

THE EAST END

# VitalSigns®

Update 2016

East End  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Contact us at: [info@eastendcf.org](mailto:info@eastendcf.org) | Tel: 020 7345 4444



## Welcome to East End Community Foundation's Vital Signs 2016 report which takes the pulse of our local communities.

Vital Signs is a research report and local charitable giving guide which draws upon official statistics and the views of local people to provide a health check of social issues in Hackney, Newham and Tower Hamlets. The report enables us to understand how London's East End is performing compared to London and the UK, and help steer EECF and other philanthropists on how best to support the local community.

Statistics from Vital Signs show that, compared to national figures, the East End is comparatively more deprived and continues to have issues of real need. Vital Signs presents data and community views in a non-partisan manner, and views expressed within do not necessarily reflect the views of EECF. It also does not intend to detract from the hard work and investment already being undertaken by local businesses, local authorities, charities and community groups. Rather, by understanding the facts, and working together, we can use the data to identify where philanthropic giving will have the best impact and strive for a better future for our community.

So please: read, digest, and absorb the bare facts. Then consider, how can I best help to make a difference?

Visit our website [www.eastendcf.org](http://www.eastendcf.org) to learn more about how you could work with us to address the East End's most pressing needs.

## Report Methodology

### Social Themes

Vital Signs is defined by 10 social themes which receive a grade based on the latest data available for specific core indicators. The grade benchmarks how the East End (Hackney, Newham and Tower Hamlets) is performing, on average, in relation to national figures, as follows:

- A The East End is performing better than 80% of comparable areas.**
- B The East End is performing better than 60% of comparable areas.**
- C The East End is performing better than 40% of comparable areas.**
- D The East End is performing worse than 60% of comparable areas.**
- E The East End is performing worse than 80% of comparable areas.**

### Community Consultation

EECF consulted with people who live and work in the East End between 4th April-26th August 2016 using an online and hard copy survey. 408 complete responses and 73 partial responses were received. Results are statistically significant to a 95% confidence level with a 5% margin of error, based on a total population size of 897,062 (Place Analytics, Mid-Year Population estimates, 2015). Respondents were invited to grade each of the 10 social themes using the following statements:

- A Everything is great! Let's keep things that way!**
- B Things are going well, but we can make them better.**
- C The situation is OK, but could be improved.**
- D Things aren't going very well. We should take action as soon as possible.**
- E Things are going very badly. We must act now!**

### Data

Vital Signs data is gathered from a variety of publicly available sources including the Office for National Statistics and Place Analytics, an analysis service from Grant Thornton UK. Vital Signs shows a snapshot view and analyses a limited amount of the available data. Due to a lack of accurate sources, statistics for the City of London have purposely been left out. Information is considered accurate as of 2016; if you believe any information to be incorrect please contact [info@eastendcf.org](mailto:info@eastendcf.org).

## Social Themes and Core Indicators

- The 10 Vital Signs themes enable us to understand how the East End is performing in relation to national averages. For some social themes the East End is leading the way nationally;
- Arts, heritage & culture and local economy both score an A grade meaning the East End is performing better than 80% of comparable areas.
- However, the East End is underperforming significantly for the social themes fairness, healthy living, housing & homelessness and safety which all score an E grade. This means, for these themes, the East End is performing worse than 80% of comparable areas.

Vital Signs Theme	East End	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets	
	A	A	B	A	<b>Arts, Culture &amp; Heritage:</b> The East End is close to some of the best cultural facilities in the country. Ranked nationally, Tower Hamlets and Hackney are among the 10 local authority areas with the best amenities score. Newham is in the top 20.
	D	D	D	E	<b>Environment:</b> Newham, Brent, Redbridge, Hackney and Tower Hamlets have the highest proportions of most deprived people in London's worst air quality areas.
	E	E	E	E	<b>Fairness:</b> Tower Hamlets is London's most deprived borough, Hackney is 2nd most deprived and Newham 4th. In Tower Hamlets almost 1 in every 4 children live in income deprived households - the highest proportion in England - and in Hackney almost 1 in every 3. The East End also has the most elderly people living in income deprivation; in Tower Hamlets 1 in every 2 older people and in Hackney and Newham almost 1 in every 3.
	E	E	E	E	<b>Healthy Living:</b> Tower Hamlets and Hackney are among the 10 London boroughs with the lowest levels of adult obesity. However, all three East End boroughs are among the 10 worst in England and 10 worst in London for child obesity.
	E	E	E	E	<b>Housing &amp; Homelessness:</b> Hackney is the 7th least affordable area to buy a home in England and Wales where prices are on average 18.3 times greater than annual earnings. In Newham prices are 13.2 times greater and in Tower Hamlets 12.8 times greater.
	C	B	C	B	<b>Education &amp; Learning:</b> The East End has a greater percentage of young people gaining five or more GCSE grades at A*-C level (68.8%) than the England average (63.8%). Hackney is ranked tenth best in London for GCSE results.
	A	A	A	A	<b>Local Economy:</b> Tower Hamlets makes a significant contribution to the UK economy, producing 2.1% of Britain's total GVA (gross value added) after Westminster (3.27%) and the City (2.77%).
	E	E	E	E	<b>Safety:</b> Between August 2015- August 2016 Tower Hamlets and Newham had London's 2nd and 3rd highest numbers of knife crime victims aged under 24; 106 and 96 victims respectively. Hackney was 8th highest with 76 victims.
	D	E	C	D	<b>Strong Communities:</b> Hackney has the 2nd lowest wellbeing ranking in Great Britain, but the situation has improved in Newham and Tower Hamlets.
	D	D	E	D	<b>Work:</b> Newham is among the 10 worst areas in Great Britain for youth unemployment; almost 3 in every 10 people aged 16-24 are out of work.

The cost of housing in London and the East End continues to be high compared to the earnings of local people. As a result of this unaffordability for the past 3 years each borough has received an E grade for housing and homelessness, meaning the East End is performing worse than 80% of comparable areas nationally.

Housing & Homelessness	East End Average	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets
Overall Grade	E	E	E	E
Affordability Score	E	E	E	E
Affordability Ratio	E	E	E	E

Receiving a possession claim means a household is subject to a legal process where they are at risk of eviction. The housing charity Shelter calculated in Newham **1** in every **30** households is at risk, in Hackney **1** in every **42** and in Tower Hamlets **1** in every **49**, compared to the England average of **1** in every **55** renting households.

Source: Shelter, Renters put at risk, June 2016

The median private rent per month is **£1,668** in Hackney, **£1,300** in Newham and **£1,625** in Tower Hamlets.

Source: Shelter and the Valuations Office Agency – Median Private Rents (2016 Q1)

“We urgently need support services that help families facing homelessness and also services that address the underlying causes such as debt advice, advocacy and employment support.”

Newham respondent

Hackney has the **3<sup>rd</sup>** worst rates of homelessness in London and Newham **5<sup>th</sup>** worst. In Hackney **3.4**, Newham **2.8** and Tower Hamlets **1.9** people per **1,000** were estimated to be homeless; actual figures may be higher.

Source: Place Analytics, Homelessness per 1,000 population (2014-2015)

### What Local People Say

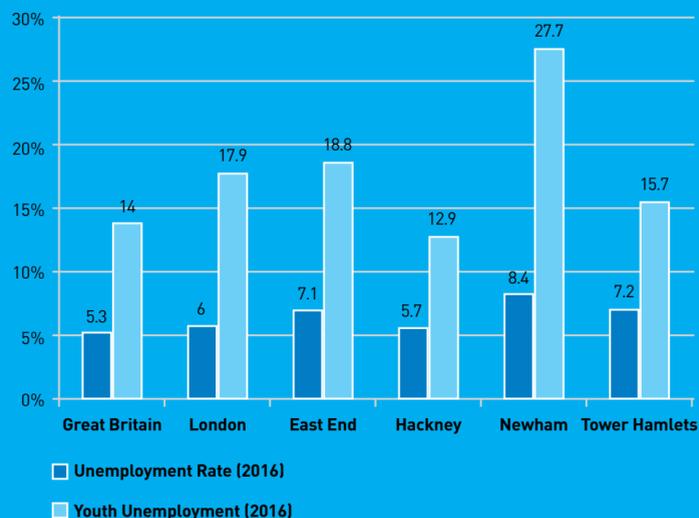
E

The majority of people gave housing an E grade, meaning ‘Things are going very badly. We must act now!’. Concerns were expressed about high rents and young people being priced out of the area. However, local people also identified how they thought positive change might be achieved such as having more advice services.

Over 1 in every 3 people thinks “Things are going very badly. We must act now” and 1 in every 4 that “things aren’t going well, we should take action as soon as possible”.

# Turning Vital Signs into Vital Actions

Last year local people identified work and housing as key areas for action; here are just a few of the ways EECF responded...



## Building a brighter future

The construction industry is booming but local people told us that they felt they couldn’t access jobs in the industry. In response, we gathered together a panel of experts and established a Construction Forum. Developers, local housing associations and construction education providers such as Balfour Beatty, Canary Wharf Group, Construction Youth, Poplar HARCA and Wilmott Dixon meet quarterly to discuss the sector and share best practice ideas.

Greater London will see **3,650** construction jobs created every year for the next five years.

Source: Construction Industry Training Board, Industry Insights: Construction Skills Network Forecasts, 2016-2020

## Increasing employment opportunities for local people

In 2015 EECF launched the 20 Fenchurch Street Legacy Fund in partnership with the developers of the iconic 20 Fenchurch Street building, Canary Wharf Group and Land Securities. The innovative fund pools contributions from building occupiers, service providers and visitors to the building’s Sky Garden to award grants to tackle issues of unemployment and also invests donations in an endowment to create a lasting legacy for East London.

The partnership has been shortlisted for the Charity Times Awards 2016 after distributing £96,000 in its first year to local community projects, which has resulted in 79 local residents being supported into work so far.

“The gap between the wealthier parts of Canary Wharf and local estates is widening and there are not enough interventions to help people develop skills to get into jobs locally.”

Tower Hamlets respondent



The London’s Tall Buildings Survey counted **24** buildings under construction in Tower Hamlets, **11** in Newham and **4** in Hackney.

Source: New London Architecture, London’s Tall Buildings Survey, 2016



In previous years work scored an E grade. However, following economic recovery, unemployment rates have improved. This year work scores a grade D overall. Despite improvements, this still means the East End is performing worse than 60% of other areas. Broken down, there are differences with how each borough is faring; Newham – which has a high youth population – has significantly more young people looking for work than in Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

Work	East End Average	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets
Overall Grade	D	D	E	D
Employment Rate	E	E	E	D
Unemployment Rate	E	D	E	E
Youth Unemployment	C	B	E	C

Newham has the **2<sup>nd</sup>** worst unemployment rate in London at **8.4%** and Tower Hamlets is **7<sup>th</sup>** worst, with **7.2%** of people looking for work. In Hackney the unemployment rate is **5.7%**. Source: Place Analytics, Unemployment Rate (2016)

“There are many new businesses opening in the local area but from what I have seen they do not employ local people.”

Hackney respondent

The average salary (before tax) per week for people in Hackney is **£507.50**, Newham **£455.70** and Tower Hamlets **£768.20** compared to the national average of **£426.80** and London average of **£513.18**.

Source: Place Analytics, Median Earnings, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2015)

Newham is among the **10** worst areas in Great Britain for youth unemployment with almost **3** in every **10** young people aged **16-24** out of work. In Tower Hamlets **15.7%** and in Hackney **12.9%** of young people are looking for work. Source: Place Analytics, Youth Unemployment Rate (2016)

### What Local People Say

C

The majority of people gave work a C grade, meaning the situation is OK, but could be improved. Concerns were expressed that work opportunities are not available to local people despite new businesses moving into the area and there is a need to invest in skills development.

38% of people think “the situation is OK but could be improved and 23% of people that “things aren’t going well, we should take action as soon as possible”.

The East End has a high crime score indicating significantly more crimes are committed per 1,000 residents here in comparison to England and Wales. For the past 3 years the East End has received a grade E for safety, meaning nationally the area is performing worse than 80% of comparable areas.

Safety	East End Average	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets
Overall Grade	E	E	E	E
Crime Score	E	E	E	E
Total Offences	E	E	E	E

Total Number of Offences per 1,000 people	East End Average	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets
Burglaries	4.6 E	5.3 E	4.2 D	4.4 E
Drugs	5.2 E	5.0 E	4.6 E	6.1 E
Robbery	3.9 E	3.7 E	4.1 E	3.9 E
Sexual Offences	2.2 E	2.3 E	2.4 E	2.0 D
Violent Crimes	25.2 E	25.4 E	25.0 E	25.3 E
Weapons Offences	0.7 E	0.8 E	0.7 E	0.7 E

A MOPAC survey found local people in Hackney had the highest perceptions of problems with gang, knife and gun crime out of all 32 London boroughs.

Source: The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), Public Attitude Survey - Borough Confidence Levels (2015-2016)

**"I used to feel safe at night - but there are lots of drug dealers around selling to local residents."**  
Tower Hamlets resident

Ranked on a national scale, Tower Hamlets has the 10<sup>th</sup> highest rate of drugs offences at 6.1 per 1,000 people.

Source: Place Analytics, Total Offences per 1,000 (2016)

### What Local People Say

Overall, the majority of people gave safety a C grade, meaning "the situation is OK, but could be improved". Gang activity and antisocial behaviour made local people feel particularly unsafe.

**1 in every 3 people thought "the situation is OK, but could be improved" and 1 in every 4 "things aren't going very well, we should take action as soon as possible".**

# Views from our community

This year we asked local people how they felt about their local community and local services. Here's what we found out...

## Feeling safe

We found that whilst almost 8 in every 10 people agree or strongly agree they feel safe during daylight hours this halves to 4 in 10 feeling safe after dark. 1 in 3 people disagree or strongly disagree with the statement "I feel safe after dark".

**"I do feel safe however, there is still a lot of evidence of crime - houses and cars are regularly broken into on my street and there is regular reports of gang activity in the nearby estates. I think there needs to be a much better way of bringing local residents together."**  
Hackney resident

## Feeling Respected

Almost 3 in every 5 people agreed or strongly agreed with the statements "I am treated with dignity and respect" and "people respect ethnic differences".

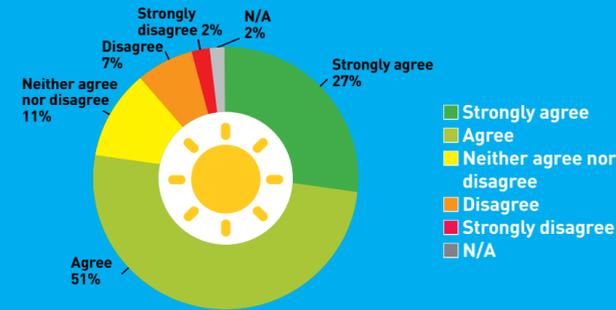
**"My Borough is a multicultural area and I have always felt that our differences have been embraced and respected but I do not feel safe after dark as I have witnessed several incidents on my street alone."**  
Newham resident

## Local services

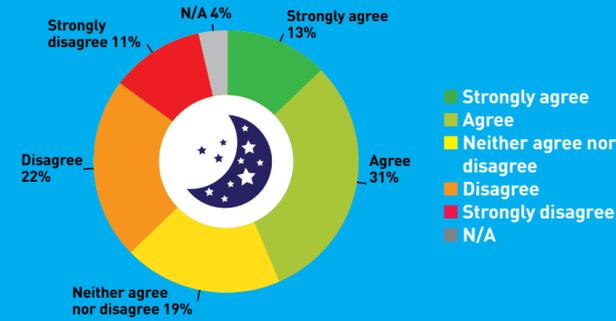
On average, local people considered services for young people, older people and families to be among the most important. However, on average, these were also considered to be delivered less well than other services.

**"Services for young people are closing everywhere due to decreased funding or complete cuts to funding."**  
Tower Hamlets resident

## I feel safe outside during daylight hours



## I feel safe outside after dark



## Local services

**Very important**

- Health and social care services
- Youth centres and activities for young people
- Day services for older and vulnerable people
- Family support services
- Parks and green open spaces
- Special educational needs support services
- Adult education and life-long learning services
- Sports and leisure facilities

**Unimportant**

- Cultural facilities e.g. museums

**Excellent Service Provision**

- Parks and green open spaces
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Adult education and life-long learning services
- Health and social care services
- Cultural facilities e.g. museums
- Special educational needs support services
- Day services for older and vulnerable people
- Family support services
- Youth centres and activities for young people

**Poor Service Provision**

In 2014 the East End received a grade of E for strong communities; this year, the average grade is D meaning the East End is performing worse than 60% of comparable areas. Wellbeing in Hackney remains low but the situation has improved in Newham and Tower Hamlets.

Strong communities	East End Average	Hackney	Newham	Tower Hamlets
Overall Grade	D	E	C	D
Wellbeing	D	E	C	D

Hackney has the second lowest wellbeing ranking in Great Britain. On a national scale, Newham has the most positive score of the three boroughs in position 200, Tower Hamlets is 285 and Hackney 379 out of 380 local authorities.

local authorities. Source: Place Analytics, Wellbeing (2013-2014)

**"[Bonny Downs] has had active engagement for generations, and so I feel rooted, known and able to affect change."**  
Newham respondent

**3 in every 10 people aged over 80 report being lonely and those aged over 80 are also twice as likely to feel lonely than people aged 16-79.**

Source: ONS, Measuring National Well-being: Insights into Loneliness, Older People and Well-being (2015)

**"Despite living very close together the various ethnic, religious and class-based communities don't really seem to mix."**  
Hackney respondent

Newham has London's highest rate of negative migration at -2.6%, indicating more people are moving out of the area to other local authorities than into the area. Migration in Hackney is -0.1% and in Tower Hamlets -0.3%.

Source: Place Analytics, Internal Migration by Local Authorities in England and Wales (2014)

A survey by Age UK revealed nearly 1 in every 2 older people say that television or pets are their main form of company.

Source: Susan Davidson and Phil Rossall, Age UK Loneliness Evidence Review (July 2014)

## What Local People Say

The majority of people gave strong communities a C grade, meaning "the situation is OK, but could be improved". Particular streets were identified as places where people of all backgrounds felt a sense of belonging but there were also areas where people felt neighbours did not engage with each other.

**1 in every 5 people thought "things aren't going very well, we should take action as soon as possible".**





As a grant maker we are dedicated to addressing complex social needs in East London. In the boroughs we serve, we have flagship local giving programmes, supported by our local authorities, which bring together a variety of partners and donors, using collaboration and local expertise to achieve a greater social impact.

Whether you are a local resident, philanthropist, business, charitable trust or statutory organisation, our giving programmes enable you to give back to your local community.

## HACKNEY GI♥ING

Hackney Giving combines donations from a variety of partners including Linklaters, State Street and Société Générale to support local residents into work and training and improve community wellbeing. Since launching in February 2014 Hackney Giving has awarded almost £236,000 to local projects.

## NEWHAM GI♥ING

Newham Giving combines donations from a variety of partners including Berwin Leighton Paisner and Northern Trust to support positive school holiday activities. Since launching in April 2014 Newham Giving has awarded £212,650 to local projects and supported over 2,000 children and young people.

## TOWER HAMLETS GI♥ING

Inspired by the successes of the local giving funds in Hackney and Newham, EECF are launching Tower Hamlets Giving in 2017 and are looking for committed partners to help us respond to vital issues in the local area and create a legacy for the borough. Contact us to find out how you could be involved with this exciting new initiative.



Research and printing costs sponsored by

