



Newham London

NHS
Newham

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2010
The London Borough of Newham

18th January 2011

16.0 Methodology and evidence

16.1 Overview

A working group, which included Local Authority and NHS Newham staff, carried out a refresh of the 2009 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. However this JSNA has gone beyond a simple refresh of the previous report, with chapter authors taking a fresh look at the evidence base, considering future demand for services and updating on progress since last year.

Health outcomes, including national health outcome measures, patient-reported outcomes, and patient experience measures have been used. In addition evidence from carers, Third sector and social enterprise have been included. This JSNA does not provide a catalogue of services available within Newham. The purpose of the JSNA is to provide an assessment of needs that is objective. However, use of a service has been referred to in some chapters as a proxy for needs.

The commissioning priorities highlighted in the document were arrived at through a review of the published evidence of health, well being and social care needs in Newham and the context of expected demographic change in the coming years.

16.2 Benchmarking

For the JSNA we have tried to compare 'needs' in Newham to the national picture or to London. Many of the comparisons in the JSNA are done across all 33 London boroughs or 31 London PCTs.

16.3 Selection of Sources

The most up-to-date data has been provided where possible, and all data has been dated to show time of reference. Where relevant and available, data sets have been shown with national and regional comparators, however not all data sets used within this chapter have comparator data.

16.3.1 Greater London Authority (GLA) Population Projections

This population source is used because it is seen as far more robust and a more accurate reflection of Newham's population than the statistics produced by the Office for National Statistics. The methodology that the GLA uses in producing their projections includes data on existing and proposed new housing development, provided by the Planning Department, to identify locations and numbers of new dwellings.

The 2008-round has been selected for use rather than the 2009-round because the ward-level and ethnic projections are available for that round. Use of differing projections from two different rounds was likely to be confusing to readers, and consistency of totals was seen as desirable.

16.3.2 Office for National Statistics population estimates

This source of data is seen as less credible for Newham because the methodology used does not adequately reflect the levels of migration into the borough from abroad. The estimates rely upon the International Passenger Survey for quantifying the total level of international migration into the country.

There is a wealth of evidence that indicates that the international migration allocated to Newham by ONS is a major undercount, and that the undercount is impacting on derived statistical measures for the borough. The levels of applications for National Insurance Numbers for new migrant workers, the registrations of new migrants with General Practitioners (GPs) in Newham, the rise in recent European migrants in the Electoral Register, the number of births born to mothers born abroad and the appearance of new migrant communities in schools all contribute to the lack of credibility of the ONS estimates.

16.3.3 ONS Births and Deaths data, with derived fertility, mortality and life expectancy

The counts of births and deaths are administrative data, with recorded events allocated to individual local authorities based on the address related to the event. These are seen as robust. The derived fertility and mortality statistics for Newham are not seen as robust due to their reliance on the flawed ONS population estimates as denominators. The estimate of female population in Newham is seen as particularly problematic, and its impact on the fertility and mortality rates are easily seen.

16.3.4 Patient registered population

This is administrative data, providing a population profile of the population registered with National Health Service GPs. It is the single most comprehensive administrative system, with the largest coverage of population in the borough. The patient register is seen as good at recording movement into and out of the borough, albeit with incomplete coverage. It records real administrative events of people registering with GPs in Newham, and elsewhere after they had previously been registered in Newham. It is one source that records new migrants accessing the health service, when their records are marked with a “Flag 4” to indicate a newly registered patient having a previous address from abroad.

16.3.5 Annual Schools Census

This data is collected by individual schools on behalf of the Department for Education (formerly the Department for Children Schools and families). The data used in this analysis includes children resident in the borough who attend state schools. There are believed to be few children in Newham attending private schools, so the schools census data is seen as being very accurate.

16.3.6 Benefit claimants data, DWP

Administrative data from Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on disability-related benefits is a useful source to help contextualise the levels of population with disability. The database comprises a 5 percent sample of all claims for unemployment related benefits and it is a unique source able to provide insight into changes in claimants and the need-base for their claims over time.

16.3.7 National Insurance Registrations, DWP

This source of administrative data covers those who wish to work in the UK and apply for a National Insurance Number as part of their employment documentation. While it does not cover the whole of international migration to the borough, excluding non-workers and illegal workers, it is a useful source of intelligence on the scale and source of migrant flows arriving in Newham.

16.3.8 Census of Population 2001

This data is the only source available for religion and likely to be quite out-dated given its age, and the level of change that has occurred in the borough.

16.4 Evidence of effectiveness and cost effectiveness

The evidence of effective and cost effective interventions that can help address identified needs can be found on the following websites, such as the NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence) (www.nice.org.uk), Social Care Institute for Excellence (www.scie.org.uk), the Local Government Improvement and Development (www.idea.gov.uk) and NHS Evidence (www.evidence.nhs.uk). Where relevant, sources of evidence have been highlighted within the JSNA chapters.

