)
- Forestry Commission
- National Friends of the Earth
- Groundwork is the only network that has a local impact.
- There are no other networks around here as far as I'm aware.

Rev Brian Lewis, Vicar of St Michael's Church, Froud Centre:

- No.

Elahe Panahi, Centre Manager, St John's Community Centre:

- Not at all.

Alan Partridge, Co-ordinator, Harold Road Community Centre:

- Friends of Queen's Market - Fighting for improvements and the retention of the market. They would be interested in working with Friends of the Earth.
- The Cycling Campaign - who'd also be interested in working with Friends of the Earth.
- The Green Party - but they're only heard at elections, and are not active otherwise.
- The Allotment Association in Newham.
- Friends of the Earth used to have a local branch.
- Friends of the Earth could work with the rubbish collectors to get it right. Currently, there's confusion over rubbish collection and disposal - orange bags are given out, but not black bags. Consequently, people use orange bags for their rubbish, not for recycling.
- The Lee Rivers Trust (a voluntary organisation), and the Lee Valley Park Authority (which

probably funds the Lee Rivers Trust). They did a good job of Three Mills - its not spoilt the area.

Sandra Erskine & Ann Lally - Community Activists, Beckton, Newham:

- No, except we've had contact with the head of Friends of the Earth concerning the bridge that currently goes nowhere (but will eventually, when the link across the Thames is constructed).

Michael Gavan, Unison:

- Not really (Michael says that he could be out of touch but personally he's not aware of much going on).

Emma Neale, Links UK:

- Emma does not know any but feels that she is not particularly knowledgeable about environmental issues – they may exist but she does not know them!

4. How are development pressures impacting on communities?

Summary List of Issues:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locals don't have a say.• Things are being <i>done to us</i>.• Extra stress on the transport system.• A rise in houses in multiple occupation, and short-term letting, causing social stress.• Lack of participation.• A sense of disempowerment.• Loss of opportunities.• Isolation.• Lack of a sense of 'ownership' – things don't belong to me.• Vandalism.• The fragmentation of diversity.• Informal spaces are being built on.• A need for larger houses (bigger than two bedrooms).• A need for infrastructure development (more schools etc).• Stratford International may bring problems of homelessness and prostitution.• Increased pace of land development (because land is now so valuable).• City Airport expansion.• The mistakes of the Docklands developments are being repeated.• Generally, the impact of development pressures are perceived as negative.

John Saunders, Stratford Community Forum:

- Locals don't have a say. A lot of planning affecting Newham is decided outside of Newham. I also sit on the Stratford Renaissance Partnership, as a representative of the Stratford Community Forum. This gets people together to try to exert influence regarding the development of Stratford. For example, people want decent affordable housing. It's worth Friends of the Earth getting involved with this.
- Alison Young is the CEO, who would be good to talk to, as well as formally approaching the Mayor.

John Connor, Manager, Froud Centre, Aston-Mansfield:

- Things are being *done to us*. E.g. the Thames Gateway. This is a quango of local authorities. Local democracy structures set up this organisation at a distance so that we can't object to their plans.
- The new recycling plant set up in Beckton, there was no consultation, so no say.
- In the Lake District, there is a local service station, run by *local people only*. All profits go to local people. Why don't we have a service station run by Thames Gateway? Same for the Olympics - parking could have been given to the 3rd Sector, but it was given to National Parks instead.
- Thames Gateway will have a massive impact - this is positive, but its about the way its managed. It needs to be designed properly, including proper infrastructure, like shops etc.

Rev Brian Lewis, Vicar of St Michael's Church, Froud Centre:

- The concern is the extra stress on the transport system, and multi-occupancy and short term letting in private housing, causing greater social stress.
- Anti-social behaviour of tenants of private landlords (in contrast with council tenants, which the council has a strategy to deal with).

Elahe Panahi, Centre Manager, St John's Community Centre:

It is alienating them in a very serious way. It manifests itself through:

- Lack of participation;
- A sense of disempowerment;
- The loss of opportunities;
- Isolation;
- A sense of future tension - things around me don't belong to me;
- Vandalism;
- The fragmentation of diversity - everyone feels they're not part of it (not along ethnic lines, but along political/social lines).

Alan Partridge, Co-ordinator, Harold Road Community Centre:

- The informal open spaces are being built on.
- Already, more people are competing for open space resources, and this will increase as more and more housing is built.
- There's a need for more larger houses. Councillors are pushing for this, but very little is being built over two bedrooms. So people are moving in to two bed houses that will soon need 3-4 bed houses. This is storing up a housing problem.
- Its difficult to say what the impact of the Thames Gateway and the Canning Town regeneration is, because we don't know who will live there 7 days a week. But we need extra schools etc for this development.
- Stratford City is being ignored, and there is no idea what effect Stratford International station will have. The problems associated with the international station at Kings Cross include homelessness, prostitution etc. So who knows what Stratford International will bring?
- At the moment, there's lots of displacement happening with regards to jobs and housing (both at the Clays Lane estate, and at Canning Town).
- There's also economic temptation for development because land is now so valuable for housing - for example, Purer Foods factory has gone, replaced by a block of flats; so many places are blocks of flats.
- There will be more of a leisure industry in this area in future than there is at the moment.

- Its hard to see how these things will affect, either positively or negatively. Not many people see things as a whole, and live parochial lives - very local.

Sandra Erskine & Ann Lally - Community Activists, Beckton, Newham:

- Air pollution - the bridge that goes nowhere will eventually generate a lot of pollution, as it is going to have 6 traffic lanes - which includes 2 bus lanes. No-one has thought about the impact of this. And also the airport expansion.

Michael Gavan, Unison:

- It seems that mistakes that were previously made with developments in Docklands will be repeated; housing was built in Winsor Park but no community facilities were built to support it. New developments in Newham will probably include expensive housing and some social housing and facilities that do exist will only be available to those who can afford them. That is the Mayor's vision – when Canning Town was being developed, the Mayor argued that the kind of people who were being pushed out were not welcome in Newham anyway.

Emma Neale, Links UK:

- Generally the impact is quite negative. Although housing and public spaces are in a bad condition now, everyone is too focussed on the regeneration solving all of these problems. However, that means that there is currently a gap as nothing will be substantially improved during the five years leading up to 2012.
- The public are not well informed about Crossrail and so it does not really figure.

5. What hopes/expectations would you have for an environmental network?

Summary List of Issues:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To engage, and provide a bridge from the community, to decision makers. • To enable citizens to voice concerns. • To facilitate community collective action. • To signpost people to sources of information. • To help citizens forge their own agenda. • To inspire new environmental projects. • To help spearhead a change in the whole direction of development. • To facilitate an education and involvement campaign. • To campaign for a safer, cleaner environment. • To ensure vulnerable communities have access to services.

John Saunders, Stratford Community Forum:

- Not much, to be honest. Once it becomes political, it's on a downer.

Rev Brian Lewis, Vicar of St Michael's Church, Froud Centre:

- To engage or provide a link/bridge from the community, to officers responsible for policy and action in the area.

Elahe Panahi, Centre Manager, St John's Community Centre:

- For it to be an enabling tool in voicing shared concerns.

- To find shared solutions to make an impact.

Alan Partridge, Co-ordinator, Harold Road Community Centre:

- Partly, to help people to understand they're part of a bigger picture, without taking away from the local situation. This is very important.
- Bringing facts and figures, and where they can be found - these resources are important.
- A local person with a passion is more important than someone from outside coming in.

Sandra Erskine & Ann Lally - Community Activists, Beckton, Newham:

- To provide support to community groups.
- Be the link between the local authority and groups.
- To help us forge our own agenda.
- Assist with funding.
- Inspire new environmental projects, to encourage people to do stuff. For example, a women-only project for growing vegetables. First time allotment holders could get advice and help, and children would learn how to nurture things, and help children back to being children.
- Signposting to services, information and help.

Michael Gavan, Unison:

- More green space and community facilities are important. However, perhaps more important is the need to change the whole direction of development. Currently local people have no say. At least during the Docklands development process there was some consultation. Now, ordinary people seem to have no opportunity to impact upon decisions taken by the ODA (Olympic Development Agency). The only people who can influence anything are 'the great and the good'. The only 'consultation' that seems to take place is when Seb Coe arrives to drum up some positive publicity for the Olympics by telling local school kids how tremendous the Olympics will be and how many gold medals Britain is going to win!
- *Are people in Newham particularly interested in environmental issues?* There is a huge need for an education and involvement campaign. There is no reason to think that Newham cannot be like Hampstead but it is not high on most people's agenda. The top five issues in the borough would not include environmental issues. In Newham, people are more concerned by housing, homelessness, poverty and jobs.

Emma Neale, Links UK:

- To enable people to live in decent, affordable housing, surrounded by a pleasant environment.
- To reduce levels of traffic, congestion and pollution.
- To investigate rumours that there is a toxic waste sight near Carpenter's Road
- To plan communities so that they are not cut off from mainstream services by large roads – to ensure that vulnerable communities have access to services near to where they live (i.e. elderly, minority groups of all types).
- Cleaner environment – pavements are still covered in dog excrement, there is too much litter and existing street cleaning services are inadequate.

Is there much demand for environmental justice in East London?

- While it's certainly true that many people are more concerned with housing, homelessness, employment, it is something which is important to people. If people felt that they could have a cleaner local environment, they would jump at the opportunity.

Appendix:

Socio-economic data sources:

- Focus on Newham, 2006
- The Tower Hamlets Partnership Ward Data Report, July 2006
- Health in London, London Health Commission, 2006/7