Recording Ethnicity Data using ONS18+1

Why collect ethnicity data?

Within Newham nearly 70% of our residents are from the global majority, making Newham one of the most ethnically diverse areas in the UK.

Our communities and their experiences cannot be understood via narrow ethnicity groupings, and poor quality ethnicity recording is masking inequalities (CQC, 2022).

> **Collecting ONS18+1 ethnicity data enables us to interrogate and use data to understand if targeted services are reaching the right people, and if universal services are truly accessible for all ethnic groups.**

ONS 18+1 – Our baseline

ONS18+1 was used in the 2021 Census. It offers people 18 ethnic groups to identify as, and provides a robust and consistent baseline for recording ethnicity. View the ONS guidance here.

Understanding the picture as is

Digging deeper into the root causes

How will using ONS 18+1 help to improve our services?

ONS18+1 creates a consistent ethnicity baseline for data collection.

You can use our **'Does it Look Like Newham?' (DILLN) tool** to view the ONS18+1 ethnicity breakdown of each ward in Newham. This enables you to compare service data to ward populations, to understand if service users reflect local demographics.

How can this help us reduce health inequalities?

A better understanding of our data enables us to ask the following questions:

- Is there proportionate representation of the local/target demographic at the service?
- Is there any variation in experience and outcomes of the service? What might be the cause of this?
- Are there any differences/similarities to other services locally/regionally?

You can us the **ART Framework** in our **Health Equity Toolkit** to analyse how accessible, relevant and trusted the service is in greater detail.

ONS18+1 and Does It Look Like Newham?

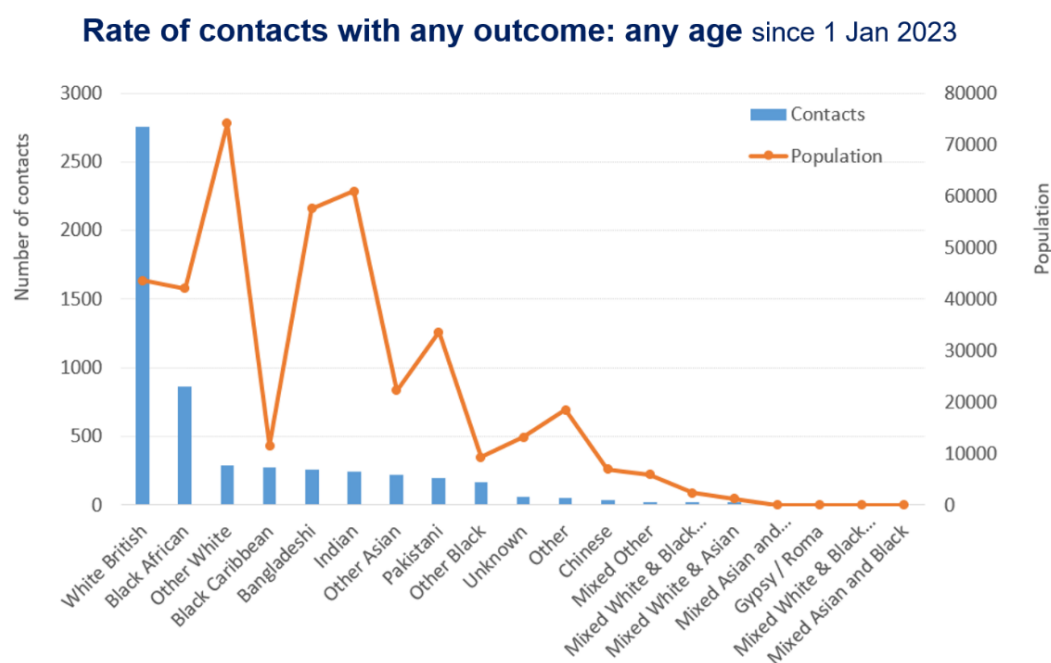## How does our service user profile look, and how should it?

Does It Look Like Newham (DILLN) tool is an easy to use data tool which gives users a quick snapshot of the ethnicities that are represented in Newham's population (2021 Census). This can be filtered by age and ward, enabling services to compare service user data to Newham's population.

ONS18+1 creates a consistent ethnicity baseline for data comparison using DILLN, and ensures we can be accurate in a data led approach to improving equity in services.

Case Study – Adult Safeguarding Board

The Safeguarding Adults' Board analysed the ethnicity of all safeguarding outcomes in the year 2022/2023, for people aged 20-29 and those aged 30-39.

Intuitively, this data seems skewed, but to be sure of this, they used DILLN to compare service referrals to Newham's population.

Rate of contacts with any outcome: any age since 1 Jan 2023

Insights from using DILLN

- When accounting for population age structure, the contact rate is the highest for White British followed by Black Caribbean residents.
- Lowest rates are seen amongst Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani and White & Asian residents.

Next steps

This comparison made the data meaningful and made the next steps clearer.

In this case, a literature review was undertaken that looked for **interventions that increased the level of representation in safeguarding outcomes for Black and South Asian residents**.

If you have any questions, or need any support in using our Health Equity Toolkit, please get in touch with us at **healthequity@newham.gov.uk**