

Custom House & Canning Town Community Neighbourhood

Wards: Canning Town North, Canning Town South, Custom House
May 2026



Canning Town Station

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Introduction



*Newham 60th Anniversary,
Keir Hardie Park*

Wards

Custom House & Canning Town Community Neighbourhood is made up of the following wards:

Custom House
Canning Town North
Canning Town South

About the area

Located to the northeast of the Royal Victoria Dock, Custom House & Canning Town is a thriving neighbourhood with good transportation links, greenways and cycle routes and boasts many parks and green spaces.

Significant redevelopment is focused around Canning Town's Hallsville Quarter and Custom House's Freemasons Road, involving new homes, shops and community facilities.

Old Canning Town Library, one of Newham's most historic buildings, is being restored and reactivated into a new borough hub for community, culture and heritage, and is currently set to open May 2027.

Transport

Custom House & Canning Town are exceptionally well-connected East London areas anchored by Canning Town Station (Jubilee Line, DLR) and Custom House Station (Elizabeth Line, DLR). Local travel is supported by frequent buses 147, 241, 304, 473, 474, 325, 300, 115, 5, 330, and 276 allowing quick travel into the city.

Community facilities

Key community facilities include Canning Town Library, Custom House Library and several community centres including the Cundy Centre and Trinity Centre. There are also two Children's Centres, a Best Start Family Hub, an Adult Learning Centre and a Youth Zone. These provide a range of learning opportunities, social activities and hireable community spaces.

Resident testimonials



Alyssa Danker

“I've lived here with my family for many years and there's so much to do. We've been to community events like Christmas and summer parties, festivals and sports days. There are lots of parks and green spaces to enjoy and we love going to the library. The staff there are so friendly and they run great clubs and activities for young children and adults to take part in. I can get to work in Central London easily and have lovely neighbours that look out for each other.



Suman Arora

“I have lived in Newham for eight years and regularly visit Canning Town Library for computer learning, exercise classes and other community engagements. Staff are welcoming and helpful. The Neighbourhood Team organises great events and supportive programmes. The area is developing quickly, and the library supports residents through strong community partnerships.

Resident survey

The resident survey provides a borough-wide snapshot of residents' views. It was last carried out between November and December 2025, with 1,523 face-to-face interviews conducted across all eight of Newham's Community Neighbourhood Areas.

The findings below show how residents in Custom House & Canning Town responded. For more information, visit the **Newham Resident Survey** website or scan the QR code.



Ten key findings for residents in Custom House & Canning Town



77%
of residents are
satisfied with
their local area as
a place to live



61%
are satisfied with
how Newham
Council runs
things



78%
trust the Council



53%
feel informed
about how the
Council makes
decisions



86%
feel safe in the
local area during
the day



57%
feel safe in the
local area after
dark



77%
are satisfied with
the overall quality
of their home



73%
say their housing
costs are
affordable or
manageable

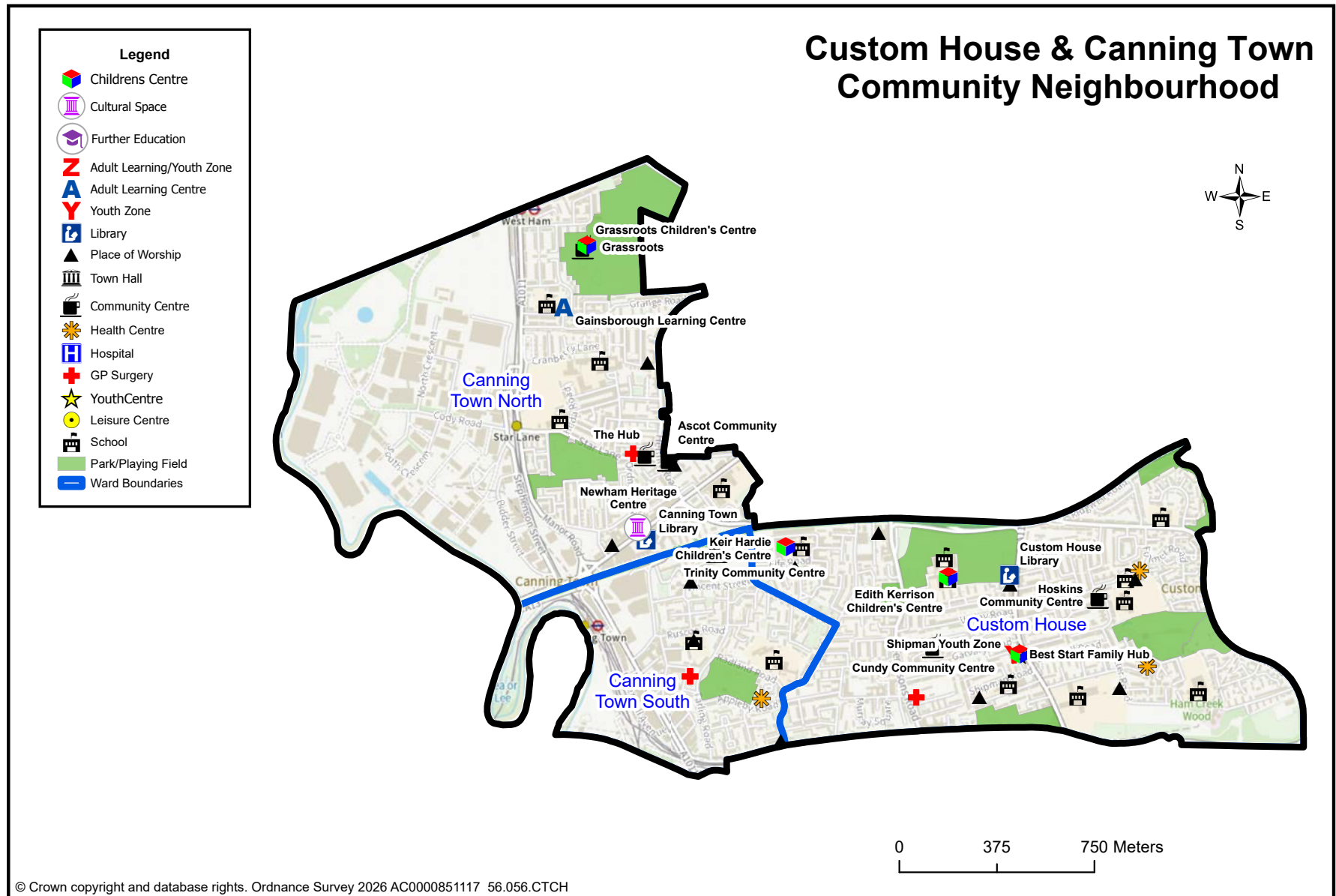


75%
feel strongly that
they belong to
their local area



77%
agree people
from different
backgrounds get
on well together

Neighbourhood map



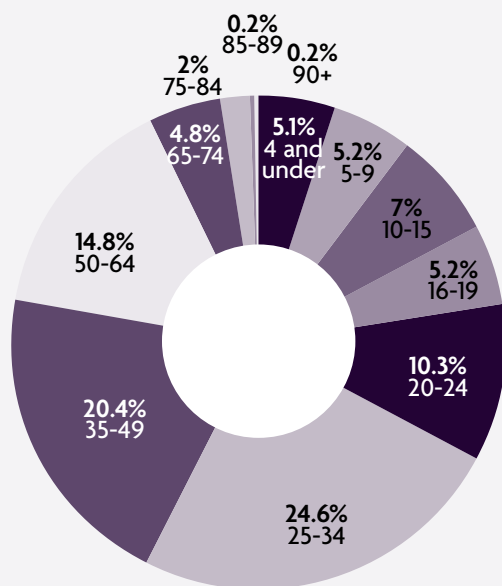
Canning Town North

Population data

Population: **10,965** (2.9% of Newham's population)

Population data is from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE), based on mid-2024 ward-level estimates published in November 2025.

Age



Ethnicity

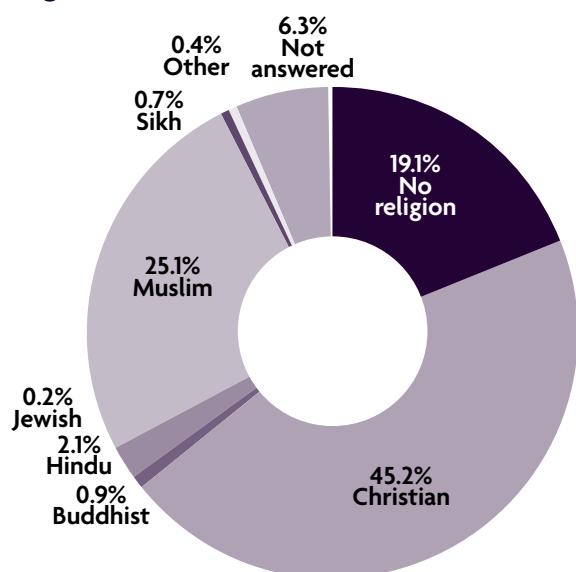
The Census 2021 gave residents the choice to identify themselves through one of 19 available response options, which included categories with write-in response options. For Newham, there were over 200 additional ethnic identifications as a result.

Ethnicity	Percent
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	22.7%
Bangladeshi	10.4%
Chinese	2.3%
Indian	3.6%
Pakistani	2.4%
Other	3.9%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	29%
African	21.1%
Caribbean	4.9%
Other	3%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic	5.2%
White and Asian	0.7%
White and Black African	1.3%
White and Black Caribbean	1.6%
Other	1.7%
White	37.9%
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	19.8%
Irish	0.5%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0%
Roma	0.7%
Other	16.9%
Other	5.2%
Arab	1.2%
Other	4%

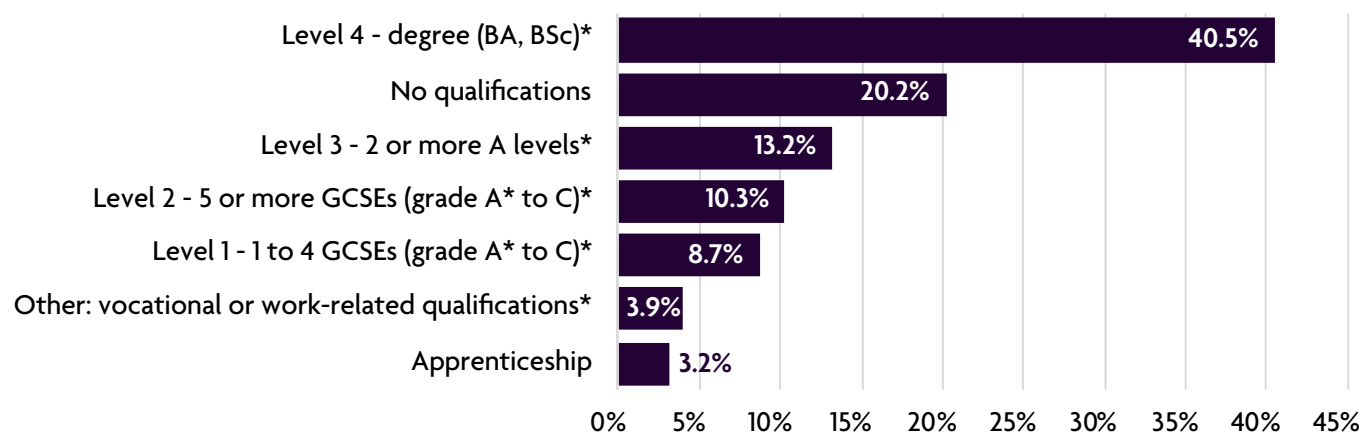
Census data 2021

The UK Census takes place every ten years and provides the most comprehensive population data. The last census took place on 21 March 2021.

Religion

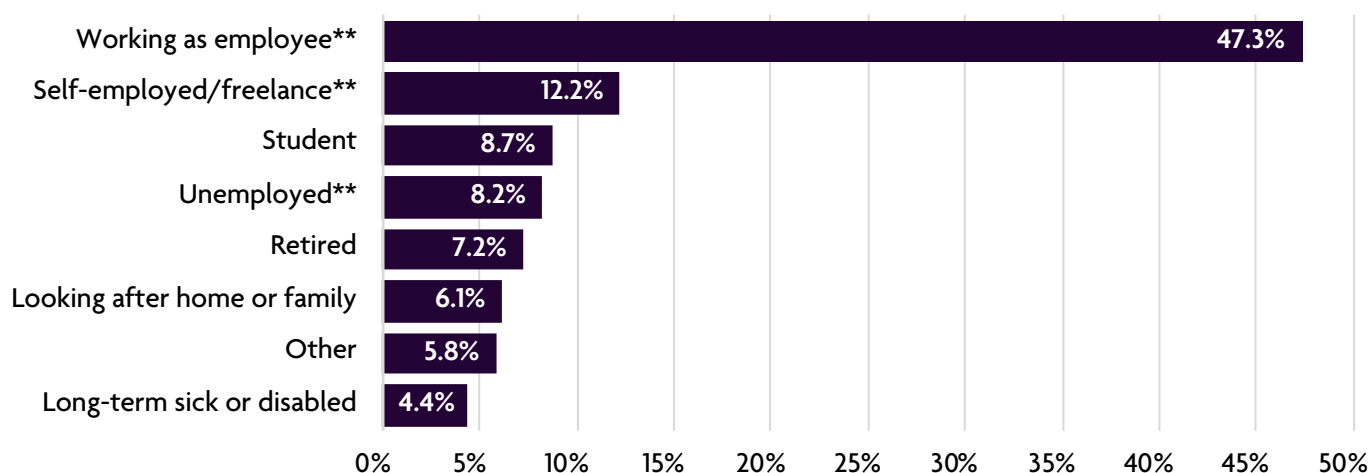


Qualifications



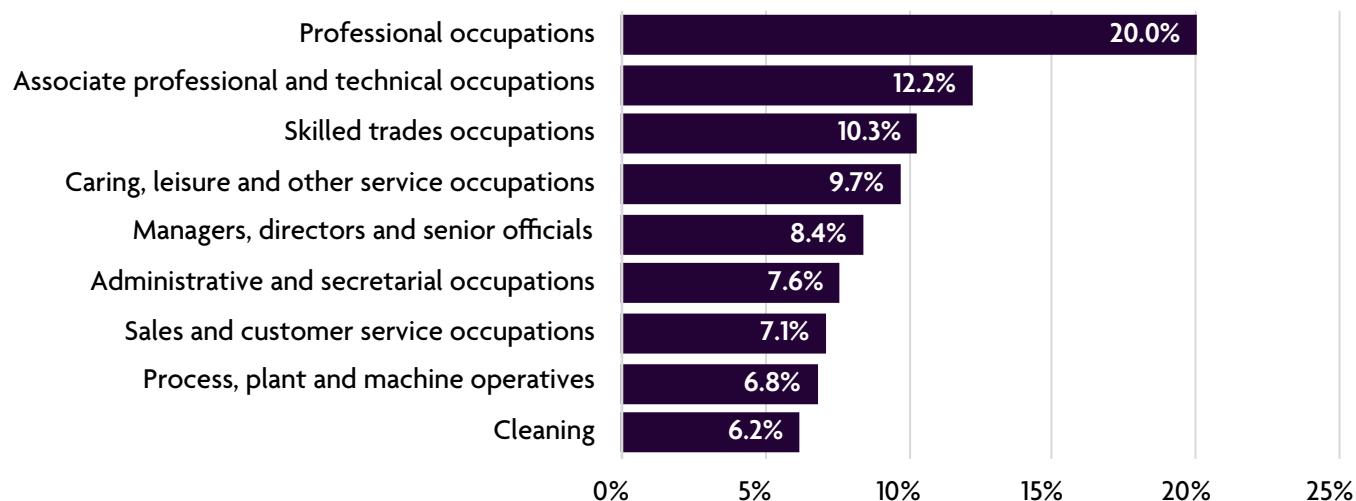
*Or equivalent

Economic activity



**Including full time students

Occupation***



***Percentages do not sum to 100. Remaining residents (not shown) work in security, sales, and other 'Elementary' occupations (Census 2021).

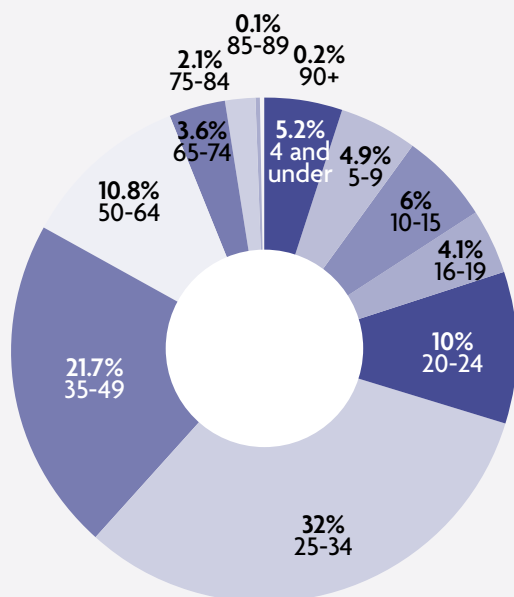
Canning Town South

Population data

Population: **8,916** (2.4% of Newham's population)

Population data is from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE), based on mid-2024 ward-level estimates published in November 2025.

Age



Ethnicity

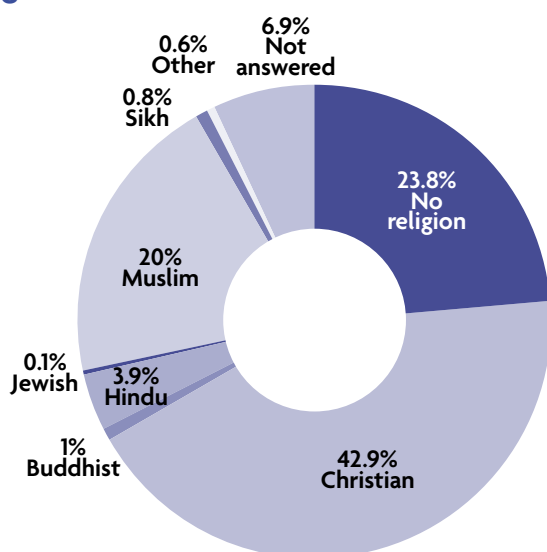
The Census 2021 gave residents the choice to identify themselves through one of 19 available response options, which included categories with write-in response options. For Newham, there were over 200 additional ethnic identifications as a result.

Ethnicity	Percent
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	24.9%
Bangladeshi	7.3%
Chinese	4.5%
Indian	7%
Pakistani	2.9%
Other	3.2%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	23.9%
African	17.8%
Caribbean	3.7%
Other	2.5%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic	6.6%
White and Asian	1.4%
White and Black African	1.6%
White and Black Caribbean	1.6%
Other	2%
White	39.6%
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	19.9%
Irish	0.4%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0%
Roma	0.7%
Other	18.6%
Other	5%
Arab	1.6%
Other	3.5%

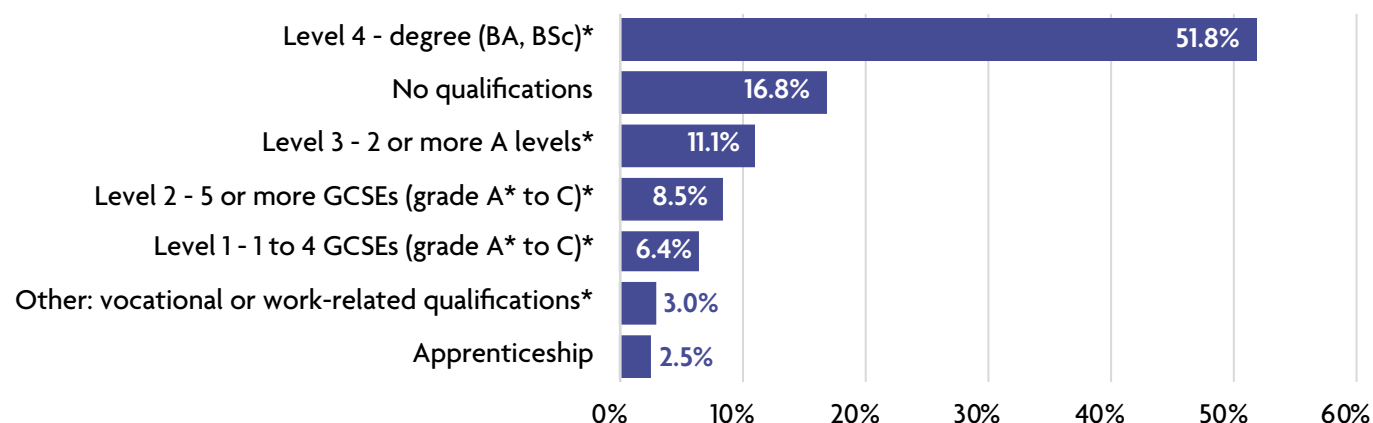
Census data 2021

The UK Census takes place every ten years and provides the most comprehensive population data. The last census took place on 21 March 2021.

Religion

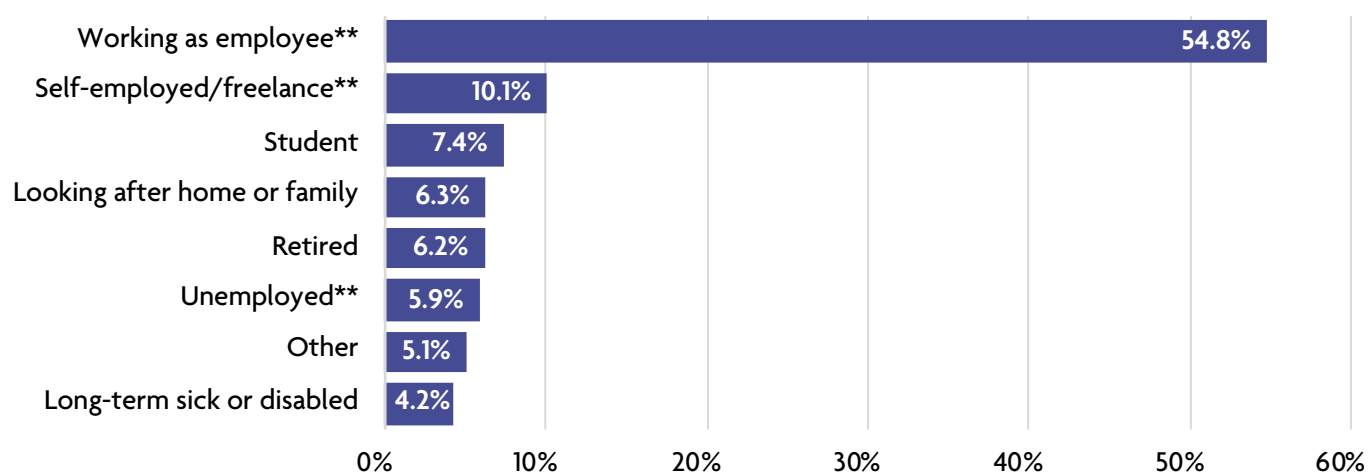


Qualifications



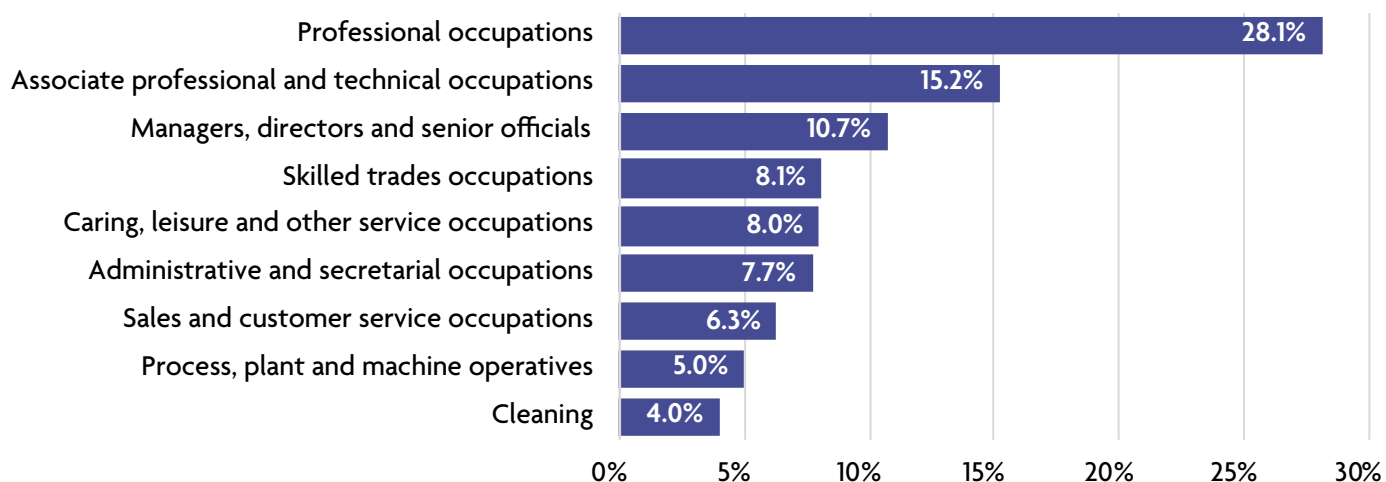
*Or equivalent

Economic activity



**Including full time students

Occupation***



***Percentages do not sum to 100. Remaining residents (not shown) work in security, sales, and other 'Elementary' occupations (Census 2021).

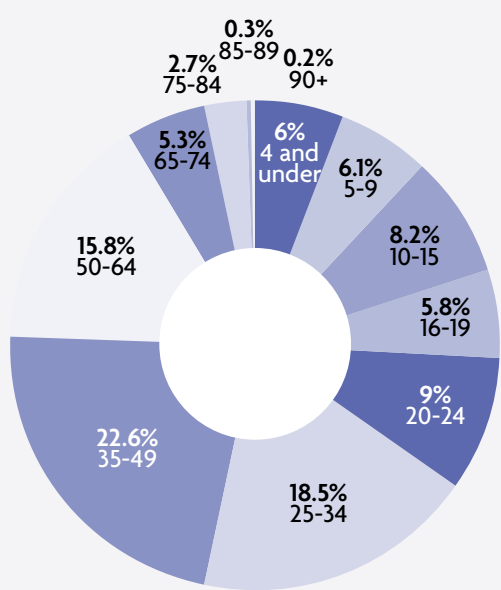
Custom House

Population data

Population: **18,483** (4.9% of Newham’s population)

Population data is from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small Area Population Estimates (SAPE), based on mid-2024 ward-level estimates published in November 2025.

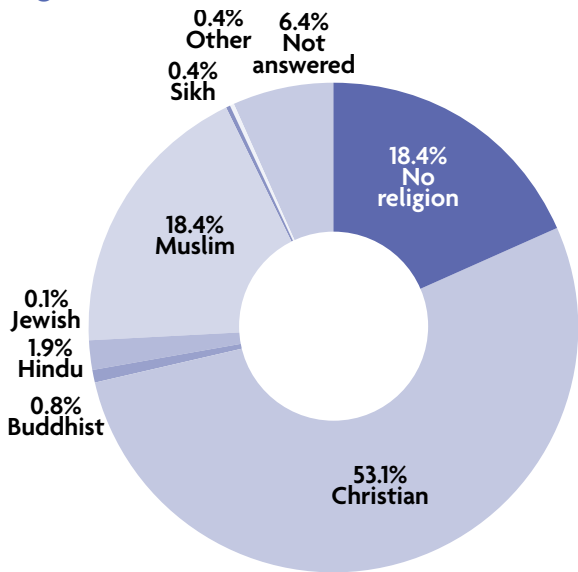
Age



Census data 2021

The UK Census takes place every ten years and provides the most comprehensive population data. The last census took place on 21 March 2021.

Religion

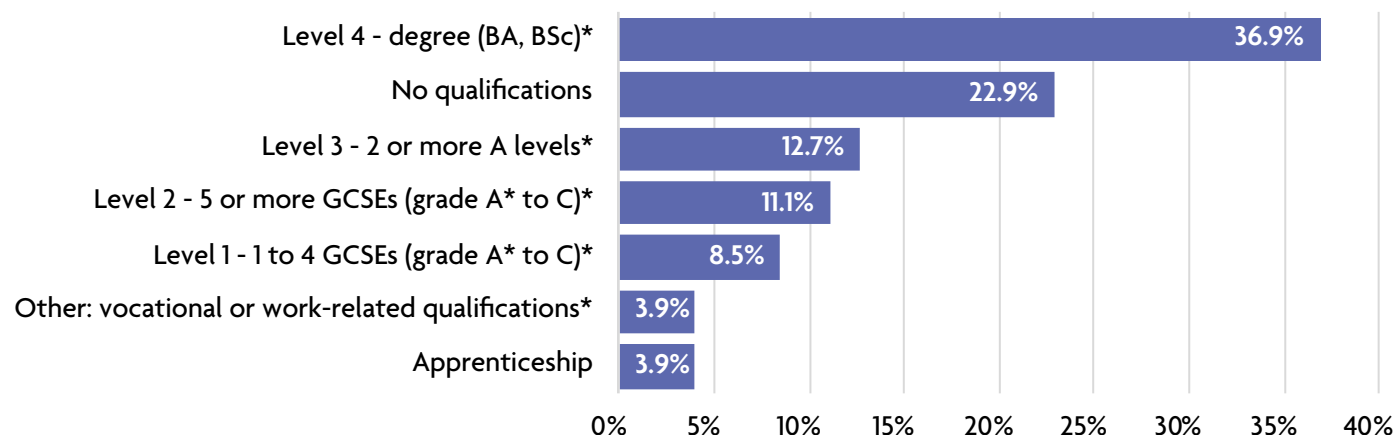


Ethnicity

The Census 2021 gave residents the choice to identify themselves through one of 19 available response options, which included categories with write-in response options. For Newham, there were over 200 additional ethnic identifications as a result.

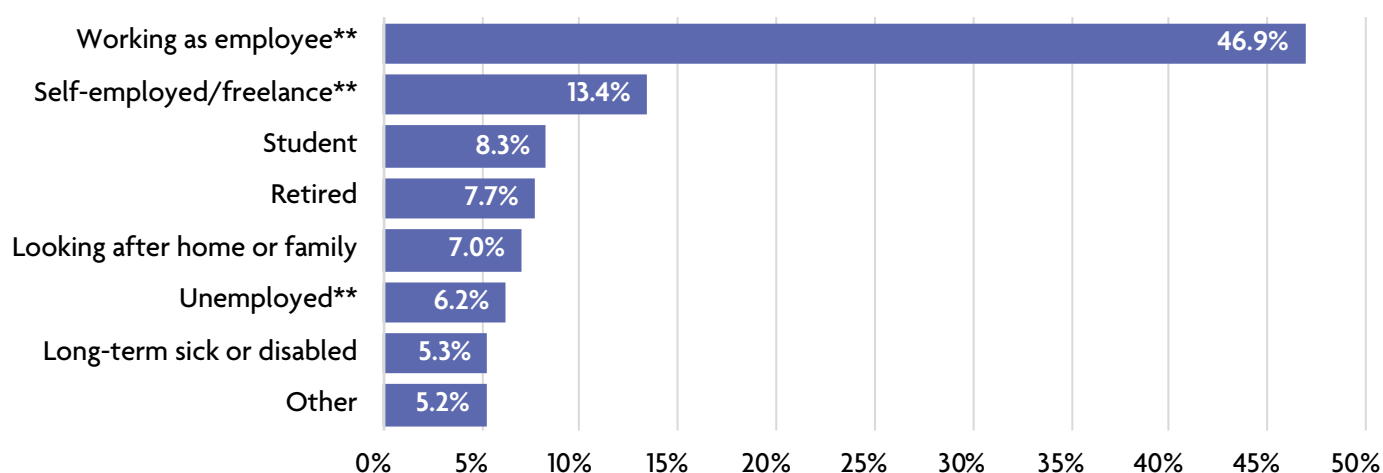
Ethnicity	Percent
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	19%
Bangladeshi	8.4%
Chinese	2.2%
Indian	3.1%
Pakistani	2.1%
Other	3.2%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	28.1%
African	20.6%
Caribbean	4.1%
Other	3.4%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic	6.1%
White and Asian	1%
White and Black African	1.5%
White and Black Caribbean	1.9%
Other	1.7%
White	42.6%
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	22.4%
Irish	0.5%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.2%
Roma	1.1%
Other	18.4%
Other	4.3%
Arab	0.8%
Other	3.5%

Qualifications



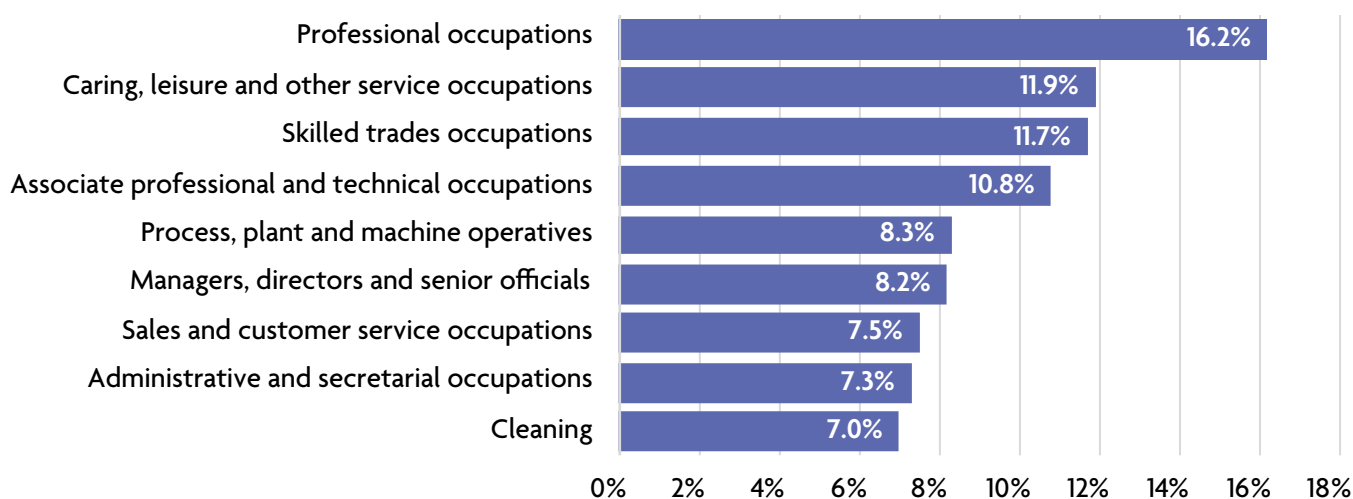
*Or equivalent

Economic activity



**Including full time students

Occupation***



***Percentages do not sum to 100. Remaining residents (not shown) work in security, sales, and other 'Elementary' occupations (Census 2021).

People Powered Places



Love E15 – Anti-fly tipping project

Overview

People Powered Places (PPP) is Newham Council's flagship participatory budgeting programme and one of the largest of its kind in the UK. Since launching in 2018, PPP has funded over 400 community-led projects, embedding co-production into local decision making and giving residents a direct role in shaping neighbourhood investment.

The 2025-27 cycle is delivered through a borough-wide model of resident participation. 120 resident Working Group members were recruited across Newham's eight Community Neighbourhoods to support the assessment and decision-making process, alongside 15 Youth Advisory Board members appointed in May 2025 to ensure young people influence programme design and approach.

In June 2025, 2,916 residents took part in setting neighbourhood priorities online and through activity in libraries and community centres. Our Ideas events were held across all community neighbourhoods between June and July, attended by 844 residents, where communities developed project ideas and explored solutions together. In September, 474 funding applications were received and assessed through resident-led scoring and feasibility checks carried out by Council services.

The Big Vote, held in November 2025, saw 11,139 residents cast their votes online, in community venues and through outreach sessions. PPP continues to evolve through innovation, including AI supported translation at hybrid events to improve accessibility and inclusive participation. Over 130 community-led projects will be delivered across Newham over the next year.

In Custom House and Canning Town, 20 community-led projects will be delivered over the next year, contributing to over 130 projects being delivered across Newham.

To find out more about the programme and the successful projects visit:
newham.gov.uk/peoplepoweredplaces



Neighbourhood priorities

Custom House & Canning Town neighbourhood priorities for the 2025-27 cycle are:

Priority	Description
1. Health & Wellbeing	Focuses on improving care, reducing inequalities, loneliness, ageing, and mental health.
2. Community Safety	Priority focuses on improving safety, especially for women, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.
3. Youth Empowerment	Helping children and young people stay safe and healthy to reach their potential.

Community grants

Overview

The Community Grants programme brings together a range of small internal and externally funded grant schemes to support hyper local, grassroots and resident led activity. Through grants of £1,000 - £5,000, the programme helps community groups get projects off the ground that respond directly to neighbourhood priorities and local needs.

Neighbourhood Small Grants

The Neighbourhood Small Grants programme supports VCFSE organisations delivering local projects that address identified community needs. It focuses on small and emerging groups who may not have accessed larger funding streams, helping to build capacity and promote equitable access to funding.

In 2025-26, 45 projects received grants of up to £1,000, totalling £44,000 borough-wide.



Lyle's Local Fund

The Lyle's Local Fund, established by Tate & Lyle Sugars and administered in partnership with Newham Council, supports projects that help create safe, prosperous and healthy local communities. Grants of up to £5,000 are available to not for profit organisations whose work benefits Newham residents.

In 2025-26, £50,000 was available, supporting 10 projects across the borough.

Genting Good Causes

The Genting Good Causes Fund, delivered in partnership with Newham Council, provides funding for projects that strengthen local communities and improve wellbeing. Grants of up to £5,000 are available to voluntary, community and faith organisations, schools and charities based in Newham.

In 2025-26, £81,000 was awarded to 20 projects across Newham.

Strive Together

Organisation: Newham African Initiative Development (NAID)

Grant Amount: £1,000

NAID received £1,000 to deliver Strive Together, a 10-week community support programme responding to cost-of-living pressures in Custom House and Canning Town. The funding supported twice weekly workshops providing financial guidance, budgeting support and one-to-one advice delivered by multilingual finance and housing specialists.

Delivered at the Cundy Centre, the programme supported families, young adults and vulnerable residents to build financial confidence, resilience and practical money management skills. The sessions created a safe and inclusive space for learning and peer support, helping participants better navigate financial challenges while strengthening community connection and long-term wellbeing.

Partner organisations

Overview

We work closely with Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) organisations to connect with residents and respond to local needs. Partners deliver vital support including food provision, advice services, befriending activities and community events, helping to address poverty, isolation, health inequalities and financial hardship.

VCSE partnerships

VCSE organisations play a key role in mobilising volunteers, attracting external funding into the borough, amplifying resident voice and supporting prevention and early help. Many partners have also been successful in applying for People Powered Places and Community Grants funding and are pivotal in delivering these projects. The sector is fundamental to fostering active citizenship, community resilience and strong neighbourhoods across Newham.

Some examples of VCSE partnerships

- **Community Links – Links Music Studio**
Creative music-led partnership empowering young people through mentoring, life skills, confidence building and community events.
- **Cody Dock**
Community partnership driving regeneration of Cody Dock through culture, heritage, skills, enterprise and access.
- **Newham New Deal Partnership**
Community organisation offering volunteering, training, arts and support for vulnerable residents, promoting cohesion and delivering monthly Memory Café sessions locally.
- **Iroko Theatre Company**
African arts partnership improving wellbeing, education and participation through workshops, performances and intergenerational creative activities at neighbourhood events and sessions.



Cody Dock

- **Your Place**

Partnership tackling homelessness and strengthening faith-led support, connecting diverse communities through funding, wellbeing services, volunteering and early help networks locally.

Faith partnerships

Newham is one of the UK's most religiously diverse boroughs, with faith institutions playing a vital role in community life. Faith groups provide trusted spaces for worship, support and connection, and are often among the first to respond to local needs. They deliver food provision, advice, wellbeing activities, youth work and volunteering opportunities, while promoting social cohesion and mutual understanding.

The Council works in partnership with faith organisations across neighbourhoods, recognising their contribution to community resilience, civic participation and early help. These relationships support inclusive engagement, strengthen local networks and help ensure services reflect the needs of Newham's diverse communities.

Some examples of faith partnerships

- **St Luke's Canning Town**
Historic church partner serving Canning Town over 150 years, collaborating on Christmas celebrations and inclusive community events and activities locally.
- **Cliff Walk Church**
Long-standing church serving Canning Town, celebrating heritage, faith and partnership through regeneration and shared community events and festivals locally.
- **Ascension Church, Ascension Community Trust**
Community church providing a food bank and emotional and practical support for children and adults with complex needs.



St Luke's Canning Town

Volunteering

Overview

Newham's Volunteers Programme is an established Council led service that supports residents and organisations to benefit from high-quality volunteering. Open to residents aged 16+, the programme welcomes people from all backgrounds, including working professionals, young people, older residents, people with disabilities, and refugees and asylum seekers.

Each year, over 500 active volunteers contribute over 19,000 hours across more than 300 opportunities, supporting activity within Community Neighbourhoods, libraries, community centres and wider council led programmes. Opportunities are also delivered through VCFSE organisations across Newham.

The programme works closely with VCFSE partners to help them develop meaningful volunteering roles and supports recruitment through a brokerage offer that matches residents to opportunities that suit their interests, skills and availability. Flexible short and long term options enable people to get involved in ways that work for them. The service is recognised for best practice and accredited with the Investing in Volunteers quality standard.

Volunteering across Newham

Pathways into employment

Volunteering supports residents to build confidence, develop skills and gain UK work experience. Through tailored support, including registration and DBS checks, volunteering can act as a pathway into training and paid employment.

Recognising and valuing volunteers

Volunteers are recognised for their time and commitment through the Tempo Time Credits rewards scheme. Credits can be exchanged for activities such as transport, fitness, cultural experiences and local attractions, helping to motivate and sustain long term involvement.



For more information about the programme please visit:
newham.gov.uk/volunteering

Shipman Youth Zone volunteers

Shipman Youth Zone volunteers play a key role in supporting Newham's Best Start Family Hubs, which offer a simple, accessible 'one stop shop' for families from pregnancy through to young adulthood. Volunteers welcome residents, direct them to services, co-facilitate sessions, support training, assist with food bank provisions, manage footfall and help run informal coffee mornings.

The Family Hubs model bring together health services, parenting support, early learning and play, wellbeing services, SEND guidance, and cost of living advice across physical hubs, community venues, and online spaces.

Local resident Hasina said: **"It was an excellent opportunity. I met lots of wonderful people and found the organisers very friendly. Learning about the Family Hub offer gave me real insight into what's available for the local community."**

Other initiatives



Custom House Regeneration

Custom House & Canning Town Community Forum

Recently launched forum to foster a neighbourly connection and improve communication amongst local businesses, VCFSE organisations, micro businesses and key resident leads.

Custom House & Canning Town regeneration

Custom House & Canning Town regeneration will deliver up to 2,000 new homes, (700 in Custom House and 1,300 in Canning Town) revitalised high streets and improved public spaces. The Custom-Made hub will become a community project space at Freemasons Road, while Grow Box will transform Vincent Street into another skills focused community venue, providing activities and opportunities for local residents.

NHS Neighbourhoods programme

The NHS Neighbourhoods programme will bring together GPs, community health, mental health, social care, public health, and the VCFSE sector to work jointly for local people.

Newham will be split into four localities, each with two neighbourhoods, to bring services closer to residents' daily lives. This model supports the ambition of the 10 Year Health Plan for England.

Newham Community Project (Ascot Community Centre)

This project provides support to local communities through a range of projects dedicated to wellbeing, inclusion and opportunity. These include postnatal and antenatal classes, money and finance support, mental health support. You can call 020 7646 2712 or email admin@newhamcommunityproject.org to access services provided at the community centre.

Well Newham

Well Newham is a borough-wide health and wellbeing programme that brings together information, services and support to help residents live healthier lives. It focuses on both medical and non medical factors that affect health, from mental wellbeing to housing and money. Delivered in partnership between the Council, NHS and the voluntary sector, it forms part of Newham's wider approach to reducing health inequalities.

Through a single, resident friendly website, Well Newham helps residents find local services and health advice that match their needs. The website has over 200 pages one can access depending on their requirement. It also features a dedicated events page whereby residents can find events and activities that they can participate in. The website is accessible through this link: wellnewham.org.uk



Well Newham Directory of Services (powered by Joy)

The Well Newham Directory of Services, powered by Joy, is an online directory of all local health and wellbeing services available across Newham in one place. There are over 600 local services listed on the platform, from stop smoking to physical activities and support for children, young people and families. The directory allows residents to search for support near them and self refer to most of the services. Some referrals can be made only by professionals such as GPs and social prescribers. Over a thousand referrals are made every month through this platform. It plays an important role in making local services easier to find and access, while also helping partners understand demand and service gaps across neighbourhoods. Access the directory here: wellnewham.org.uk/advice/well-newham-directory-services-powered-joy



Newham Food Alliance (NFA)

Newham Food Alliance is an open collaboration of over 40 VCFSE partners ranging from large and long established to smaller grassroots organisations. These span Newham's geography, food cultures and social need. NFA partners run food banks, food clubs and the community hot meals programme. If someone is experiencing financial challenges that are preventing them from getting the food they need, please visit this website to make a referral to the Newham Food Alliance: newham-self.achieveservice.com/service/NFA_Referral



Good Food Retail programme

Delivered in partnership with Rice Marketing, this programme supports independent convenience stores to increase the availability and promotion of healthier core food and drink options (lower in fat, salt, and sugar). The Public Health team works with local retailers and participating stores to promote and sustain the visibility of healthier options, with plans to introduce a Good Food Charter.

Fruit and Veg on prescription

A voucher distribution scheme whereby residents with a deprivation need coupled with pre/diabetes diagnosis are allocated £6 per week +£2 per additional member of their household to spend only on fruit and vegetables. The participants are identified by GP surgeries, and the residents collect their vouchers from various libraries across the borough to spend the money at participating markets and vendors across the borough.

Dost Centre at Shipman Youth Zone

Dost Centre creates a community for young refugees and migrants between 13 and 19 years of age. Support provided through this initiative includes youth club, free sports, gym, and referrals to support services, e.g. English learning and employment. The service runs a weekly youth club on Mondays, 6-8pm at Shipman Youth Zone, Prince Regent Lane, E16 3JH.



Best Start Family Hubs

Best Start Family Hubs

Best Start Family Hubs are part of Best Start in Life, a UK government backed approach supporting children from conception through early childhood. The programme is funded until 2029 and focuses on helping children to be healthy, supported and ready for school, with a target nationally to increase the number of 5-year-olds achieving a 'good level of development' (GLD) by 2028.

In Newham, four Family Hubs operate from Shipman Youth Zone, East Ham Library, Manor Park Children's Centre, and United West Family Hub (working across Rebecca Cheetham and Kay Rowe Children's Centres). Alongside ten additional community access points, they form a borough-wide Family Hub Network delivering services in-person and online.

Expanding since 2023, Newham's Family Hubs provide universal, early support for families with children up to age 18 (25 for those with additional needs). Support is delivered through strong partnerships with children's services, health, and the voluntary and faith sectors, offering joined up early intervention and improved access to community services.

Infant Feeding Support

Shipman Youth Zone is a Best Start Family Hub location and the venue for the Baby Feeding Café on Fridays, 10-11.30am. Parents can attend the friendly drop-in, meet other parents, and get support with breastfeeding, bottle feeding, expressing, starting solids and more. They can also call, text or WhatsApp the helpline on 07534 249 611.

Newham Nurture

Newham Nurture supports women from low income, migrant and marginalised backgrounds experiencing financial hardship and disadvantage through pregnancy and up to two years after birth. Support includes peer sessions, infant feeding, counselling services, and providing essentials. Drop-in sessions are accessible at the Shipman Family Hub, Wednesdays, 10am-1pm.

Mayor and Councillors

Mayor of Newham



**Mayor
Forhad
Hussain**
Labour Group

Canning Town North



**Councillor
Imogen
Anderson**
Green Group



**Councillor
Aleya Hussain**
Labour Group
Labour Group
Secretary



**Councillor
Shaban
Mohammed**
Labour Group
Deputy Cabinet
Member for
Regeneration

Canning Town South



**Councillor
Aderonke
Benson**
Labour Group



**Councillor
Dr Rohit
Kumar
Dasgupta**
Labour Group
Vice Chair of
Council



**Councillor
John Morris**
Labour Group

Custom House



**Councillor
Heather
Lafferty**
Labour Group
Labour Group Chief
Whip



**Councillor
Thelma Odoi**
Labour Group



**Councillor
Simon Rush**
Labour Group

For more information, click [here](#).

Contact us

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Merdeen Wright-Simpson

Community Neighbourhood Senior Officer

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020 3373 0855 (Custom House Library)

✉ CN.Customhousecanningtown@newham.gov.uk