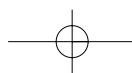


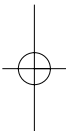
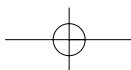
Regenerating the Isle of Dogs

UPDATE 2004



REGENERATING THE ISLE OF DOGS

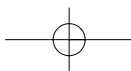




By Ali Gee (Ali Gee Consulting)

Commissioned by The Isle of Dogs Community Foundation

Funded by
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and Isle of Dogs Community Foundation



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Preface

This is the second publication by the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation during my term as Chair of the Trustee Board. The first, in 2002, "Regenerating the Isle of Dogs: A Consultation and Baseline Study", captured life at that time in the "old" Blackwall and Millwall wards, together



with the hopes and aspirations, of not only residents and voluntary and community groups, but of the increasing and very welcome involvement of the business community. The Report has been widely used - by IDCF to give direction to our giving - and by local groups as a working document.

This Update, two years on, outlines what IDCF has funded and achieved in response to evidence of need, and adds new academic data and results of fresh consultation with local people. Overall, this provides a vivid picture of the area in 2004. Please use it freely in your work.

Our thanks go to Ali Gee Consulting for research, management and text and to the London Development Agency and the Fidelity Foundation for their funding support, and to all the people who offered their views.

Richard Heyes

Chair of The Isle of Dogs Community Foundation Board

Regenerating the Isle of Dogs: Update 2004

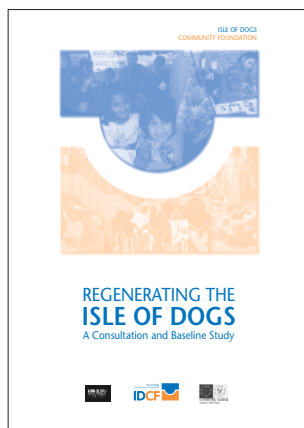


1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Report

In mid-2002 the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation (IDCF) published 'Regenerating the Isle of Dogs: a Consultation and Baseline Study'. The report was used to complement the Foundation's own work and to provide a range of relevant data and opinion for use by the community & voluntary sector that they serve. Ali Gee Consulting (who produced the original report) were commissioned to complete a review and update of that work. The brief required us to:

- review the contemporary data available to measure changes to the socio-economic condition of those living on the Isle of Dogs and indicate progress;
- update the survey element of the report through a series of key stakeholder interviews and focus groups;
- report on IDCF's responses to-date to the recommendations made in the last report;
- and, based on the outcomes, reinforce the priorities identified in the analysis of the earlier report or propose changes.



Summary

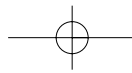
This review provides a detailed update of the area covered by IDCF, originally the two wards of Blackwall and Millwall, but which on the basis of the 2001 ward boundary changes, now includes the following London Borough of Tower Hamlets' wards (map 1 p11):

- Blackwall & Cubitt Town
- Millwall
- The bottom east end corner of Limehouse (approximately 25%)¹, which significantly includes 2 of the most deprived social housing estates on the Isle of Dogs.

Map 1 illustrates the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation area of benefit outlining the revised December 2001 ward boundaries and the Super Output Areas.

The picture is to some extent a confusing one:

- Overall the Isle of Dogs is less deprived now than it was when we last reported and Blackwall & Cubitt Town (15th) and Millwall (17th) the least deprived areas of the borough out of 17, only St Katherine's and Wapping (16th) separates them. All three are outside the most deprived 20% wards nationally. By contrast Limehouse at 12th most deprived of the borough's wards is in the top 11% most deprived wards in the country.
- The production of Super Output Areas (SOAs) helps to identify both the polarisation of affluence compared to poverty that exist side by side on the Island and to illustrate that the social housing estates on the Island are largely fixed in the most deprived 20% of all England SOAs;
- Deprivation impacts on different parts of the community as well as in different geographic areas, such that the BME communities, on all measures are more likely to live in multiple deprivation than the rest of the population.



1.2 The Baseline

In our original report we pointed out the value of producing rigorous baseline assessments to identify and evidence need and as a tool to measure progress, and contrary to this, the limitations of the data produced at ward and lower levels. The National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal² reflects the concerns of regenerationists for small area data and outlines the production of new neighbourhood statistics which can be used to help monitor change. One of the outcomes of the National Strategy was to give the Office for National Statistics (ONS) responsibility to take forward the production of neighbourhood level data. The current outcome of this desire to produce data at a neighbourhood level is that the Census 2001 provides data at a range of levels including national, regional, borough, ward, super output area (approximately 1500 people) and output area (between 125 - 150 households or 300 people) levels. A range of super output area data is available and can be mapped to specific geographic areas - like that portion of Limehouse which falls into the IDCF area. Unfortunately much data remains available only at ward level or higher and unhappily, for comparison purposes, the new Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2004) is available at borough and Super Output Area level but not (as with the 2000IMD) at ward level. The Isle of Dogs has 19 SOAs.

The principal issue in the interpretation of the data for IDCF is that the growing affluence of Canary Wharf has the effect of diluting the evidence of deprivation and need at ward level whilst Super Output Areas provide some evidence of smaller pockets of deprivation in an otherwise increasingly affluent area. As will be seen in the analysis, the Census 2001 at ward level, on a number of indicators, illustrates a significant improvement in many of the conditions on the Isle of Dogs compared to the 1991 Census and 2000IMD. The super output area data and, to a lesser extent, the output area data, is therefore extremely valuable in identifying pockets of deprivation which sit side by side with pockets of very significant wealth and enable a targeted approach to identifying need and determining responses to those needs. In the medium to long term the development of the Millennium Quarter is likely to have a similar impact to that of Canary Wharf and a key issue as a result of both developments is management of change, avoiding ghettoisation or displacement and a simple process of gentrification. Notwithstanding the polarisation between wealth and poverty some positive changes have taken place providing a limited range of improved opportunities that Isle of Dogs residents are beginning to access.

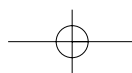
1.3 The focus groups and key stakeholder interviews.

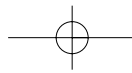
As previously outlined, there are serious limitations to the secondary data available to produce comprehensive assessments of the social and economic conditions experienced by local residents of small urban areas, particularly an area with such extreme contrasts as that on the Isle of Dogs. In the original piece of work we conducted a survey of 1000 households and key stakeholder interviews to supplement the desk based research. Here we have conducted a series of 4 focus groups with cross-sectoral partners: community & voluntary sector, statutory agencies, private sector, and a further series of cross-sectoral key stakeholder interviews to supplement this update. The purpose of the Focus Groups and stakeholder interviews is both to ensure that there is an opportunity for local consultation with all partners about the needs and aspirations of the local population, but also to test perceptions and experience of those people most competent to gauge change on the Isle of Dogs in the recent past.

1.4 The report

The report is divided into four sections, the three remaining sections include:

- Section 2 sets the context within which IDCF's activity takes place. It describes the characteristics of the area and differences revealed by the analysis of contemporary data, most particularly from the analysis of the Census 2001 since the first report;
- Section 3 reports on and evaluates the Focus Group sessions and the Key Stakeholder interviews;
- Section 4 highlights progress against the key issues revealed by the update and provides our initial conclusions and recommendations. It provides a range of choices facing the IDCF and their partners in the future





The Characteristics of the Area



2.0 Characteristics of the Area

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 London Borough of Tower Hamlets

We previously reported that in 2001 the London Borough of Tower Hamlets produced the Community Plan³. This provided the borough with a range of actions by which they could measure progress in improving the quality of people's lives as well as in achieving the government's floor targets. The plan is updated annually with a report on progress and proposed actions and priorities for the following year. The 2003 / 04 plan⁴ reinforces the 5 cross cutting themes and progress to-date for making Tower Hamlets:

- A better place for living safely. For example, during 2002 / 03 there was a 14% reduction in street crime, through organised interventions there has been more than 50% rise in the number of under 25 year olds helped to stop drug misuse, 64% increase in the number of abandoned cars removed from the roads within 9 days.
- A better place for living well. For example, during 2002 / 03 more than 700 new homes were built (140 more than the target), 49% increase in patients with access to a primary health care professional within a working day and 42% increase in access to a GP within 2 days.
- A better place for creating and sharing prosperity. For example, during 2002 / 03 an increase of £800,000 in benefits take-up by BME communities, low income households and older people, 960 people helped into work, more than 750 children into 'out-of-school-hours' clubs plus 200 new places for under 5's.
- A better place for learning, achievement and leisure. For example, 43% of school leavers achieving 5 or more GCSE's at A* - C grades, at 8% the fastest improvement rate in the country, a reduction in

teacher vacancy rates by 4% (halved), the opening of the Docklands Museum.

- A better place for excellent public services. 110 extra police officers and 20 police community support officers, government accreditation of the Tower Hamlets Partnership, 2% increase in cost effectiveness of both health and council services.

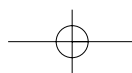
Whilst no doubt progress has been made in improving the quality of life of local people and enabling them to participate in economic activity the borough remains firmly one of the most deprived districts in the country.

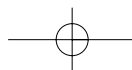
The 2001 Census of Population reinforces the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2000, based mostly on 1998 data, which illustrated that the borough ranked 2nd when considering the extent of deprivation and 11th for concentration of deprivation nationally. Even more so and updating the Census 2001, the 2004 IMD has produced an aggregated analysis of deprivation factors. We discuss the detail in the body of the report, but, at the time of the Census 2001, out of 354 districts in the country Tower Hamlets had the:

- 3rd highest rate of unemployment;
- 7th highest rate of long term unemployed,
- 3rd highest BME population, and,
- 8th lowest economically active population.

At the 2004 IMD Tower Hamlets by rank, of all 354 districts, was the:

- most deprived by extent;
- 19th most deprived borough by population concentration;
- 8th most deprived on a range of income indicators, and,
- 34th most deprived on a range of employment indicators.





2.1.2 Isle of Dogs

In the earlier report we outlined the December 2001 revised ward boundaries on the Isle of Dogs. Initial analysis indicated that the boundaries of the original wards, Millwall and Blackwall were virtually contiguous with the new wards of Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall, but dissecting the Isle of Dogs north to south rather than east to west. We are now able to confirm that the borough's revised ward boundary map illustrates that a small portion of the old Blackwall ward has been absorbed into Limehouse ward. This comprises the area between East India Dock Road starting at West India Quay in the North West, Aspen Way in the South and Newby Place to the East. Significantly this includes the deprived social housing estates of Saint Mathias, Will Crooks and Birchfield. EDAS⁵ report that this amounts to about 25% of the population of Limehouse ward.

The areas of significant deprivation incorporating the most deprived Social Housing Estates are represented in **Table 1**:

The remaining housing estates on the Isle of Dogs are outside the most deprived 20% Super Output Areas in the country. The area around Burrells Wharf Square (E01004276 63.6%) and South East side of Millwall outer dock (E01004281, 53.4%) are in the top 50% most affluent SOAs by rank. By contrast the IMD 2000 showed that Blackwall was in the most deprived 1% of wards nationally and Millwall 8%, 5 SOAs are now classed as within the top 8% most deprived, but none as severe as previously recorded for Blackwall.

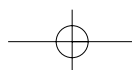
The impact of Canary Wharf on the Isle of Dogs is significant. It appears that there has been a reduction in the BME population, down to 34% in Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall but as high as 47% in Limehouse compared to 43% across the Isle of Dogs at the time of our earlier report. Still this is very significantly higher than the national rate of 9%. It is important to note however that the school age BME population of schools on the Isle of Dogs is 56% compared to the borough's 73% and nationally 14.4%. This would seem to indicate that the established BME population locally is growing although not as fast as in the rest of the borough.

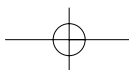
According to the 2001 Census and IMD 2004 (revised), residents of the Isle of Dogs were more likely than the rest of the country to:

- have children living in poor households with 4 SOAs having more than 75% children, and 7 more SOAs with more than 50% children, living in no or low income households. Nonetheless, this is significantly fewer than reported in the 2000 IMD when more than 80% of children in Blackwall and 66% of those in Millwall were judged to live in no or low income households;
- experience unemployment or low income employment with 7 out of 19 SOAs in the area ranking in the 20% most employment deprived and 9 in the 20% most income deprived SOAs;
- have acquired no formal qualifications with 15 of the SOAs in the worst 50% for education, skills and

Table 1: Social Housing Estates by rank of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 - most deprived 20%
(Out of 32482 Super Output Areas where 1 is the most deprived rank)

Ward	Super Output Area code	National Rank and % IMD2004	Social Housing Estate and SOA rank on IDCF (by IMD 2004)
Limehouse	E01004256	1805 (6%)	Birchfield (5)
	E01004257	1599 (4.9%)	Will Crooks (2)
E01004219	St Mathias (1)		
Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E01004219	1189 (3.6%)	Bazely (1)
	E01004219	4632 (14.2%)	Robin Hood Gardens (1)
	E01004215		St Johns (7)
	E01004214		Samuda (4)
	E01004217		Manchester Estate (9)
	E01004217	5669 (17.5%)	Cubitt Town (overlaps with 218) (9)
Millwall	E01004278	1667 (5.1%)	Barkantine (3)
	E01004274	3053 (9.4%)	Millwall Estate / Timber Wharfs (6)
	E01004280	4993 (15.4%)	Straddles Westferry Road, above the Printing Works including Tiller Road and Mellish Street (8)





training. However this is an improvement on the 2000IMD as only 2 Isle of Dogs SOAs are in the worst 20%, compared to both wards in the worst 5% of all wards in terms of educational achievement;

- experience barriers to housing and services, according to the IMD2004 all of the SOAs on the Isle of Dogs are in the 20% most deprived in the whole country on this measure, 9 are in the most deprived 5%.

There have undoubtedly been significant improvements for residents and workers on the Isle of Dogs, but significant and structural problems continue. The Isle of Dogs has continued to benefit from the proximity to some of the most affluent residential areas, particularly surrounding the waterfront on the perimeter of Canary Wharf and a rich and vibrant, growing labour market. Nonetheless, within the Isle of Dogs the social housing estates and their residents (approximately 13,500 in the most deprived 20% of SOAs) remain largely excluded from the surrounding economy. Nonetheless 9.3% of the workforce of Canary Wharf are now residents of the borough compared to 7.5% in 2001. Given the growth in employment from 40,000 in 2001 to 53,000 in June 2003,⁶ this amounted to nearly 5,000 employees, 45% (2250) of whom are resident in Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall. A further 15% (730) live in East India, Lansbury and Limehouse wards. In addition the Millennium Quarter development, whilst slow to progress, is likely, given a recent fall in land values, to be longer in development than originally planned and possibly marginally less prestigious than Canary Wharf. Nonetheless it is a mixed development of housing, retail and business space and will provide social - including key worker - housing. A number of development contracts have been agreed.

Finally, a further boost to the economy and potentially to the quality of life of local residents is that the British entry to host the 2012 Olympics has been encouraged to the next stage, shortlisted to 5 bidders. This has provided the impetus for a development which will include the

Olympic Village in Tower Hamlets, based in the area described as the Leaside Arc and adjacent to the Isle of Dogs.

The remainder of this section compares and contrasts data about the characteristics of the area, focusing on:

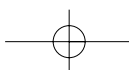
- Demography
- Unemployment
- Education and skills
- Poverty and deprivation
- Quality of life: crime and health
- Physical and environmental features.

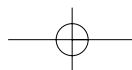
2.2 Demography

A range of Census 2001 ward level data has been published by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and the IMD 2004 at borough and SOA level only by the ODPM. The new Census data uses the 2001 revised ward boundaries, although other contemporary data (Labour Force Survey, Caci etc) use the old wards. There is therefore some difficulty in comparing the data where the boundaries used to analyse data differ over time. The population of Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall (24,831) shows a small increase compared to the 1999 figure of 24,5397. What is significant however is the division between the 2 wards. One effect of the boundary changes is to reduce the apparent concentration of deprivation in Blackwall - particularly given the ongoing inflow of Canary Wharf, affluent workers. Adding in the bottom east end corner of Limehouse indicates a growth in the population served by the IDCF of 50%, significantly higher than the borough's 22% rise in the same period. Population growth in Tower Hamlets over the 10 years is high and only exceeded by the City of London at 31.28%. The average growth in all England and Wales districts over the period was nearly 10.5%. The Isle of

Table 2: Population distribution pre and post boundary changes

	Blackwall	Millwall		Isle of Dogs	Tower Hamlets
1991 Census	4790	13773		18563	161250
1999 GLA Old wards	5630	18909		24539	186300
2001 Census (Using 2001 boundary changes)	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse (bottom east end corner)	(Exc. Limehouse 24831)	
	11,939	12,892	3,100	27931	196106
Change over 10 years (%)				+ 50%	+ 22%





Dogs (including a proportion of Limehouse) represents 14% of the population of Tower Hamlets, a 1% increase over 1999. (Table 2)

Both Census 2001 and IMD 2004 data illustrate significant reductions in the levels of poverty and deprivation experienced by residents on the Isle of Dogs. By no means do these improvements indicate that all issues of poverty and deprivation have miraculously been resolved, rather the SOAs illustrate that pockets of relatively severe and multiple levels of deprivation persist.

Tower Hamlets is the fifth most densely populated district in the country (354 districts) and fifth highest in London at 99.2 people per hectare compared to the national average of 3.4. The borough also differs from the national average on gender with marginally more men than women. However Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall are significantly different with 4% and 5% more men respectively than women. Additionally, Tower Hamlets and the Isle of Dogs area have a significantly younger population than nationally. (See Table 3 Below)

2.2.1 Population Density, Gender and Age

The key features of the Isle of Dogs demographically are:

- A significantly younger population at an average of less than 32 similar to the borough (31.8), but compared to 38.6 nationally;
- Significantly skewed gender with more men than women compared to the borough and nationally
- Significantly low levels of over 60 year olds, less than 10%, compared to the borough at 12.6% and the inner London and national rate, both of 20.9%

Since the IMD 2000 there appears to have been a very significant shift in the age range of the Isle of Dogs population. Blackwall had a much greater proportion of 0 - 15 year olds, 27% and Millwall 23% compared to the time of the Census 2001, when Blackwall & Cubitt Town reported 17.7% and Millwall 16.2%. The England and Wales proportion has declined from 22% to 20.6% and Tower Hamlets from 26% to 22.9%. The Island also appears to have experienced a significant reduction in the

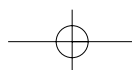
Table 3: Population Density, gender and average age
Census 2001

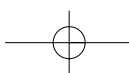
	Population Density People per hectare	Gender		Average age
		Male	Female	
England & Wales	3.4	50%-	50%+	38.6
Tower Hamlets	99.2	50%+	50%-	31.8
Blackwall & Cubitt Town		52%	48%	32.0
Millwall		53%	47%	31.3
Limehouse		50%	50%	32.5

Table 4: Age Distribution
Census 2001

Age	Blackwall		Millwall		Tower Hamlets		Inner London		England & Wales	
	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001	1998	2001
0 - 15	27.0	17.7	23.0	16.2	26.0	22.9	19.5	20.2	21.0	20.2
16 - 19		4.6		4.0		5.5				4.9
20 - 29		30.2		32.7		24.1				12.6
30 - 59		37.6		39.4		34.9				41.5
60 +	16.3	9.9	11.0	7.7	15.2	12.6		20.9	13	20.9
Av. age		32.0		31.3		31.8		N/A		38.6

*mid-1998 figures from the IMD 2000 using the old wards





proportion of those aged 60+ since the IMD 2000, from 16% to 9.9% in Blackwall and from 11% to 7.7% in Millwall. This bucks the national trend of a significantly growing elderly population in the same period from 13% to 20.9%. By comparison Limehouse has a significant proportion of under 16's at 23.3% which along with a higher proportion of elders (13.9% over 60), indicates both that many of the children and young people and more elders of the former Isle of Dogs wards are concentrated in this small area, formerly part of Blackwall ward. High proportions of BME populations have in the past been accompanied by low numbers of elders and high proportions of young people and children, fertility rates being typically higher amongst many BME groups, but elders not part of the migrant communities. Certainly the average size of BME households is bigger than for the white population. In Spring 2002 nationally Bangladeshi households were the largest with an average 4.7 people. Black Caribbean and other black households (2.3) were generally the same size as white households (2.2). This reinforces the suggestion of a growing BME population on the Isle of Dogs.

It is not easy to un-pick the trends, and as more information becomes available we may be able to provide more evidence, but certainly the growth in population, including the in-flow of employees to Canary Wharf and relocating on the Isle of Dogs appear typically to be young adults, single and more likely to be male, or couples but with no children or small families and predominantly white. Both Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town have a greater proportion of single, never married individuals and higher than the UK average of

single person households, of which fewer are elders than either Tower Hamlets or the national average. (Table 5)

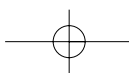
This table is rich in information and we will refer to it again later. Here it serves to illustrate the high numbers of one-person households (working age) compared to nationally, small number of pensioner households and few households with dependent children. The size of accommodation is considerably smaller than nationally, even given the average smaller household numbers, a reflection in part of the large proportion of flatted accommodation but also reflecting a level of overcrowding.

2.2.2 Ethnicity

Whilst both Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town have much higher proportions of BME groups than the national average, they are closer to the London average (+5%) than the Tower Hamlets average which is 15% higher than that of the Isle of Dogs. Indeed Tower Hamlets has the third highest BME population in the country after Newham and Hackney rising from 45% in the 2001 Labour Force Survey (LFS) for England⁸, based on mid-year 2000 population estimates, to 48.6% in the Census 2001. Comparison with earlier data is difficult as old and new wards are not directly comparable. However, the combined BME population at the time of the SRB bid in 1997 was estimated to be 28%, so a rise of a little under 7% has occurred since then, but lower than the household survey in 2002 indicated. A caveat at the time was, given the survey

Table 5: Household Composition (%)
Census 2001

	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	England & Wales
One person households	37.7	39.1	38.6	38.9	30.0
Pensioners living alone	7.4	6.0	11.4	11.0	14.0
Other pensioner households	2.6	1.6	3.7	3.3	9.4
Households with dependent children	22.1	18.4	27.9	27.8	29.5
Lone parent households with dependent children	7.1	5.1	7.6	7.0	6.5
Owner / occupied	34.0	35.4	29.8	37.4	68.9
Social housing	39.2	31.6	53.6	33.6	19.2
Private rented or lived rent free	26.8	32.8	16.6	18.5	11.9
Households with no car/ van	47.0	46.4	54.6	56.8	26.8
Average household size (number)	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.4
Average number of rooms per household	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	5.3



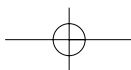


Table 6: Ethnicity (%)
Census 2001

Ethnicity by %	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	London	England & Wales
White	65.2	66.6	53.8	51.4	71.2	90.9
Mixed race	2.1	2.6	2.7	2.5	3.15	1.3
Asian / Asian British	20.7	18.4	32.0	36.6	12.1	4.6
Black or Black British	5.5	5.5	7.2	6.5	10.9	2.1
Chinese or other ethnic group	6.5	7.0	4.4	3	2.7	0.9

days (Monday to Saturday) and times (daylight hours), BME, unemployed and women were likely to have been over-represented. By far the largest ethnic minority population on the Isle of Dogs, as with the borough, is Asian and predominantly Bangladeshi; Tower Hamlets (33.4%), Limehouse (29.5%), Blackwall & Cubitt Town (17.3%) and Millwall (15.7%) compared to 0.6% nationally and 2.1% in Greater London. Nationally Asian communities make-up 4.6% of the population and within that Indian (2.1%) is the biggest group. Chinese or other ethnic group and Black or Black British also make up a significant proportion of the Isle of Dogs population.

2.3. Deprivation and Poverty

2.3.1 Introduction

According to the authors of 'Poverty in Britain: The impact of government policy since 1997'⁹, Analysis of the Progress on Poverty, 1997 to 2003 / 04, suggests that the government may succeed in showing a reduction in child poverty by a quarter by 2004. The measures employed are likely to result in approximately 1 million children and 1 million pensioner households taken out of poverty by 2004 (after housing costs are taken into account) and an overall reduction in poverty by 25%. The study used the same definition of poverty as that used by the government in 'Opportunity for all'¹⁰ where the poverty line is 60% of median income level - where the median is the level of income after direct taxes and benefits, adjusted for household size, such that half the population is below the line and half above it. This definition is a standard that changes as median income levels change and is a measure of relative poverty.

The study shows that higher levels of employment along with government policies to introduce the minimum wage and working family tax credits, the minimum

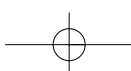
income guarantee for pensioners and winter fuel payments has made a real contribution to reducing poverty. This reversed a 15 year period of deprivation being increased by scale, depth and intensity reported in the 1996 Joseph Rowntree Enquiry into income and wealth.

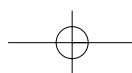
Changes on the Isle of Dogs reflect some of these improvements with fewer children living in poverty, increased economic activity and lower levels overall of income deprivation. In this section we attempt to chart the changes on the Isle of Dogs comparing and contrasting:

- The Census 1991 and 2001, the IMD 2000 and 2004
- Some limited additional evidence on earnings, income, skills, education, crime and housing
- Some of the consequences and associated evidence of other types of deprivation.

2.3.2. The Census 2001 and the IMD 2004

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) claim that the Census 2001 is the most accurate count of the UK population ever achieved. This answered some early concerns about the undercounting of young single men (out of the country or travelling at the time of the Census). This is as a result of the 'One-Number Census' methodology adopted. A key element of this approach was a follow up 'Census Coverage Survey' of face-to-face interviews with 320,000 households drawn from all local authorities in the UK. This enabled a degree of 'counting' accuracy of plus or minus 0.2 percent as the Census coverage survey enabled the counts to be adjusted for under-enumeration at the national, local and small area level. The margin of error at local authority level is larger, estimated to be greatest in Luton at 6% and lowest in Dudley, East Dorset and Redcar (0.6%).





The Indices of Multiple ¹¹ has been produced at SOA level and at borough level. Four of the indicators (domains) remain the same as those used in the 2000IMD, two, barriers to housing and services have been merged and two new measures are included, an index for measuring crime and one for living environment. Additionally a second sub-set of the income domain has been produced for income deprivation affecting older people. The 7 indicators, outlined below, are weighted according to the impact they are believed to have on poverty:

- Income (22.5%)
 - Income deprivation affecting children index
 - Income deprivation affecting older people index
- Employment (22.5%)
- Health and Deprivation (13.5%)
- Education, skills and training (13.5%)
- Barriers to housing and services (9.3%)
- Crime (9.3%)
- Living Environment (9.3%)

The measures are of relative poverty rather than absolute poverty and use 2001 data by and large. Although described as a Super Output Area level index, the 2004IMD is also presented at local authority (district) level by a series of summary measures for each of the 7 indicators to show:

- the local concentration of poverty which illustrates the severity of multiple deprivation in each authority, measuring 'hot spots' of deprivation;
- a measure of the extent of a district's population that

lives in the most deprived SOAs in England;

- an average score and rank, measuring the average level of deprivation across each district;
- the income and employment scales are ranks that illustrate the numbers of people experiencing income and employment deprivation respectively.

Tower Hamlet's position on each of the 6 league tables out of 354 districts is recorded in the extract from the IMD 2004 in **Table 7**. It is compared with the most deprived 4 other London boroughs and the only other districts in the country to exceed Tower Hamlets by average score. They are all also more deprived by concentration of income and employment.

Out of 354 local authority districts in England:

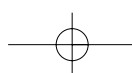
- in terms of severity of SOAs by extent, Tower Hamlets remains the most deprived district and also by rank of average SOAs rank;
- Tower Hamlets is the 19th most deprived based on concentration (11th by ward in the 2000IMD);
- on employment deprivation Tower Hamlets ranks 34th, (the same as in the 2000IMD) and by income deprivation 8th (compared to 16th).

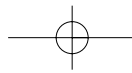
Additionally within London:

- on 4 measures Tower Hamlets is the most deprived - by average score, average rank, by extent and concentration;
- only Newham (7) is more deprived by income. (This was true in the IMD 2000);
- by employment deprivation only 5 out of 33 London

Table 7: District Level Summaries of the SOA level Index of Multiple Deprivation: extract of rankings of 354 districts in England where 1 is the most deprived

ODPM, 2004	Average score	Average rank	Extent	Local concentration	Income scale	Employment scale
Tower Hamlets	4	1	1	19	8	34
Newham	11	7	6	55	7	24
Hackney	5	2	2	53	9	26
Islington	8	5	3	44	30	38
Southwark	18	11	12	84	18	25
Knowsley	1	3	8	1	38	30
Liverpool	2	6	5	2	2	2
Manchester	3	4	4	3	3	3





boroughs, Hackney (26th), Haringey (32), Lambeth (21), Newham (24) and Southwark (25) were more deprived. This compares with 2 others in the 2000IMD Ealing (now 42) and Brent (now 39).

Out of 32,482 SOAs in England 4765 are in London and 458 of these are in the most deprived 10% of all England SOAs. Many of London's most deprived SOAs are concentrated in the North East of inner London Boroughs; Tower Hamlets, Newham and Hackney.

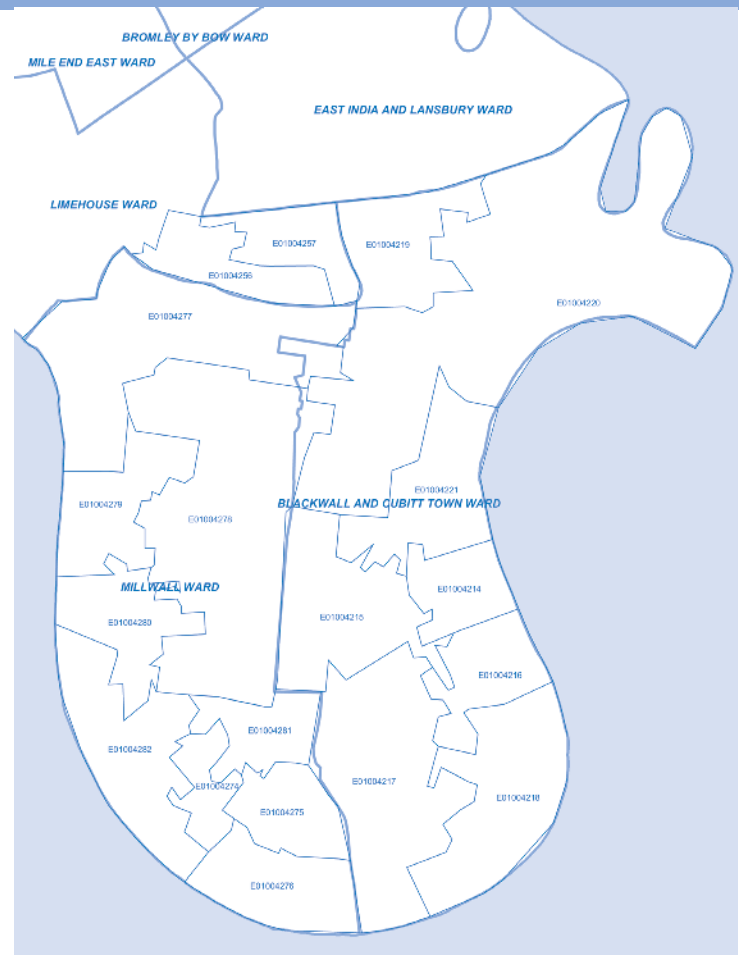
- Out of 130 SOAs in Tower Hamlets, 72 are in the most deprived 10% of SOAs in England and a further 58 (total 106) are in the top 20% most deprived.
- Out of 19 SOAs on the Isle of Dogs, 6 are in the most deprived 10% of SOAs and a further 3 (9 in total) in the top 20%.
- 6 of IDCF's SOAs are in the top 10 most affluent SOAs in Tower Hamlets.

Right is a shape map highlighting the SOAs on the Isle of Dogs and Table 7, a schedule of the SOAs on the Isle of Dogs ranking the 7 principal measures of deprivation on the national ranking (i.e. out of 32,482). A shape map does not enable a precise mapping of streets and estates, so the guidance on the area each SOA covers is by necessity general. Given the very high rates of deprivation in Tower Hamlets there is limited use in comparing IDCF with the borough which is overall more deprived. This fails to illustrate the pockets of severe deprivation still evident on the Island. The second column of Table 7 shows the aggregated IMD score and the figure in brackets the position of the score by percentage of multiple deprivation nationally, lowest numbers and percentages for highest level of deprivation. This shows, as illustrated in Table 1, that the 7 most deprived SOAs unsurprisingly include the following social housing estates.

1. St Matthias, Bazely, Robin Hood Gardens - all in E01004219
2. Will Crooks in E01004257
3. Barkantine in E01004278
4. Samuda in E1004214
5. Birchfield in E1004256
6. Millwall Estate / Timber Wharfs in E01004274
7. St John's in E01004215

The remaining 2 SOAs in the most deprived 20% include:

8. Cubitt Town including the housing surrounding Mudchute Farm Park and Island Gardens E01004217
9. straddles Westferry Road, above the Printing Works including Tiller Road and Mellish Street E01004890

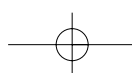


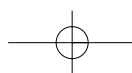
Super Output Areas for IDCF

2.3.3 Incomes

In the 2004 IMD by rank of income, 9 of the Isle of Dogs SOAs were represented in the most deprived 10% by income. They are the same 6 SOAs which feature in the aggregated IMD score in the most deprived 10%. The next 3 are in the most deprived 20%. The income deprivation domain is based on means tested benefit households. Four of the IDCF SOAs are in the least deprived 50% by income deprivation and include:

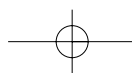
- the area from Julian Place, Blocksford Place, that part of Westferry and including Burrells Wharf Square, Rainbow Avenue and Maconochies Road (E01004276), 19th on the Isle of Dogs
- the area around Wheat Sheaf Close, Taeping Street, Whiteleader Way, Falcon Way, Telegraph Place, Barnsdale Avenue and Inglewood Close (E01004281), 18th on the Isle of Dogs
- the area including Prestons Road, Blackwall Basin, Harbour and Thames Quay, Meridian Grove (E01004220), 17th on the Isle of Dogs, and,
- the area around Canary Wharf from the top of Westferry, Heron Quay, Manilla Street etc., 16th on the Isle of Dogs (E01004277).





**Table 8:SOA Rankings out of 32,482 by ward and within the Isle of Dogs
IMD 2004 (ODPM)**

	Rank of IMD		Rank of income score		Rank of employment score		Rank to barriers to housing & services		Health deprivation score		Education skills and training score		Crime and disorder score		Living environment	
	National rank & % rank	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD	National	IoD
Blackwall & Cubitt Town																
E01004214	1671 (5.1%)	4	443	2	3168	3	718	6	2291	2	7965	4	10280	6	13934	10
E01004215	4632(14.2%)	7	2238	7	5675	7	2029	18	5072	8	10534	7	17227	9	10885	7
E01004216	12128 (37.4%)	14	11991	15	22759	16	1550	12	8897	12	10144	6	22482	17	17523	15
E01004217	5669 (17.5%)	9	4848	9	9953	9	1564	13	4737	7	11622	9	4329	4	11433	9
E01004218	13207 (40.7%)	15	11876	14	20854	14	2357	19	13602	15	12597	11	17493	10	16770	14
E01004219	1189 (3.6%)	1	580	4	4672	5	189	3	3109	5	5592	1	1882	1	5840	3
E01004220	15963 (49.1%)	17	20947	18	31617	18	173	2	15186	18	21914	18	18878	12	14143	11
E04100421	7871 (24.0%)	10	6865	10	13004	10	1853	17	6281	10	11675	10	14019	7	9027	4
Millwall																
E01004274	3053 (9.4%)	6	573	3	4423	4	1351	10	2786	4	15307	14	21678	15	16571	13
E01004275	9121 (27.8%)	11	10198	13	16386	12	1700	16	9724	13	13318	12	5490	5	9297	5
E01004276	20664 (63.6%)	19	32020	19	32366	19	1384	11	18179	19	15630	15	17552	11	19039	17
E01004277	14491 (44.6%)	16	17459	16	16293	11	759	7	14161	17	24210	19	22153	16	18435	16
E01004278	1667 (5.1%)	3	334	1	2915	1	225	4	2224	1	6334	2	29810	19	20379	18
E01004279	10965 (33%)	13	7480	11	21368	15	1147	9	12624	14	14295	13	23808	18	11026	8
E01004280	4993 (15.4%)	8	2863	8	7938	8	1123	8	6191	9	11210	8	16257	8	5817	2
E01004281	17331 (53.4%)	18	17952	17	29094	17	1698	15	13811	16	17602	17	20828	13	20437	19
E01004282	10085 (31.0%)	12	7647	12	16570	13	1686	14	6593	11	16387	16	21060	14	14967	12
Limehouse																
E01004256	1805 (5.6%)	5	1384	5	2961	2	154	1	3309	6	9465	5	3783	3	9877	6
E01004257	1599 (4.9%)	2	1417	6	4833	6	412	5	2503	3	6750	3	2872	2	3452	1



The New Earnings Survey 2003, released in August 2003, is based on the old 'frozen' wards and illustrates gross weekly pay based on residency and workplace. Prior to 2003 residence based data was not available. This shows that Tower Hamlets average residence based income is higher than the London Region (+£11.05 per week) and nationally (+£148.31 per week) but the workplace based income (reflecting the Canary Wharf factor) is significantly higher than the residence based. Blackwall and Millwall at this time both reported gross weekly pay for those resident in the area significantly above the Tower Hamlets average, for those working in and those living in the area. This along with the CACI household income data in Table 9 illustrate the polarised position on the Island with people living with household incomes described by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) as an absolute measure of low income, average £10,920 per year (£210 per week) before housing costs (from £6,977 single person no dependents to £14,456 for a couple with two children).

The third source of income available is the CACI paycheck survey of household income 2002. This is a

measure of gross household income (so includes means tested and other benefits). The most affluent ward in the borough on this measure is St Katherine & Shadwell at £732.50 but Millwall is second and Blackwall & Cubitt Town third. Limehouse is below the Tower Hamlets average. Household income is just under 5% of Blackwall & Cubitt Town and 5% of Millwall households exceeds £100k compared to 2.5% in Tower Hamlets and 1.6% in Limehouse.

Compared to the previous baseline both Blackwall and Millwall now have higher pro-rata incomes than the rest of the borough. On the basis of the Household Income Survey used in our earlier report Blackwall and Cubitt Town earned - 6.5% of the borough average, now +11% and Millwall + 12%, now + 36%. This has increased by an even higher proportion compared to the inner London average. Nonetheless, 19% of households in Blackwall & Cubitt Town, 16% of Millwall and 26% of Limehouse have incomes below the level described as absolute poverty by the DWP (2001 / 02). Given the evidence of the SOAs most of those residents living in low income households are concentrated on the Isle of Dogs social housing estates.

At ward level the DWP provide data on benefit levels. Of the working age population in England & Wales 6.44% are in receipt of income support compared to 6.43% in 2001. The relevant comparisons for Tower Hamlets are 12.12% in 2003 compared to 11.64% in 2001, both have risen slightly but Tower Hamlets has nearly twice the proportion of income support beneficiaries of working age than nationally. Both Blackwall & Cubitt Town (9.09% in 2001 and 10.42% in 2003) and Millwall (7.49% in 2001 and 7.29% in 2003) are significantly below the Tower Hamlets average, but above the national, and Millwall differs from all by having a reduction in the percentage of income support beneficiaries in this category. Limehouse by contrast exceeds the borough averages with 13.13% in 2001 and 13.38% in 2003.

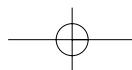
Table 9 New Earning Survey 2003

Old Wards	Gross Weekly Pay	
	Residence Based	Workplace Based
National	£381.00	
London Region	£518.26	
Tower Hamlets	£529.31	£761.28
Blackwall	£589.80	£996.24
Millwall	£665.05	£647.33

Table 10: Household Income

CACI (information solutions) Paycheck 2002 (weekly)

New ward	Ward Average	Under £10k %	£10k - £19,999 %	£20k - £29,999 %	£30k - £39,990 %	£40k and over
Blackwall % Cubitt Town	£656	18.8	23.3	17.4	12	28.5
Millwall	£690	15.7	23.0	18.4	12.8	30.1
Limehouse	£475	26.4	28.3	18.2	10.6	16.5
Tower Hamlets	£505	26.0	27.0	18.0	10.6	18.4



Minority ethnic groups have lower levels of household income than the white population¹² for example in 2000 / 01:

- Pakistani and Bangladeshi households were more reliant on social security which makes up 19% of their income compared to 5% in white households;
- Pakistanis and Bangladeshis were much more likely to live on low incomes, 60% before housing costs and 68% after;
- 49% of Black non-Caribbean households also live on low incomes after housing costs are taken into account;
- the white population are least likely to live in low income households (16%) before housing costs and 21% after.

Once more this analysis of household income shows that the Isle of Dogs is relatively worse off than nationally but that Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall are not as deprived generally as the borough. There are SOAs within the area and including the two Limehouse SOAs (within a ward more deprived than the borough average) which are more disadvantaged compared to the ward averages, and London, and significantly so compared to national averages. However within this the ethnic minority populations and particularly the large Bangladeshi population is likely to suffer greater levels of multiple deprivation, their situation is not improving as quickly as that of the white population.

2.3.4 Unemployment

There is little unemployment data available below ward level, so the 2004IMD domain for employment deprivation provides a new and useful measure. Six indicators are

composed to provide an 'involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the world of work'. The rankings are an expression of the whole working age population (all 18 - 59 and men 60 - 64) included in the unemployment claimant count, claiming Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance, participating in New Deal for the 18 - 24s or 25+ (and not included in the claimant count) and participants in New Deal for Lone Parents. What the Isle of Dogs SOAs tell us is that:

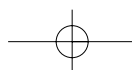
- 3 are in the highest 10% by employment deprivation nationally (E01004278, E01004256, E01004214);
- a further 4 are included in the 20% most deprived nationally (E01004274, E01004219, E01004257 and E01004215);
- however, 9, are within the least 50% employment deprived nationally and include The Burrell Wharf (E01004276) area ranked 32,366 with a ranking in the top 98% of all SOAs.

Usefully for the Isle of Dogs, the SOAs consistently highlight the polarisation between those areas of deprivation and mostly multiply-deprived SOAs and the more affluent. They also enable a contrast of the conditions of those deprived SOAs with the national picture (Table 8 refers).

The 2001 Census defines the labour supply as the economically active population, based on the working age population of those people in employment, including self employment, or, unemployed based on economically active (i.e. available for work). At the time of the Census 2001 the borough at 64.3% was well below the national average of 76%. Both Millwall (75.9%) and Blackwall (73.3%) are close to the national average. Limehouse at 65.1% is closer to the borough average. However, the proportion of unemployed within this were 12.9% in

Table 11: Economic Activity - working age population
Census 2001

	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	England & Wales
All economically active	73.3	75.9	65.1	64.3	76.0
Employed	66.7	69.8	57.2	56.0	71.6
Employees	59.2	62.0	51.0	49.5	62.6
Self employed	7.5	7.8	6.3	6.5	9.0
Unemployed	9.1	8.0	12.2	12.9	5.8
All economically inactive	26.7	24.1	34.9	35.7	24.0
Retired	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.1	2.2
Student	7.3	7.2	8.6	9.8	5.5
Other economically inactive	18.6	16.1	25.2	24.9	16.3



Tower Hamlets and similar to this 12.2% in Limehouse; Blackwall & Cubitt Town 9.1% and Millwall 8.0% were lower but significantly higher than the England and Wales average (5.8%).

The employed population of the Isle of Dogs wards is higher than inner-London (64.8%) and similar though a little lower than London (70.4%) and nationally (76%). This reflects the younger adult population and few elders. It means that reasonably high proportions of people are in employment supporting fewer numbers of economically inactive children, elders and people with long term limiting illnesses / disability. Generally this is a sign of increased affluence but the unemployment rates on the Isle of Dogs wards mitigate against this and confuse the message with higher levels of unemployment than London (5.8%) or England and Wales and but less than the borough as a whole.

There are significant gender differences in the economically active population. Nationally 81.4% of men and 70.3% of women were classed as economically active at the time of the Census. In Tower Hamlets both figures are lower 73.9% (-7.5%) of men and 54% (-16.9%) of women. The situation on the Isle of Dogs was quite different from the borough. Millwall (82.3%) and Blackwall (81.5%) for men are both slightly higher than the national average, females in Millwall (68.4%) were slightly less likely to be recorded as economically active and a little lower than that in Blackwall (63.9%). Limehouse is similar to the borough 74.4% and 55.2% respectively.

We have already pointed out that gender differences in proportions of males to females exist on the Isle of Dogs but these differences in economic activity indicate that the ethnic mix on the Island is a factor. Pakistani and Bangladeshi women continue to have the lowest economic activity rates of any minority ethnic groups¹³ and Pakistani and Bangladeshi men the highest unemployment rates.

We previously reported the June 2000 unemployment rate, based on the claimant count, as nationally 3.6%, London Region 4.8%, Tower Hamlets 12.1%, Blackwall 15.1% and Millwall 9.1%.

The claimant count is based on the proportion of working age population currently using the 2002 resident working age population. The July 2004 national rate of unemployment was 2.2% so, despite that unemployment rates in Tower Hamlets have fallen significantly since our last report, they remain comparatively high, the highest level for any local authority in London. What is different is that Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town are now significantly lower with Millwall very similar to the Government Office for the Region (GOR) average and Blackwall 1.5% below the borough. The highest level of unemployment for any ward in Tower Hamlets in July 2004 was 8.4% reported for both Bromley-by-Bow and East India and Lansbury followed by 8.3% in Spitalfields and Bangla Town.

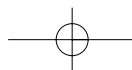
In June 2000 the claimant count in Millwall was nearly double the GOR average and more than twice the national average. The rate at which unemployment has fallen in Millwall and Blackwall is faster than nationally, regionally and for the borough. Significantly, bearing in mind that two of the SOAs previously in Blackwall are now in Limehouse, the unemployment rate in that ward remains higher than the borough by nearly 1% and is twice the rate in Millwall.

In our last report we were particularly concerned about the rate of unemployment amongst the young. The numbers now are small and proportions are not available as they are classed as statistically unreliable. The totals are also rounded up to 5 to preserve anonymity. In July 2004 Tower Hamlets recorded 460 unemployed claimants 19 and under and 875 20 - 24 year olds, 1335 in total (approximately 16% of all unemployed). The numbers in the area of benefit are also very small comparatively 85 (15%) in Limehouse, 75 (19%) in Blackwall and 50 (14%) in Millwall. Also in July 2004 Tower Hamlets had a smaller proportion of over 50's unemployed (10%) than London (14.1%) or Great Britain (16.8%). Of the Isle of Dogs wards Blackwall (35, 9.4%) and Limehouse (50, 8.9%) are lower than the borough and Millwall (40, 11%) slightly above the borough, but lower than the region or nationally. Given the age profile of the population this is no surprise. (Table 12)

Table 12: Unemployment numbers and rates May 2004 - July 2004

ONS: Claimant Count

	Millwall		Blackwall & Cubitt Town		Limehouse		Tower Hamlets		Government Office for London	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
July 04	356	3.4%	384	4.2%	553	6.6%	8071	5.7%	163029	3.3%
June 04	345	3.3%	400	4.3%	555	6.6%	8085	5.7%	162070	3.3%
May 04	345	3.3%	395	4.3%	565	6.7%	8195	5.8%	165465	3.4%



In terms of duration of unemployment, the proportion finding work within 6 months is fairly consistent with our earlier findings. This would indicate that many people find work before leaving education or training or move directly from one job to another rather than spend periods unemployed (otherwise the numbers finding work within 6 months would rise). Tower Hamlets claimants continue to suffer from longer periods of unemployment than the rest of London and nationally and the Isle of Dogs area of benefit is very similar to the borough. (Table 13)

Unemployment by Gender

Women are less likely than men to register as unemployed for a variety of reasons but there are notably more men unemployed pro-rata to females in Tower Hamlets and Limehouse than elsewhere. Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town have a similar split to London and Great Britain where there are just over double the number of men to women registered as unemployed. The split reinforces the notion that in Tower Hamlets and Limehouse women are less likely to participate in the labour market by choice and demonstrates that male

Table 13: Unemployment by duration as a % of all those claiming Job Seekers Allowance
ONS: Claimant Count July 2004

	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	London	Great Britain
Up to 6 months	51.2	54.4	53.1	52.8	59.3	68.1
6 months + to 12 months	24.9	19.5	22.7	23.3	20.9	17.1
Over 12 months	23.9	26.1	24.2	24.0	19.9	14.8

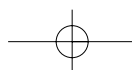
Table 14: Unemployment by gender
ONS: Claimant Count July 2004

	All	Male	Female
Blackwall & Cubitt Town	4.2% (384)	5.7% (295)	2.2% (89)
Millwall	3.4% (356)	4.5% (264)	2.0% (92)
Limehouse	6.6% (553)	9.4% (422)	3.3% (131)
Tower Hamlets	5.7% (8,071)	8.2% (6198)	2.9% (1,873)
London	3.3%	4.6%	2.0%
Great Britain	2.3%	3.2%	1.2%

Table 15: Economic Activity by Ethnicity 01 / 02 (National Figures)
Labour Market Trends December 2002

	Economic Activity Rate			Employment Rate			Per Cent ILO unemployment rate		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
White	80	85	75	76	81	72	5	5	4
All Asian or Asian British	66	78	52	59	70	47	11	11	11
Bangladeshi	50	75	22	39	60	16	22	21	*
Black or Black British	71	77	64	60	64	56	15	17	13
Chinese	70	78	62	67	75	58	*	*	*

* statistically unreliable, population too small



unemployment is particularly high too (*Table 14*). In 2000 however male unemployment was considerably higher: Blackwall 20%, Millwall 9.1% and Tower Hamlets 15.8%.

Unemployment by Ethnicity

Unemployment by ethnicity is not calculated at ward level or below. This reflects the much lower ethnic population nationally and outside London as the numbers would be too small and statistically unreliable. The New Ethnicity Classification in the Labour Force Survey¹⁴ reports that nationally Bangladeshi men and women are the most under-represented group by economic activity. (*Table 15*)

This data is a year newer than that we were able to provide previously and indicates that unemployment rates for the Bangladeshi population appear to have risen overall from 17% to 22% (some of this increase may be due to the reclassification of National Statistics data to match the Census 2001 definitions) but the message is nonetheless clear on each of these measures. Furthermore, in 'The Region in Figures 2004'¹⁵ unemployment rates (using the ILO rates not the Claimant Count) in London rose from 6.6% in 2002 to 6.7% in 2003. When the data is disaggregated it shows that unemployment in the white population declined slightly (from 5.0% to 4.9%), whilst for all minority ethnic groups it rose (from 11.5% to 11.8%)

2.3.5 Employment

The 2001 Annual Business Inquiry Workplace Analysis (November 2003) provided details on the number and nature of businesses (all sizes). A jobs density survey in 2002¹⁶ found that Tower Hamlets businesses provided

160,000 jobs, a density of 1.1 compared to a London density of 0.9 and 0.8 in Great Britain. Tower Hamlets has more jobs than residents! By far the greatest proportion of jobs in the borough (44%) are in banking, finance and insurance, this is almost entirely due to the preponderance of these occupations in 3 wards: Millwall 69.2%, St Katherine and Shadwell 56.7% and Blackwall 50.1%. Nonetheless barriers to the labour market prevent high proportions of the Isle of Dogs residents accessing work. (*Table 16*)

Research and opinion is clear that one of the principal reasons for structural unemployment in London is the growing employer requirement for high level skills and declining demand for low level skills. The 'London Project Report'¹⁷ states that a workless person in London is likely to have one or more characteristic which disadvantage them in the labour market. There is a high proportion of Isle of Dogs unemployed residents with one or more of the five primary characteristics identified: minority ethnic, lone parent, no qualifications, aged over 50 and disabled (other factors, although relevant, are less prevalent. As we will see later in the report, there remain a high proportion of the local population with no or very low qualifications, and experience worse health. We have already seen that there are high proportions of ethnic minority residents. Employers in London have fewer hard-to-fill lower skilled vacancies compared to all other regions and, as the numbers of students and migrant workers in London increases, combined with low-skilled work being priced out of the capital, competition for low-skilled work will become fiercer. The labour force demands in Tower Hamlets and particularly on Canary Wharf are predominantly, though not exclusively, and increasingly for high-level skills.

Table 16: Occupation by Industry 2001 (Frozen wards 1991)
Annual Business Inquiry Analysis (November 2003)

	Agriculture & fishing	Energy & water	Manufacturing	Construction	Distribution Hotels & restaurants	Transport & communication	Banking Finance Insurance	Public admin. Education & health	Other services
Blackwall	0.1	0.0	13.9	5.6	10.3	9.8	50.1	7.1	3.1
Millwall	0.1	0.0	9.5	1.8	9.0	3.5	69.2	4.5	2.3
Limehouse	0.0	0.0	2.9	7.5	17.9	9.8	15.2	36.8	9.9
Tower Hamlets	0.1	0	10.3	2.9	14.7	6.8	44.0	16.3	4.8
Inner London	0.25	0.27	6.7	3.4	17.01	6.44	32.8	22.8	8.79
London	0.33	0.47	7.6	5.26	19.0	8.14	28.0	23.00	7.6

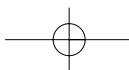


Table 17: Employment by Standard Occupational Major Group
Census 2001 (all persons in employment by number and %)

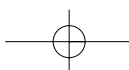
	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	London
Managers and senior officials	20.6% (1210)	21.2% (1481)	16.7% (771)	16.8%	16.9%
Professionals	20.5% (1202)	22.4% (1561)	17.6% (811)	19.3%	14.9%
Associate professional & technical	20.3% (1193)	22.5% (1571)	17.5% (809)	15.6%	17.9%
Major Group (1 - 3)	61.4% (3605)	66.1% (4613)	51.8% (2391)	52.2%	49.7%
Administrative & secretarial	14.0% (819)	13.6% (945)	17.5% (809)	10.7%	14.4%
Skilled trades	5.0% (291)	4.4% (308)	6.9% (319)	9.2%	7.8%
Personal service occupations	3.6% (212)	3.5% (243)	5.7% (264)	6.6%	6.1%
Sales & customer services	4.2% (248)	3.8% (268)	6.3% (291)	5.7%	7.1%
Process plant & machine operatives	3.7% (218)	2.8% (198)	5.1% (236)	5.5%	4.9%
Elementary Occupations	8.1% (474)	5.7% (395)	10.4% (478)	9.6%	10.0%

Occupational profiles provide only a partial guide to qualifications and skills. As we stated in our last report ethnic minority groups are more likely to be unemployed or in lower skilled jobs irrespective of their qualifications. Since we last reported there has been a significant increase in the number of managers and senior officials resident on the Isle of Dogs, the combined percentage for the area reported in the Local Labour Force Survey 2001 (data for 1999 / 2000) was 10% and 15% for professional occupations. The growth in these areas is in large part attributable to the continuing growth in jobs at Canary Wharf and the inward migration of skilled workers, although improved access to and take-up of skilled jobs by local residents also appear to be a feature. The proportion of residents employed in major groups 1- 3 across Tower Hamlets rose during the period from 45.5%, not anywhere near the rate and speed of increase as on

the Isle of Dogs which the Local Labour Force Survey 2001 reported as 34.5%. This would indicate that there is not as much change in the occupational structure in the rest of Tower Hamlets and, once more, Limehouse is closer to the borough in character than to Blackwall & Cubitt Town or Millwall. (*Table 17*)

2.3.6 Business and Business Development

There are 3 significant business developments which will continue to impact upon the quality of life of local residents. That is, continued development of Canary Wharf, the Millennium Quarter and the Olympic bid site. There is a second programme proposed in the event that the Olympic bid is unsuccessful.



Canary Wharf

Since 1999 employment opportunities on Canary Wharf have more than doubled, from 25,000 to 55,000 workers. They are intended to grow to at least 80,000, with some estimates of 100,000, by the time the development is complete. An employee survey of Canary Wharf¹⁸ revealed that at July 2003 5,000 (9.3%) of employees lived in Tower Hamlets compared to 3,000 (7.5%) in 2001. The majority of Canary Wharf workers resident in Tower Hamlets live on the Isle of Dogs (2210). Of those workers currently living in Tower Hamlets, 1650 workers have moved into the area (33%) and there has been an outward migration of 1260 who have moved out of Tower Hamlets since being employed on Canary Wharf. Canary Wharf provides an appropriate environment to attract international financial services corporations and a range of knowledge-based companies serving a global market along side high quality hotel and catering, retail developments and housing. A recent employment growth area at Canary Wharf has been retail due to the expansion of the shopping malls.

Millennium Quarter

The Millennium Quarter is an area of about 20 hectares (50 acres) in the heart of the Isle of Dogs encompassing the West India and Millwall Docks from South Quay to the Millwall Outer Dock on the East side and returning on the perimeter of Alpha Grove on the West. The principal transport spine routes through the area will be Marsh Wall, Millharbour, Lighterman's Road and Mastmaker Road. Completed in 2000 the Master Plan has taken longer to implement than anticipated due to poor economic performance resulting in a decline in land values and lengthy negotiations to agree infrastructure issues. Heron Bridge, a footbridge to Canary Wharf, has been completed to enable access to the Jubilee Line and other facilities and there is agreement to improve South Quay DLR as well as the creation of well lit and overlooked walkways. The development is mixed use and will include residential, offices and small commercial units, housing for rent and sale, cultural, shopping and community facilities.

There is activity on site with a number of contracts agreed. The first phase of build is mostly housing to the south end of the development. Of 2,000 new homes planned, 25% are designated 'affordable' homes of which 20% (100) are assigned for key workers. Principally flatted accommodation most will be relatively small with family homes created at ground level.

The commercial district is focused in the north of the area adjacent to South Quay DLR. It is anticipated that 20,000 new jobs will be created.

The Leaside Arc / Olympic Village

This is a proposed mixed-use, high-density development creating new homes and jobs. The partners driving the development are Tower Hamlets and Newham Councils, the London Development Agency (LDA) and the GLA. The draft plan envisages the creation of just over 10,000 homes and 3,400 jobs in Tower Hamlets with additional homes in the adjacent areas of Newham and a small corner of Hackney. Since the initial concept, in May 2003 the government announced its support for a bid to host the 2012 Olympics in London. If successful the Lower Lea Valley would be developed as the Olympic Village, Tower Hamlets providing sites at Fish Island and Bow for the village and some additional sites for training facilities. A decision selecting the successful bid will be made by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in July 2005. The Master Plan is being drawn up by EDAW and will contain two plans, one in the event that the London bid is unsuccessful.

Overall the evidence strongly points to a rising demand for high-level skills to enable access to the local labour market, but even outside of Tower Hamlets a decline in the number of jobs requiring low-level skills and increased competition for those jobs that exist. We previously examined the vocational and academic qualifications of the local population and found a high proportion with no or few qualifications and inevitably contributing to unemployment rates and low paid employment.

2.3.7 Education, skills and training

The IMD 2004 measures education, skills and training deprivation on two levels; lack of qualifications related to skills, that is the proportion of working age adults 25 - 54 in the area with no or low qualifications (based on the Census 2001); and, lack of attainment among children and young people. The pupil performance measures are based on the 2002 key stage results, absence rates for the 2 years 2001 and 2002 and staying on rates (Child benefit 2001 and University entrants 2001 and 2002). The skills domain is drawn from the Census 2001. Only two of the SOAs on the Isle of Dogs are in the top 20% most deprived SOAs in the country and 4 are in the top 50%. The two worst performing SOAs are:

1. St Matthias, Bazely, Robin Hood Gardens - all in E01004219 (5592nd)
2. Barkantine in E01004278 (6334th)

(Table 8 refers)

Poor performance at school and in formal education is strongly related to poor participation in the labour market and overall levels of poverty. The Census 2001 and IMD 2004 both indicate that the evidence of education, skills

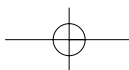


Table 18: Qualifications all people 16 -74 (%)
Census 2001

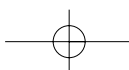
	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	England & Wales
All People					
No qualifications	31.0	24.3	39.8	38.3	35.8
Lower level qualifications	30.9	30.6	32.4	32.1	43.9
Higher level qualifications	38.1	45.1	27.8	29.6	20.4
In employment					
No qualifications	16.8	11.8	22.9	20.6	25.6
Lower level qualifications	29.8	29.6	33.1	32.3	48.9
Higher level qualifications	53.4	58.6	44.0	47.1	25.5
Unemployed					
No qualifications	36.8	33.2	47.9	44.7	38.4
Lower level qualifications	37.5	35.8	35.0	36.7	47.2
Higher level qualifications	25.7	31.0	17.1	18.6	14.5

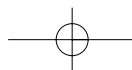
and training poverty on the Isle of Dogs has diminished quite significantly. In the IMD 2000 Blackwall was in the top 2%, and Millwall in the top 5% most deprived by education and skills.

What Table 18 tells us is that despite the proportion of high-level qualifications held by the local population in Blackwall & Cubitt Town, whether employed or unemployed, the local labour market demands more or, perhaps, something different given the highly specialised labour market. The proportion of unemployed with higher level qualifications in both wards is greater than nationally and significantly greater than Limehouse or Tower Hamlets, both also above the national average. In terms of the employed cohort more than 50% have higher level qualifications, twice the national average and a clear margin above Tower Hamlets and Limehouse, again both of which are above the national average. The Labour Force Survey for March 2002 - Feb. 2003 provides details at regional and district level for the working age population (not all aged 16 - 74 as with the Census 2001). Their analysis shows that at NVQ4 (higher level qualifications and above) Tower Hamlets (26.3%) was below the London average (30.5%) but higher than the national average (24.2%). By contrast, Tower Hamlets has significantly more (26.9%) with no qualifications compared to (13.9%) in London and Great Britain (15.6%). This suggests that there remains a marked polarisation of those equipped for the local labour market or beyond, based on their skills, and those not equipped at all.

We have evidence that those people without qualifications on the Island also have very low levels of numeracy and literacy often also associated with poor language skills, this is taken into account in the IMD 2004 SOAs. There has been no local area assessment of basic skills since we reported in 2002 referring to a Basic Skills Agency Report (1998) which identified Tower Hamlets as having the highest proportion of the population with low or very low literacy in the country excluding those for whom English is a second language. A result of the Policy Action Team reports, which fed into the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal, the government established the DfES Basic Skills Unit charged with developing an Adult Basic Skills National Strategy. Following this a National Survey of Adult Skills was completed in 2002. Across the country 19% of the population were reported as having very low (entry level) literacy and a further 34% have low literacy skills. Similarly 34% of the survey sample had very low numeracy skills. A strong link was made with a range of social factors and poor numeracy and literacy. When English as a second language was taken into account levels of numeracy (61%) and literacy (37%) were significantly worse. Adverse social factors identified were:

- Minority ethnic and language issues
- Areas based characteristics (using the IMD 2000, this work pre-dated the IMD 2004)
- Social classification





- Health
- Housing (social housing tenants performed worse than those in privately owned and private rented homes)

All of these social factors are of particular relevance to the Isle of Dogs and reinforce the view that those without qualifications in the area are more likely to have poor literacy, numeracy and English language skills.

Finally in the skills analysis of the area the evidence from the Annual Labour Force Survey 2002 reveals that overall minority ethnic communities are more likely to achieve a degree or higher degree or equivalent qualification than their white counterpart. Nonetheless, nearly half (48%) of all Bangladeshi women and 40% of Bangladeshi men have no qualifications. On average BME individuals take longer to acquire their qualifications than their white counterparts.

2.3.8 Education

An update on schools' performance adds to this complex picture. We are able to update on 5 measures that we looked at previously.

- Free school meals (FSM)
- Pupils with English as a second language
- Pupils with a statement of special needs
- Pupil attitude to schools
- Pupil attainment

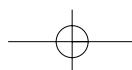
Free school meals (Table 19) are a proxy indicator for poverty and deprivation. The criteria for qualification for FSM changed since the last report so directly comparing pre and post take-up rates is inappropriate. Nonetheless the levels of entitlement / take-up is very significant still - 59% of Isle of Dogs primary school pupils and 46% of

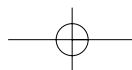
Table 19: Free School Meals
LBTH, LEA 2003 report

School	Number of pupils 2003	% on FSM 2003	% on FSM 2001
Primary			
Arnhem Wharf Primary School	324	50.6	69.9
Cubitt Town Infant School	296	51.9	47.9
Cubitt Town Junior School	296	59.3	60.5
Harbinger School	294	47.6	57.0
Holy Family	221	38.0	68.0
Seven Mills School	228	62.3	61.3
St Edmunds RC School	183	44.3	40.0
St Luke's C of E school	194	49.0	50.0
Woolmore	234	56.0	70.0
Isle of Dogs	2270	59.0	56.0
LBTH		56.3	55.8
Inner London		31.2	30.9
England		14.4*	14.2
Secondary Schools			
George Green's	1189	46.0	64.8
LBTH		61.9	67.8
Inner London		31.5*	30.8
England		11.0*	11.0

Free Schools Meals data: PLASC 2003

* Latest data available 2002: Department Education and Skills





secondary school pupils take FSMs. Primary school take-up is above the LBTH average, more than 20% the inner London average and four times the England average. Whilst below the borough average take-up of FSMs at George Green's is 15% above the London average and, again, four times the national rate.

Table 19 appears to indicate that however much the affluence of the area has improved many children and young people in local schools live in families with no or low incomes. Low incomes continue to affect academic performance and as a consequence future life chances and quality of life. Take-up of FSMs is often well below the eligibility level, sometimes as much as by 50% (cultural and religious reasons as well as life style and chosen diet are cited). We do not have the 2003 evaluation but in 2002, 7.8% of primary school pupils and 18.4% of secondary school pupils in Tower Hamlets did not take FSMs to which they were entitled compared to 4.4% and 7.1% in inner-London and 3.3% and 6.3% in England in primary and secondary schools respectively.

English as an additional language

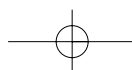
When we last reported, 43% of pupils attending primary schools in the Isle of Dogs catchment area had English as a second language compared to 55.8% in the borough. Both figures have risen and over half of the Isle of Dogs primary school pupils (56.2%) are now classed as EAL, 73.0% in the borough. The proportion in secondary schools is lower, 46.8% now at George Green's compared to 65.2% across the borough. These figures indicate that the BME child population is still growing in families who do not speak English as a first language at home. Two Isle of Dogs schools - Woolmore and Holy Family - exceed the borough average.

Up until 2001 pupils were assessed for fluency using teacher assessments to track progress and identify those with most need. The LEA allocated resources according to the data provided. Reporting on fluency was considered, in part, subjective and reflecting higher expectations in an area with particularly high proportions of BME pupils and so has been discontinued. The levels of attainment at key

Table: 20 Percentage of Pupils with English as an Additional Language
LBTH, LEA October 2003 report

School	% EAL 2001	%EAL 2003	% Change
Primary			
Arnhem Wharf Primary School	70	61.1	-8.1
Cubitt Town Infant School	26	57.1	+31.1
Cubitt Town Junior School	47	47.0	0
Harbinger School	69	60.5	+8.5
Holy Family RC	59	72	+13.0
Seven Mills School	46	58.8	+12.8
St Edmunds RC School	22	19.1	-2.9
St Luke's C of E School	25	25.3	+0.3
Woolmore	68	73.0	+5.0
LBTH	55.8	73.0	+ 17.2
Inner London			
England	9.8	10.5	+ 0.7
Secondary Schools			
George Green's	48	46.8	+ 1.2
LBTH	65	65.2	+ 0.2
Inner London			
England	8	8.8	+0.8

LBTH Education, October 2001 and October 2003 and Statistics of Education (Schools in England 2001 and 2003)



stages in reading and writing in particular now provide a measurable indicator. In 2001 10% of primary school and 17% of secondary school pupils attending Tower Hamlets LEA schools were classified as not fully fluent. Across Tower Hamlets there are 74 different languages spoken, other than English.

Statemented and special needs education (SEN)

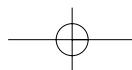
The number of statemented and special needs education pupils attending local schools is a further indicator of pupils performing poorly, for a wide variety of reasons, at school (Tables 21): including behavioural, emotional and social; medical needs / disability; speech and language problems but excluding EAL. The Pupil Level Annual Schools Census (PLASC) provides a register of special needs by school. Nationally in 2003 SEN pupils without a statement, that is pupils with special needs but not judged to need the intervention of an educational psychologist, is 15.9% for both primary and secondary schools. In Tower Hamlets the SEN figure is 15.4% for primary schools, slightly lower than the national figure, and 23% in secondary, which is much higher. For pupils formally registered with a statement of special needs nationally the figure is 1.6% for primary and 2.4% for secondary schools. In Tower Hamlets the numbers of pupils statemented is 4.0% for primary and 7.7% in

secondary schools, both higher than the national average. Caution should be adopted in interpreting this data, as, in some instances, schools adopt a policy of registering special needs at the earliest stage to ensure close monitoring and the earliest intervention when a pupil is going through a difficult or traumatic time, for example bereavement. Few pupils registered in this way then become statemented. The primary schools of St Edmunds and Cubitt Town both have high proportions of their pupils on the SEN register over the course of a year but this does not translate into high statementing. Primary schools with very high numbers of statemented pupils include St Edmunds. At secondary school level George Green's has a higher proportion of statemented pupils (7.3%) than nationally. We have confirmed the data with the LEA but it may be useful to examine the policies in the schools with the highest statementing records to find explanations for their statistics.

Since the statistics we produced for 2002 the proportion of statemented pupils has declined or remained the same in 6 of the Isle of Dogs schools and increased at Holy Family, St Edmunds, St Lukes and marginally at Woolmore (October 2003). An increase of 2.5% at George Green's can be explained by the school accommodating a number of special needs pupils from a school closure elsewhere in the borough.

Table 20: SEN provision - pupil numbers and % from PLASC 2003
LBTH, October 2003 outcomes

School	No special provision	School action or early years action	School action plus or early years action plus	School action plus or early years action plus and statutory assessment	% Pupils with SEN without statements	Statement of SEN	Total pupils	% Statemented pupils 2003	% Statemented pupils 2001
Arnhem Wharf	23	284	7	2	9.9	8	324	2.5	4.0
Cubitt Town Inf	65	231			22.0		296	0.0	0.3
Cubitt Town Jnr	48	213	31		26.7	4	296	1.4	3.6
Harbinger	17	256	10	1	9.5	10	294	3.4	3.4
Holy Family		192			13.1		221	2.3	1.8
Seven Mills	20	192	14		14.5	2	228	0.9	0.9
St Edmund 's	31	139	4		19.1	9	183	4.9	2.7
St Luke's	49	132	10	2	31.4	1	194	0.5	3.2
Woolmore		198			15.5		234	2.1	1.8
George Green's	149	921	32		15.2	87	1189	7.3	4.8
LBTH	4176	29657	1348	147	15.4	1484	36812	4.0	2.5



Pupil attitudes

We previously looked at pupil attitudes towards school. This data is no longer provided nationally as it is for LEAs to decide whether they wish to participate. In 2003 the pupil attitude survey in Tower Hamlets revealed that on the Isle of Dogs 23% of pupils were bored in all or most lessons. Across the LEA 15% of pupils reported the same, however the LEA figure has fallen (-3%) since 2001 whilst the Isle of Dogs response has risen (6%). Once more this is considerably higher than the national average. Despite the work of the LEA and the Excellence in Cities (EiC) Education Action Zone (EAZ) and all other mitigating factors of timing of the survey, it indicates a continuing and growing disaffection with education amongst schoolchildren. The survey also asks how happy each

child is at school and 28% did not rate themselves as happy on the Isle of Dogs compared to 22% across the LEA. Despite this more of the Isle of Dogs school pupils aspire to stay on at school and enter FE than the average across the LEA however 2002 destinations (the latest available) indicate that the staying on rates for George Green's were 63% compared to 68% across the borough. (*Table 21*)

Pupil Attainment

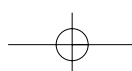
In 2003 the KSI Reading Test showed that in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets (*Table 22*) the average score at level 2+ (81%) was 3 points below the national average (84%) at level 3+ (17%) it was 11% points

Table 21: Pupil attitude survey 2003
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

Question	Isle of Dogs (%)	LEA (%)
Are you happy at school?	72	78
Is school a waste of time?	9	9
Are you bored in most or all lessons?	23	15
Can the teacher nearly / always control the class?	86	91
Have you played truant at least once this year?	6	7
Have you been bullied often / quite often this year?	21	20
Do you read for fun every / almost every day?	45	47
Are you aiming to enter FE?	56	48

Table 22 Pupil Attainment Key Stage 1
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

	pupils	Reading Test		Writing Test		Maths Test	
		%Level 2+	%Level 3+	%Level 2+	%Level 3+	%Level 2+	%Level 3+
Woolmore	30	73	3	70	7	83	13
Seven Mills Primary School	24	79	0	79	13	79	13
Harbinger Primary School	32	81	9	75	6	75	6
Cubitt Town Infant school	80	84	16	84	16	86	18
Arnhem Wharf School	42	88	21	83	3	98	50
St Edmunds RC	21	90	52	86	24	98	50
Holy Family	22	86	23	77	5	73	14
St Luke's Isle of Dogs	24	96	8	58	0	83	13
Zone	275	83	17	81	16	87	22
LBTH	2795	81	17	79	11	88	22
National		84	28	81	16	90	29



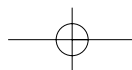


Table 23 Key Stage 2
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

	English				Maths			
	2002		2003		2002		2003	
	%Level 4+	%Level 5+	%Level 4+	%Level 5+	%Level 4+	%Level 5+	%Level 4+	%Level 5+
Seven Mills Primary	53	13	60	3	60	10	60	21
Harbinger Primary	79	26	62	14	74	13	54	16
Woolmore	61	7	63	8	68	21	79	38
St Luke's	68	36	71	6	64	20	59	12
Arnhem Wharf	83	46	72	22	73	34	74	15
Cubitt Town Junior	80	42	76	14	93	39	86	41
St Edmund's	57	19	80	23	43	10	76	27
Holy Family	72	20	92	13	76	16	79	17
Zone	72	29	71	15	74	24	73	26
LBTH	71	22	73	20	68	20	70	24
National	75	29	75	27	73	28	73	29

below the national average (28%). St Edmunds was the only Isle of Dogs school to exceed the national average on both counts (90%, 52%) most of the schools performed particularly poorly at level 3+, Woolmore and Seven Mills, which achieved the lowest pass levels, have high BME pupil populations 73% in Woolmore and 59% in Seven Mills. By contrast St Edmunds (19.1%) has the lowest proportion of BME pupils of all schools on the Island. This confirms the earlier statements that reading tests illustrate language acquisition problems, replacing teacher assessment of fluency, and that the higher the EAL population in a school the more frequently, though not invariably, these scores will be lower. In both the writing and maths tests Isle of Dogs schools performed better than the LEA average and the same as nationally in writing, marginally lower in maths. Despite the results of the reading test, schools are performing as well as the average nationally at this stage. Arnhem Wharf, with the exception of reading level 3+, with a 61% BME and St Edmunds performed consistently above the national standard.

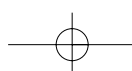
At Key Stage 2 the picture is similar to Key Stage 1. (Table 23) The borough average is below the national average and the Isle of Dogs Zone is below or equal to the borough except for 2003 Level 4+ and 5+ where the Zone is lower than the borough. Performance across the LEA has risen steadily each year since 2000, scoring 215.3 in 2000 up to 226.6 in 2003 on the DfES Improvement Measure Table. This is faster than improvements nationally (231 - 234) although lower

overall. Three Isle of Dogs schools exceed the national average; Arnhem Wharf (139 - 239), Cubitt Town Junior School (259 - 253), and Holy Family RC (186 - 271) all have high BME populations and Arnhem Wharf and Cubitt Town have over 50% on FSMs. In addition Woolmore (214 - 219) and, St Edmunds (200 - 228) performed better than the LEA average whilst Seven Mills' and Harbinger's performance are both below the borough average and performance has declined.

On a range of measures we can show that at secondary school level the principal school serving the area and the only one located on the Island, George Green's, has experienced grave difficulties improving its position at key stage 3 (levels 4+ and 5+), at GCSE grades A - C* and at average performance scores compared both with the LEA and nationally, Tables 24, 25 and 26. On all measures George Green's performs less well than the borough, London (where data is available) and nationally. (Tables 24-26 overleaf)

We have already reported that staying on rates for George Green's (63% in 2003) at the same time are lower than in the borough (68%). They are also lower than the London average of 74% and national average of 73%.

Tower Hamlets had the highest proportion of children (80% of all 3 and 4 year olds) in early years education in London (average 62%), the second highest in London is Barking and Dagenham (77%) and nationally the average is 59%. Despite a high proportion of early years schooling, performance in schools is lower than



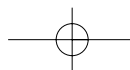


Table 24: Key Stage 3 (level 4+ and level 5+)
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

	2000	2001	2002	2003
English				
George Green's	59	42	51	45
LBTH	48	50	51	54
National	63	64	67	68
Maths				
George Green's	50	36	52	52
LBTH	44	45	49	53
National	63	66	67	70
Science				
George Green's	40	39	45	43
LBTH	32	41	43	44
National	59	66	67	68

Table 25: Percentage of Pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grade A*-C,
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

School	2000	2001	2002	2003
George Green's	32	30	35	25
LEA	33	35	44	43
London		46.1	48.5	
National	49	50	52	53

Table 26: GCSE Average Performance Scores
LBTH, LEA 2003 results

School	2000	2001	2002	2003 (capped)
George Green's	35.0	39.1	34.4	27.1
LEA	34.0	33.7	37.4	31.0
London		38	38	34.0
National	38.9	39.3	40.1	34.7

average and reflects some of the particular problems of language deprivation and other elements of multiple deprivation known to impact on educational achievement.

As with other measures we have described, there are differences between the various communities. Research conducted in 2002 / 03 by the National Foundation for Education Research (NFER)¹⁹ found that in schools:

- proportionately more Black, Bangladeshi and Pakistani pupils are likely to be recorded as having special educational needs;
- pupils for whom English is a second language perform, on average, less well than pupils whose first language is English;
- on average Black, Bangladeshi and Pakistani pupils perform less well than White pupils throughout compulsory education;
- Bangladeshi (44%) and Pakistani (32%) adults are least likely to have any qualifications;
- at post 16 education, Black (82%) and Asian (85%) people are more likely to stay on in full time education at age 16 than White people (69%);
- whilst minority ethnic students are more likely to hold degree qualifications compared to White people, class of degree varies, with minority ethnic groups less likely to obtain first or upper second class degrees.

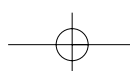
2.3.9 Other Indicators

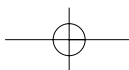
We previously outlined the link established between the measures of deprivation outlined earlier and other indicators of disadvantage, in particular health and the effects of crime. The IMD2004 provides indicators not previously available from the 2001IMD on both. Additionally it provides a measure on housing and the environment.

We are able therefore to identify indicators which may additionally impact on the wellbeing and quality of life of local people.

Health

The health domain in the 2004 IMD identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or disability. The Census 2001 question on general 'wellness' was not included in this domain as the responses are not capable of being updated until the next Census, and the question on long-term limiting illness is replaced with the Comparative Illness and Disability Ratio (CIDR) indicator, a standardised measure of morbidity / disability rates based on recipients of Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disability Allowance and the disability premium of Income Support. The domain also takes into account measures of adults under 60





suffering mood or anxiety disorders, years of potential life lost (mortality data ONS) and emergency admissions to hospital. Ten of the Isle of Dogs SOAs are identified in the top 20% most health deprived in the country. Only one SOA is in the 50% least health deprived.

In this report we have already identified that poor health is strongly linked with a range of indicators of poverty and multiple deprivation - illustrated through education, attainment and employment. In the IMD 2000 Blackwall was in the most deprived 10% (8.12%) nationally and Millwall in the top 25% (24.12%). Table 27 indicates the rank of the 20% SOAs with the worst health nationally on the Isle of Dogs.

Comparing the findings of the IMD 2000 with the IMD 2004 we find that the later data identifies 5 Isle of Dogs SOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally and more than half (10) in the top 20%. This suggests that overall the rate of health deprivation has diminished somewhat, whilst there remain pockets of serious health deprivation. However, when the Census 2001 questions are taken into account we find that more people in Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall

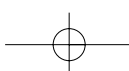
describe themselves as enjoying good health and fewer with a long term limiting illness than in the borough which is slightly less 'well' on this measure, but once again Limehouse is similar. More people describe themselves as enjoying good health and fewer with a long term limiting illness in Tower Hamlets than nationally, the average in London is better than Tower Hamlets but not as good as residents in Blackwall & Cubitt Town who in turn do not claim such rude health as in Millwall.

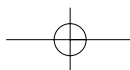
The Primary Care Trust has identified a range of health issues which impact adversely on the local population - indeed across the whole of the East London and Community Health Area Trust. The key issues are:

- obesity (high fat and high sugar diet plus lack of exercise);
 - asthma (often smoking related);
 - mental ill health problems;
- and, higher incidences of
- diabetes;
 - respiratory diseases (related to smoking).

Table 27: Isle of Dogs SOAs ranked in the top 20% poor health domain
(Out of 32482 Super Output Areas where 1 is the most deprived rank)

Ward	Super Output Area code	National Rank and % health	SOA rank on IDCF (by health indicator)
Limehouse	E01004256	3309 (10.2)	Birchfield (6)
	E01004257	2503 (7.7%)	Will Crooks (3)
	E01004219	3109 (9.6%)	St Mathias (5)
Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E01004219		Bazely (5)
	E01004219		Robin Hood Gardens (5)
	E01004215	2291 (7.0%)	St Johns (8)
	E01004214	2291 (7.0%)	Samuda (2)
	E01004217	4737 (14.6%)	Manchester Estate (7)
	E01004217		Cubitt Town (overlaps with 218) (7)
	E01004221	6281 (19.3%)	Straddles the Manchester Road south of the Marsh Wall roundabout includes Stewart St with a small portion around East Ferry Road (10)
Millwall	E01004278	2224 (6.8%)	Barkantine (1)
	E01004274	2786 (8.6%)	Millwall Estate / Timber Wharfs (4)
	E01004280	6191 (19.0%)	Straddles Westferry Road, above the Printing Works including Tiller Road and Mellish Street (9)





Description of health in the last 12 months	Blackwall & Cubitt Town	Millwall	Limehouse	Tower Hamlets	London	England & Wales
Good	71.8	75.7	67.8	67.9	Not available	68.6
Fairly good	19.9	17.1	21.6	21.8	Not available	22.2
Not good	8.3	7.2	10.6	10.3	8.3	9.2
With a long term limiting illness	13.8	11.4	18.1	17.2	15.5	18.2

A score of 100 on the standard mortality rate (SMR) is the national average. On this measure the population of the Isle of Dogs area is not as healthy as England & Wales, London or, Millwall aside, even inner London boroughs. However, apart from Limehouse, the local population is healthier than the Tower Hamlets average. Women benefit from better health than men and in Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall, women's health is better than average. Once again we see that the picture is mixed. Residents of the Isle of Dogs Limehouse SOAs experience extremely poor health, in the worst 20% nationally and 50% worse than the national average by SMR. Many Isle of Dogs residents describe their health as good but the medical evidence suggests that it is not generally as good as the average (in all wards) but women's health is better than men's and in Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town better than the national average. (*Table 29*)

Child and elders poverty

We noted earlier that child poverty and poverty amongst elders was a sub-set of the income poverty domain. Table 30 refers. The child poverty index comprises households with dependent children in receipt of income support or jobseekers allowance, also where income is deemed to be below 60% income before housing costs where households are in receipt of working family tax credit and dependent persons tax credit. The older persons index is constructed around the population over 60 and in receipt of income support and job seekers allowance. The accuracy of these measures does depend upon take-up rates of benefit which vary. (*Table 30*)

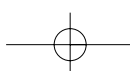
Thirteen out of the Isle of Dogs 19 SOAs are in the 20% most income deprived by child poverty and elders in poverty, almost entirely the same SOAs.

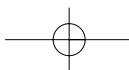
However, as noted earlier, this is actually an improvement in child poverty levels since the IMD 2000. Along with all the earlier data, this reinforces the polarisation of poverty on the Isle of Dogs and is concentrated in the most deprived social housing estates, whilst illustrating also that levels of poverty are reducing over time - this does not mean that the residents living on the Isle of Dogs are generally affluent, rather that fewer are living in the levels of multiple deprivation still apparent in the social housing in the area.

Crime & safety

The IMD 2004 has aggregated recorded (notifiable) crime statistics 2002 / 03 for: burglary, theft, criminal damage, and, violence. These were determined as the most geographically focused crimes for measuring the impact on a residential and local area. No account has been taken for fear of crime as the British Crime Survey

	SMR	Male	Female
England & Wales	100		
London	99.3		
Outer London	96.1		
Inner London	106.4		
Tower Hamlets	119.0		
Limehouse	150.7	146.5	141.5
Blackwall & Cubitt Town	114.5	106.6	95.3
Millwall	104.1	102.6	91.1





(BCS) is currently only produced at police force area level. A feasibility study is being completed to determine whether it will be possible to model this data at SOA level for future use. According to the crime and safety domain, 5 of the Isle of Dogs SOAs are in the 20% most deprived areas by crime:

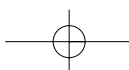
1. E01004219 including St Mathias, Bazely and Robin Hood Gardens rank 1882 (5.8%)
2. E01004257, Will Crooks rank 2872 (9%)
3. E01004256, Birchfield rank 3783 (11.7%)
4. E01004217, Manchester Estate and part of Cubitt Town rank 4329 (13.3%)

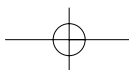
5. E01004275, The area contained between Manchester Road, Spindrif Avenue and East Ferry Road (this is the first time that this SOA has figured in the most deprived 20%) rank 5490 (17%)

Reinforcing the IMD 2004 the Census 2001 illustrates that on the 6 indicators used, on every indicator, Tower Hamlets experiences levels of crime far greater than the England and Wales average. Apart from theft from and of motor vehicles in Limehouse and Blackwall & Cubitt Town, none of the Isle of Dogs wards experience levels of crime as high as the borough, but on average all three experience significantly higher levels of violence against the person, sexual offences and motor vehicle crimes

**Table 30: Child and elders in poverty rank
IMD 2004**

	Child poverty index score %	Rank of child poverty	Elders in poverty score %	Rank of elders in poverty
Blackwall & Cubitt Town				
E01004214	86	106	51	302
E01004215	74	279	44	650
E01004216	33	6850	37	1524
E01004217	57	1267	33	2517
E01004218	45	3411	19	10325
E01004219	75	173	46	390
E01004220	41	4505	20	9005
E01004221	44	3496	35	1927
Millwall				
E01004274	74	214	75	10
E01004275	33	6794	25	7011
E01004276	06	22665	12	18076
E01004277	15	15463	13	16493
E01004278	85	170	50	325
E01004279	59	983	35	1989
E01004280	58	1140	40	1205
E01004281	33	6746	15	13733
E01004282	54	1568	42	855
Limehouse				
E01004256	56	1342	41	1059
E01004257	54	1638	36	1386



**Table 31: Levels of Crime in Tower Hamlets**

Census 2001 (Home Office) and *LBTH Data currently unavailable for shaded areas

Rate per 1,000 population	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Robbery	Burglary from a dwelling	Theft of a motor vehicle	Theft from a motor vehicle
England & Wales	11.4	0.7	1.8	7.6	6.4	11.9
Tower Hamlets	32.2	2.1	9.5	10.8	13.3	23.6
Limehouse*	26.4	0.8		10.8	40.8	
Blackwall & Cubitt Town*	27.9	1.7		8.3	39.7	
Millwall*	24.1	1.3		7.0	31.0	

than nationally. Only Millwall has lower recorded burglaries than nationally (Table 31).

Detailed crime statistics are highly sensitive and often difficult to interpret. Nonetheless, the 'Crime and Disorder in Tower Hamlets Audit, 2003' along with reported crime data suggests that whilst Tower Hamlets suffers higher levels of all types of crime than nationally, between 1999 and 2002 the borough experienced an increase in overall crime rates compared to a reduction nationally. In the period between 2000 and 2002 reported crimes increased by 14%, 7% each year.

Hotspots for crime are concentrated in the north and west of the borough including Spitalfields, Whitechapel and Bethnal Green. Isolated hotspots identified Canary Wharf in respect of street crime and violence against the person. The only other relevant statistic for crime on the Isle of Dogs is in Limehouse where drug related crimes doubled between 2001 and 2002 - nowhere near the worst in the borough though still worrying. The main hotspot for drugs reported in the 2003 audit is Shadwell, following this is Mile End East.

Barriers to housing and services domain

This domain measures geographical barriers to services; road distance to GP premises, supermarket, primary school and post office (2002 and 2003 data sources) and a 'wider' domain relating to access to housing including affordability but also overcrowding and homelessness. In the 2000IMD, as you would expect, the Isle of Dogs scored well with both wards in the top 10% least deprived measured against geographical access. Critically the 'wider' domain, by illustrating barriers to housing has vastly changed the position in Tower Hamlets and more locally. House prices in Tower Hamlets have, as with the rest of the country, escalated over recent years, but in Tower Hamlets the availability of housing and the rate of the rises exceed those in most other districts. The inward migration of workers to Canary Wharf and the commissioning of high quality homes for affluent people

has resulted in house prices in Millwall and Blackwall & Cubitt Town outstripping the average rises in Tower Hamlets. On the basis of this domain all of the SOAs on the Isle of Dogs are in the top 10% most deprived in respect of barriers to housing and services and 9 of these are within the worst 5% nationally. (Table 8)

Home ownership and house prices

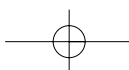
Table 5 records the low level of home ownership in the borough (37.4%) at the time of the 2001 Census. Indeed the Isle of Dogs wards have even lower levels of home ownership than the borough and half that nationally (68.9%). In Tower Hamlets the lowest level of home ownership is in Bromley-By-Bow (18.6%). Within the Isle of Dogs Limehouse has the lowest levels of home ownership (29.8%) and Blackwall & Cubitt Town (34.0%) and Millwall (35.4%) are not far behind. Given the cost of housing in the borough (Table 32) this is not difficult to understand, despite higher average incomes. The land registry provides post code based average house prices and in June 2003 the Tower Hamlets average was £222,908 but E14 5 at £308,800 and E14 8 £527,942 are considerably higher. At the lowest end of the local market Limehouse had an average house price between £155,882 and £170,799. At the same time the average house price in East London was £187,166, West London was £347,640.

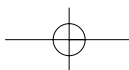
Living environment deprivation

The indicators measured for this domain comprise two sub-domains:

- The 'indoors' living environment, housing in poor condition (based on 2001 data collated by the ODPM)
- The 'outdoors' living environment, including air quality and road traffic accidents involving injury to a pedestrian.

Only 3 of the Isle of Dogs SOAs are in the 20% most deprived measured by this index. Unsurprisingly, given the





borough's housing stock they are within the most deprived social housing estates Will Crooks (10.1%), St Mathias, Bazely and Robin Hood Gardens (18.0%), and the area around Westferry Road, above the Printing Works including Tiller Road and Mellish Street (18.0%).

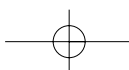
There are fewer owner occupied households in London (56.5%) than the national average, and fewer still in Tower Hamlets and the Isle of Dogs. This is a reflection of the higher cost of housing in London and particularly in areas of growing affluence like the Isle of Dogs, of the low numbers of affordable housing to buy and of a transitory population (students and many

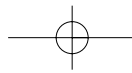
BME groups including asylum seekers). The average price of a property in Tower Hamlets (£222,908) compares to an England and Wales figure of £119,436.

A significant proportion of homes on the Isle of Dogs are social housing (see Table 5) over a third of homes in Blackwall & Millwall (39.2%), nearly a third in Millwall (31.6%) and over half in Limehouse (53.6%). The borough average is a third (33.6%) but nationally is less than 20% (19.2%). The levels of overcrowding reported in Tower Hamlets is 29.63% compared to 24.6% nationally, Blackwall & Cubitt Town and Millwall have the lowest levels of overcrowding in the borough and inner-London (24.6%).

Table 32: House prices based on sales April - June 2003
Land Registry

LAP Area	Postcode Sector	Average Price
6 Bromley by Bow / Mile End	E3 3	153,152.00
7 East India & Lansbury / Limehouse	E14 0	155,882.00
3 St. Dunstan & Stepney Green / Whitechapel	E1 2	157,625.00
6 Bromley by Bow / Mile End	E3 4	161,189.00
1 Bethnal Green North / Mile End and Globe Town / Weavers	E1 4	162,932.00
3 St. Dunstan & Stepney Green / Whitechapel	E1 3	168,468.00
7 East India & Lansbury / Limehouse	E14 6	170,799.00
1 Bethnal Green North / Mile End and Globe Town / Weavers	E2 0	173,377.00
1 Bethnal Green North / Mile End and Globe Town / Weavers	E2 9	176,789.00
4 St Katherine & Wapping / Shadwell	E1 0	177,571.00
3 St. Dunstan & Stepney Green / Whitechapel	E1 1	188,729.00
5 Bow East / Bow West	E3 2	199,228.00
3 St. Dunstan & Stepney Green / Whitechapel	E1 8	213,333.00
1 Bethnal Green North / Mile End and Globe Town / Weavers	E2 6	218,310.00
5 Bow East / Bow West	E3 5	219,966.00
1 Bethnal Green North / Mile End and Globe Town / Weavers	E2 7	220,080.00
2 Bethnal Green South / Spitalfields and Bangla Town	E1 7	233,653.00
2 Bethnal Green South / Spitalfields and Bangla Town	E1 5	246,500.00
8 Millwall / Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E14 3	249,485.00
2 Bethnal Green South / Spitalfields and Bangla Town	E1 6	249,750.00
7 East India & Lansbury / Limehouse	E14 7	253,459.00
8 Millwall / Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E14 2	257,381.00
8 Millwall / Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E14 9	261,353.00
4 St Katherine & Wapping / Shadwell	E1 9	289,868.00
8 Millwall / Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E14 5	308,800.00
8 Millwall / Blackwall & Cubitt Town	E14 8	527,942.00
Tower Hamlets average		222,908.00





Focus Group and Stakeholder Comments



3.0 Focus Group and Stakeholder Comments

3.1 Introduction

In this section we provide an overview of the contribution made by our focus groups and key stakeholders, their perception of changing issues, needs and priorities for action on the Isle of Dogs in 2004 compared to the time of our consultations in 2002. As in the earlier report we sought a balance of participation in the focus groups and key stakeholder interviews. So far as possible (and appropriate) they were cross-sectoral, and balanced by gender, ethnicity and age.

We interviewed 18 stakeholders from a long list of 24 and held 4 focus group sessions. Each stakeholder was sent a letter with a schedule of questions we wanted to discuss with him or her. Where relevant, other issues raised by stakeholders were followed up. We sought to identify their view of changes that have occurred on the Island since the last report, an update on their priorities and their views about the strategic role of IDCF. Stakeholders ranged from founder members to those relatively recently inducted into the role and functions of a Foundation. The Focus group sessions were each run for half a day and were facilitated by a short presentation on the data for the area, relevant to the particular group's area of expertise and interest, and a short agenda seeking to elicit information about changes, good and bad, since the last report, a look at current need, demand and aspirations and finally the role that IDCF should play in achieving desired changes.

Both the key stakeholder interviews and the focus groups were attentive both to IDCF's stated aims and objectives and those of their Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) programme 'Creating a Confident Community'. The priorities overlap. (Table 33)

Key stakeholder interviews overview

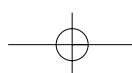
In conducting the interviews we were conscious of the issues raised in our previous consultation exercise and aware that we needed to allow scope for new priorities to emerge. The key issues raised previously were:

- Developing resources and linkages
- Developing local community capacity
- Developing young people and increasing attainment
- Community safety
- Fit for purpose actions

In Section 4 we deal with IDCF's responses to these issues to-date and review progress. We also look at how current concerns are being tackled and what, if any, new recommendations we would make.

Unsurprisingly most stakeholders were once again exercised about the issue of future funding and resources. There was a high level of awareness about SRB closure at the end of 2005 / 06 and the particular issues it will throw-up about replacement funding and managing voluntary sector expectations. Closely related to the resourcing issue was the question of IDCF's developing role and some interesting ideas about future

Table 33: Isle of Dogs Community Foundation	Creating a Confident Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Education and youth ■ Training and employment ■ Community capitalisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Effective guidance and training for real jobs ■ Community Development ■ Community regeneration (integration of the 3 diverse communities which coexist on the Isle of Dogs)



purpose. Inevitably, given IDCF's cross-sectoral partnership and 'umbrella' role in supporting the voluntary sector, a range of views were expressed about partnership and networking issues. Once again awareness raising was critical to most, and particularly amongst the statutory and corporate interviewees. The key concern expressed was the need to ensure that IDCF's profile continues to be consistently promoted and raised. A number of our interviewees were concerned about the potential for 'political' interference. A range of other general issues were raised. These included the relative parochial nature of some of the local population, the persistent problem of engaging young people in constructive activities and the specific focus of the grant programme.

Focus groups overview

Four focus groups were organised around issues of critical concern to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation and relevant to the SRB Programme:

- Parenting / child care
- Young people
- Elders
- Employment and training

Cross cutting themes were also explored:

- Health
- Crime / safety and fear of crimes
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Household income / benefit take-up

The role of the focus groups was to identify changes and consider current concerns and priorities, where possible they were also asked to identify possible appropriate responses that IDCF might undertake to tackle them or ways in which IDCF might try to influence other funders, service providers and deliverers. As with the key stakeholders the young were considered to be a priority for action in terms of leisure, education, training and employment initiatives. Second on the focus groups list of key concerns were housing and housing density issues.

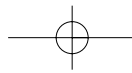
3.2 Stakeholder issues and priorities

Funding, resources and replacement funding

A high proportion of our interviewees were aware that the SRB programme concludes at the end of the 2005 / 06. This will have a dramatic impact on IDCF's resources and potentially on their ability to make grants. Over seven years the SRB will have contributed £3.5m cash, and, together with IDCF's own resources and those levered in from other sources - cash and in-kind - a total exceeding £10m will have been spent on a programme of activity intended to develop the capacity of the voluntary sector, enable local people, integrate the various communities and improve the quality of life for those living and working on the Island. SRB has made a significant contribution to meeting administrative costs of the Foundation which in turn has been used to provide a high level and quality of capacity building and organisational support, on the one hand for project development, management and monitoring and on the other, through the Charity Capacity project, for professional development of voluntary organisations and workers to make them more robust. SRB has also led to the grant chest being doubled from about £80,000 per year to £160,000 per year.

Views were divided on the way forward, broadly there were two positions:

- One position was that funding be renewed to a level as close to the SRB as possible, even if this means further output driven funding and close monitoring of performance. Generally there was a recognition that the Foundation does not embrace the range of hard economic objectives and broader geographical / population remit that would enable further government funding of any substance through the London Development Agency (LDA) unless IDCF works with others or changes their remit (the issue of IDCF's remit is discussed more fully below, under the strategic role of IDCF). The LDA currently manage SRB funding in the capital, their remit has changed since the closure of new rounds of the national SRB programme. Their regeneration funds, now branded 'LDA?' must contribute to the achievement of their 'floor targets' which are measures agreed with the Government Office for the Region and largely require the achievement of hard economic outputs like jobs created, business start-ups and similar. These interviewees recognised that, given the current emphasis on strategic, borough, sub-regional or higher-level use of funds, this aspiration will only be met through joint partnership working with other agencies and organisations outside IDCF's area of benefit.



- The second position expressed was that the bureaucracy and output driven nature of the SRB programme was restrictive and that voluntary sector organisations would prefer and benefit from a more liberal approach (though plainly this is unlikely from output driven funding streams and therefore precludes almost all government and other statutory funding). Liberal approaches to grant making depend upon the grant maker having the flexibility to demand little by way of hard outputs or negotiating an appropriate return for their funds. This should not necessarily mean a lack of accountability but the negotiating capacity to establish very individual outcomes for the spend they make. In practice this is quite difficult, but some European funding which measures 'distance travelled' by beneficiaries illustrate that a broader range of measures are possible. A limiting factor here is that most donors (whether altruistic or output driven) require a 'return' for their money based on their individual aims and objectives. Inconvenient as it is at times, most funders and grant makers need to demonstrate their funds are being used to maximum effect, this is usually a key tenet of public accountability. In funding or grant making terms there is rarely a 'free lunch'.

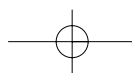
For clarity the three specific activities that Foundations generally aspire to are: (1) endowment building, and along with through-flow grant management, the endowment gives rise to a (2) grant making capacity for the benefit of local communities; and, (3) cross-sectoral partnership development and participation, also for the benefit of local communities. The consensus of the stakeholders was that in order to maintain its grant making capacity the Foundation should seek to replace funding. The differences of opinion are about what mix of sources should be pursued but include all or some of government / statutory, trust funds or from corporate donors. Identifying the sources to target hinge on whether the objectives of any funder or donor, which may require the delivery of measurable outputs of one kind or another, are acceptable. A number of interviewees thought that consideration should be given to recruiting and meeting the cost of a professional fundraiser.

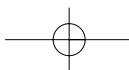
Some interviewees were aware that IDCF was, in part, likely to be able to replace SRB grant fund through Section 106, a statutory payment from developers of the Millennium Quarter, which IDCF will manage on behalf of the borough. This money is likely to flow through at a slower rate than SRB grant but over a longer period. It will be subject to rigorous output requirements and accountability as is SRB - the borough requiring IDCF to contribute to the achievement of its agreed government outputs targets.

Awareness raising

Since we last reported IDCF has raised its profile as an organisation but on a lesser scale raised awareness about what it does, according to the stakeholders. The corporate image is widely recognised and most of our interviewees were aware of receiving or seeing IDCF's newsletter and aware that a range of branded tools have been developed (bookmarks, branded cheques, promotional packs, stationery). Some believe that the incidence of articles in the local press has diminished and that IDCF needs to make better use of the free sheets to promote the work it does. It is a matter of concern that a number of interviewees felt (and some of them were from local voluntary sector organisations) that IDCF did not demand, and organisations did not think sufficiently about how, they promoted their grant(s) and other support from IDCF. The SRB and ESF programmes require that individual projects and grant recipients promote the funding they receive, as a consequence IDCF require organisations to promote their own, the LDA and European Union funding, as appropriate. We are aware that this requirement is not always complied with and conscious that some project managers are slow at acknowledging the IDCF contribution to their organisation. Interviewees speculated about the reason for this lack of acknowledgement but did not find any credible reason. Whatever the reason the impact on IDCF is adverse.

The corporates we interviewed in particular were concerned at the IDCF failure to recruit more corporates, an activity they regard the corporate trustees as best placed to lead on. Suggestions were that IDCF should do two things at least. The first, to run more effective 'Seeing is Believing' events where corporate donors or other prospective donors are given a whistle-stop tour around a number of IDCF supported ventures. There were some concerns expressed as apparently a number of events have been cancelled and there have been notable occasions of the tour visiting IDCF grant beneficiaries who neither mention funds from IDCF or other support IDCF provide. This is plainly short-sighted of the voluntary organisations or groups as the purpose of these events is to encourage more corporate donations or pro-bono and other volunteering support by demonstrating the impact that working with IDCF





can have. The second activity suggested is to run more corporate events - promoting IDCF, the benefits of membership, sitting on the Board to influence direction and provide valuable professional pro-bono support and to make donations (often reducing the administrative requirement for managing a philanthropic grant-making programme in house). A previous Chair of IDCF voiced concerns that there was no evidence of Board members making personal contact with corporates, including the newly arriving. A simple and successful approach in the past had been an initial letter followed by a one-to-one meeting and then a corporate breakfast or similar event calling together small groups of high-level influencers for a presentation of the kind of things IDCF does and a discussion about how their organisation might contribute time or money. Interviewees recognised that encouraging new donors and corporate membership required energy and a 'long-game'.

We were told that IDCF advice and guidance work is not promoted sufficiently well by IDCF themselves, but less still through the voluntary sector beneficiaries. Notably the voluntary sector stakeholders remarked on the high-quality support they have received to develop their capacity, improve networking and encourage linkages. Through the combined grant from IDCF, SRB and ESF, some projects have received up to or slightly more than £500,000 and, whilst this may not be on the large scale of some SRB and other funding programmes it is undoubtedly of a scale worthy of better understanding and description than 'maker of small grants' as remarked upon by one voluntary sector worker.

Strategic role of IDCF

Linked to the issue of funding, other resources and awareness raising, interviewees were concerned with IDCF promoting clarity of purpose and identifying a 'forward strategy'. This was again often related to the end of SRB but also about the management of S106, attracting other funds or performing different roles. The three variables are: size of the organisation (financial and staffing resources), range of activities or functions (grant maker, capacity builder, lobbyist, influencer, network / partnership builder) and scope of area (same area of coverage, 'growing' to the remaining area of Tower Hamlets uncovered by a Foundation and or incorporating those areas beyond Tower Hamlets known not to be covered by an existing Foundation (Newham and Hackney). Views were expressed as follows:

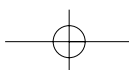
- LDDC established IDCF to serve the immediate local area because of considerable levels of deprivation. The integrity of the IDCF area should be preserved as there remains much to be done and widening the area of benefit, even if the profits from the endowment are ringfenced for the original area, will dilute the impact the Foundation has;
- IDCF, along with other influencers, (Canary Wharf Group plc, government policy, Borough interventions such as the Millennium Quarter) has made significant impact on the original area such that it is increasing in affluence at a quicker rate than the surrounding areas. The endowment can be preserved for the original area but IDCF should consider providing service, raising grants for the wider East End, an area of significant and multiple deprivation;
- SRB has diverted IDCF's attention from the original aims and objectives of a Foundation, and, despite the increased level of funding it has brought, IDCF should return to its roots and make modest small and standard grants to meet the needs of the local community and voluntary sector. In this scenario projects like Charity Capacity, paid for through SRB, and which help develop the capacity and robustness of the voluntary sector would close to reduce resourcing costs, or, the grants programme would shrink.

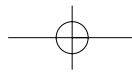
A number of our interviewees were concerned that IDCF continue to hold together the cross-sectoral partnership they have so painstakingly developed and this requires regular maintenance. Universally interviewees want to guard against any reduction in the nature of the IDCF functions outlined above as all were valued and considered integral to meeting IDCF objectives. A further consideration was that IDCF needs to have a high profile in all of these 'function' areas to maintain and develop credibility to secure and retain the support of corporates, the statutory sector and, critical to IDCF's role as an umbrella agency, the voluntary and community sector.

Partnership and networking

Stakeholders expressed considerable confidence in IDCF's ability to operate effectively between and across sectors, particularly articulating and representing the interest of the voluntary sector to the corporates and reflecting the expectations of the corporates to the voluntary sector. There is less understanding of IDCF's role and relationship with the statutory sector and some concerns that this may result in political interference, or that less statutory funding flows into the area as a result of IDCF's grant making.

Many of the interviewees described IDCF as highly approachable.





"Strengths, very approachable, very open, always feel I can 'phone up and ask for advice. Networking opportunities have given me lots of contacts in the area."

Concerns were expressed about the local voluntary sector's apparent lack of partnership approaches and working. Current funding opportunities seek to maximise partnership working but both voluntary sector and statutory interviewees thought that some of the voluntary sector were so focused on protecting their own interests that as a consequence they act competitively rather than collaboratively. Given that IDCF is well respected and approachable interviewees thought it would be helpful if IDCF supported and promoted more partnership working and networking within the voluntary sector.

Under 'the strategic role of IDCF' we discussed above the various views stakeholders have about IDCF working in partnership with other agencies to enable them to participate in bidding for strategic grants which need to serve wider geographical areas.

Developing local community capacity

Stakeholders and our elders focus group in particular were concerned about the low level of newly emerging, long-term volunteers, both from the community and from the corporates. In a number of the focus groups the community activists remarked on the very small cohort of volunteers who take responsibility for running the community organisation, including organising and running events, activities and fundraising. Both remarked on the low level of young volunteers. Whilst grateful for corporate 'challenge' events interviewees remarked on the need for more long term pro-bono support and more local people getting involved in running community services.

Linked to the issue of community capacity three of the Corporate interviewees strongly articulated the view that IDCF should undertake a strategic and organisational review.

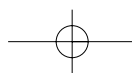
"A strategic review needs to be undertaken to validate the relevance of current 'influencers', those with a seat on the board, IDCF members and the recognition given to 'community leaders / representatives'. The 'old guard' should perhaps give way to the young The focus does not always take into account need, rather, 'we have always done it this way' mentality."

Such a review may be worthwhile and include a range of issues raised in this report about IDCF staffing, fundraising, the role of the trustee board, membership and the fundamental issues about future direction. Whilst some of the suggestions made may be desirable to accommodate there would need to be some confidence that proposed changes resulting from a review could be implemented.

Consistent with our previous findings, stakeholders and focus groups almost universally approved the grant programme, its flexibility and accessibility. There were plainly concerns about the urgency of securing replacement funding. All of the partners articulated the view that a reduction in the grant programme, would be a grave loss and detrimental to community & voluntary sector development for whom IDCF grants are often seen as a life line. A few interviewees (voluntary sector) felt the grant programme was restrictive because of the output and impact requirements.

A number of our commentators believed that more work should be undertaken to encourage the better established organisations to become more self-sustaining and less grant dependent, or less dependent on IDCF grants. There was a recognition that following the last report IDCF had increased the work they fund for developing social enterprises and strengthening organisational capacity but nonetheless the views expressed were that, apart from small grants, each IDCF grant should require the applicant to demonstrate how the money will be used to increase the organisations capacity and sustainability. One interviewee remarked that if IDCF does have less money in the future it would be most supportive of the local community sector if more time was spent supporting community groups, developing their capacity to make grant applications to other funders and developing services that could generate income.

Interviewees believed that there was insufficient activity or grants targeted at, or supporting, ethnic minorities or integration of the various communities on the Island, particularly given the high proportion of black and minority ethnic (BME) pupils in schools. Once again there



was an acknowledgement that IDCF has made some efforts to increase the participation and representation of ethnic minority groups in the local area. In addition Home School Support and Tower Hamlets Education Business Partnership, both funded by IDCF provide targeted support in local schools. Kicking with Confidence tackles the issues of racism and integration through sport. In our training and employment focus group a number of ethnic minority participants believed that institutional racism and barriers prevented many of their client meeting their full potential. In turn this is supported by the evidence reproduced in section 2 about the generally poorer quality of life and lower life chances of many BME communities and individuals.

Developing young people and increasing attainment

Once again, comments made by stakeholders were mirrored by our focus groups and most of the issues are discussed there. Concerns were voiced about the need to increase the numbers of young volunteers with aspirations to work in a voluntary capacity in the medium to long term. They reinforced views that attention to the needs and aspirations of young people would help to resolve some of the problems experienced on the Island. If a review of IDCF is undertaken one specific suggestion was (both by a community sector worker and a corporate representative) that there should be a seat on the IDCF Board and grant making panel specifically for and representing the views of young people, probably a V1th former. The purpose of introducing young people into these roles would be to enable young people to influence decision making, be seen to represent the views of other young people but also to encourage young people to become involved in community and voluntary sector work.

A number of interviewees commented on the need for IDCF to partner relevant youth based organisations to work in partnership to develop bids and access grants, develop more professional and innovative approaches to tackle anti-social behaviour, raise aspirations and encourage learning. There was unanimous support for IDCF to continue targeted grant making to support activities for young people in and out of school and approbation for family centred and parenting activities.

3.3 Focus Group views

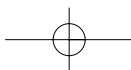
The four focus groups covered a lot of ground and many issues. Here we report on the most relevant points raised for the audience of this report. A number of additional activities were proposed and will separately be taken forward with the support of IDCF's Charity Capacity worker.

Parenting / childcare

This focus group comprised young mothers and childcare workers from the IDCF childcare network, the consultant who supports the group and the Foundation's Charity Capacity worker. The network was formed following IDCF work on the recommendations from the last report.

The group were largely satisfied with childcare available locally which was regarded, for the most part, as affordable, well organised and inclusive. They all had experience of a small core of parents who did not think they should pay anything for childcare, and whose children as a consequence, were deprived of out of school places or early and regular contact with other children. For the most part the group did not think that there were many, if any, local residents unable to pay for childcare. Rather these parents chose to spend what money they had in different ways. The group did think that there was a cultural issue and a significant number of children from the Bangladeshi community were not taken to organised early years activities, in part as it is not recognised as having educational value, but, also lack of awareness of what is available. This is beginning to change and the group felt there had been a significant improvement in the integration of the various communities on the island. Hugely beneficial in this regard is that language is no longer the barrier it had been in the past, particularly in the younger adult population although it still is with some of the older population. All participants were able to cite examples of high cost childcare (£10 for 2 hours) but none typically used it.

There were mixed views about the leisure facilities available for children. Play areas were often poorly maintained and vandalised, they were also often the haunts of older children and this deterred mothers from taking small children to them. Related to this the group was sceptical of the relatively low crime figures reported in the Boroughs Crime and Safety Audit, but thought this was most likely under-reporting, particularly of vandalism and graffiti. The consensus was that there is little evidence of improvements or actions against the culprits if the police are called. On the other hand the general perception was that the Island is now a safer place than it was in the recent past. Some youths still hang around and intimidate other residents and are a nuisance in the parks and play areas but the Island was thought to be generally a safe environment.



The free Passport to Leisure was widely approved and Tiller Road Baths seen as an excellent local resource, sadly often under-providing for children through the schools because of the legal requirements for qualified instructors and low pupil / instructor ratios. Mudchute Park and Farm was also regarded as a great asset both for childcare provision and for the wide range of other resources there. Some of the schools on the Island were regarded as having very basic facilities for sport and recreation. After School provision was described as 'patchy' with low numbers of children benefiting and many excluded through lack of places, also many with no accessible provision or capacity.

All of the focus group participants and, they thought typically, most other young mothers use facilities on the Island in preference to going elsewhere. In part this is for convenience, particularly if you have a pushchair or more than one small child, but, in large part it is because of poor transport infrastructure and roads. Whilst the transport system serving the Island has improved over recent times it was regarded as unreliable. The bus service does not serve all the Island and its residents well. The group would like to see some further significant improvement to transport and this was echoed in both our elders and young peoples groups.

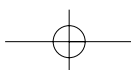
A key concern expressed by residents through the survey we conducted for the last report was the health of the local population and the facilities. The statistics from the IMD 2004 indicate that the health of the local population is worse than the national average and this is further confirmed by the PCT. In the experience of the group the key health problems suffered by local children were asthma and allergies. Additionally there was a persistent problem with head lice. There was a view that many children did not have balanced diets and low take-up of school meals contributed to this in some instances. Supporting new mums more and helping them to understand how to prepare nutritional meals and educate children's eating habits was one of the ideas generated at the session. There is adequate health provision on the Island but problems are sometimes experienced when booking as appointments are often offered between 1 - 3 weeks in the future. There is emergency provision at the Island Health Centre and a walk in provision at Whitechapel. Three of the Island's health centres have nurse facilities.

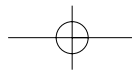
The group would like to see more support for new parents in addition to advice on healthy eating. Professional support for new mothers was considered insufficient and a range of additional parenting or family learning support would be appropriate including more outreach to support new mothers or any parent struggling to get to grips with child rearing. Additionally the women would like to encourage the wide distribution of resources like the 'Treasure Baskets' promoted by National Sure Start encouraging play and learning, Sure Start packs and videos, also, organised sessions at play groups around child care issues such as constructive play, health and hygiene and others. Island House run a network for new mothers and as they become more confident encourage the mothers to form self-help networks. There is scope for more of this kind of activity. As a network the group will follow-up some of their ideas.

Provision for over 8's was considered to be woefully inadequate resulting in boredom and as a consequence resulting in some rowdy and anti-social behaviour. Most of the youth provision closes at 8 pm with the exception of the St. John's Centre which opens one night a week until 10.30pm. It is plainly popular as on one notable occasion they had 135 young people there though they typically get about 25 on a regular basis.

Young people

The young people's focus group was attended by, youth workers and young people. It was the smallest focus group. Nonetheless we covered a lot of ground and it was representative of young people and those people serving them on the Island. The Borough's youth service defines young people as 5 - 11 but will shortly be extending the range to 3 - 11 at selected sites. We covered a wider age range and including young adults as the issues and problems often affected older young people more than the younger ones for whom their appears to be more statutory support. In the Bangladeshi community the age range requiring support and access to leisure and other facilities tends to extend beyond that in the white or black population, often into their mid to late 20s. This is because the leisure avenues available to over 18's often involve pubs, clubs and alcohol and require disposable income, culturally these venues are largely unacceptable to the Bangladeshi and some other ethnic minority groups where in any event unemployment rates are highest and typically the requirement to contribute to household income is high.





In terms of open spaces and population density the participants believed the range of problems, given the context on the Isle of Dogs, can be significant and cause emotional, physical and in some cases mental ill health. Particularly in the Bangladeshi community there is an issue of overcrowded households. The borough has few large family homes and new, if affordable, homes are generally small. Overcrowding and inter-generational stresses at home (parents with traditional cultural views and children exposed to western culture with a desire for more liberal behaviours) are then exacerbated by poor access to open spaces and leisure facilities. The new private developments are typically 'barriered' which means that youths are most likely to congregate together on the social housing estates and obviously therefore in greater numbers.

The focus group said that providing the appropriate mix and balance of social activity is part of the solution, helping to alleviate some of the tensions by providing physical and constructive activities and the environment for young people to discuss their problems and / or work out their frustrations. Outreach workers helped change the situation at St John's from one that was uncontrolled to the model example outlined by the Parenting / childcare focus group. The success of St John's depended on a partnership approach between the community centre management and outreach activity on the street.

We discussed other contributory factors to poor health, which we linked (given the scientific and medical evidence available) with poor performance and inattentiveness at school, some behavioural problems and obesity. Anecdotally the participants were aware that many young people eat out 'on the hoof' and on fast food. Fish, fruit and vegetables were not part of their normal diet as a rule but 'junk food' high in e-numbers, saturated fats and sugars, were. It remains the case that many Asian and Indian families retain the tradition of shared family mealtimes, although some young people are rebelling against this and adopting the poorer eating habits of their white counterparts. Again, in accord with the Parenting / childcare group, they believed that young mothers need support and guidance to understand the importance of a balanced and nutritious diet as do children and young people.

Irrespective of the cultural background of the participants they all agreed that institutional prejudices and barriers operated such that BME young people were more likely to be excluded or expelled from school, regarded as underachievers and / or under-perform at school and fare badly in employment. Low expectations for employment and careers in the BME population was reinforced by the experience of and visibility of many BME young people working in shops, restaurants or driving taxis, or, alternatively, long term unemployed.

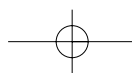
Docklands Outreach was seen as an example of good practice that could usefully be replicated elsewhere. Outreach workers bring young people in from the street and support them in C.V. and job preparation activities, they, as did our other youth workers, access young people where they hang out and ask what they want. The days of handing out condoms and saying 'no' to drugs, whilst the message may be the same, have to change to enable a dialogue with young people in which they believe they are contributing to solving their own problems.

Elders

The elders group was particularly well attended and comprised community activities, volunteer workers and health professionals. We split into syndicate groups to consider how satisfied they were on a scale of 1 (very satisfied), 2 (satisfied), 3 (quite unsatisfied) and 4 (not very satisfied) with the provisions for elders and the quality of life they experience on the Island. The scores are an indication of the overall views expressed but there was plenty of discussion about the variations within the services and facilities provided. Broadly the group was:

- very satisfied or satisfied with health provision;
- not very satisfied with transport, road infrastructure and housing issues;
- quite unsatisfied with management of open spaces;
- not very satisfied with policing and issues around crime and safety;
- satisfied or quite unsatisfied with access to and provision of shops;
- satisfied with leisure facilities.

Generally satisfied with health provision, access to and speed of appointments with GPs and hospital is good. In an emergency there is the walk in clinic. Attendees from sheltered housing were very satisfied with the service provided for them, organised through the housing association. At some practices receptionist, nurses and GPs were thought to be ageist, often off-hand but more



particularly dismissive, putting health problems down to age and not investigating problems thoroughly. Follow-up was generally considered to be poor both by GP practices and hospital. The Occupational Therapy department at London Hospital was singled out as providing an excellent and sensitive service. The consensus of the group was that health centres should offer regular health checks to all the over 60's annually. In addition it would be useful to have advocates who could help some of the less able and much older elders by identifying services available to them, helping them access those services and generally ensuring that someone is available to advocate on their behalf and ensure that all health and well-being issues are taken into account and tackled.

Dissatisfied with the transport infrastructure there was a particular sense of injustice about the loss of the D8 route. The need for additional traffic calming measures on the Manchester Road and for a crossing outside Mudchute station were considered essential by many. There was dissatisfaction at the constant and ongoing road works but no demonstrable improvement to the traffic flow and safety. Access to the DLR is poor in some parts of the Island. On the other hand the Dial-a-Ride service was generally considered to be very good.

Loss of social housing and the high cost of purchasing houses were considered to contribute to the breakdown of family support networks. Children have to move away to find affordable homes or social housing and this means less support to elders and less support to parents of young families. Most new housing is small so there is little scope for inter-generational living. The result is perceived to be damaging to the community infrastructure. In the long term elders believed that they will find they get less support from family and community services from a less caring society. As we noted above a major concern was that few young people seem prepared to volunteer their time to support community facilities and activities.

There were serious concerns about the loss of open and green spaces between flatted accommodation, poor maintenance of what remained and the increased housing and population densities. One person voiced the opinion, which was widely concurred with, that the Island is 'losing its' identity'. The loss of green space has also been accompanied by a reduction in the provision of leisure activities for example at Mile End and Millwall Parks where in the past there were wardens supervising

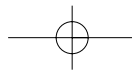
and children could use the paddling pool and lido, both now closed and unsafe for use because of the 'gangs of youths' who are 'territorial' with the spaces. The group strongly believed that the loss of open spaces and reduced leisure facilities is one of the reasons for antisocial and nuisance behaviour by young people and young adults, some as young as 8 years old.

Increased densities, traffic problems and loss of green spaces were thought to increase pollution and affect the health of elders and others adversely.

Policing was deemed to be generally unresponsive and many in the group thought that the Island police station should be re-opened and beat bobbies more visible. Crime was considered to be as prevalent on the Island now as it was 2 years ago and worse than it was 10 years ago. There was scepticism about the police statistics which, like the parenting and child care focus group, was, they thought, probably exacerbated by a failure to report incidents. Much of the crime and anti-social behaviour problems were believed to be linked to the poor provision of leisure facilities and lack of constructive activities to occupy young people, plus high unemployment.

Individually participants thought there was a shortage of activities for elders but collectively they identified an abundance of social and leisure activities on and around the Island. It was plain that many events and activities are held but that they are not marketed and promoted as well as they could be. The group agreed to work with the Charity Capacity worker on the production of a brochure outlining what happens when and where for wide circulation alongside regular updates for a newsletter. There was wide support for improved sharing of facilities to maximise use. On the negative side the restaurants, pubs and bars on the Island and around Canary Wharf were not seen as acceptable for elders, neither did they appear to try to cater for the elderly population. Free events organised at Canary Wharf for example a Glen Miller Band and Opera were greatly appreciated. Two Bangladeshi attendees thought that there should be more provision targeting Bangladeshi elders as little seemed to be provided specifically for them and many elders would not have the English language skills to participate with other groups.

There were mixed views about access to and provision of shops, many recalled that the Island used to have butchers, bakers and fishmongers and now there are few very local shops and they tend to be expensive. Loss of the corner shop also reduces social contact for some as on most trips to the supermarkets and shopping malls neighbours and friends are not encountered. However ASDA was widely used and Shop Mobility meant that even those with limited mobility could go to Canary Wharf and elsewhere to shop. The elders group was generally approving of the retail developments at Canary Wharf though dubious about how many jobs for the indigenous white and BME population it provided.



Employment and training

The participants included a range of local workers who deal with pre-employment and employment issues one worked in community facilities providing services for a significant number of BMEs and particularly women. Many of the issues covered by the group are tackled above but they made a significant and unique contribution on some issues:

In the first instance the focus groups looked at some of the inhibitors to work. Critical to this is the issue of access to and transfer of benefits. There are a number of myths and fears about the impact of work on benefits, a lack of understanding of the availability of working family tax credits and also the, sometimes, slow processing of benefits resulting in genuine hardship as individuals transfer to work losing benefits before they are paid. This is plainly not just a problem on the Isle of Dogs rather a national one. The benefit system is complex and although advice and guidance is available many people do not seek it out rather believing the myths that surround it.

Many women on the Island have a range of problems which inhibit their ability to access economic activity the issues include cultural barriers, poor language skills, poor basic skills (numeracy and literacy), child care and other carer responsibilities in addition to low self-esteem, lack of confidence and no or little experience of the labour market. Even activity at a very basic level has been fraught with difficulties and regarded as threatening. Separating mother and child particularly when there are language difficulties has caused distress and simple exercises such as getting mums to use the DLR is constrained by childcare and school times.

Locally, the most effective promotional and marketing exercises for pre-employment activity (including basic skills and vocational training) appears to be through word of mouth. Even still the evidence shows that services need to be delivered from very local venues where participants feel comfortable, have personal knowledge of, or are known of by a family member. The Borough (including Life Long Learning, Employment Solutions and Skillsmatch) and Job Centre Plus have developed a flexible and proactive approach and want to work with local community organisations in local facilities. There is some optimism therefore that this will have positive payouts but they will be realised in the long term as the participants, men, women and from all cultural backgrounds, are often

starting from a very low base in employment terms. The experience of developing ESOL and employment classes linked to the Job Centre Plus activity and the Contact Team had serious teething problems including low take-up, opposition to mixed gender and the lengthy period of time required to build relationships, often fragile and breaking down with personnel changes.

Work undertaken with local employers reveals that several basic employment skills are necessary and often found lacking - not just from Isle of Dogs residents - from applicants. These include: personal hygiene, dress code, cultural differences (for example making eye contact), ability to use fundamental business tools like the telephone or fax and in addition understanding the interview requirements and necessity of verifiable references.

The focus groups' experience demonstrate that many local people have a strong desire, if they wish to obtain employment, to do so locally, and a strong aversion to exploring opportunities off the Isle of Dogs. This appears to be true irrespective of race or culture. Examples were cited of graduates working on cash desks in Waitrose rather than seeking work more appropriate to their qualifications elsewhere. It also appears, unfortunately, that parents often reinforce low expectations and aspire to their children working locally - in any job - rather than meeting their potential elsewhere. Local people typically have low expectations of accessing work on Canary Wharf (except in retail and catering) and despite some notable exceptions there are few examples known of local young people accessing good quality jobs and careers there. There are a few examples of employers piloting initiatives with local young people including the Financial Services Association (FSA). This is a result of the work of Docklands Personnel Initiative (a Canary Wharf Group plc led initiative) the aim of which is to recruit global companies with international application. Of 8 people inducted on the FSA project and taken on for a 6 week trial, 6 were recruited into permanent jobs.

There remain problems in encouraging, particularly BME's, into certain types of employment. A good example of this used at the focus group is the lack of black role models in construction and a lack of interest, generally in construction, from any of the BME communities, in entering these trades. Nationally there is a severe shortage in many of the construction trades and locally construction work continues at Canary Wharf and will be in increasing demand for the Millennium Quarter and the Leaside Arc. The range of construction work is from basic labouring through to highly skilled trades. Pay is good. There are examples elsewhere of BME construction businesses.

Progress Since the Last Report, Conclusions and Recommendations



4.0 Progress since the last report, conclusions and recommendations

4.1 Progress Report

Promoting IDCF

Whilst the 2002 report acknowledged that IDCF had recently re-branded, refreshing their image and raising awareness, it suggested that more was needed to promote the Foundations work including the SRB programme and the delivery agents. IDCF produce a quarterly newsletter and an Annual Report, distributed to members and stakeholders. New promotional material has been produced, an IDCF fact card and bookmarks including one for each of the individual 'Creating Confident Communities' projects. The website has been updated and will continue to be regularly in future.

IDCF news stories appear on a frequent basis in East End Life, the Wharf, the East London Advertiser, Tower Hamlets Recorder and Docklands News. The Community Self Help project was featured in the London Development Agency's Newsletter, on their website and in a national regeneration periodical. Trinity College of Music's project, which we part-fund was featured in 15 publications, including the Times. A press event was held last year to promote IDCF to journalists.

IDCF also acted on the recommendation that staff and trustees should be more visible in the area. In a typical month the small staff team regularly met with key partners including more than 10 community and voluntary organisations, 5 corporate or statutory partners and organised 2/3 events and 6 training courses for the community and voluntary sector. We hold members meetings, networking events for project managers and regular Friend's Tours.

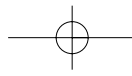
Reducing Disparities in Access to Economic Activity

IDCF continue to fund a variety of 'economic access' activities to support local residents into employment through training, job search guidance and practical advice on CV construction and interview technique. In 2003/04 funding from IDCF resulted in the creation of 36 jobs and 135 local residents were assisted into employment.

Training is now funded through two new SRB Creating a Confident Community projects. The range of training activity is wide, recognising the specific needs of the long term and never employed on the Isle of Dogs. Our IT project has resulted in introductory and accredited IT courses being delivered in community venues and schools. We provide match funds to support volunteers on an advice work course matching Neighbourhood Renewal.

Over the last two years the Community Self Help project has provided sixteen local residents the opportunity to gain an accredited community development qualification and practical work experience in the voluntary sector. Of the 8 who completed the programme in the first year, five have gone into employment, two continued to volunteer and one has gone into further education.

The Foundation works in partnership with Tower Hamlets College, Lifelong Learning and Employment Solutions to develop projects that have the potential to increase local people's participation in economic activity in the area. Lifelong Learning is due to commence IT training at George Green's School in the Autumn of 2004.



Low Educational Attainment

IDCF continue to support a number of projects in local schools including a modest contribution to the home school liaison project, an employee volunteering initiative including reading and number partners, sports development work and learning through a programme aimed at building team spirit and increasing the aspirations of young people. Last year over one thousand young people benefited from projects designed to improve attainment.

The report proposed a review of childcare provision in the area. IDCF has led on setting up a network for all childcare providers in the area. The network share information and good practice and have produced a guide to childcare provision on the Island. This leaflet (recently updated) has been distributed widely. The network also organised a Child Care Information Day to encourage take-up of training and careers in childcare.

IDCF grants enable key partners to deliver activities to encourage young people's motivation and willingness to engage in education related activities. This has included pupils from local schools visiting Canary Wharf companies, meeting and talking to their staff about careers, two work related conferences in school to assist young people with interview technique, explore and practise work place skills. And support to the Tower Hamlets College Mentoring Programme by brokering employee participation as mentors to students.

IDCF continue to provide funding for summer programme activities delivered by local organisations. The funding is used to provide constructive activities and divert attention from nuisance and criminal behaviour.

Influencing Agencies

The report acknowledged that although IDCF has neither the resources nor the remit to address all major issues on the Island it could provide a strong lobbying voice. IDCF work with the police, the borough and others as identified in this report to ensure the needs and aspirations are met.

We take an active role in the Local Strategic Partnership, our Director is a member of the Steering Group for the local Area partnership (LAP 8) and we have a place on the Creating and Sharing Prosperity Community Plan Action Group (CPAG) and on Leaside Regeneration Partnership Board

Crime and Perception of Crime

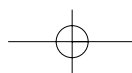
IDCF continues to fund initiatives targeted at young people at risk of offending or at risk of exclusion, for example Outreach in Millwall and Blackwall, which delivers street work, one to one support and workshops on drugs awareness and sexual health. Other organisations funded by IDCF provide diversionary activities for young people. Last year nearly 5,000 young people benefited from projects to promote personal and social development.

As a result of the research IDCF funded a Community Safety Grants Chest. Funding included security improvements to community facilities, a project to distribute personal alarms to older people and a graffiti project for young people. Projects were provided with expert advice on security from the Metropolitan Police Crime Prevention Design Advisor. 1,000 people benefited from community safety initiatives in 2003 / 04.

Local Capacity

Ongoing work with the community and voluntary sector to develop sustainability and access other funding sources to replace SRB funding has continued in the last two years. Funding is available for training, IT hardware and software, consultancy support, expert advice as well as the in-house support and advice provided by IDCF's staff team. The team also organise regular 'Meet the Funders' events.

IDCF has provided financial support for the development of social enterprises. Although it can take a considerable length of time for social enterprises to break even, new income generating activities have been developed by the local voluntary sector including a community café, plant nursery, a landscaping project and an IT project.



4.2 Conclusions and recommendations

Since the research report, Regenerating the Isle of Dogs: A Consultation and Baseline Survey was published in 2002 the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation, trustees and staff team, has sought to tackle and implement the recommendations. Some of the actions taken will take time to impact on the prosperity of the area and quality of life of those who live and work on the Island more slowly than others and further gains are pretty much guaranteed. Nonetheless, as outlined in Section 4.1, in a relatively short space of time significant progress has been made towards implementing the original recommendations.

What emerges from this update is a slightly confusing picture of a local area which has grown, not uniformly, in affluence over a period of years. Alongside the prestigious new private housing, pockets of deprivation continue to exist, although even these are relatively less deprived when compared with the rest of the borough and by rank relatively less deprived nationally than they were at the time of the IMD2000. This is not to diminish the fact that need for interventions exist and that half of the SOAs in the IDCF area are in the most deprived 20% nationally.

Drawing on the review of published sources used in this report, the stakeholder interviews and focus group reports we have reconsidered the priorities we identified previously. It is pointless changing tack for the sake of it and IDCF's progress over the last two years whilst impressive, and supported by a general growth in affluence locally, has only gone part way towards resolving some of the problems experienced by local people. Additionally the integrity of the SRB programme in its penultimate year would suffer if wholesale changes were now made to delivery. Introducing new projects, which will barely have the chance to deliver the outputs and outcomes to meet the contractual obligations with the LDA, would compromise the programme.

We previously identified 6 priorities, progress is reported against each in the sub-sections in 4.1, and we do not think that these should change although the way in which they are tackled ought to take account of and target (so far as possible) the population, living in small pockets of multiple deprivation mostly on social housing estates. Additionally we would add partnership working and development to the 'influencing providers' priority. The necessity for partnership working is not simply a fundraising one, although that is critical, but IDCF need to maintain a central position in all the partnerships on or overarching the Isle of Dogs in order to maintain its credibility as the voluntary sector 'umbrella' agency for the area and to further develop the ability to influence.

It is self-evident that most commentators, whilst recognising progress made, identify that the same priorities exist. There is also wide spread endorsement for the approach adopted accepting that some refinements may be desirable.

Commentators suggest a further priority, that it is time for IDCF to conduct an organisational review and we agree that this is desirable. The review should be comprehensive and consider the organisation, its aims, objectives and focus and ensure that it continues to be relevant and current. The rationale for this is:

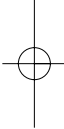
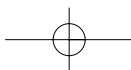
- To check the validity and continued relevance of the aims, objectives and structure of IDCF and to explore some of the suggestion made in the key stakeholder interviews about focus and remit;
- The question of future resourcing. What form fundraising should take, who should be responsible for identifying possibilities, who should lead fundraising activity and should IDCF seek to deliver output driven funding on other agencies behalf
- The impending closure of SRB, the closure, or scaling down of a number of externally funded projects and the development of a forward strategy for IDCFs in-house projects
- The impending arrival of Millennium Quarter Grant, at a lower level but with similar output and outcome expectations, and the requirement to build a programme of activity to enable effective delivery
- Changes to personnel not discussed in the body of this report but which, by the time of publication, will have only one remaining member of a relatively long-standing team. This is an opportunity to complete a review of personnel structures and roles to ensure fit with any new organisational priorities.

4.3 Conclusion

This update illustrates that over the last two years IDCF has continued to address closely the key priorities that published sources and key partners identify as afflicting the area. Very significant progress has been made but more can be done and there are useful suggestions from stakeholders and focus groups in section 3 for future activities to meet priorities. Whilst the picture of deprivation emerging now is different than we previously had it is a more accurate and precise picture. The information available confirms that those suffering deprivation largely live on the social housing estates and suffer from multiple levels of deprivation. The population in those areas of deprivation are more likely to be from BME communities, have dependent children, live on low or no incomes, have poor educational or vocational skills and suffer worse health. The message to IDCF is to continue to address the priorities they have over the last 2 years for at least the next 2 if not longer whilst ensuring that as an organisation they remain relevant and current.

Appendix

- ¹ Ward Data report (final) EDAW, January 2003
- ² A New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal: National Strategy Action Plan. Social Exclusion Unit, January 2001
- ³ Tower Hamlets Improving Today, Shaping Tomorrow: The Community Plan to 2010
- ⁴ The Community Plan 2003 / 04: The Tower Hamlets Partnership, The Community Plan to 2010 Year 3 2003 / 2004.
- ⁵ Ibid-
- ⁶ Canary Wharf Employee Survey (Transport) 2003
Supplementary Report: Home Locations (October 2003) Steer Davies, Gleave
- ⁷ Greater London Authority '99 ward projections P1/M98
- ⁸ Annual Labour Force Survey 2001: National Statistics (Department for Work and Pensions with the Department for Education and Skills)
- ⁹ Poverty in Britain: The impact of government policy since 1997 by Holly Sutherland, Tom Sefton and David Piachaud, published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2004
- ¹⁰ Opportunity for All, DWP, 2002
- ¹¹ All figures supplied by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Indices of Deprivation 2004
- ¹² Social Focus in Brief: Ethnicity 2002 (ibid)
- ¹³ Social Focus in Brief: Ethnicity 2002: London Office for National statistics
- ¹⁴ The New Ethnicity Classification in the Labour Force Survey (Technical Report)14, Labour Market Trends, December 2002
- ¹⁵ Region in Figures London Summer 2004 No 8:Office for National Statistics
- ¹⁶ Local Area Job Densities: 2002, Labour Market Trends August 2004
- ¹⁷ London Project Report: Prime Ministers Strategy Unit, Crown copyright, July 2004
- ¹⁸ Canary Wharf Employee Survey (Transport) 2003, Supplementary Report: Home Locations. Stear, Davies and Gleave, October 2003
- ¹⁹ Update to Race research for the future: Ethnicity in education and the labour market, NFER 2003



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