

How to navigate the document

Best viewing experience

This document is best viewed on a laptop or desktop computer. The interactivity will not work as well on tablets, iPads and mobile phones. You will still be able to view, scroll through and use some functionality such as hyperlinks, however the main navigation buttons on the right may be less effective.

Right hand navigation

The buttons on the right hand side take you to the different sections of the document. The 6 ambition sections each have their own contents for you to jump to a particular area with ease. Simply click on the button on the right to take you back to that section's contents. All other sections do not have a contents page.

Endnotes

Example:

In Camden in 2022, there were 6,389 children or 1 in 5 (19.8%) living in poverty, up from 13.5% in 2021.¹

To go to the reference of a particular Endnote, click on the number at the end of the paragraph.

Click on the number in the Endnotes to take you back to the page which the reference number is on.

Example:

- 1 Proportion of children living in low income households (60% of median income) before and after housing costs, Local indicators of child poverty, Centre for Research in Social Policy, Loughborough University for End Child Poverty (2022); Children in low income families: local area statistics, DWP (2022), <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-2014-to-2022>, https://repository.lboro.ac.uk/articles/report/Local_indicators_of_child_poverty_after_housing_costs_2021_22/23523453.

Text which is in blue and underlined is an active link. This example is a URL hyperlink which will take you to a webpage. Others may open up another document or activate an email programme.

Cross referencing

Example:

[See page 7](#)

Text which is highlighted in blue AND references a page number is an active cross reference link. This will take you to the text within that page where the cross reference is referring to.

You can click on the cross referenced text to take you back to the original active link.

Home and next/previous page

You are here

Overview

The 6 WMC ambitions

These all have their individual contents pages

Summary and conclusion areas

How to read our State of the Borough report

This is our second State of the Borough report. Our first report was in 2023 and we plan to produce this report every year. The report brings together information and data about the experiences of people who live in Camden.

The report is structured around three main areas

- 1 Our vision and ambitions
- 2 Our mission
- 3 Our measurement

| Our vision and ambitions

The report is framed around the **We Make Camden** vision and our **Six main ambitions**.

These ambitions relate to everyone who lives in the Camden Borough:

- Camden is a place where every child has the best start in life
- Camden's economy should be strong, sustainable and include everyone to have a secure income so they can live a good life
- Camden is a place that will fight injustice and unfairness so that everyone can live and take part in a safe and equal community
- Camden communities support good health and wellbeing so that everyone can start life well, live life well and age well
- Everyone in Camden can have a place they call home
- Camden should be a green, clean, vibrant, sustainable and easy to access place with everyone empowered to tackle climate change.

| Our missions

We want to take on difficult and complex challenges, breaking them down into a set of focused, long-term goals that everyone can take part in.

We want the people of Camden to collaborate, innovate and create together. You can read more about this in our State of the Missions section in the report. It shows how we have been learning and using data and evidence to make our mission happen.

| Our measurement

This report uses the **Good Life Camden Framework** to help us map, measure and understand how people in Camden are doing. We have been using the framework since March 2023. The framework gives us a way to break down what living a good life means.

This helps us to measure how well we are doing against the main themes the people of Camden told us are important to them. The data from these measures is included throughout this report.

You can read more about this in the appendix to the report.

| Our data sources

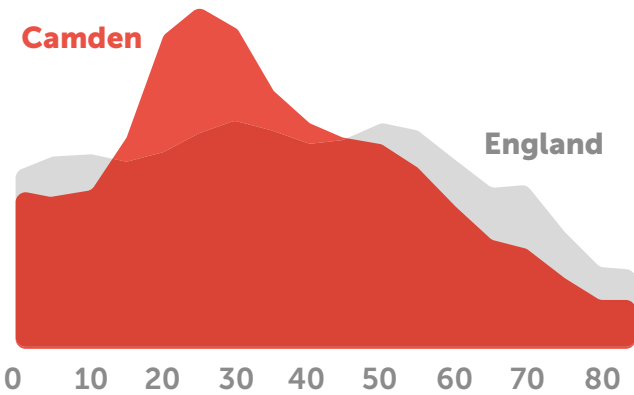
All data sources are from a recognised, quality source and are comparable across time or place. We compared data over time to see the change in recent years and by setting place based comparisons to England, Inner London boroughs and boroughs close to Camden.

Data and data sources are available at [Open Data Camden](#). Data sources are referenced at the end of each chapter.

The 6 WMC ambitions

This is Camden

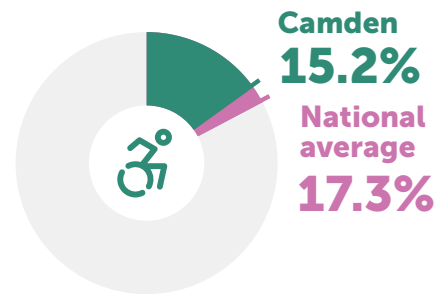
Age profile: Camden has a higher population in the 15-40 age bracket than England.



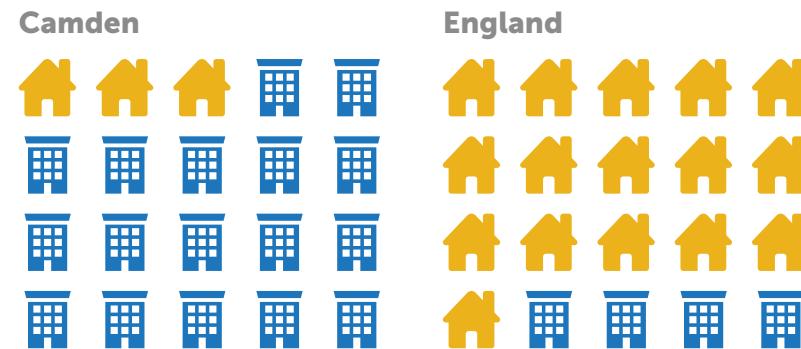
Ethnic diversity: Camden is more ethnically diverse than England. 40% of residents are from Black, Asian or other ethnic groups, compared to 19% across England.



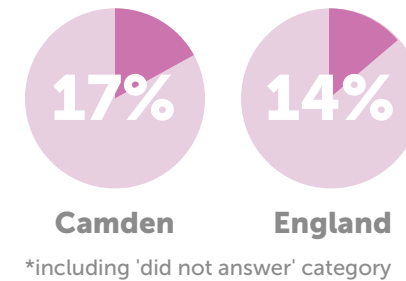
Disability: There are fewer disabled people as a share of the population in Camden than the national average



Accommodation type: Far more people in Camden live in flats or apartments than the national average.



LGBTQ+: Camden is home to a larger percentage of people who don't identify as straight or heterosexual than the national average.*



The 6 WMC ambitions

This is Camden

Situated in the heart of London, the borough of Camden constitutes **almost 22 square kilometres**, comprising 1.4% of Greater London by area, but 9th highest in population density. It is home to major transport hubs such as Kings Cross and Euston station, business centres such as Holborn and Tottenham Court Road, green open spaces like Hampstead Heath and Primrose Hill. It has nine public libraries managed by the Council and three community run libraries, and entertainment and retail in Camden Town and other areas. It is also home to some **218,000 people**, according to the ONS mid-year estimates in 2022.

There are 11 higher education institutions in Camden. The student population is the 3rd largest in London, with **29,965 higher education students** living in Camden, of which 56% are from overseas.

Camden is a **relatively young borough**, with its large population of students and young people living in the area: 43% of residents are aged under 30, and two-thirds are aged under 45. The average age in Camden is 37.2 years, compared to 37.5 in London and 41.2 nationally.

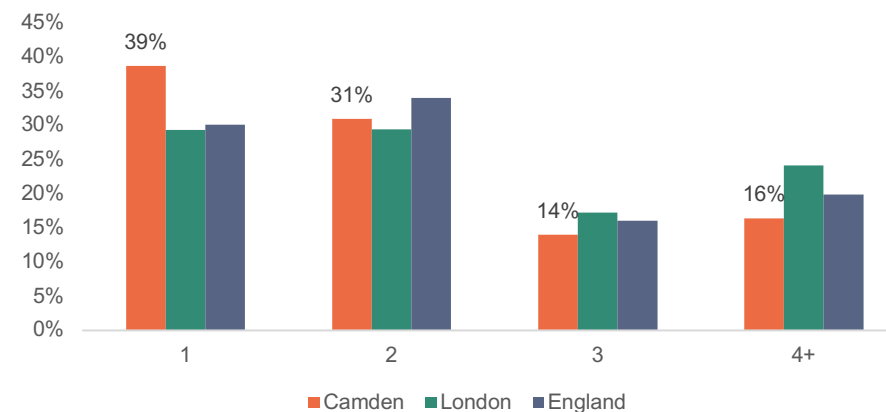
Households are smaller in Camden, with **39% living in single occupant households**, more than both London (29%) and England (30%), whereas large households (4 or more people) were only 19% of households in Camden, fewer than London (24%) and England (20%).

Camden's population is **ethnically diverse**. In 2021, 40% of Camden residents were from Black, Asian or other ethnic groups (up from 34% in 2011), compared to 46% in London and 19% across England.

Over the past few years, Camden has become a home for over 800 Ukrainian refugees, as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme, 1,800 Afghan refugees have been supported by Camden teams, and 109 former Syrian refugees were supported to apply for UK citizenship.

The 6 WMC ambitions

Figure 0.1: Household size, (number of people in the household) 2021 Census



This is Camden

15.2% of the Camden population reported being disabled under the definition of the Equalities Act (2010), meaning that they assessed their day-to-day activities as limited by long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses. This compares to 13.2% of the London population and 17.3% of the population in England.

Figure 0.2: Share of disabled people under the Equalities Act, 2021 Census



Camden is home to different religions: 31% of people are Christian, less than London and England (41% and 46%, respectively), as well as a relatively large Jewish population (4.8% vs 1.7% in London and 0.5% across England), a slightly larger Muslim population and smaller Hindu and Sikh population than London.

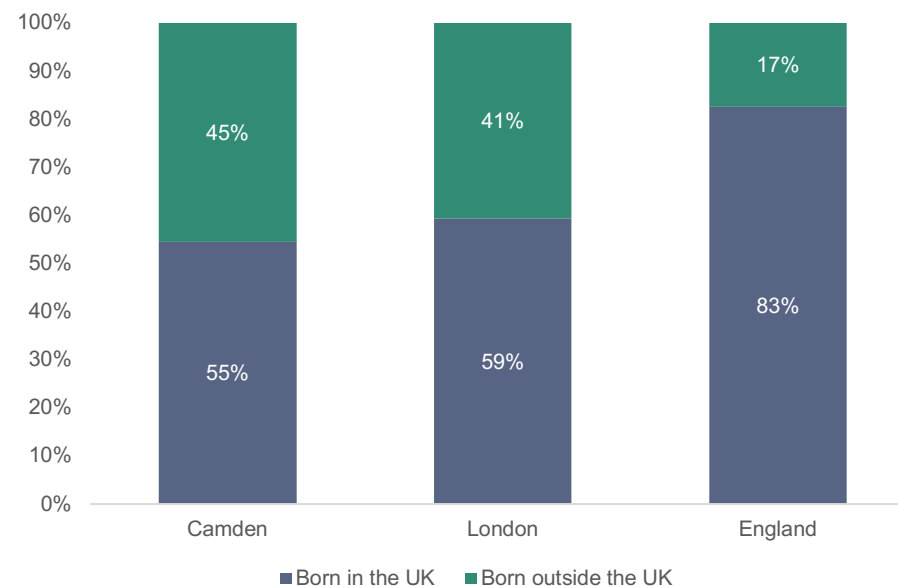
Most Camden resident were **born in the UK** (55%), although less than in London and England (59% and 83%). In terms of countries of birth, after England, more Camden residents born outside the UK were born in the

United States, Bangladesh, France, Italy, India, China, Ireland, Somalia, Scotland and Germany, than any other individual country.

The most **commonly spoken languages** other than English were French (10%); Bengali (9%); Spanish (8%); Italian (7%); Arabic and Portuguese (5%); Somali and Greek (4%); and Albanian (3%).

In Camden, 82.6% of residents identified as straight/heterosexual compared to 89.4% in England and 86.2% in London. 3.7% identified as gay or lesbian (2.2% in London and 1.5% in England), 2.5% as bisexual (1.5% in London and 1.3% in England). There were 0.3% of people who had a different gender identity from sex registered at birth but gave no specific identity; 0.1% identified as trans woman, 0.1% as trans man; and 0.2% with other gender identities.

Figure 0.3: Share of people born in or outside the UK, 2021 Census



The 6 WMC ambitions

This is Camden

Experience: living in Camden



“Despite all the sad things happening in the world, Camden still feels like a safe and inclusive place to live. I hope we can continue to look out for each other to ensure it remains so. And it doesn’t have to be much: small gestures like picking up litter, offering a seat on public transport, and a greeting to neighbours can all add up to a much friendlier and positive community in what are otherwise challenging times. I want Camden to lead the way in what it means to build a local community in a large, global city.”

- Respondent to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024



**The 6 WMC
ambitions**

Best Start

Camden is a borough where every child has the best start in life



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The 6 WMC ambitions

“We want every child in Camden to grow up and develop their own unique set of skills, passions and ambitions. When children leave school, they must be able to pursue their dreams in Camden whether it be through further education, employment or starting their own business.”

- We Make Camden, March 2022

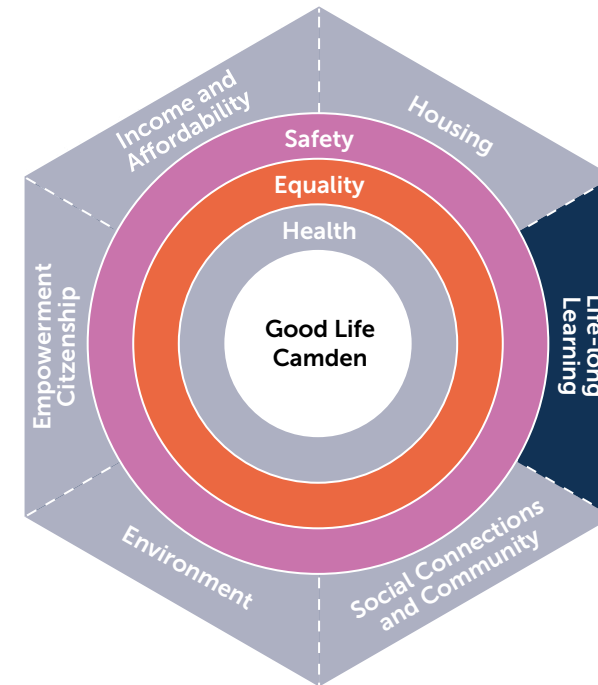
Camden is an amazing place to grow up, to learn and to live. It is unique and diverse, offering all the benefits of a global city with world-renowned museums, universities, parks and open spaces that our young people can gain so much from for the very best childhood and route into adult life.

A safe, supportive and encouraging environment is essential for children’s development. A critical time in a child’s physical, intellectual and emotional development is their first 1,000 days, with parents and families enabled to support children to the best of their abilities during this period. As they progress through their childhood, children should have access to good local schools in order to allow them to thrive but to also help reduce inequalities both during and after childhood. As well as their educational development, schools can provide children with a wide range of enrichment experiences to allow them to pursue new passions and interests. Safeguarding children is crucial, in particular that the most vulnerable children are protected and well supported, the impact of poverty mitigated, and issues such as youth knife crime and violence against girls tackled with urgency.

This chapter looks at outcomes relating to education, safety and development of children and young people.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



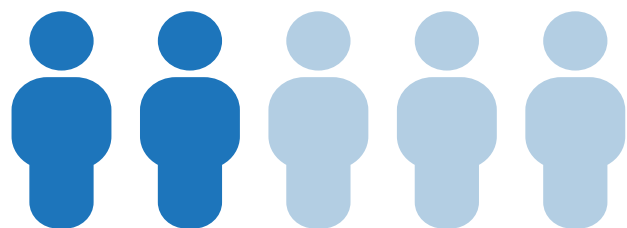
The 6 WMC ambitions

This chapter includes signals from three of its nine themes: Lifelong Learning, Equality and Safety. The relevant signals of change covered in this chapter are that:

- Young people have good opportunities when they leave school, and
- People have good mental health, Everyone in Camden feels safe.

See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

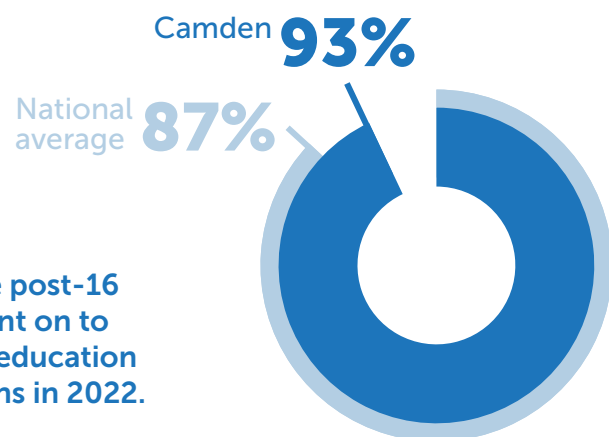
Key findings



In 2022 in Camden two in five children were living in poverty after housing costs.

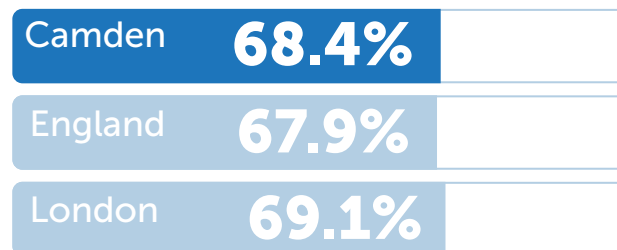
In Camden, in 2022-23, 98 proven criminal offences were committed by children.

5.9 offences per thousand children



93% of the post-16 cohort went on to sustained education destinations in 2022.

In 2023 more than 2 out of 3 children achieved a good level of development by the age of 5.

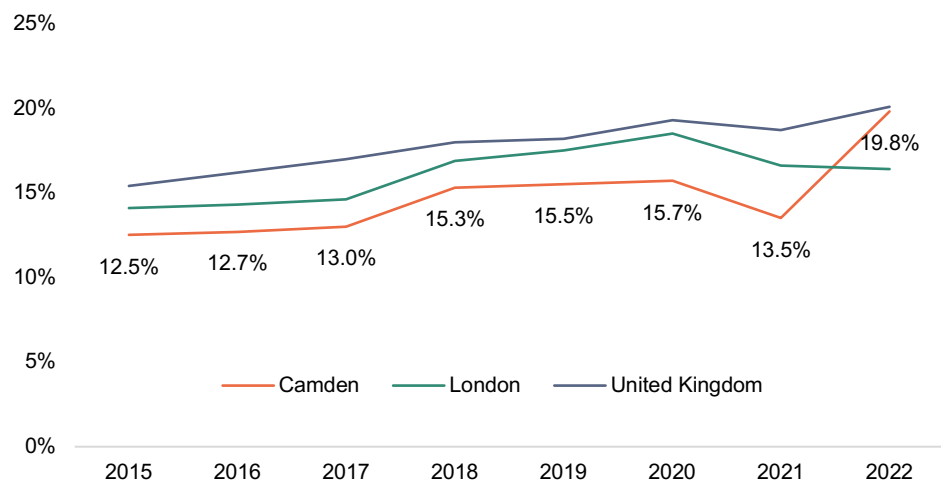


The 6 WMC ambitions

In 2022, two in five children were living in poverty after housing costs

Living in poverty can have a significant impact on children’s lives, affecting their education and future opportunities, as well as health and wellbeing. Child poverty is measured as the share of children living in households with income below 60% of the median, and can be either before or after housing costs. Camden’s high housing costs mean that it is one of the local authorities with the greatest gap between before and after housing cost poverty rates. The rates of child poverty have been increasing across the United Kingdom since 2015. In 2022, 19.8% of children were living in relative poverty before housing costs were accounted for, up from 13.5% in 2021.¹

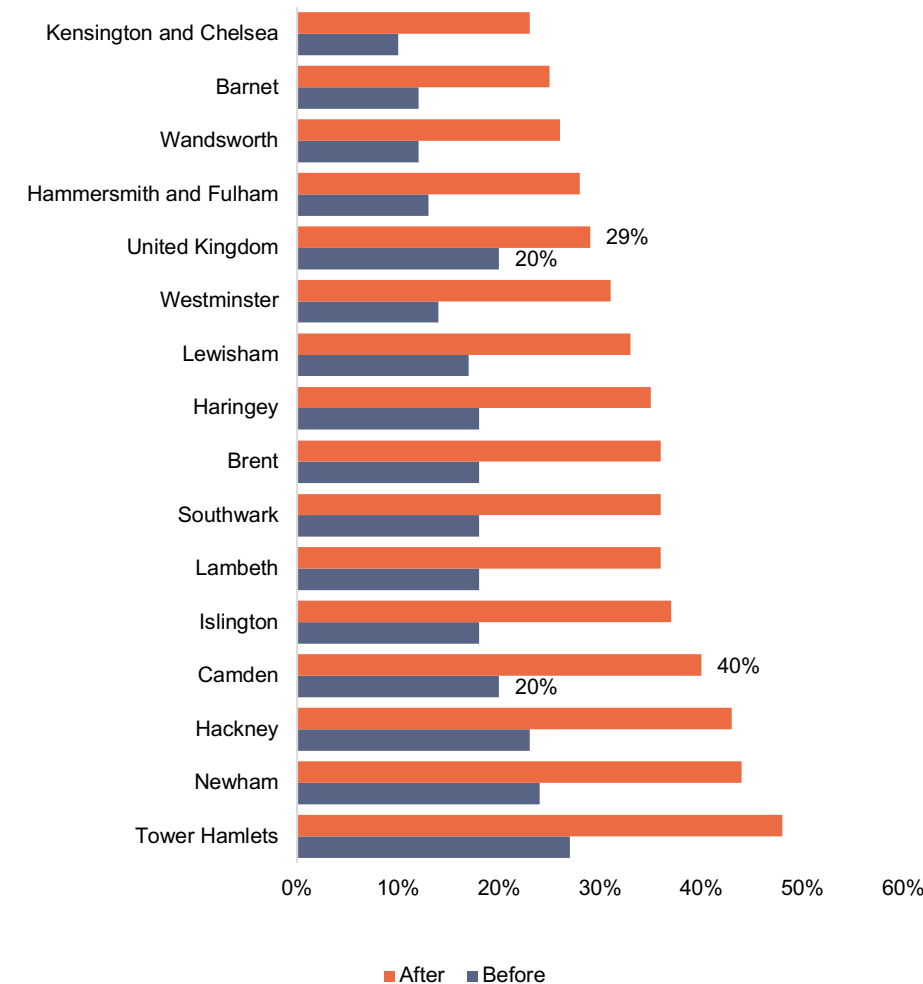
Figure 1.1: Proportion of children living in relative poverty before housing costs, 2015-2022



However, after housing costs, meaning when housing costs are considered, Camden has among the highest rates of child poverty in the country - rising to almost 40%, which is the 4th highest rate of child poverty after housing costs in London.

Camden has the third highest gap between child poverty rates before and after housing costs, which is explained by the high housing costs in Camden.

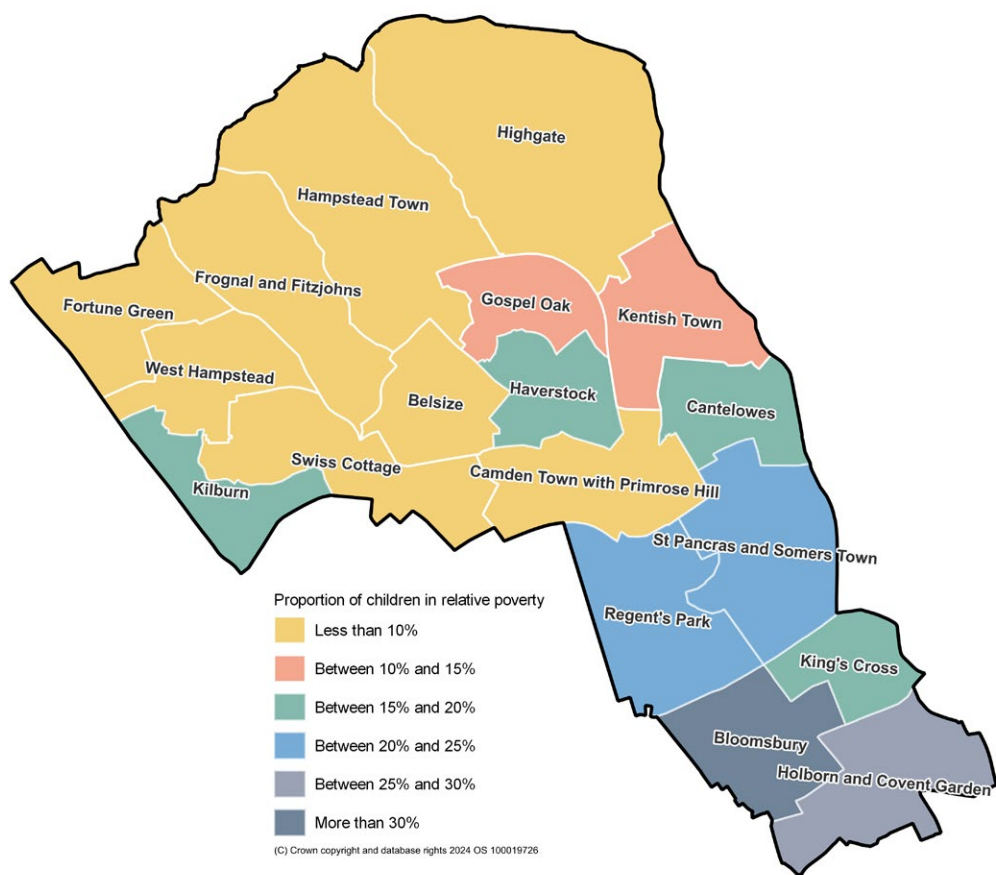
Figure 1.2: Child poverty rates before and after housing costs, 2021/22



The 6 WMC ambitions

Within Camden, the share of children in poverty is vastly different across different parts of the borough, with the highest rates of poverty *after housing costs* in Holborn and St. Pancras (38.9%) almost twice as much when compared with Hampstead and Kilburn (20.5%).

Figure 1.3: Proportion of children living in relative poverty after housing costs, by ward, 2021/22

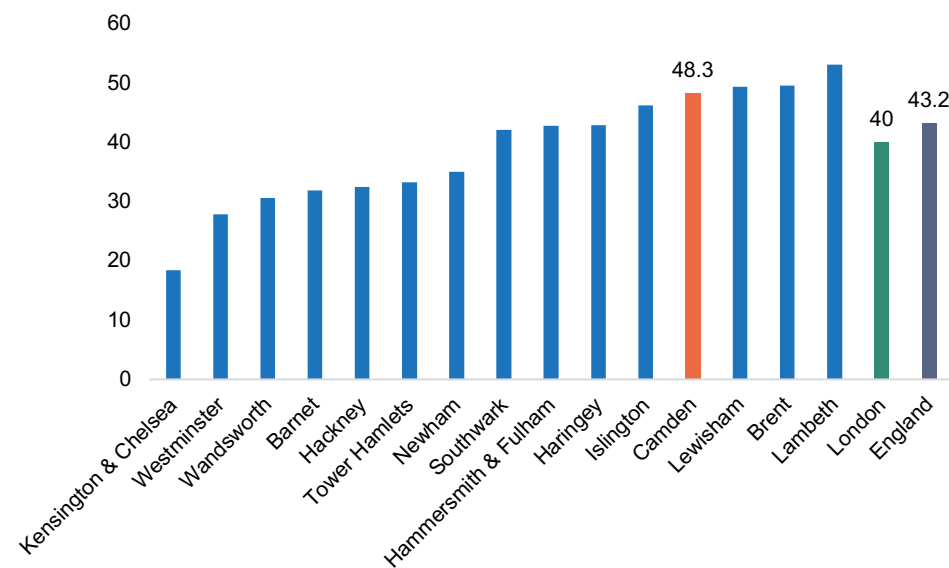


Camden had a higher rate of children with a Child Protection Plan than England and London as of March 2023, with 48 per 10,000 children, while the rate of Children Looked After was close to the London average

The safeguarding of the most vulnerable children is one of the most important responsibilities of a local authority. Child Protection Plans are an important intervention put in place by the local authority’s social care service to help keep children safe from harm and support families.

At the end of March 2023, there were 176 children subject to a Child Protection Plan in Camden, a rate of 48.1 per 10,000 children.² That has reduced from a peak of 329 in 2019, a reduction of 46%. Compared to other Inner London and neighbouring boroughs, Camden had the fourth highest rate of plans and was higher than national and London averages.

Figure 1.4: Rate of Child Protection Plans (per 10,000 children), 2023



The 6 WMC ambitions

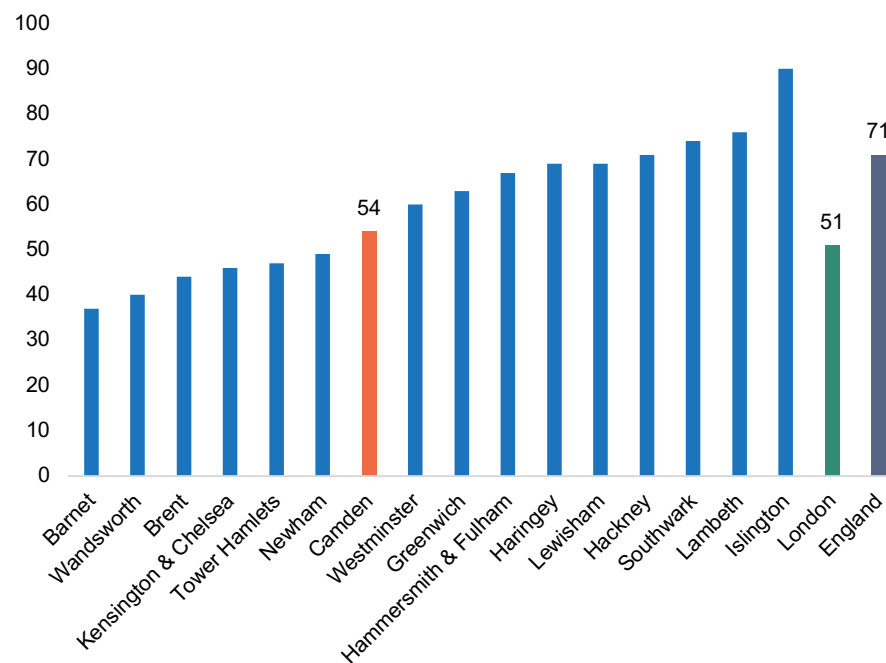
Sometimes local authority social care teams need to take children into their care to prevent serious harm. At the end of March 2023, there were 197 Children Looked After (CLA) in Camden’s care. Since the end of September 2014, the number of CLA has remained between 185 and 220 children, despite an increase in unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) becoming looked after during this period.

The Camden CLA rate per 10,000 of the under-18 population at the end of March 2023 was 53.9,³ lower than the national (71) and Inner London (62) average rates and just higher than the London average (51) for the same period. Although comparison of rates per population has been complicated with the change in population estimates in the 2021 Census, the rate of CLA has been going down in Camden over the past decade, alongside one of the highest rates of investment per capita in early help and early intervention in the country.

At end of March 2023, more than a third (36%) of Camden CLA were aged 16+, though that has reduced from more than half (54%) in 2018/19, and although still higher than the national average, it is now in keeping with the Inner London average.

There were 47 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children looked after by Camden (24% of Camden’s CLA cohort) at the end of March 2023. Due to the trauma experienced by those children and young people, cases are becoming increasingly complex.

Figure 1.5: Children Looked After (per 10,000 children), 2023

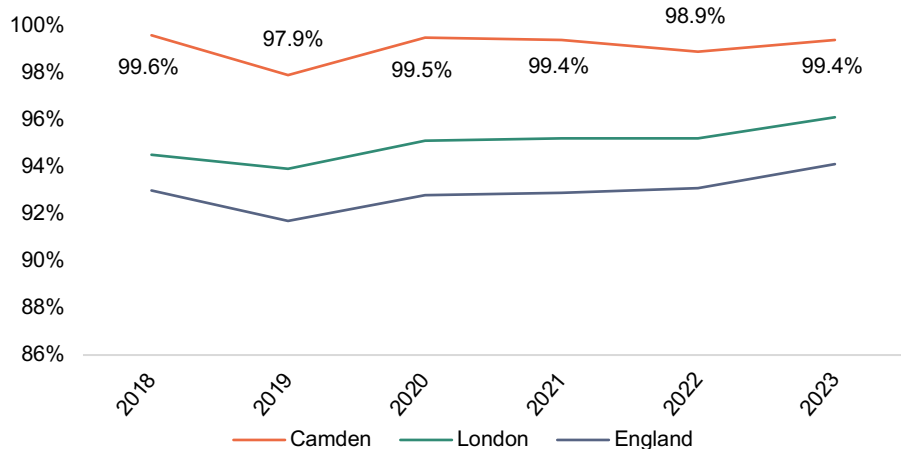


The 6 WMC ambitions

In 2023, more than two in three children achieved a good level of development in early years education, higher than England, although uptake is still lower

Since 2018, Camden has consistently had a higher proportion of children in high quality early years education, as rated good or outstanding by Ofsted, than London and England. In fact, in 2023 Camden had the highest proportion of children registered for the free 15-hour entitlement in high quality education of any London borough, and the second highest for the 30-hour entitlement – at 99.4% for both.

Figure 1.6: Percentage of children in high quality early years education (30-hour entitlement), 2023



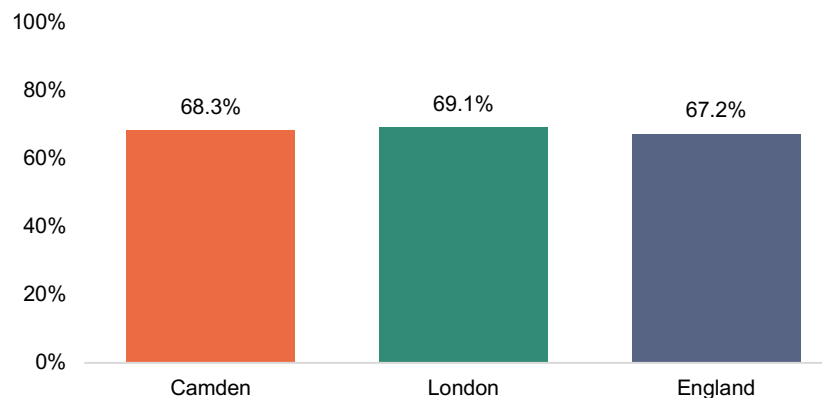
In 2023 more than 2 in 3 children, at 68.4%, achieved a good level of development in early years education in Camden, higher than the England average (67.9%), but just lower than average for the rest of London (69.1%)⁴. For Camden, this is an increase on the 65.3% in 2022. As a result of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) reforms introduced in September 2021, it is not possible to compare assessment outcomes with earlier years.

However, the gap in child development between the richest and poorest in Camden is 25% higher than England, significantly higher than the London average, and more than twice as high as the average for Inner London.

Interestingly, despite the good quality of Camden’s early years provision there are some notable challenges around uptake. Camden has a significantly lower uptake of overall early years education (57.9%) than the average for Inner London (74.5%), London (81.5%) or England (91.4%). Uptake for 2- to 4-year-old in Camden has been decreasing between 2018, when it stood at 65.3%.

When considering only the uptake of 2-year-olds, Camden has higher rates than Inner London, London, and England. The take-up rate of early years education is 74.3% for 2-year-olds but falls to 56.3% for 3–4-year-olds.

Figure 1.7: Percentage of children in early years education with a good level of development, 2023



The 6 WMC ambitions

In 2023, Children achieved good levels of educational attainment at Key Stage 2 and 4

At the end of the academic year 2022/23, 96.4% of Camden’s schools were rated ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted and the attainment of children leaving both primary and secondary education is relatively good.

In 2022/23, 70% of pupils in Camden achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at key stage two (KS2).⁵ This is a higher proportion of pupils in Camden who met the expected standard at KS2 than both the London (67%) and England averages (60%).

At Key Stage 4 (KS4), 67.9% pupils in Camden achieved a grade 4 or above in English and maths at GCSEs⁶. In 2023, Camden has higher attainment levels in English and maths than the average for England (65.4%), but lower levels than London (71.2%).

The attainment data during and post-pandemic are not directly comparable with 2023 data – particularly for KS4 when assessments continued but were very different and had changes in marking. Therefore, 2023 data should be compared to 2019 data.

Please note – data is based on school pupils in Camden, not Camden residents. Some Camden school pupils live outside the borough and some Camden residents go to school outside of the borough.

The 6 WMC ambitions

Figure 1.8: Percentage of pupils meeting expected standard in reading, writing and maths at key stage 2 (KS2), 2023

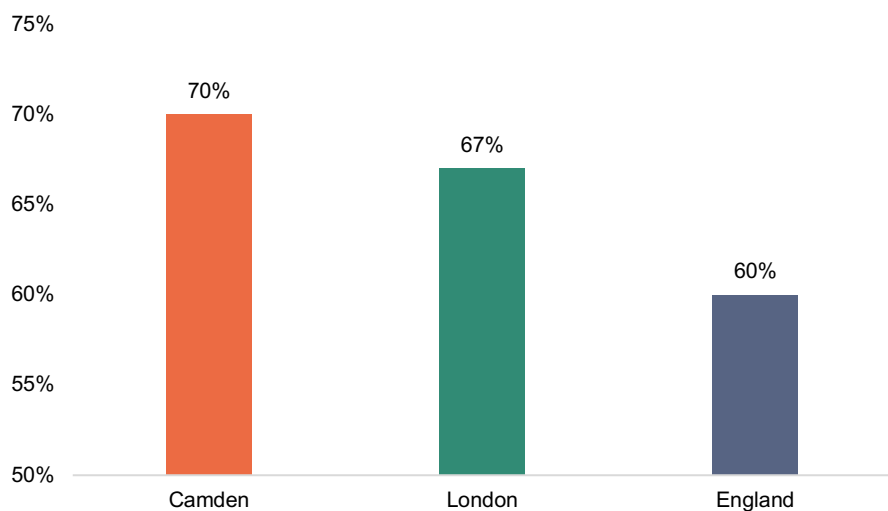
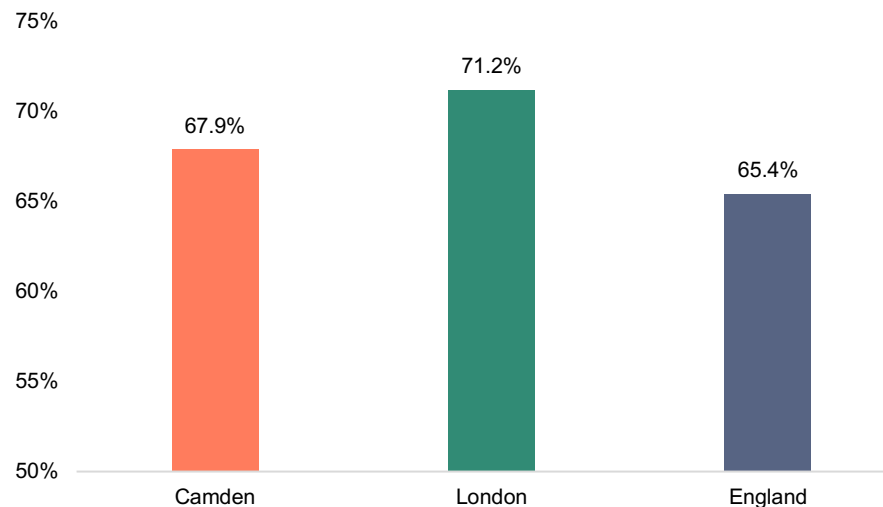
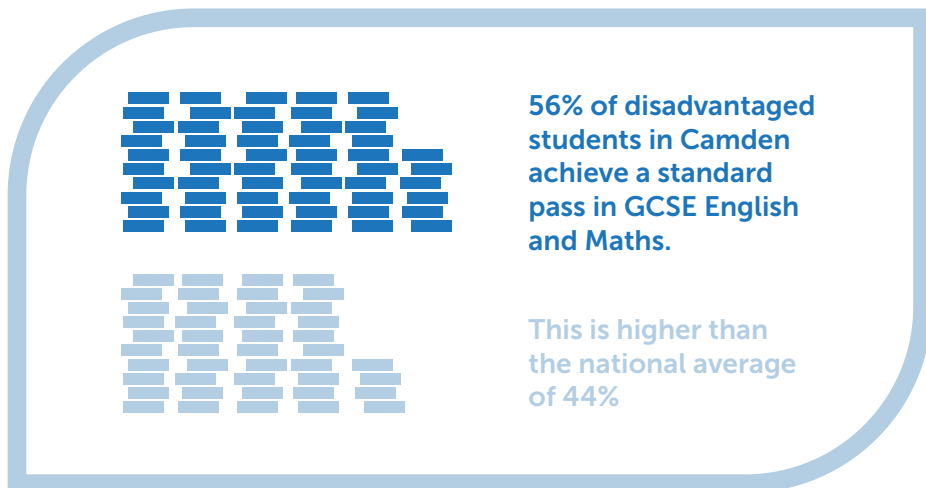


Figure 1.9: Percentage of pupils achieving grades 4 or above in English and Mathematics GCSEs (KS4) in 2023



The gap in attainment between disadvantaged students and advantaged students has narrowed in 2023 in Camden in Key Stages 2 and 4



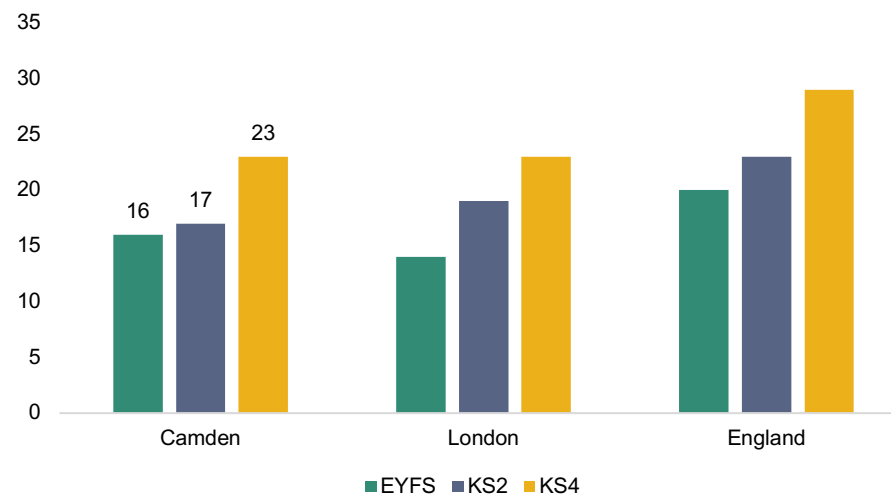
Average attainment levels can be inadequate when assessing the impact of education provision in the borough, as it does not account for the inequality which is experienced. Having access to additional resources, such as after school classes, tutoring, and adult supervision can have an impact on educational and later life outcomes. The Department for Education assesses the gaps in outcomes between pupils considered disadvantaged and those who are not. Disadvantaged pupils are defined as pupils who were eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point during the previous 6 years, along with any adopted children, Children Looked After and children with parents in the armed services. In the national statistics, disadvantaged pupils achieve lower levels of attainment.

Although non-disadvantaged pupils outperformed their disadvantaged peers at each key stage, in Camden, disadvantaged pupils did better than their peers nationally (disadvantaged pupils in other places) and the gap between the two groups is smaller than nationally across all key stages.

In 2023, at the Early Years Foundation Stage, 59% those children eligible for free school meals had good levels of development, higher the national and London levels. The attainment gap with their non-free school meal peers was 16 percentage points (ppts) which was narrower than the gap nationally (20 ppts) and just slightly wider than the London gap (15ppts).

At KS2, 61% of disadvantaged pupils reached the expected standard, compared to 78% of non-disadvantaged pupils. Camden’s disadvantaged pupils score well above the national average (44%), and the attainment gap of 17 ppts between disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers remains narrower than nationally (23ppts) and across London (19ppts).

Figure 1.10: Gap in attainment between disadvantaged and advantaged students at key stages of development (2021/2022)



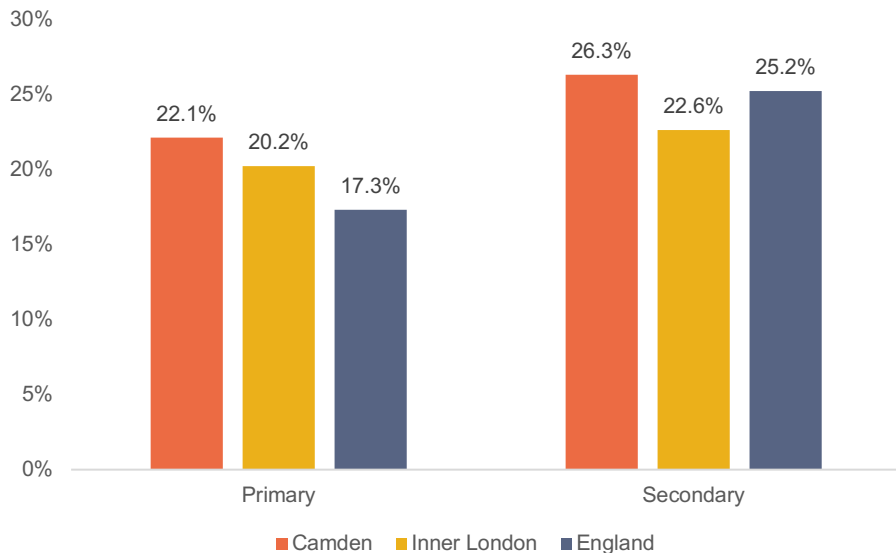
The 6 WMC ambitions

At KS4, the proportion of Camden’s disadvantaged pupils achieving a standard pass in English and Mathematics in their GCSEs is above national averages (56% against 44%). The attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their non disadvantaged peers in Camden is narrower than the gap nationally (23pts against 29%), and the same as the gap in London (23%).

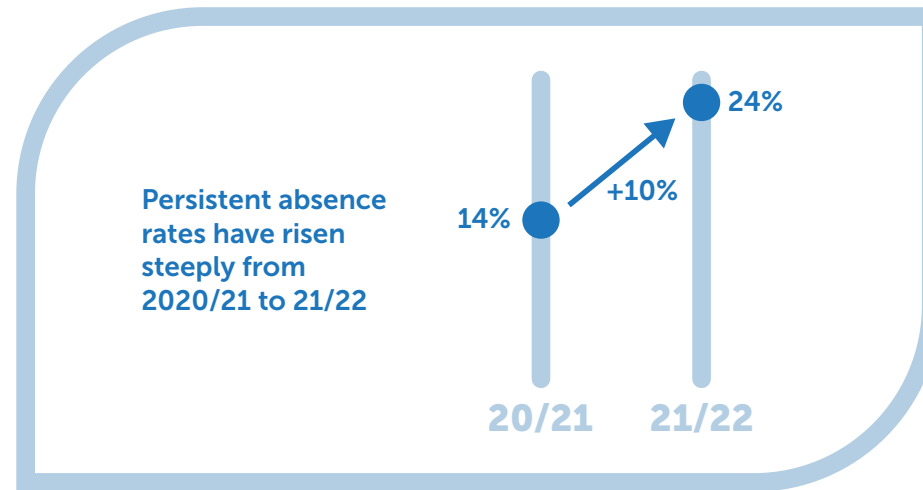
Nearly one in four Camden school pupils missed more than 10% of sessions in 2022-23

Missing school can have an impact on children’s educational, emotional and social development. Absence rates are linked to attainment, with students with lower educational attainment also missing school more often. Absence has been on the rise locally and nationally since the Covid pandemic.

Figure 1.11: Percentage of pupils who missed 10% or more sessions, 2022/23



In Camden, absence rates for primary schools were higher than both national and regional averages in 2022/23.⁷ Camden ranked 142 out of 151 local authorities for primary school overall absence and 30th out of 33 London boroughs. Absence rates for secondary schools were lower than national averages, though higher than Inner London averages. Camden ranked 71st out of 150 local authorities for absence in secondary schools and 30th out of 32 London boroughs.



Another measure of attendance is persistent absence, which identifies the proportion of pupils who missed more than 10% of possible sessions over a given time-period. In 2022/23, 22% of pupils in Camden primary schools were persistent absentees, which was well above both the Inner London and national averages. Camden ranked 147th out of 151 local authorities for primary school persistent absence.

In secondary schools – just over one in four (26.3%) pupils in Camden missed 10% or more sessions, which was in line with the national average, but much higher than Inner London averages. Camden ranked 95th out of 150 for secondary school persistent absence.⁸

The 6 WMC ambitions

The levels of persistent absence have been rising since the Covid pandemic nationally and in Camden, with a steep increase in persistent absentee rates in 2021/22 - rates jumped from 14% in 2020/21 to 24% in 2021/22, and almost doubled in primary school pupils, from 11% to 21%.

Experience: school attendance



"I'm supposed to go everyday but I don't, haven't gone in ages, like more than months, yeah, I just don't really go much anymore."

"I just find it boring, like all day long it's just boring being there and sometimes I'm just too tired to go."

"I think just being bored at school and being tired. The teachers put me off wanting to go too because I know they will just tell me off."

- Responses from the Youth Justice Service Feedback Survey



In 2021/22, 93% of Key Stage 4 Camden pupils progressed to sustained education destinations

After Key Stage 4 or GCSEs, 93% of pupils in Camden went on to sustained education destinations (uninterrupted participation for at least 6 months) in 2021/22, which was higher than national average (87%) and just ahead of the London average (92%).⁹

Given that all secondary schools in Camden have a school sixth form, 67% of the cohort went on to a school sixth form, which is much higher than the national (38%) and London averages (58%). This means of course, that far fewer students in Camden went onto FE colleges or a sixth form college.

Overall, 94.6% of pupils in Camden progressed in 2021/22 into further education, work or apprenticeships.

Figure 1.12: Percentage of pupils who progressed into sustained education, employment or apprenticeships, 2021/22



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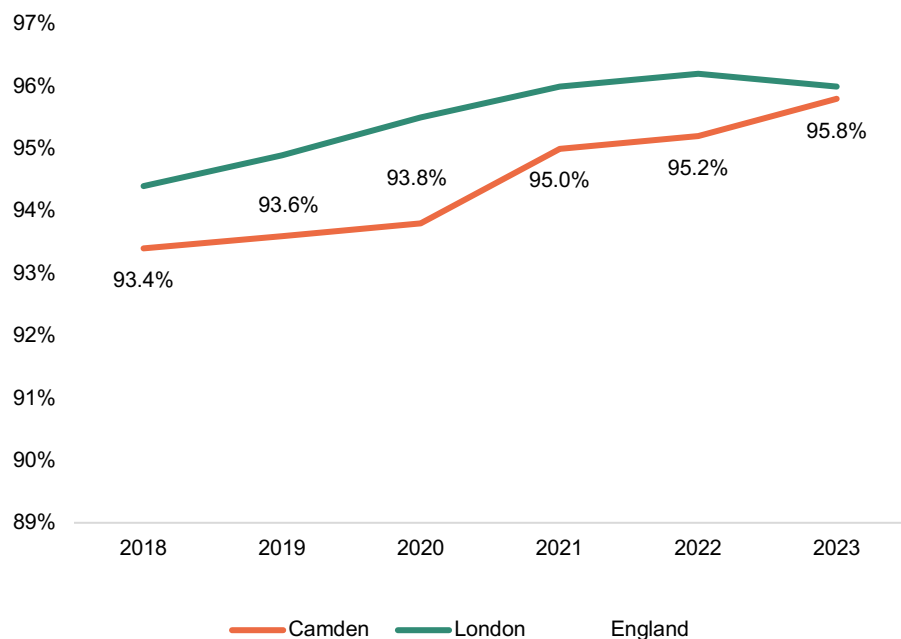
In 2023, 95.8% of 16–17-year-olds in Camden were in Education, Employment or Training (EET)

In 2023, 95.8% of all young people in Camden aged 16-17 were in education, employment or training (EET), which means that 4.2% were not in employment, education or training (NEET).¹⁰

Camden has a higher rate of young people in EET than the England average (92.3%) and a comparable rate to London (96.0%).

Since 2018, the rate of young people in EET has gradually increased from 93.4% to 95.8%.

Figure 1.13: Proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds participating in education and training, 2018-2023



In 2023, there were 1,446 children living in Camden with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), and 1,048 students in Camden schools had EHCPs

Children with EHCPs attending Camden schools:

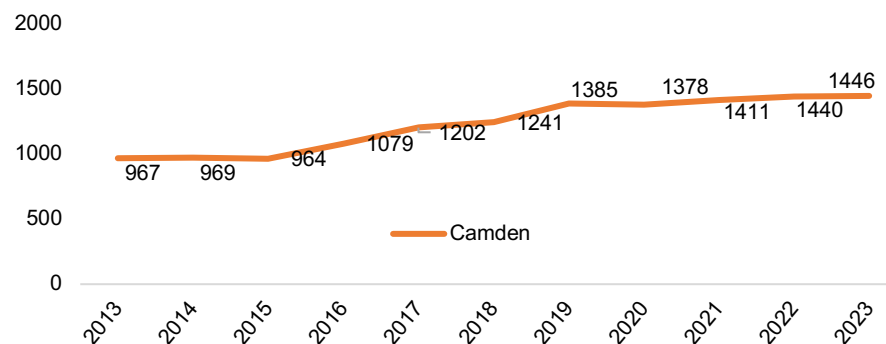
As of October 2023 there were 3,009 children in Camden schools (mainstream, special and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)) receiving Special Educational Needs (SEN) support in school, which makes up 19.3% of the total number of pupils in Camden schools. Of those students, 1,048 had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Camden school students don't necessarily live in Camden – 20% of those pupils with an ECHP live out of the borough. Similarly, not all Camden residents with SEN attend Camden schools – some attend schools in other areas, and some attend independent schools (including some residential).

Children with EHCPs who are Camden residents:

Based on the SEN2 survey conducted by the Department for Education, there were 1,446 children in Camden with EHCPs in January 2023, whether in Camden schools or outside of Camden.¹¹ Over the last decade there has been a steady increase in EHCPs in Camden.

Figure 1.14: Number of Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans and Statements in Camden (residents), 2013 - 2023



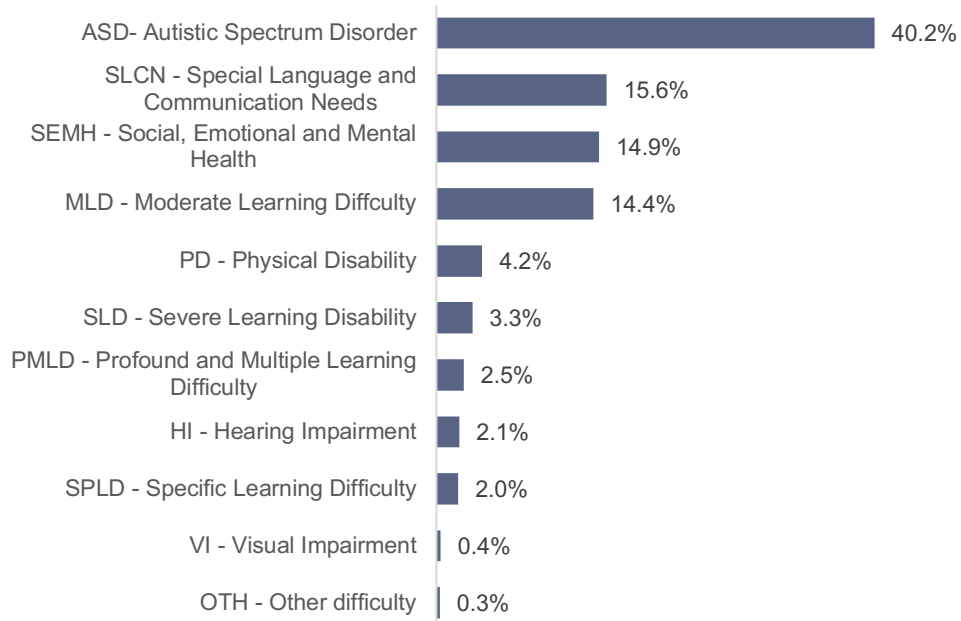
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40% of Camden’s children with EHCPs have Autistic Spectrum Disorder recorded as the Primary Need. This is broadly in line with the rates seen within School Census data both locally and nationally.

Some 72% of Camden children with EHCPs are boys, partially explained by the fact that girls are generally assessed later than boys. In terms of ethnic groups, 34% of Camden students with EHCPs are White, 20% are Black or Black British, 19% are Asian or Asian British and 13% of Mixed ethnicity.

In 2023, 42% of Camden children with SEND attended mainstream schools with another 6% in resource bases in mainstream school, 27% attended special school and 15% were in further education. There has been very little change in this split over the past 5 years.

Figure 1.15: Proportion of Primary Special Education Need (SEN) in Camden, 2023

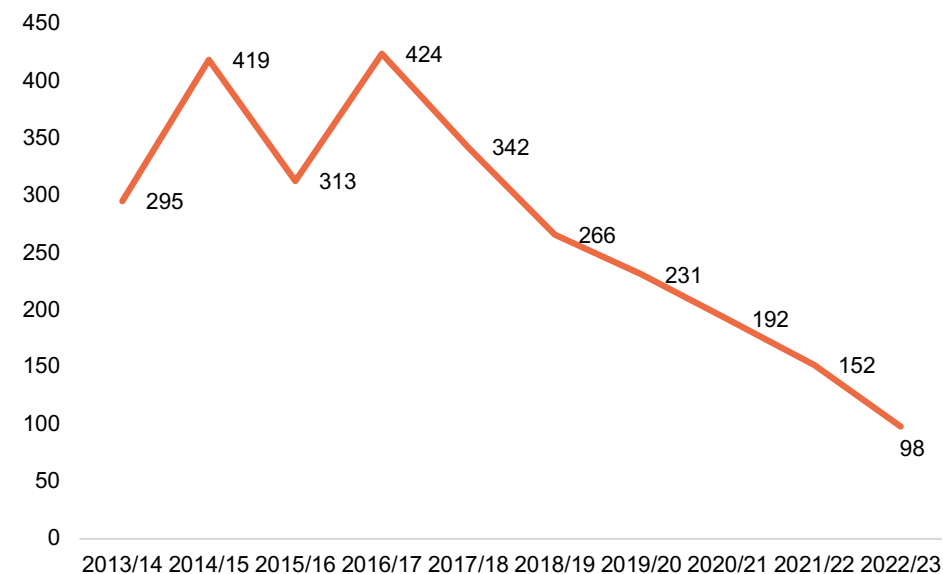


In 2022/23, 98 proven criminal offences were committed by children in Camden, or a rate of 5.9 per 1,000 children (aged 10-17)

When children engage in criminal behaviour, it not only endangers their own well-being but can also impact on other children.

In 2022-23, 98 proven criminal offences were committed by children in Camden, or a rate of 5.9 per 1,000 children (aged 10-17).¹² When this is compared with other Inner London boroughs and nearest neighbours, Camden had the third lowest crime rate and were below the London average. The top offences committed by children in Camden included violence against a person (22%), theft and handling stolen goods (16%) and drugs (14%). The total number of crimes committed by young people in Camden has gone down by 77% since 2016/17.

Figure 1.16: Number of offences committed by children in Camden 2013/14-2022/23



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The number of children receiving a caution or sentences has steadily reduced since 2016/17, as well as the numbers of children ending up with a custodial sentence where time is served at a young offenders' institution (there was just one custodial sentence out of 56 youth cautions or sentences given to children Camden in 2022/23). This decrease is likely, in part, due to an increase in the use of diversionary outcomes in recent years – an alternative outcome that does not result in a criminal record, avoids escalation into the formal youth justice system and the associated stigmatisation.

Of the Camden cohort of children who were cautioned or sentenced, 90% were boys, 40% were white, and 72% were aged 15-17.

Experience: Online safety for young people

As part of the Online Youth Safety research project, the council heard from over 70 young people across Camden and Islington. They described many positive aspects on going online, including connecting to friends and family, using the internet for schoolwork, and accessing games and entertainment. Young people also discussed many online harms, with **online bullying**, **links to mental health**, and the **inability to switch off** emerging as the most salient themes.

"If it gets to the point that [the bullying is so bad] you need to close the laptop... It's at that point you are being bullied off the internet [...] you're basically being bullied out of that space."

[Young Person; Year 8-12 SEND focus group]

“

"Online can be an escape from the real world and the real world can be an escape from online."

[Young Person, Year 8-12 focus group]

"A game I play gives you a free game spin every 4 hours – gives you really good things and it makes me addicted – I tried other games but I'm too addicted to that game and I can't stop"

[Young Person, Year 5-6 focus group]

”

Young people with SEND especially emphasized the importance of safe and accessible online spaces as an important way to socialize and build a community.

“

"People have protective parents because of their autism...young people struggle to make friends outside of school... when you're 13 or 14... you have nothing to do... you have friendships, and the best way to do this is online now"

[Young Person; Year 8-12 SEND focus group]

”

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Endnotes

- 1 Proportion of children living in low income households (60% of median income) before and after housing costs, Local indicators of child poverty, Centre for Research in Social Policy, Loughborough University for End Child Poverty (2022); Children in low income families: local area statistics, DWP (2022), <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-in-low-income-families-local-area-statistics-2014-to-2022>
https://repository.lboro.ac.uk/articles/report/Local_indicators_of_child_poverty_after_housing_costs_2021_22/23523453.
- 2 The number and rate of looked after children (per 10,000), Children looked after in England including adoptions, Department for Education (published 2022, updated July 2023), <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoptions>
- 3 Rate of child protection plans per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (at 31 March 2023), Characteristics of children in need, Department for Education (2023), <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need>
- 4 Proportion of children with a good level of development in Early Years Foundation Stage, Early years foundation stage profile results, Academic year 2022/23, <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/early-years-foundation-stage-profile-results>
- 5 Percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths (combined) <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/key-stage-2-attainment>
- 6 Percentage of pupils achieving grades 4 or above in English and mathematics GCSEs Key stage 4 performance, Academic year 2022/23, <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/key-stage-4-performance/2022-23>
- 7 The Department for Education (DfE) school census data is available for autumn 2022/spring 2023 combined, so this has been used throughout to enable comparisons of Camden to national and Inner London averages.
- 8 Percentage of persistent absentees - i.e. proportion of pupils who missed 10% or more sessions in primary and secondary schools, <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-absence-in-schools-in-england>
- 9 Percentage of pupils who progressed into sustained education, employment or apprenticeships Key stage 4 destination measures, academic year 2021/22, Department for Education (2024) <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/key-stage-4-destination-measures>
- 10 Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds participating in education, employment or training (EETs) Participation in education, training and NEET age 16 to 17 by local authority, academic year 2022/23, Department for Education, <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/participation-in-education-training-and-neet-age-16-to-17-by-local-authority/2022-23>
- 11 Number of Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, Education, health and care plans, Reporting year 2023 – Explore education statistics – GOV. UK (explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk), <https://content.explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/api/releases/d5b44ad8-35b3-4aec-9881-09a36b39a231/files>
- 12 Young people in the Youth Justice System, per 1,000, Youth Justice Statistics 2022 to 2023, <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-statistics-2022-to-2023>

Inclusive Local Economy

Camden's local economy should be strong, sustainable and inclusive – everyone should have a secure livelihood to support them to live a prosperous life



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“An inclusive economy recognises that wealth is created by the citizens and institutions which make the social fabric of the borough. Everyone should be able to benefit from the wealth they have helped to create and have a stake in how our economy develops, whether that’s through access to good work, opportunities to grow a business, community facilities or a direct financial benefit.”

- We Make Camden, March 2022

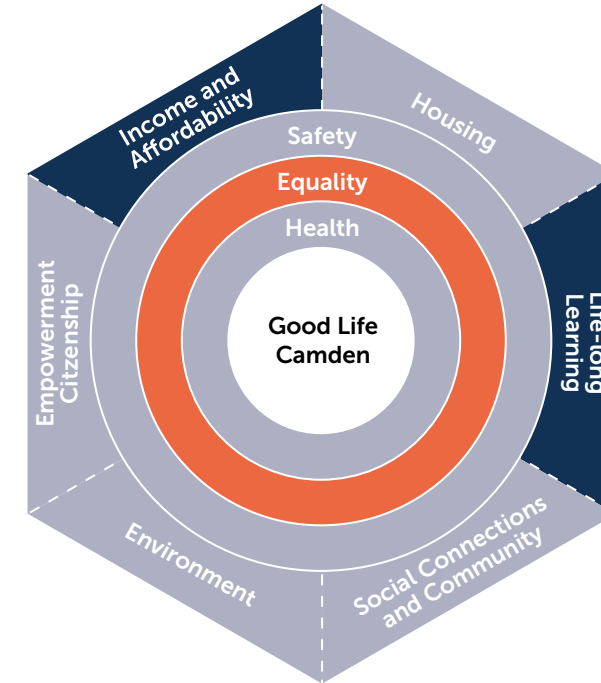
Camden is a central borough in one of the most dynamic cities in the world. It hosts world leading institutions, headquarters of global businesses, and major transport hubs. Camden also has a vibrant evening and night-time economy, attracting visitors from across the city and the country, as well as many visitors from abroad.

Having a strong, sustainable and inclusive economy means that this works for Camden residents as well as continues to attract the best of businesses and organisations to make Camden a home. It also means there are good job opportunities for Camden residents, in or around the borough, with decent pay and working conditions.

This chapter looks at outcomes relating to employment, the economy, income and affordability.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



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This chapter includes signals from three of nine themes: Lifelong Learning, Equality and Income and Affordability. The relevant signals of change covered in this chapter are that:

- Access to online and offline learning opportunities is for all ages, including those digitally excluded,
- People have opportunities to gain skills and go back into employment at any age, the services they need, People in Camden get paid fairly, and
- A good life is affordable in Camden.

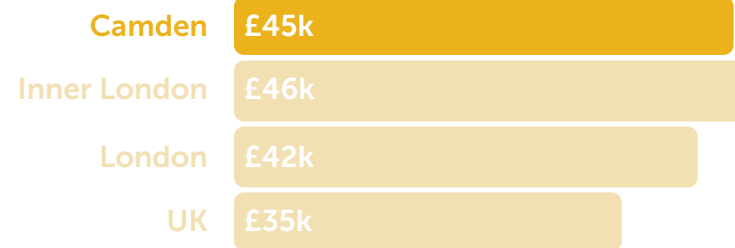
See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

Key findings

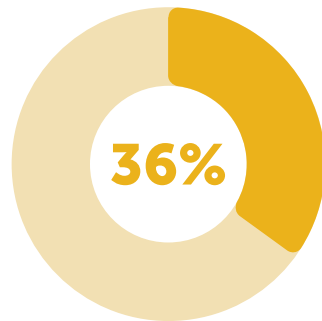


There are 418,000 jobs in Camden, more than 2.5 for every working age resident

Income and earnings are relatively high - median annual pay for Camden residents is £44,973



The night-time economy in Camden employs 137,000 people, making up 36% of jobs



Nearly 3 in 5 adults have a higher education qualification



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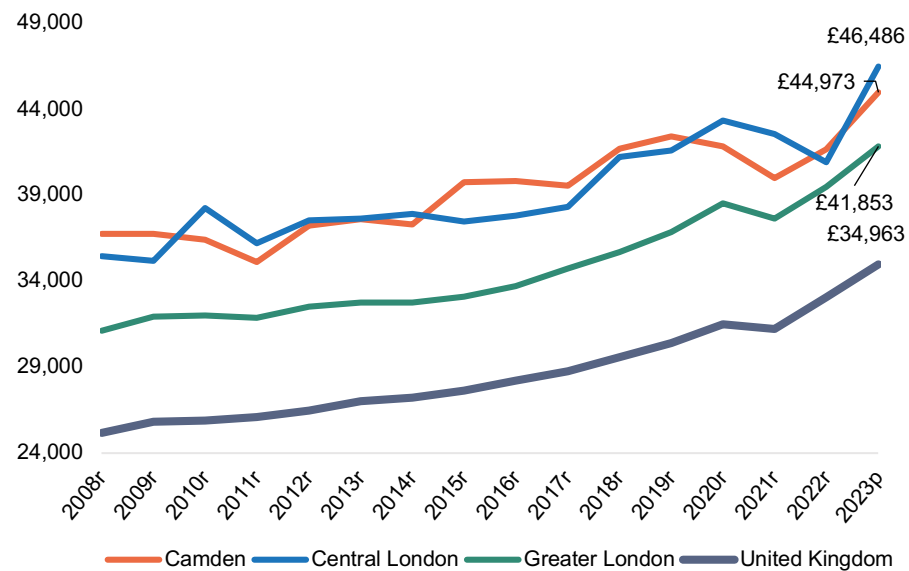
Income

Income and earnings are relatively high in Camden, both for residents and employees

Camden has one of the highest levels of earnings and income across the UK and in London.

Median annual earnings for Camden-resident full-time employees are above London and UK averages but lower than Inner London. In 2023, the median annual pay for full time employees who were Camden residents was £44,973, compared to £46,486 in Inner London, £41,853 in London and £34,963 in the UK.¹ Median pay in 2023 for Camden residents is back above pre-pandemic levels (2019) by 6%, but increases have been greater for Central London (12%), Greater London (14%) and for the UK (15%).

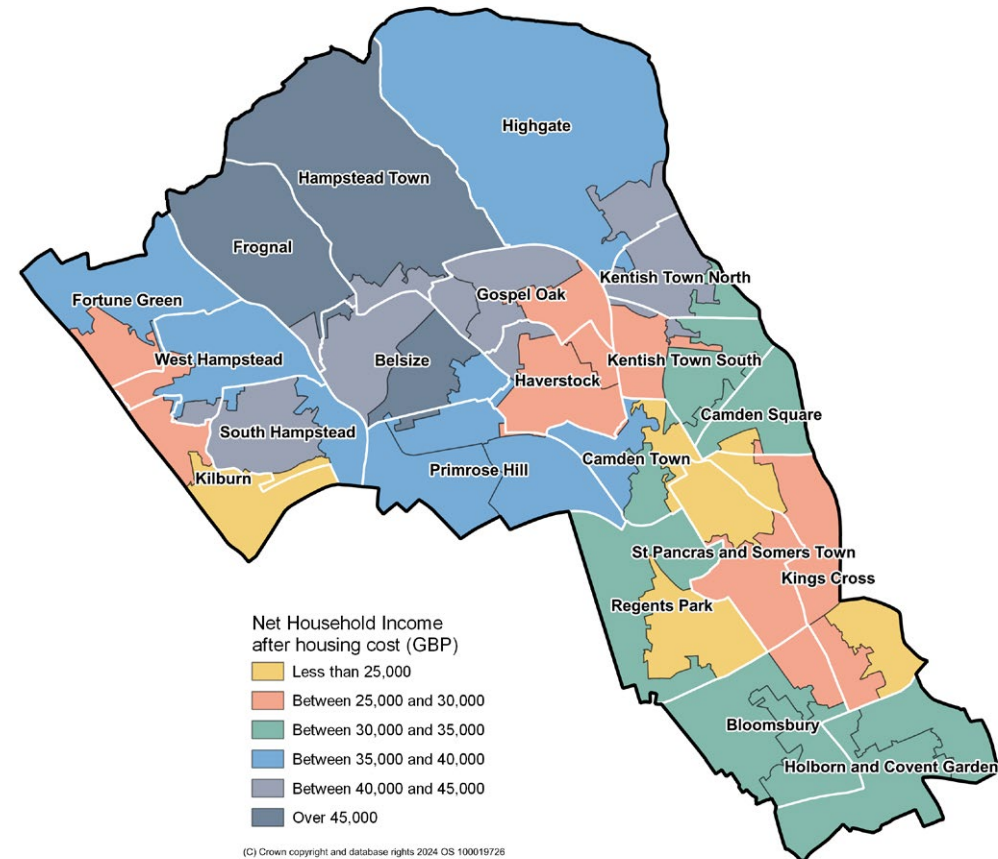
Figure 2.1: Median Annual Pay for Full Time Work, Residence-based, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)



For employees based in Camden who work full-time (but not necessarily residents), median earnings in 2023 were £45,326 – close to the Central London median of £45,679, and more than Greater London and England, £44,370 and £34,963 respectively.

Net annual household income before and after housing costs in Camden varies across neighbourhoods from £32,100 to £57,400 before housing costs, and from £21,500 to £59,100 after housing costs.

Figure 2.2: Net Household Income after housing cost at MSOA (middle layer super output area) level

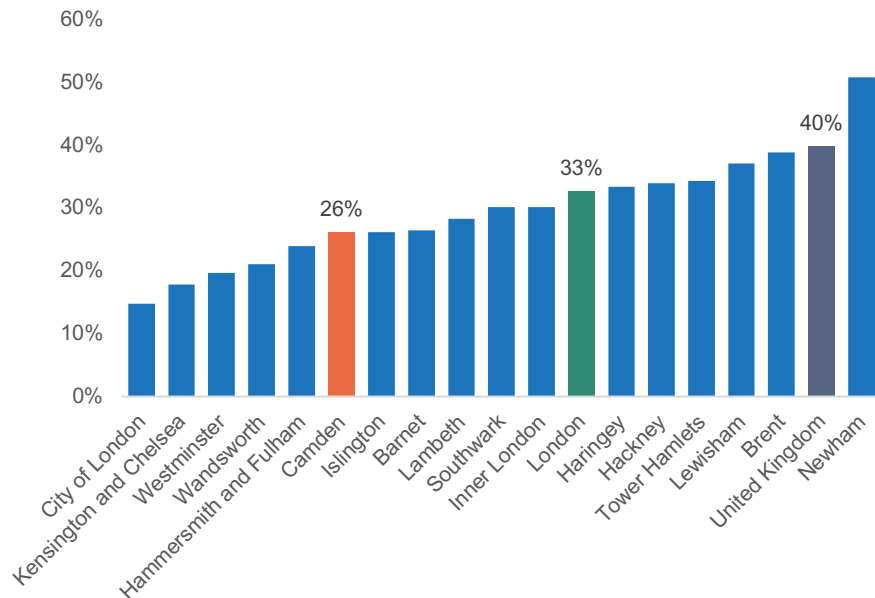


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The rising cost-of-living has had a greater impact on low-income families, and in Camden one in four households has an annual disposable income below £30k, after housing costs

Since 2022, the cost of living has been rising in the UK and across the world. The inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupier’s housing costs (CPIH), was 9.6% in the year to October 2022, and has been slowing since then. Most recently, the annual inflation rate was 4.2% (in the year to January 2024). In particular, the costs of food and energy has gone up considerably. Food inflation was 19.2% in March 2023, the highest annual rate in 45 years, and stands at 7% in January 2024.²

Figure 2.3: Share of households with an equivalised annual income below £30k in 2023



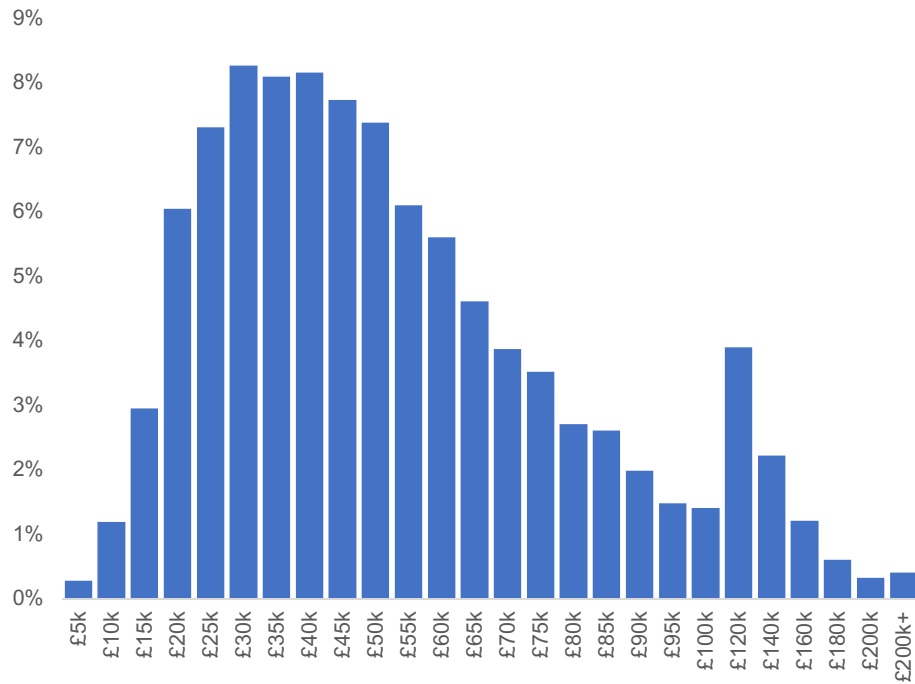
The rising cost of living has put a disproportionate burden on low-income families, for whom the share of spending on food and energy is relatively high, meaning the actual inflation on the overall spending is higher than that for high income households. In Camden, 26% of households earn less than £30k annually, after taxes and housing costs, compared to 33% in London and 40% in the UK.³

Findings from the Cost-of-Living survey

In February 2024, 98 Camden residents responded to a survey about the impact of the cost of living. The respondents were not a representative group – more respondents were social housing tenants, disabled people, and those not employed, compared to the borough population. The respondents said that:

- Their financial situation was worse now than three months ago (5.9 on a scale of 0 to 10, with 10 the worst outcome)
- They expected their financial situation to get worse over the next three months (6.2)
- They were not confident that they would be able to cope with an unexpected expenditure (6.5)
- They thought future generations in Camden would be worse off (7.8)

Figure 2.4: Share of households across equivalised income brackets, 2023



Experience: the impact of the rising cost of living

The council have been running a series of projects with staff and residents across the borough to understand the ways communities are being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. The findings have informed changes to the kinds of support the council offers directly alongside some community-based activities, including a school uniform swap for parents.



“We have found that many of the people applying for the cost-of-living crisis fund are not just those out of work, it’s those who are working but can’t afford things they need. They are getting into debt as life gets more expensive.

Even those with quite high salaries struggle to see a future living in Camden. Yes, earnings might be high, but people speak again and again about how expensive they find it living, between the rent prices and costly grocery options. In some parts of the borough people can struggle to access large supermarkets, so they are met with the penalty of having to pay higher prices in the smaller local shops.

In a survey, we heard that parents especially are often having to make tough choices - between what they eat, eating less healthy foods as less healthy options are cheaper and prioritising their children’s food overeating themselves. There are also pinch points in the year, such as when a child needs a new school uniform – many parents are hit by one off payments for uniforms.”

- Member of staff, Cost of Living Crisis research



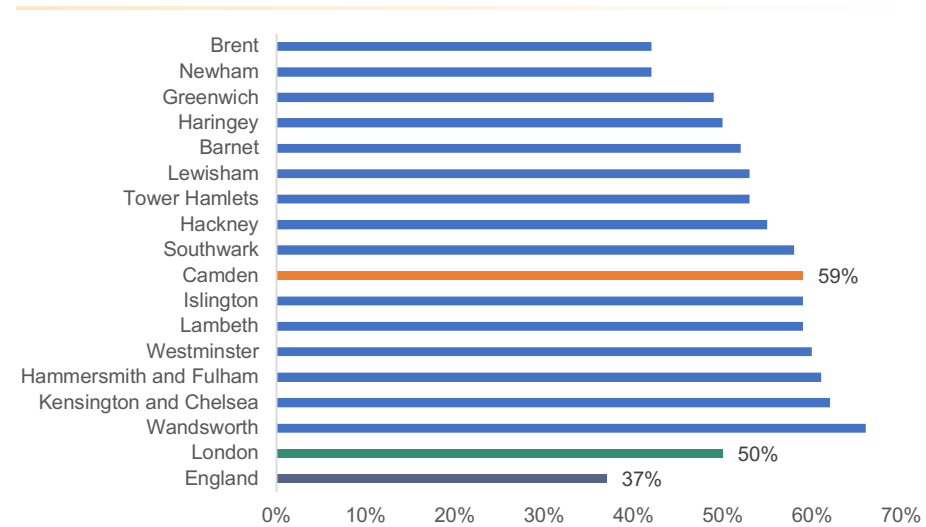
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Jobs, employment, and skills

Nearly three in five adults have a higher education qualification (level 4 or above)

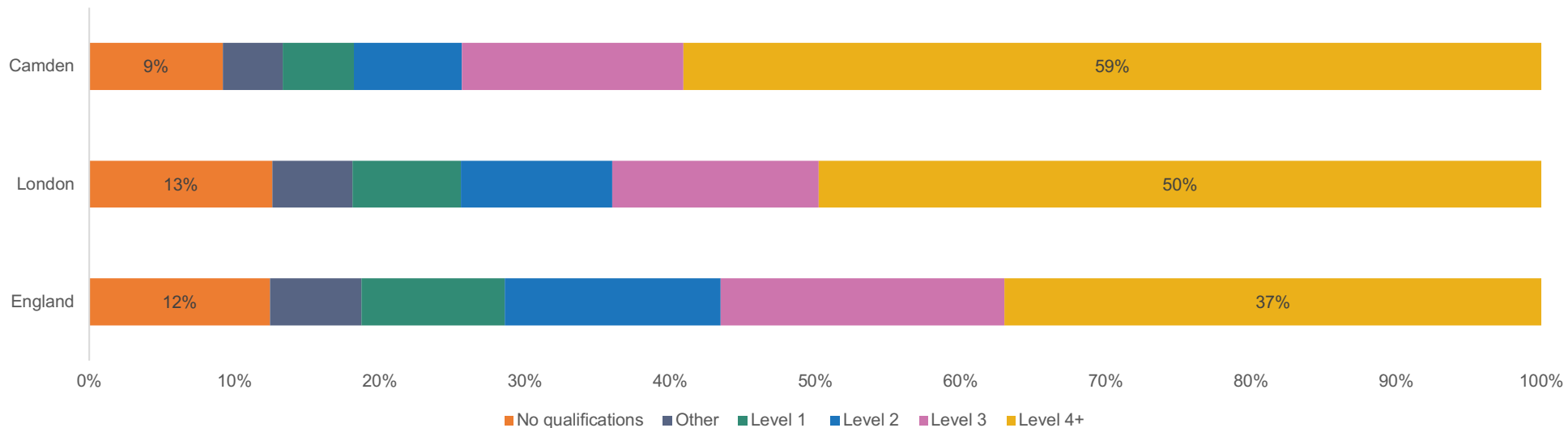
Education and skills are key for people to participate in the economy and society. Education is also associated with better outcomes in health, civic participation and happiness. In Camden, nearly 3 in 5 working age adults (16-64 year-olds) have a level 4 qualification or higher, considerably higher than London and the UK, but comparable to the Inner London average. Of the working-age population, 9% in Camden had no qualifications, while in London it was 13% and in England 12%.

Figure 2.5: Share of working age adults with Level 4 qualification or above, 2021



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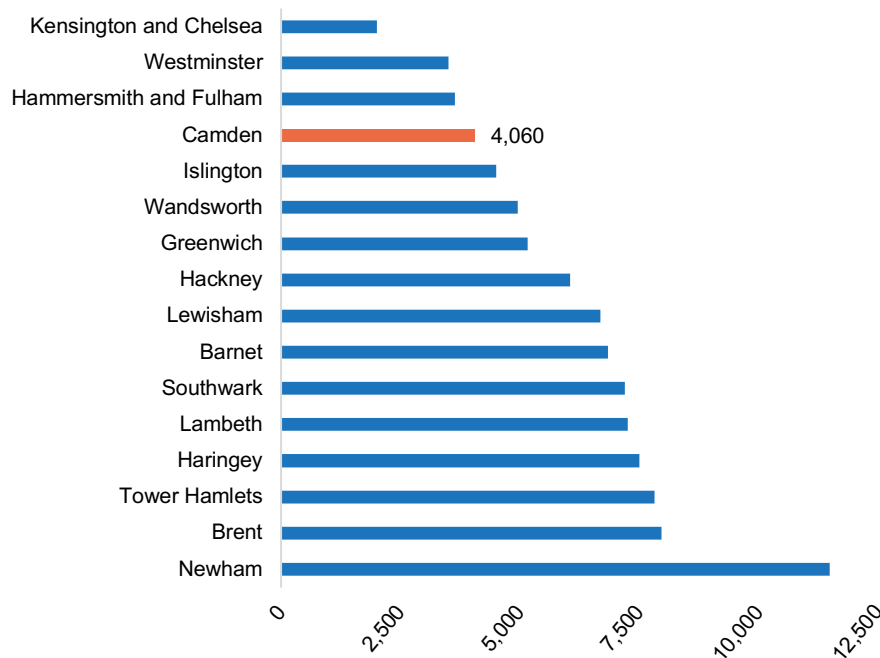
Figure 2.6: Qualification levels of working age adults (16-64) across Camden, London, England, 2021



More than 4,000 per 100,000 adults participate in adult learning opportunities

Camden has higher participation rates for community learning and further education and skills opportunities than both London and England, but lower participation rates for apprenticeships and education and training opportunities. In 2022/23, the rate of participation in adult learning opportunities was 4,060 per 100,000 adults in Camden.⁴ Across Inner London, Camden has one of the lowest rates of residents in adult learning opportunities.

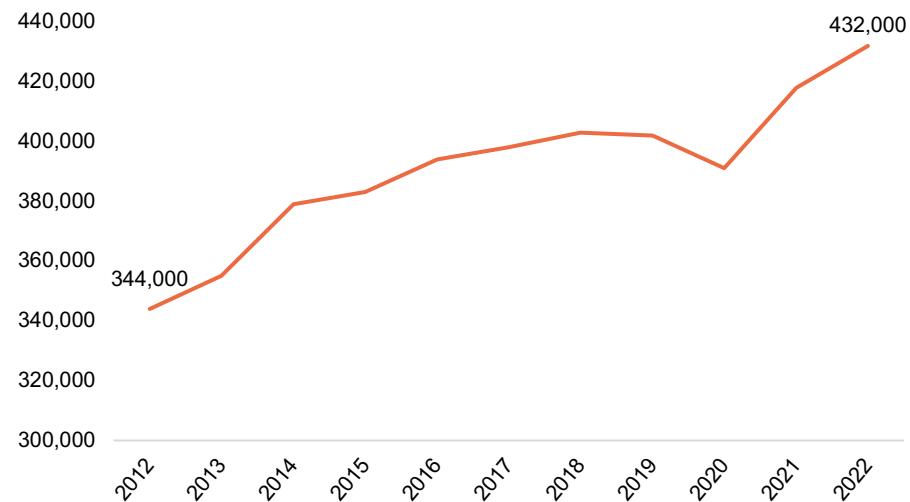
Figure 2.7: Number of adult learners in Camden and boroughs, 2022/23



There are 432,000 jobs in Camden, 2.82 for every resident of working age, and the job growth rate has been higher than London and England

The number of jobs based in Camden is the third largest in London, with 432,000 or 6.5% of all jobs in London.⁵ The number of jobs has increased by 21.5% since 2012, higher than both job growth for London (17.9%) and England (13.1%) for the same period and is one of the highest across London boroughs.

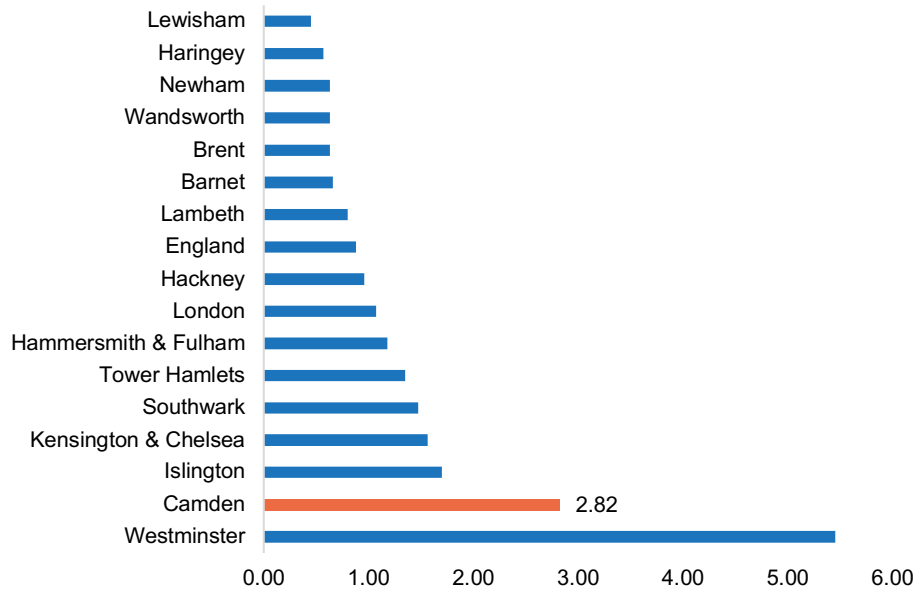
Figure 2.8: Growth in jobs in Camden since 2012



Job density, meaning the number of jobs divided by the number of working-age residents, is high in Camden – there are more jobs than residents. Camden has the second highest jobs density in London (excluding City of London), with 2.82 jobs for every resident of working age, and higher than London (1.07) and England (0.88). Job density has remained relatively consistent over the past decade, with a small decrease during Covid and a larger increase in the most recent year.

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Figure 2.9: Job density, 2024



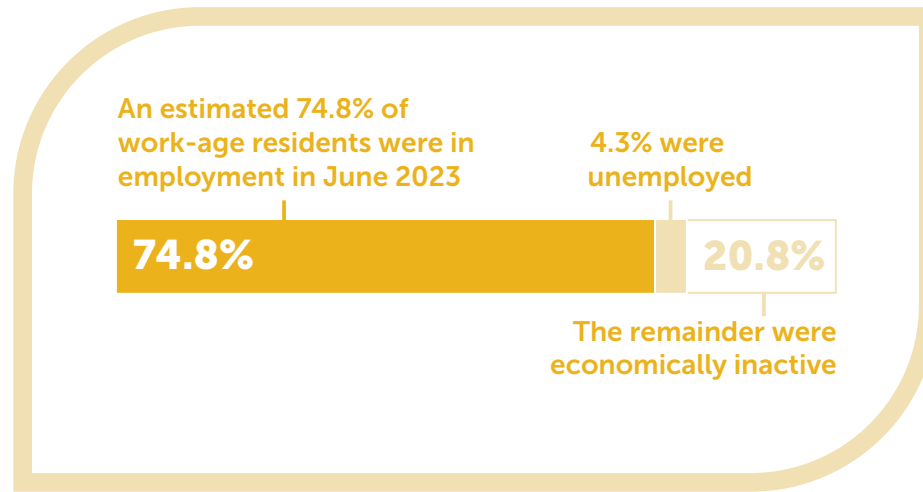
The employment rate was 74.8% of work-age residents in June 2023, and 4.3% of people were unemployed

Employment in Camden is relatively low and economic inactivity is relatively high in comparison with London and England. This is mostly explained by the large number of students living in the borough, but there are also residents that face significant barriers to accessing employment.

According to the latest data, the estimated employment rate was 74.8% in the year ending September 2023.⁶ This rate is comparable to London (74.6%) and lower than Great Britain (75.8%). Around 20.8% of the population aged 16 to 64 years in Camden were economically inactive⁷ in the year ending September 2023. This is a decline from the previous

year where 32% were economically inactive, and lower than the London average of 21.5%.⁸

The Claimant Count for Camden, a measure of the number of people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits, shows that unemployment fell from a peak of 11,690 in March 2021 and bottomed out at 6,730 in July 2022. After some fluctuation in the latter half of 2022, this fell to a post-pandemic low of 6,455 in January 2023, before increasing again over the course of the year to 6,640 in December 2023. This means that 4.3% of people aged 16 to 64 in Camden were claiming unemployment related benefits.



Experience: barriers to employment

In the summer of 2023, the council ran a research project which explored staff and resident experience of the council’s Cost of Living Crisis Fund. Launched in 2023, the fund offers emergency financial support to those experiencing hardship. Conversations with residents surfaced the realities faced when there are significant barriers to accessing employment.

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“People are having a tough time finding steady jobs; many we talked to in our research were on zero-hours contracts, which left them often not knowing how much income they could earn that week. All were trying to secure more stable work.

Many who are able to work were trying to increase their income, by learning new skills, doing training courses, and getting certifications. However, getting a better paying job can feel like a catch-22 at times - you may be earning more, but you can end up spending more as that extra income goes on things like travelling to work, childcare costs, and new council tax obligations.

“The older people who were able to work and wanted to, spoke of the hard time they had getting back into the job market. They felt discrimination in the labour market, and that there was a lack of tailored support and retraining opportunities. One older resident spoke of an advisor who asked them off-the-cuff if they wanted to work in the kitchen at a fast-food restaurant. The resident, physically unable to work in such a fast-paced environment, felt the advisor didn’t take the time to understand their strengths, experience, and ambitions.”

- Member of staff, Cost of Living Crisis research



Across London, around 14% of people do not have foundational digital skills

In the 21st century, digital skills have become crucial to taking part in life, employment, social relations and civic engagement. Data for Camden is not available, but we know that in London around 14% of people do not have foundational digital skills such as turning on a device, updating a password, or connecting to WiFi. Some 10% of people lack essential digital skills for life, such as communicating with friends or family or making transactions online, while 18% of Londoners do not have essential digital skills for work, such as accessing and sharing files or using work-related software.⁹ However, Londoners are relatively more digitally included compared to people across England.

Figure 2.10: Proportion of people in London and England who lack essential digital skills, 2022



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Experience: digital inclusion

In early 2023, the council's digital inclusion team spoke to different organisations, services, staff and residents to understand how the council could support communities to have better access to digital resources.



"So far most of the people I've met seem to have a digital device, but they can lack some for the basic skills to really make the most of what they have. I met a woman whilst she was in the queue for a food bank who had a smartphone and could access her emails but didn't know how to attach a file or photo to an email, something her GP has asked her to do on multiple occasions.

Another man I spoke with had the basic requirements for good digital access- he could afford a basic data bundle for his smartphone with good amount of storage but didn't have the skills to get online. So essentially, he was paying for something he wasn't benefitting from. He wanted to learn, wanted to do things on his own and didn't want to have to ask for help.

Others seem to have the skills but may not be able to afford devices that meet their needs. I met a mum who shared a laptop with her daughter that they got from the government 4 years ago. The laptop was now running too slowly and using up too much memory to accommodate both her daughter's schoolwork and the blog writing she was trying to do to boost her business."

- Member of staff, Digital Inclusion Team



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ambitions**

Business and economy

In 2022 there were almost 5,000 new businesses registered in Camden, and 4,275 businesses that closed

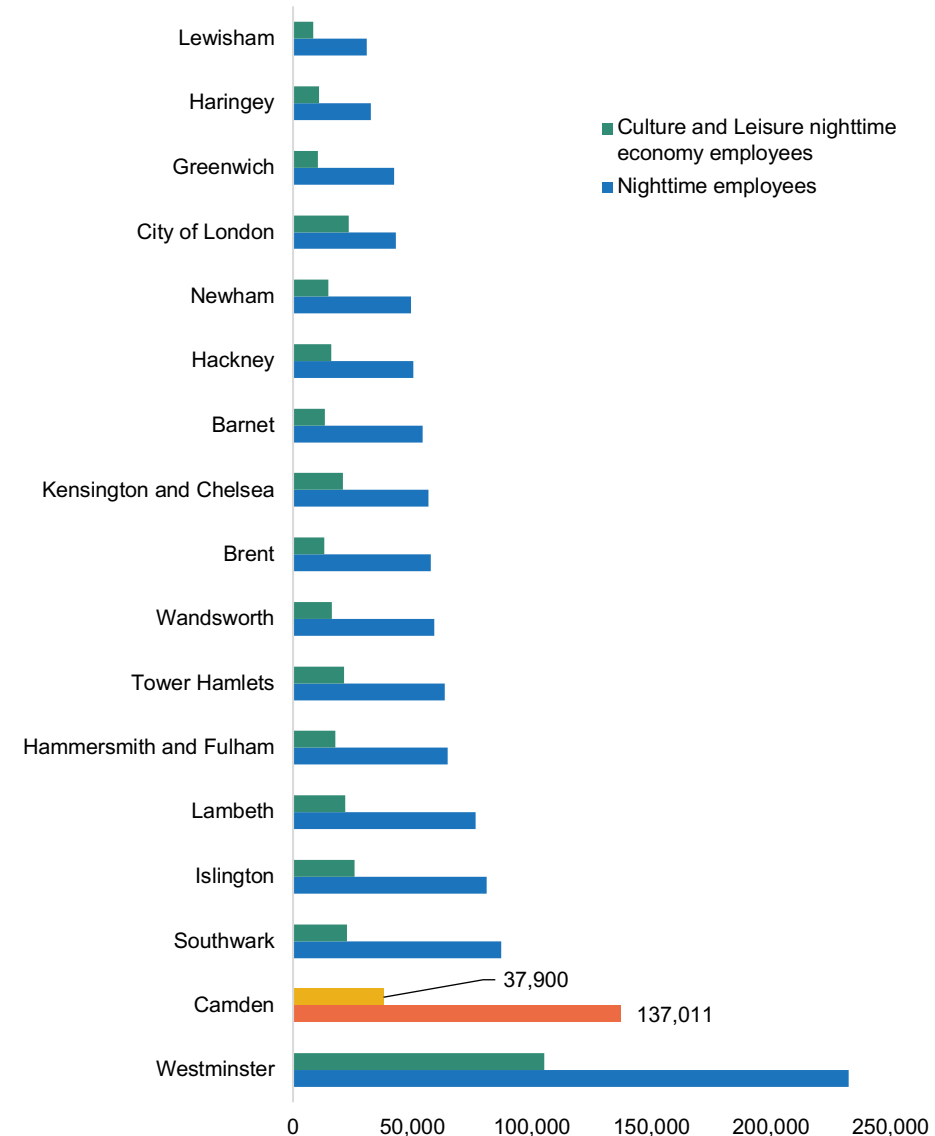
In 2023 there were 38,420 businesses in Camden, comprising 7% of businesses across London. Of the total number of businesses, 27% were the professional, scientific and technical industries and 14% in information and communication. In 2022, almost 5,000 new 'business births' (a business that is new and was not active in previous years) were registered in Camden (4,935) and 4,275 'business deaths' (a business that is no longer active in the last two years).

In 2023, the turnover for 27% of businesses was above £1 million pounds, and 14% were above £5 million pounds. Three out of four businesses had 4 employees or less, and only 0,1% (30 in total) had more than 1,000 employees.¹⁰

The night-time economy in Camden employs 137,000 people, making up 36% of jobs in Camden

There is a dynamic and lively night-time economy in Camden, the sixth largest in the UK, attracting visitors to Camden Town, Covent Garden and other areas. In 2022, there were 137,000 jobs in the night-time economy, the second highest number of night-time economy jobs in London, after Westminster. Of these, 37,900 jobs were in cultural and leisure activities.

Figure 2.11: Number of people employed in the night-time economy and in particular cultural and leisure activities, 2022



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Experience: Camden's evening and night-time

In 2023, the Council began developing its first Evening and Night-time Economy (ENTE) strategy, and as part of this, staff spoke to a broad range of people about their lived experience of working in the ENTE, including health and care, transport and refuge workers, as well as those who live near evening and night-time venues across Camden.



"Our aim was to try and arrive at a place where we could balance the needs of residents, workers and businesses, to bring about positive change in a sustainable way. For example, we heard from residents who lived near evening and night-time hotspots that they appreciated living near such a vibrant cultural scene and exciting venues, but they needed to feel there was a balance and that their needs were being considered.

We heard from different generations who either found that they were 'pigeon-holed' into special hours or feeling that nobody offered anything for them to do, couldn't afford a night out or were too scared to travel into Camden's main hotspots late in the evening and night-time.

We also heard from 'night workers', people who do valuable jobs but don't feel like they get the same recognition. Several told us they felt like their wellbeing didn't matter as much to their employers as daytime workers. They felt like they didn't have as much access to training and development or wellbeing support. It makes you wonder what more we can do to support them. One thing that surprised me was hearing the disparity in access to healthy food - one worker explained that when you work in the day you have lots of options but working at night it's often only 'junk food' establishments that are open.

- Staff Member – Evening and Night Time Economy Strategy



**The 6 WMC
ambitions**

Endnotes

- 1 Median earnings before and after housing costs in Camden, by middle super output area (MSOA), Income estimates for small areas, England and Wales 2020, ONS (2023), <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/smallareaincomeestimatesformiddlelayersuperoutputareasenglandandwales>
- 2 Office for National Statistics (ONS), Cost of Living latest insights, 14 February 2024 (accessed 29/02/2024) <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/articles/costofliving/latestinsights>
- 3 Equivalised annual household income summary, 2023, Paycheck CACI Ltd, accessed via the Camden Business and Economy Bulletin Databook (accessed on 23 January 2024) https://opendata.camden.gov.uk/Business-Economy/Camden-Business-And-Employment-Bulletin-Databook-L/g7ct-v2k3/about_data
- 4 Number of people (aged 19+) participating in adult learning opportunities and adult learning participation rate per 100,000 people, Further education and skills, Academic year 2022-2023, Office for National Statistics , <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/further-education-and-skills>
- 5 Jobs and job density, ONS, accessed via Nomis, <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/jd>
- 6 <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157246/report.aspx?town=camden>
- 7 People are classed as "economically inactive" if they are not in employment but don't meet the criteria for being "unemployed". This means they have not been seeking work within the previous four weeks or were unable to start work within the next two weeks. Common reasons include being retired, looking after the home or family or being temporarily or long-term sick and disabled.
- 8 Employment, unemployment and economic inactivity in Camden. How Camden compares with London and Great Britain across employment-related statistics, 2 February 2024, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/labourmarketlocal/E09000007/>
- 9 Proportion of people who do not have Essential Digital Skills, Essential Digital Skills survey 2022, Ipsos Mori/Lloyds Bank, <https://www.lloydsbank.com/banking-with-us/whats-happening/consumer-digital-index/essential-digital-skills.html>
- 10 Camden Business and Employment Bulletin Databook, November 2023 https://opendata.camden.gov.uk/Business-Economy/Camden-Business-And-Employment-Bulletin-Databook-L/g7ct-v2k3/about_data

Safe and Strong Communities

Camden actively tackles injustice and inequality, creating safe, strong and open communities where everyone can contribute



Contents

Camden has seen the second highest increase in the rate of recorded crime this year, returning back to a pre-pandemic level, mainly due to an increase in thefts **40**

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Londoners have a lower sense of belonging than the England average, and although most think their local area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together, this has gone down since last year **45**

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The 6 WMC ambitions

“We want our communities to be safe and keeping everyone safe is a collective responsibility. Residents want to know their neighbours, feel safe and secure in their homes and on our streets.”

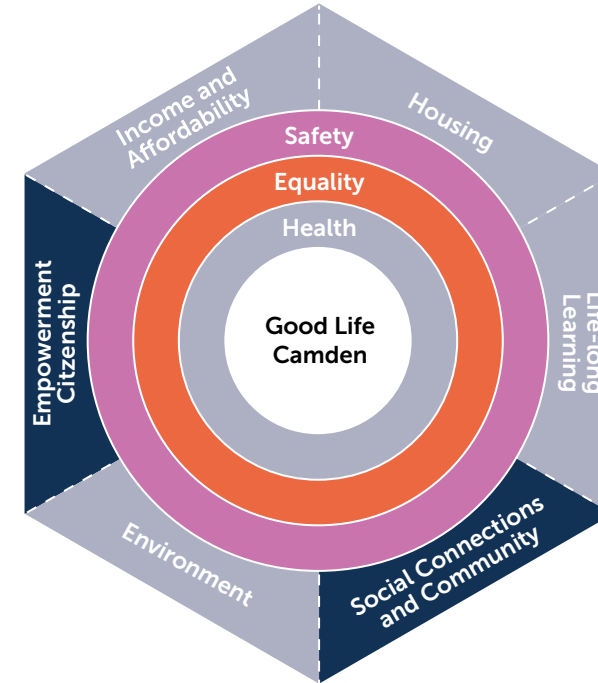
- We Make Camden, March 2022

When living in a neighbourhood, people are keen to feel that the place they live in is a safe, open and vibrant community. All members of a community should feel they are able to participate within a local area, whether that be in terms of digital inclusion, civic participation or democratic engagement with local political authorities. Being able to actively participate in civic society through strong community and voluntary institutions is the cornerstone of local social cohesion, building a sense of pride and belonging to place. Alongside this, places should feel tolerant and inclusive, with everyone feeling they are a fully integrated and respected member of the community. Ensuring that neighbourhood crime is low and discrimination and injustice based on protected characteristics such as gender, age, disability or ethnicity is tackled are essential to maintaining community cohesion.

This chapter presents data relating to community safety and cohesion, focusing on the prevalence of discrimination and crime in the borough as well as people’s levels of participation in civic life and within the voluntary and community sector.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



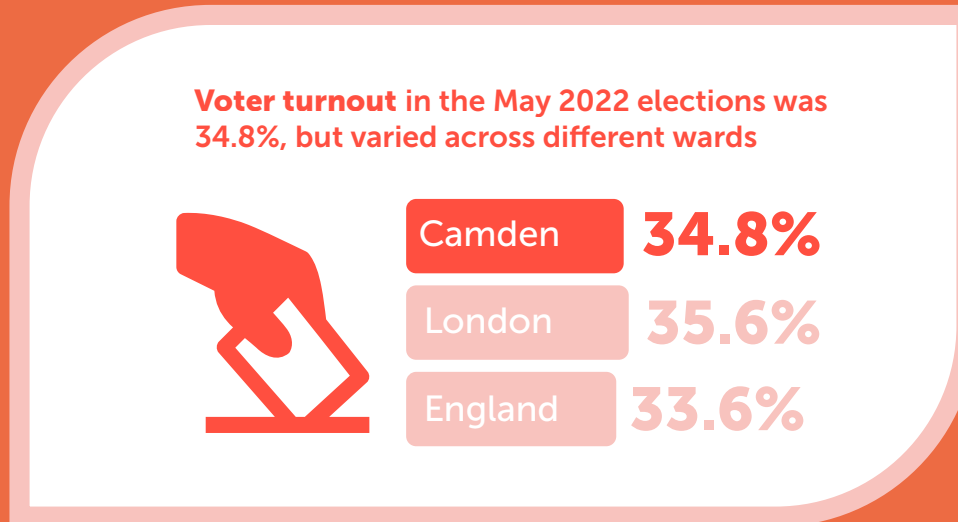
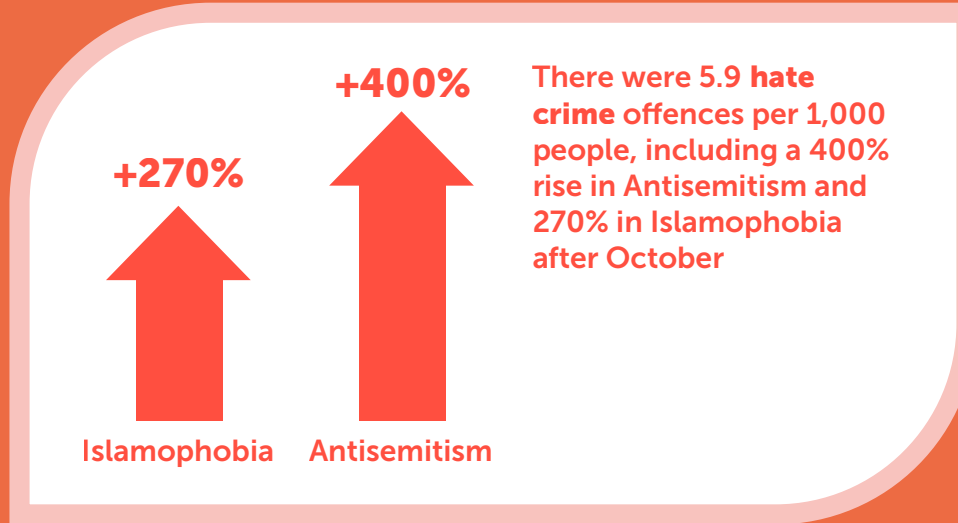
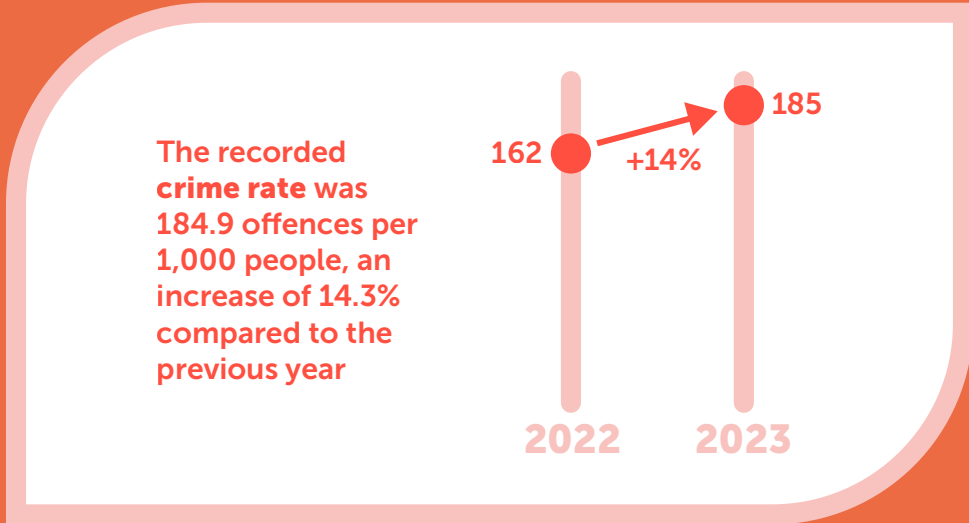
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This chapter includes signals from four of nine themes: Empowered Citizenship, Equality, Safety and Social Connections and Community. The relevant signals of change covered in this chapter are that:

- Everyone in Camden feels safe, and
- People are safe in their homes.

See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

Key findings



The 6 WMC ambitions

Camden has seen the second highest increase in the rate of recorded crime this year, returning back to a pre-pandemic level, mainly due to an increase in thefts

Crime and perception of crime plays an important role in people’s sense of safety.

The crime rate in Camden between January and December 2023 was 184.9 offences per 1,000 people. This was an increase of 14.3% compared to the previous year, the 2nd highest percentage increase in crime rates across London (behind Westminster). This means that Camden’s overall rate of crime has returned to a very similar level to the rate recorded pre-pandemic, having dropped by 37.5% between 2019 and 2021.

Figure 3.1: Rate of Crime in Camden since 2011, per 1,000 population

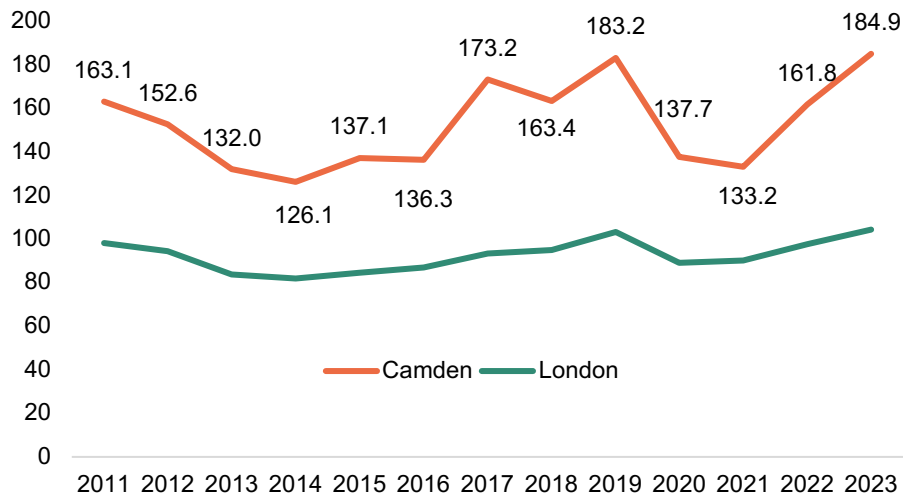
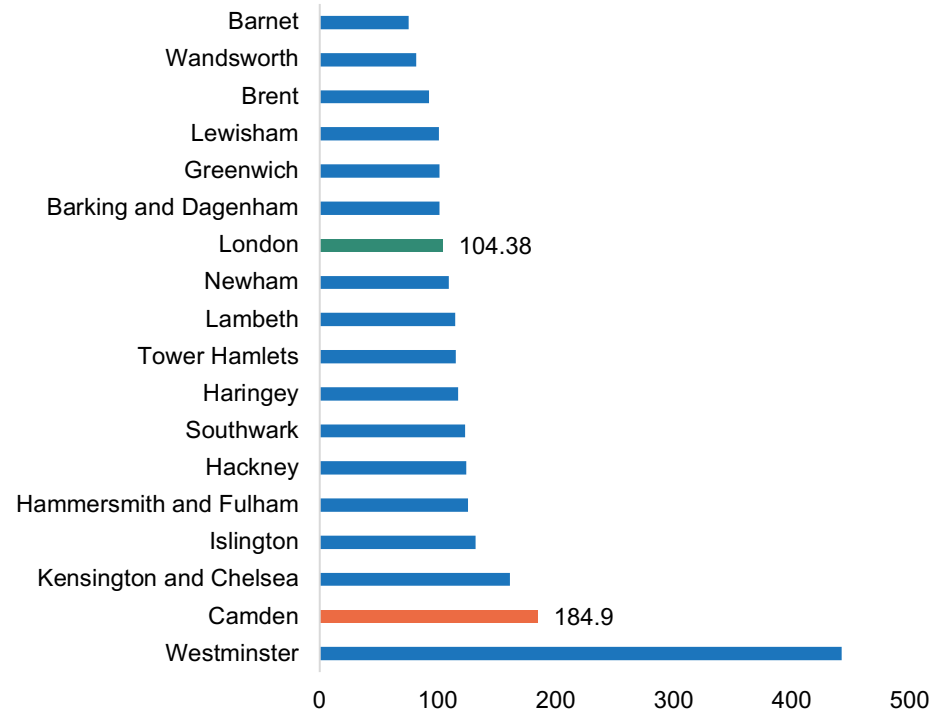


Figure 3.2: Offences per 1,000 residents across London, 2023



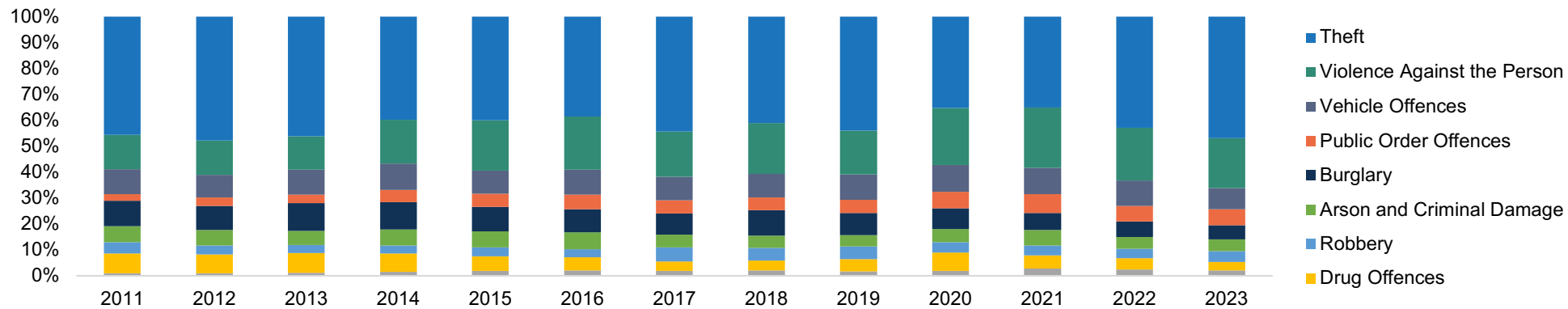
Presently Camden has the second highest crime rate in London – only Westminster has higher crime rates.¹

Theft is the most common type of crime in Camden, with a current rate of 85.6 offences per 1,000 people². Theft, as well as similar crimes including robbery, have seen large increases from the previous year, increasing 25.3% and 28.3% respectively. But it is the high volume of thefts overall (accounting for 46.3% of all crimes) which has been most significant in driving the overall increased crime rate.

Drug offences and possession of weapons saw the largest year on year decreases, with 16% and 14.7% reductions respectively.

The 6 WMC ambitions

Figure 3.3: Rate of crime per 1,000 people in Camden, by type 2011 - 2023



The 6 WMC ambitions

Experience: Personal safety



"I would say that the safety around the area in Camden and Somers Town has not improved that much. There is a large amount of drug dealing and drug addicts especially homeless people roaming around, loitering in buildings especially Monica Shaw/Phoenix Court building estate. It is worrying to go out at any time of the day now as these activities occur even in daylight. You have drug addicts obstructing the entry and exit points of the building and people that live in the block cannot get out or feel intimidated, especially if people have kids. More needs to be done in terms of action to get rid of such things, as there are new buildings and businesses being built around the area, it will affect this and the upcoming plans to make the area greener, cleaner and safer! "

"As a female who has lived in Camden for 40 years, I have never felt so unsafe. Lesbians and older women seem to be targets for all kinds of prejudice and even actual violence. It used to be so good to be out here but now we have to be back in the closet."

- Respondents to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024



In 2023, there has been an increase in hate crime, and in particular from October 2023 a 400% rise in Antisemitism in October and 270% rise in Islamophobia in November compared to the annual average

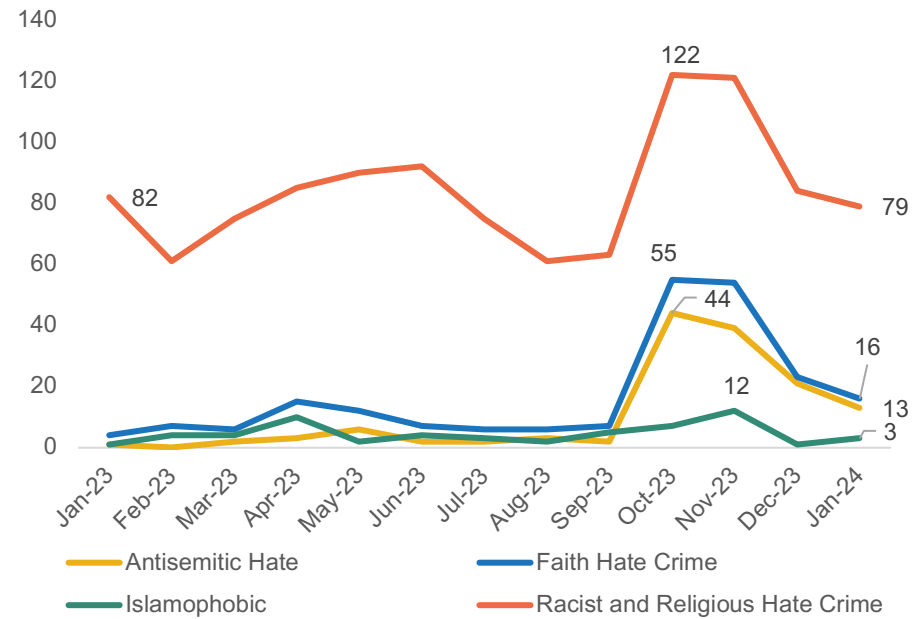
Hate crime is defined as any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person’s actual or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.

The rate of hate crime in Camden has increased over the past six years, reaching 5.9 offences per 1,000 people during 2023. This is a higher rate than the London average (3.3).³ Camden has the second highest rate of hate crime after Westminster, which has a rate of 12.4 per 1,000 people.

The most common form of hate crime reported in Camden remains racist and religious hate crime, followed by racist hate crime and faith hate crime. It is important to note that incidences are sometimes recorded as multiple categories, i.e. both racist and religious crimes as well as Antisemitic and Islamophobic.

Antisemitic offences have increased significantly in 2023 compared to 2022, with an increase in the last few months of the year, following the events in the Middle East. Whereas there were only 23 Antisemitic hate crimes recorded in 2022, there were 125 recorded in 2023, more than a five-fold increase, and most of these were between October and December. Islamophobic offences also increased from 41 offences in 2022 to 55 in 2023. This significant increase in antisemitic hate crime mirrors a similar change across London.

Figure 3.4: Racist and religious, faith hate, Antisemitic and Islamophobic offences per 1,000 people, Jan 2023-Jan 2024

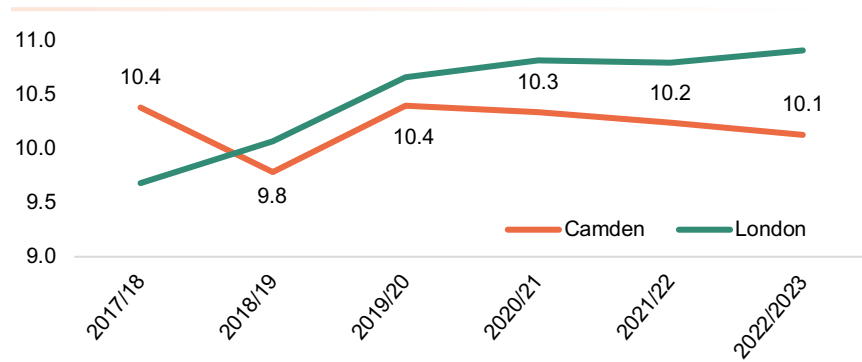


The rate of reported domestic abuse remains lower in Camden than the London average in 2023 and has been slowly declining since 2020

Domestic abuse refers to any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults, aged 16 and over, who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender and sexuality. Both men and women can be victims of domestic abuse, though most victims are female.

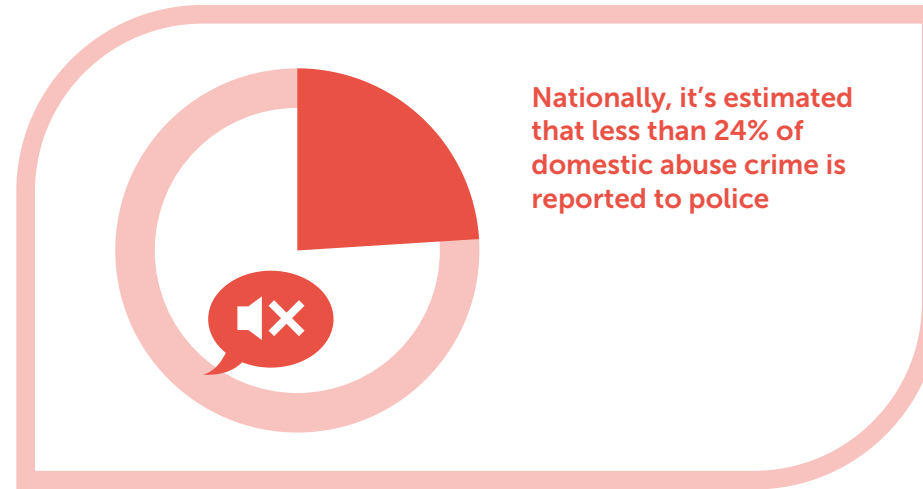
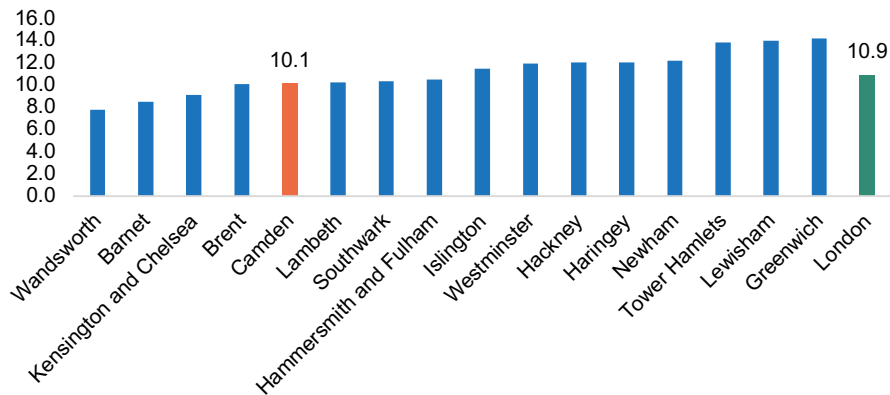
The 6 WMC ambitions

Figure 3.5: Rate of domestic abuse offences per 1,000 people 2018-2023



In 2023, the total reported rate of domestic abuse in Camden was 10.1 offences for every 1000 residents. This is lower than the average for London (10.9) for the same period. The rate of domestic abuse in Camden has been slowly reducing since 2020, while the London average rate has increased slightly. Locally, we know that demand for services to support victims of domestic abuse has been increasing, and we suspect undercounting remains a significant issue. However, it should be noted that it is estimated that less than 24% of domestic abuse crime is reported to police.⁴

Figure 3.6: Rate of domestic abuse offenses per 1,000 people 2022/23



Experience: Domestic violence and abuse

“More than half of women in our group live in poverty, many are mothers, they do not have status, their children do not have status; some have had to leave children behind when they fled...when we reach here, we face racism and sexism from the Home Office and courts, and are forced into destitution... who as a mother wants to see their children suffering? We want to make our children happy, and mothers go the extra mile, whatever it takes”

- Malaka, Nigerian mother, survivor of rape, domestic, physical, emotional and sexual violence; All African Women’s Group member

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"I think that if you come from a certain background or a certain community you might feel a lot of shame about accessing help and about what has happened.. if you've got any sort of cultural religious beliefs around you are supposed to stay together even when something really horrendous and difficult has happened to you and sometimes having to explain that to someone who is not of your background is just putting an extra barrier and extra strain on you that you do not need in a super difficult time.

- Play worker



From the [Violence Against Women of Colour: An investigation into violence against women and girls of Colour in Camden](#), Take Back the Power – The Winch, 2022

Cuckooing, where people take over a person's home and use the property to facilitate exploitation, is an increasing issue in Camden with 67 adult safeguarding enquiries in 2022/23

In 2022/23 there were 67 safeguarding adult enquiries where cuckooing was involved. This was around 5% of all safeguarding enquiries. For the first three quarters of 2023/24, 8% (75 enquiries) feature cuckooing.

People who have been cuckooed are often isolated from communities and experiencing addiction and mental health issues, making them a target for criminals. The increase in this very serious issue links to the increasing loneliness of the Camden population and the overall rise in crime in the borough.

In Camden, 12% of all adult safeguarding enquiries in 2022/23 featured social isolation as a factor, with 69% of those being for people over the age of 65.

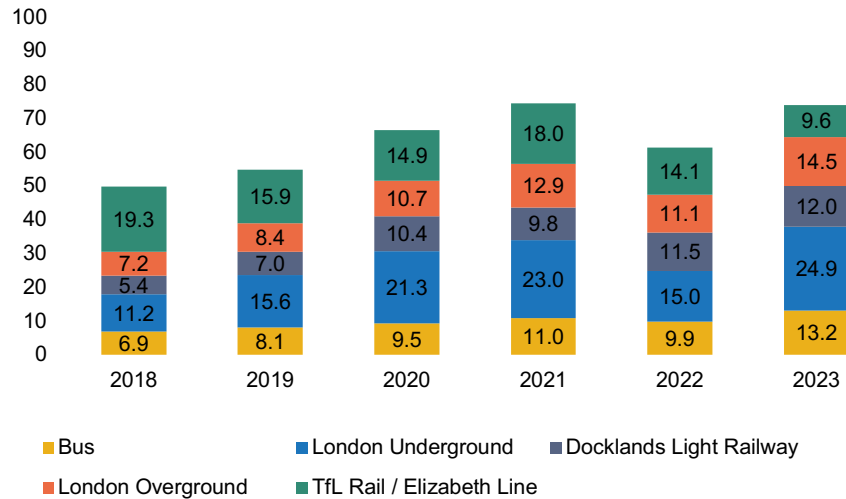
Crime on public transport per passenger in London is highest on the London Underground and lowest on TfL Rail and the Elizabeth line

The crime rate on public transport in London as of March 2023 was 16.8 incidents per million passengers.⁵ On the modes of public transport that run through Camden – underground, overground and buses (excluding the Elizabeth line), crime is highest on the London Underground (24.9 incidents per million passengers) and lowest on buses (13.2 incidents per million).

Crime on public transport has been increasing since 2014, when the crime rate was 7.1 offences per million passengers to 16.8 in 2023. The rise in crime has been steepest on trams and the London Underground.

The 6 WMC ambitions

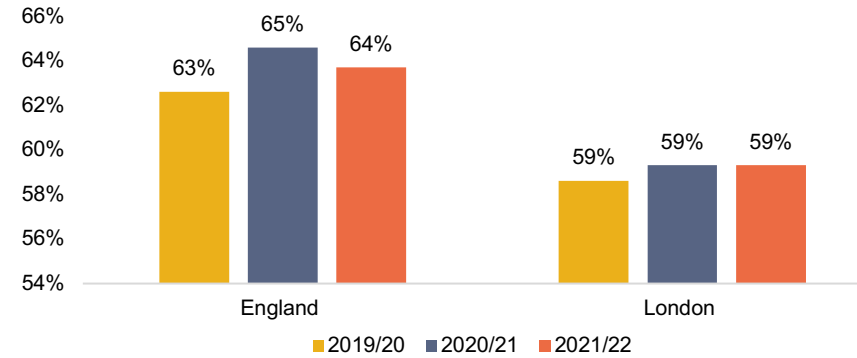
Figure 3.7: Crime rate on public transport in London, by mode of transport (2013-2023)



Londoners have a lower sense of belonging than the England average, and although most think their local area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together, this has gone down since last year

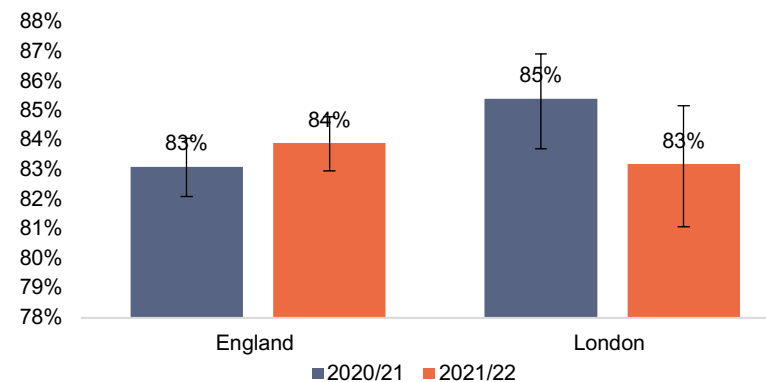
A smaller proportion of people in London (59%) strongly feel they belong to their neighbourhood than the England average (64%), but the proportion of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood has remained relatively consistent in both London and England between 2019 and 2022⁶. The lower levels for a cosmopolitan city like London could relate to higher levels of population turnover and churn i.e. more people coming to and leaving London in any given year, compared to other areas.

Figure 3.8: Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood, 2019-2022



A very high proportion of people (83%) in London think that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together⁷. The current proportion of people in London who think their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together is similar to the England average, however this is a -2.2 percentage point decrease since 2020-21.

Figure 3.9: Percentage of people who agree their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, 2020-2022



The 6 WMC ambitions

Voter turnout is similar in Camden to London and England averages, but lower than some other London boroughs

Voter turnout in local elections provides some indication of the level of engagement citizens have with local democracy, and how empowered they feel. Camden had a voter turnout of 34.8% in the May 2022 local elections, which was in line with London (35.6%) and England (33.6%) averages, but much lower than Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Wandsworth⁸.

The turnout also varied across different wards within Camden, with 27.4% turnout in Kings Cross ward, compared to 49% in Highgate ward.

Figure 3.10: Voter turnout at the 2022 local

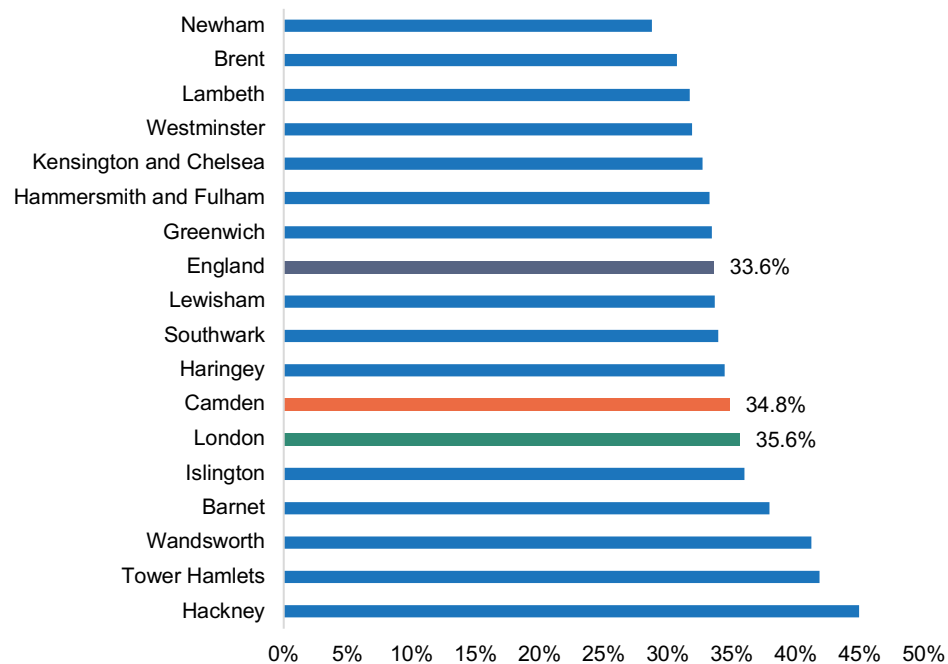
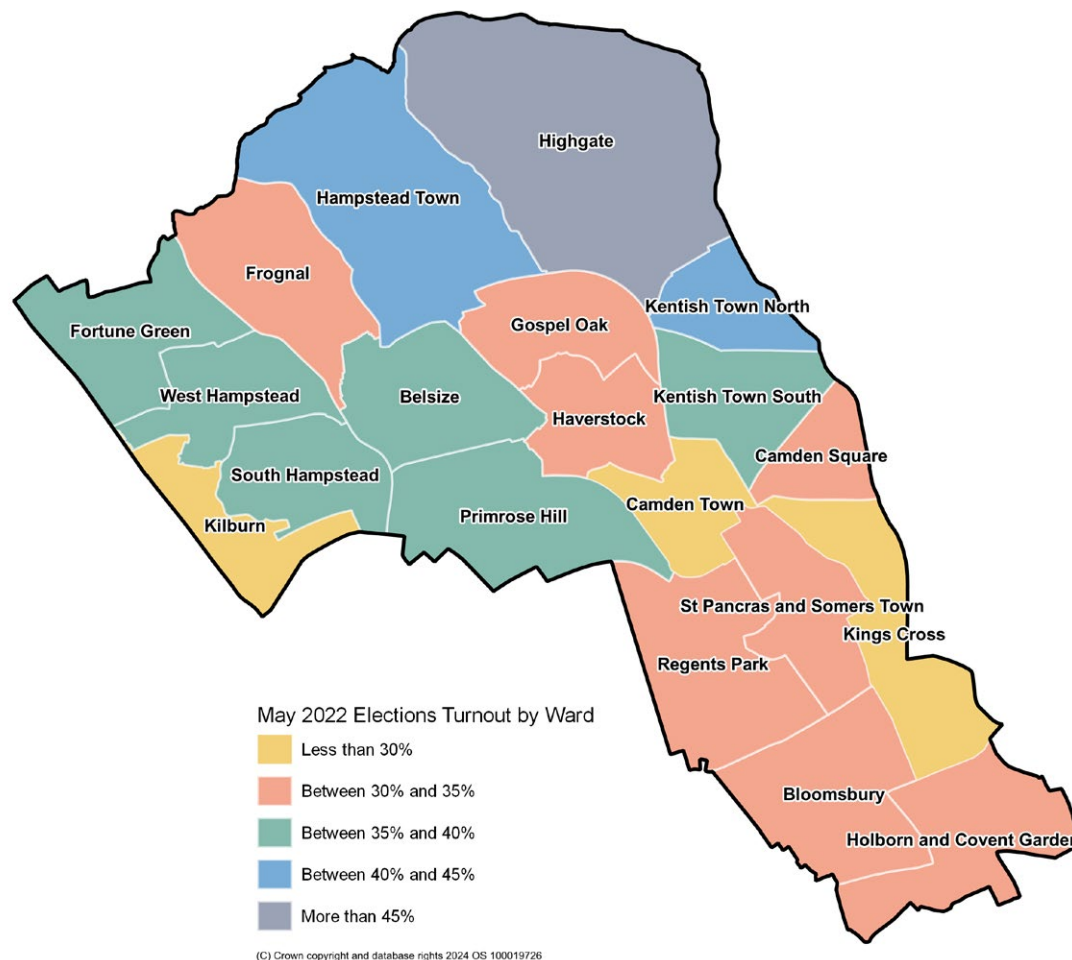


Figure 3.11: Voter turnout at the 2022 local elections in Camden by ward



The 6 WMC ambitions

Endnotes

- 1 Total annual offences per 1,000 people. Source: Metropolitan Police Service via London Datastore. https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/recorded_crime_summary
- 2 Offences in Camden by type of offence, per 1,000 people, 2022/23. Source: Metropolitan Police Service via London Datastore. https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/recorded_crime_summary
- 3 Total hate crime offences per 1,000 people, 2022/23. Source: Metropolitan Police Service via London Datastore, <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/mps-crime-statistics-financial-year-2022-23>
- 4 <https://www.ncdv.org.uk/domestic-abuse-statistics-uk/>
- 5 Crime rate per million passenger journeys by type of public transport, including bus, LU / DLR, London Overground, and London Tramlink. Source: Crimes and crime rates on the TFL public transport network, TfL (2023). Accessed via the London Datastore. <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/transport-crime-london>
- 6 Percentage of adults aged 16 or over who feel strongly that they belong to their neighbourhood. Source: Community Life Survey 2021/22, DCMS (published February 2023). <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/community-life-survey-202122>
- 7 Proportion of people that agree that their local area is place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. Source: Community Life Survey 2021/22, DCMS (published February 2023). <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/community-life-survey-202122>
- 8 Percentage of voters who voted in the May 2022 local elections. Source: Report on the May 2022 local elections in England, Electoral Commission. <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/elections-and-referendums/our-reports-and-data-past-elections-and-referendums/report-may-2022-local-elections-england>

Good Health and Wellbeing

Camden communities support good health, wellbeing and connection for everyone so that they can start well, live well, and age well



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Life expectancy in Camden is relatively high compared to England, but so is the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, suggesting that socioeconomic factors are also affecting health outcomes **51**

Start well **52**

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Almost one in five Camden children in reception are considered overweight or obese, but by year 6 it's more than one in three **52**

Poor mental health of children and young people has been an increasing concern in recent years, both in Camden and nationally **53**

Emergency hospital admissions for asthma for under 19s were higher in Camden than across England, but lower than London average (2020/21) **54**

Live well **55**

Among adults, around 10% of the population in Camden has been diagnosed with depression, lower than the England average but on the rise across the UK **55**

Anxiety levels in Camden are higher than the London average **55**

In Camden, people report lower levels of life satisfaction, happiness and feeling worthwhile when compared to London and England, although there is some uncertainty in the estimates **56**

Over one in three adults in Camden said they feel lonely some of the time, often or always **57**

Healthier behaviours, such as eating the recommended five-a-day and being physically active, are relatively common in Camden **58**

Smoking rates in Camden halved in the past decade, and alcohol-related hospital admissions are lower than England but higher than London, and inequalities remain **59**

Half of all adults in Camden are overweight or obese, lower than London and England but on the rise **60**

In May 2023, there were 3,784 people entitled to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and 10,833 entitled to Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in Camden **61**

Age well **61**

In 2021/22, 610 people aged 65 and over were admitted to hospital due to fall injuries in Camden, a higher rate than in London and England **61**

In 2022, preventable mortality rates were 156 deaths per 100,000 in Camden **62**

The 6 WMC ambitions

"In Camden we want to make our borough the very best place to grow up, live a healthy life, and age well with dignity and independence. Everyone should be able to contribute to their community and lead a full and active life regardless of their age, ability, and social background."

- We Make Camden, March 2022

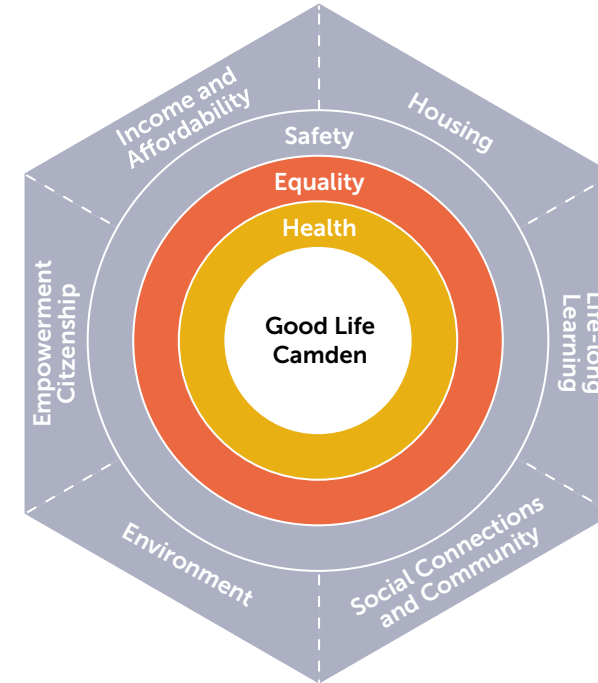
Living in good physical and mental health is one of the most fundamental aspects of living a good life. It is an important factor in the early years, and is known to drive later life outcomes, such as good education and job opportunities, as well as wellbeing and social engagement.

The drivers of good health are many, from the natural environment, behaviours, genetics as well as education and socio-economic status. Access to good quality healthcare, as well as to good nutrition and physical activity, are also important to health. These can be determined by income and geographical location as much as by other factors that drive health inequalities.

This chapter looks at health outcomes that enable people to start well, live well and age well in Camden.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



The 6 WMC ambitions

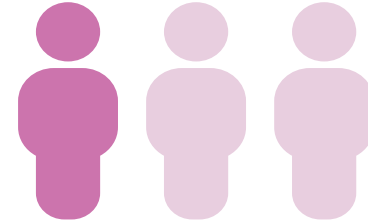
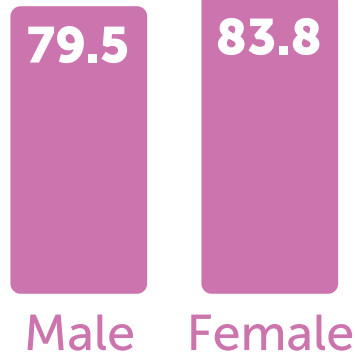
This chapter includes signals from the Health and Equality themes, including that:

- People live long and healthy lives, People have good mental health
- People have good physical health
- Life satisfaction, Happiness and Anxiety, and
- Health outcomes are good for everyone.

See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

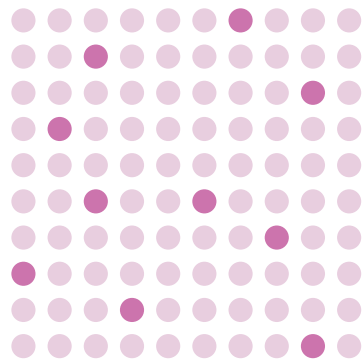
Key findings

Life expectancy is relatively high but there are inequalities between most and least deprived



One in three children in Year 6 are overweight or obese

10% of the adult population has been diagnosed with depression



2015/16 2.6%

2021/22 3.8%

The percentage of children with social, emotional and mental health needs is increasing

The 6 WMC ambitions

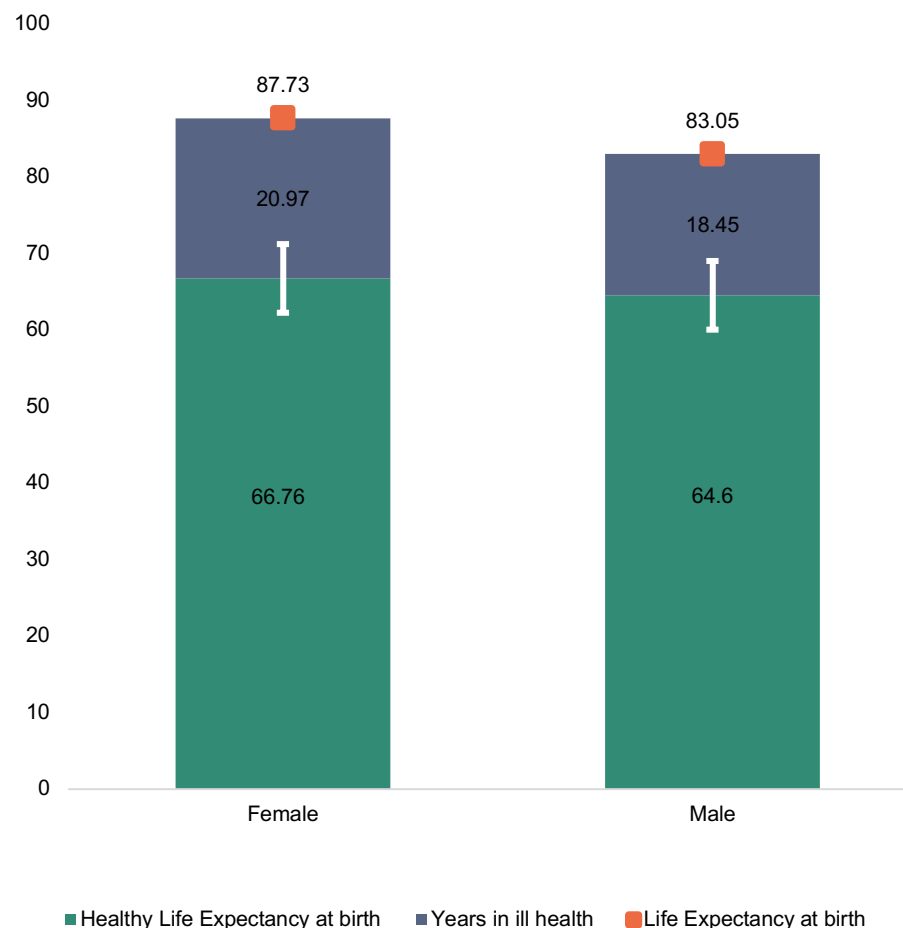
Life expectancy in Camden is relatively high compared to England, but so is the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, suggesting that socioeconomic factors are also affecting health outcomes

Life expectancy at birth tells us the average number of years a newborn is expected to live based on current mortality rates in a specific area and time. It is an overarching indicator of health, as better overall health extends life expectancy. In Camden, life expectancy for males was 79.5 in 2021, higher than London (78.8) and England (78.7), and 83.8 for females, higher than London (83.4) and England (82.8).¹ This is a drop from the 3-year average for 2018-2020, which was 83 for males and 87.7 for females, with the decline related to the impact of Covid on mortality rates.

Health inequalities are high in Camden, which is evident by the variation in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas. This is measured by the Slope Index of Inequality, which in Camden is 13.5 years for males, compared with 9.7 across England, and 9.6 years for females, compared with 7.9 across England (2018-2020 figures).²

Healthy life expectancy is a measure of the years we are expected to live in good health, meaning life expectancy with ill-health and disability discounted. Healthy life expectancy for males was 64.6 years in 2018-2020, compared with 63.1 in England. For females, healthy life expectancy was 66.8, compared to 63.9 for England.

Figure 4.1: Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at birth in Camden, 2018-2020 3-year average



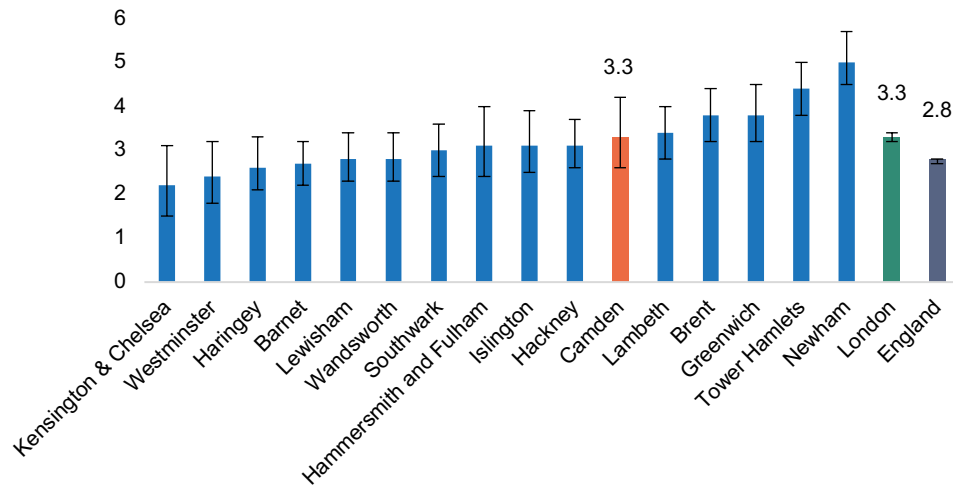
The 6 WMC ambitions

Start well

In Camden, approximately 3.3% of babies are born with low birth weight, similar to the London average

Low birth weight (defined as under 2.5kg and born at least at 37 weeks) is associated with increased risk of childhood mortality and developmental problems, and poorer health in later life. Low birth weight births could indicate lifestyle issues and/or issues with the maternity services provided locally.

Figure 4.2: Percentage of term babies born with low birth weight, 2021



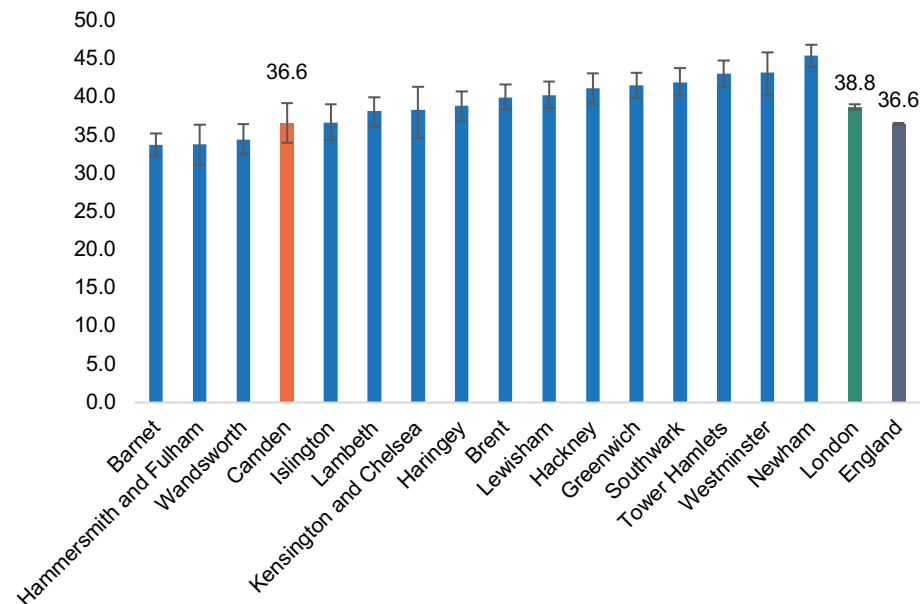
In Camden in 2021, approximately 3.3% of babies were born with low birth weight.³ This is close to the London average but higher than the England average. However, the confidence intervals are wide for the borough level data, meaning that the average may in reality be considerably higher or lower.

Almost one in five Camden children in reception are considered overweight or obese, but by year 6 it's more than one in three

Childhood obesity can persist into adulthood, with increasing risks and health consequences as people age. Studies show a higher probability of overweight or obese children becoming obese adults, leading to various health issues such as diabetes, hypertension, and mental health issues. Across England, obesity rates in the most deprived areas are double those of the least deprived.

In 2022/23, 19% of reception age children in Camden were overweight or obese, compared to 21% across England, but by year six, 36% of children in Camden were overweight or obese, compared to 36.6% in England.

Figure 4.3: Percentage of children at year 6 classified as overweight or obese (2021-22)



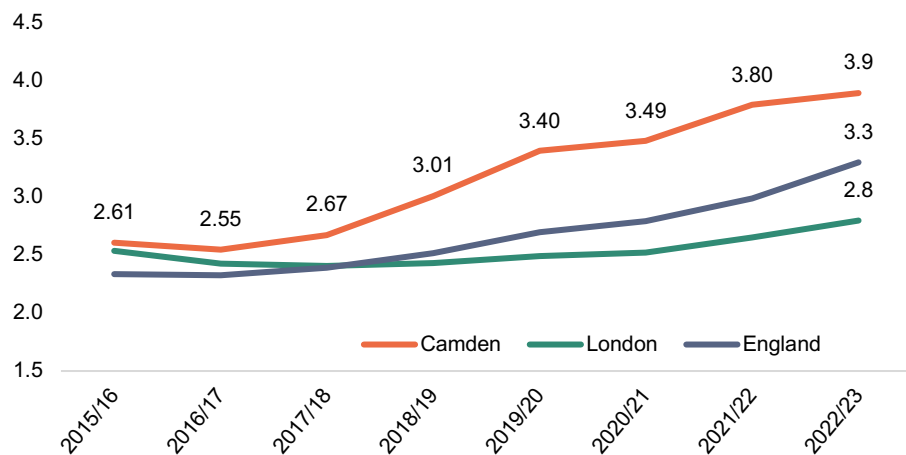
The 6 WMC ambitions

Poor mental health of children and young people has been an increasing concern in recent years, both in Camden and nationally

Living in good health is important for children and young people’s development, both physically and mentally. Feeling loved, valued, supported and cared for, enjoying childhood and having good positive experiences are all important for children’s development. The pandemic and cost of living crisis have had a detrimental impact on people’s lives and wellbeing, and especially on children and young people, who are still growing and developing. More information on adolescent health and wellbeing is available in the [Annual Public Health Report 2023 \(camden.gov.uk\)](https://www.camden.gov.uk/annual-public-health-report-2023).

In Camden, as across the UK, there have been increases in the number of children with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. Children with learning or physical disabilities and difficulties have a

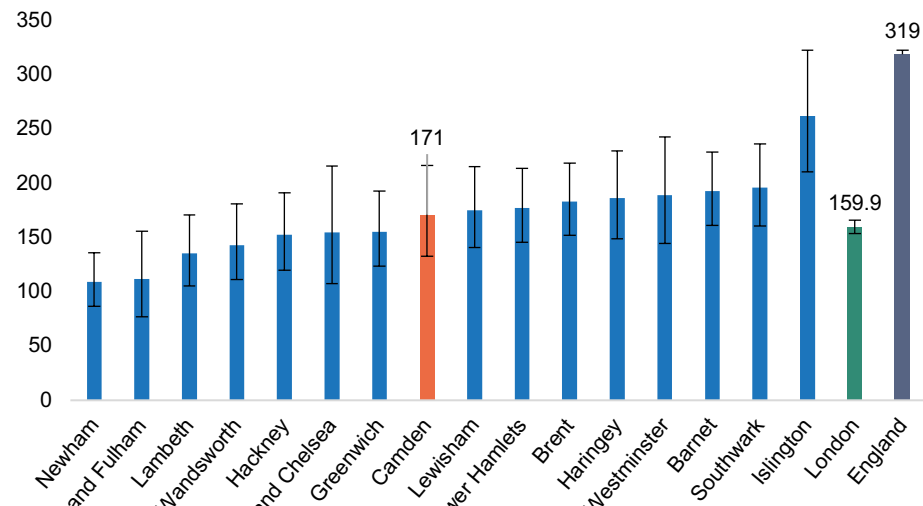
Figure 4.4: Percentage of school pupils with social, emotional, and mental health needs, 2015-2023



higher risk of developing a mental health problem compared to the national population. This measure shows the share of school children with Special Education Needs (SEN) who are identified as having social, emotional and mental health as the primary type of need, expressed as a percentage of all school pupils. Across England, 3.3% of children are identified as having SEMH needs, and in London the share is 2.8%. In Camden, the figure increased from 2.6% in 2015/16 to 3.9% in 2022/23 and is one of the highest across Inner London boroughs and neighbours.⁴

In more extreme cases of mental ill-health, hospital admissions for self-harm in children and young people have increased in recent years, with admissions for young women being much higher than admissions for young men. In 2022/23, the rate of hospital admissions as a result of self-harm in young people aged 10-24 was 171 per 100,000 in Camden⁵, higher than the London rate (160) but lower than England (319).

Figure 4.5: Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm (10-24 years) per 100,000, 2021/22



The 6 WMC ambitions

Experience: mental health in children and young people



“So many children nowadays have psychological issues that need special attention, or even needing specialised schools that cater for these issues, such as autism and learning difficulties.

With a growing population, it is not always possible to meet the needs of every child in their early or later schooling, which can sometimes lead to bullying issues and the risk of depression. Imagine being a single parent on a housing waiting list with this going on?”

- Mark Kingdom, Camden Parent Advisory Board, Parent Articles 2023

“School children are struggling, with many facing increased levels of ‘school anxiety’ and mental illness. Schools are ill-prepared to provide the help to these children that they are legally required to and ignore the issues hoping that the children will eventually withdraw from the school, so protecting the school’s position in the league tables. This is particularly evident in schools that OFSTED recognises as excellent.”

- Respondent to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024

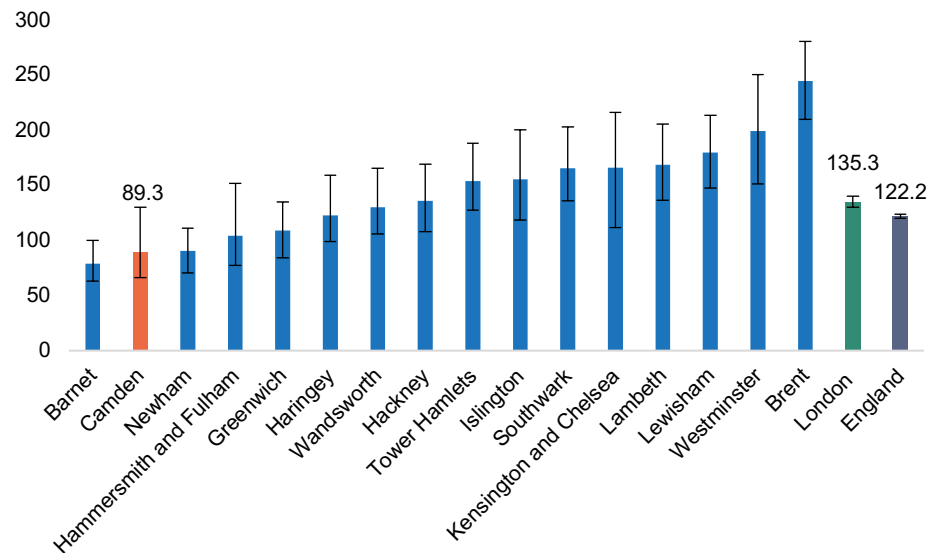


Emergency hospital admissions for asthma for under 19s were higher in Camden than across England, but lower than London average (2020/21)

Asthma is the most common long-term condition among children and young people and is one of the top ten reasons for emergency hospital admission in the UK. Emergency admissions related to asthma are largely preventable with improved management and early intervention. They are also strongly associated with deprivation, despite the prevalence of asthma being evenly distributed, meaning that children and young people living in deprived areas are more likely to require emergency admissions. This may be explained by higher rates of environmental pollution and tobacco smoke consumption in these areas.

In Camden in 2021/22, emergency hospital admissions rates for asthma were 89.3 out of every 100,000 under 19-year-olds. This is a lower rate than England (122.2) and the London average (135.3).⁶

Figure 4.6: Hospital admissions for asthma (under 19 years old) per 100,000 of population, 2021/22



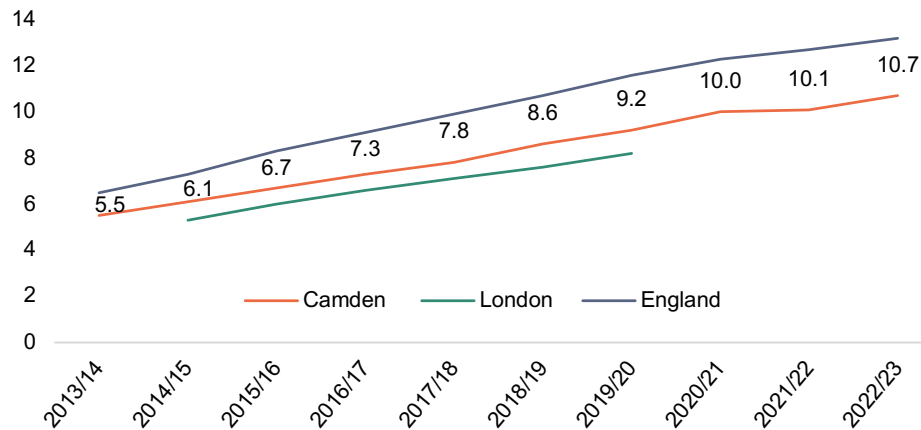
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Live well

Among adults, around 10% of the population in Camden has been diagnosed with depression, lower than the England average but on the rise across the UK

Depression is a common mental disorder. It involves a depressed mood or loss of pleasure or interest in activities for long periods of time, and it goes beyond regular mood changes about everyday life. Globally, an estimated 5% of adults experience depression.⁷

Figure 4.7: Percentage of patients 18 and over diagnosed with depression, 2013-2023



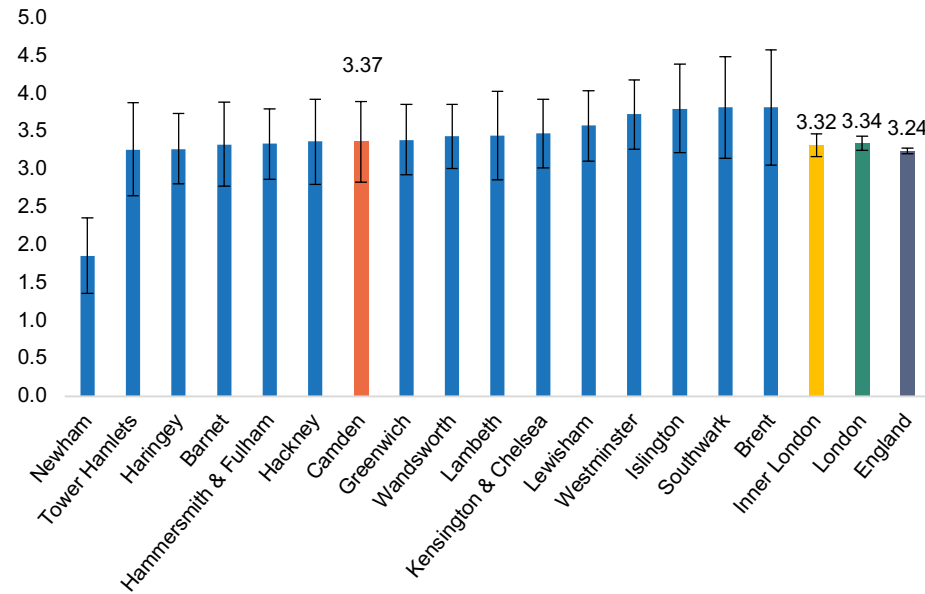
In Camden, among people 18-year-olds and over, the percentage of people diagnosed with depression has been rising, similar to London and England, with rates in 2022/23 at 10.7%, up from 5.5% in 2013/14. In England, the percentage is 13.2%, up from 6.5% in 2013/14, and in London it is 9.5%.⁸

Compared to London, Camden has higher levels of depression similar to levels in Greenwich, Lambeth and Lewisham but lower than Islington and Hackney (12.2% and 12.3% respectively).

Anxiety levels in Camden are higher than the London average

Anxiety levels, measured by asking people how anxious they felt yesterday on a scale of 0 to 10, are higher in Camden on average than in London and England. Anxiety levels in Camden have been higher than England and London over the last decade and rose during the pandemic. However, there was a decline in anxiety levels in Camden in 2022/23 and it is now similar to the London average, at a mean score of 3.37, compared to 3.34 for London and 3.24 in England.⁹ However, interpreting these figures requires caution, as the confidence intervals are large (see vertical lines on the bars in the graph showing the confidence intervals, i.e. the range of possible numbers).

Figure 4.8: Average (mean) self-reported anxiety score, 2022/23



The 6 WMC ambitions

In Camden, people report lower levels of life satisfaction, happiness and feeling worthwhile when compared to London and England, although there is some uncertainty in the estimates

Life satisfaction is one of the headline measures of subjective (personal) wellbeing and has been measured consistently in the UK since 2010, providing a picture of how we are doing as individuals, communities and as a nation. Alongside life satisfaction, the ONS also measures anxiety, happiness and feeling worthwhile. At the borough level, confidence intervals are large, meaning that it is possible that the actual number is somewhere in a range of possibilities.

According to ONS data,¹⁰ when asked on a scale of 0 to 10, people in Camden rate their life satisfaction at 7.29, lower than the England

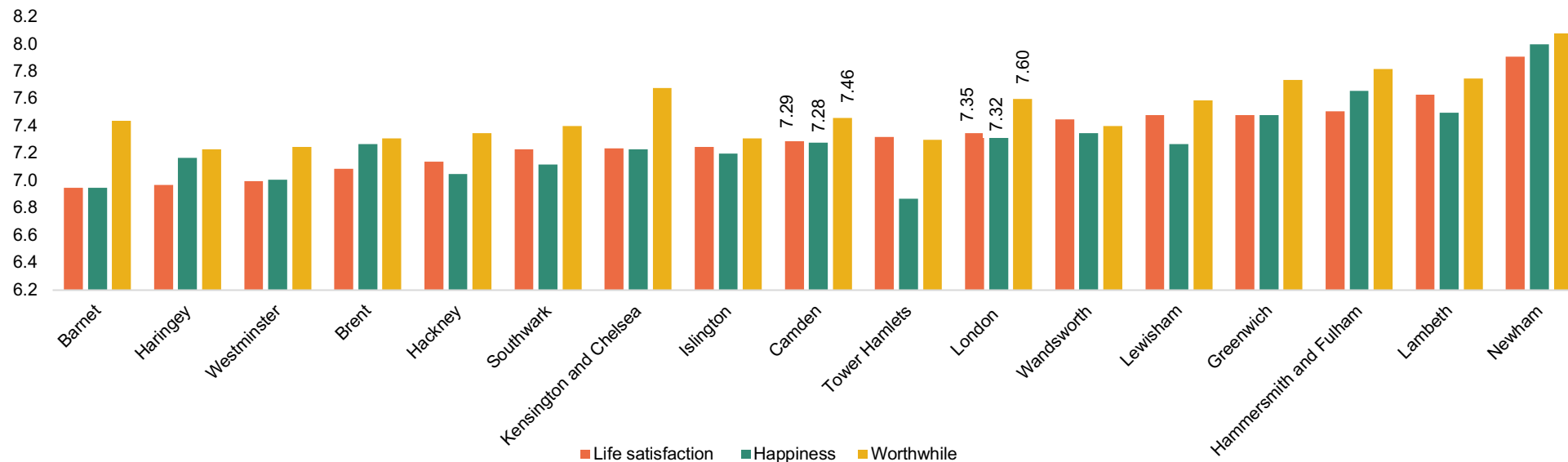
average (7.44), as well as London (7.35). Life satisfaction increased in 2021/22, and declined slightly in 2022/23, following a sharp decline between 2018/19 and 2020/21. This pattern was also seen across London and England, though to a lesser extent.

When asked about their happiness in the previous day, Camden residents are slightly less happy than their peers across London with an average score of 7.28 (compared to 7.32) and England (7.38). Between 2013/14 and 2018/19, happiness levels increased slightly before seeing a large drop in both 2019/20 and 2020/21, which was also reflected across London and England. However, in the recent two years, happiness scores have started to return to previous levels.

In response to the question of whether “things you do in your life are worthwhile”, average responses in Camden (on a scale of 0 to 10) were 7.46, compared to 7.6 for London and 7.73 for England in 2022/23.

The 6 WMC ambitions

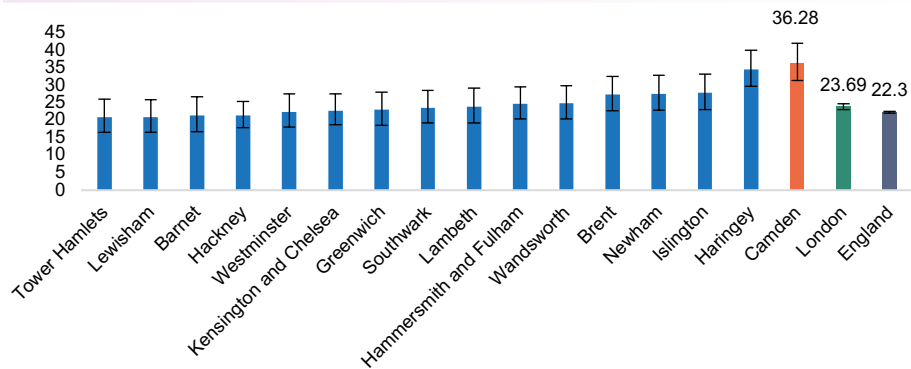
Figure 4.9: Average (mean) self-reported Life satisfaction, Happiness, Life worthwhileness scores, 2022/23 (arranged by Life Satisfaction rates) Camden, London and England (2013-2023)



Over one in three adults in Camden said they feel lonely some of the time, often or always

Loneliness has a significant impact on wellbeing, and is correlated with early deaths and health risks, hospital readmissions, and lower performance and productivity in the workplace. In Camden, the share of adults who reported feeling lonely was 36.3% in Camden in 2019/20, higher than all other London boroughs. London also saw higher levels of loneliness (23.7%) compared to the England average (22.3%).¹¹

Figure 4.10: Percentage of adults (16+) who feel lonely always, often or some of the time, 2019/20



The share of Camden adults who reported feeling lonely was higher than all other London boroughs, and higher than the England average.



Experience: loneliness of disabled young people

In February 2024, in a panel discussion of Camden’s Disability Oversight Panel around loneliness and isolation, the session asked ‘What are the barriers that stop you from making friends?’ The session was attended by a range of people, including carers of people with a disability. Some reflections heard include:

“Being excluded from the conversation and feeling like you’re not being heard, is extremely isolating for disabled people and their carers. At a recent disability oversight panel, I sat with a few carers of disabled children who were transitioning from childhood to adulthood. They all spoke about the loneliness their children feel, they often don’t feel like their trauma is understood or recognised. Parents themselves can struggle to get the children the support they need, it often feels like they are fighting a constant battle, which can be isolating.

Someone from Disability Action shared his view that the whole of society needs deaf awareness training. It was hard to argue with this idea when hearing about some of the deaf attendees’ experiences. A deaf couple shared how they were called into a meeting with some teachers at their daughters’ school to discuss an issue the daughter was facing. The school hadn’t arranged for an interpreter for the meeting. The parents felt excluded from the discussion, they had no idea what was being said and felt really helpless in the situation.”

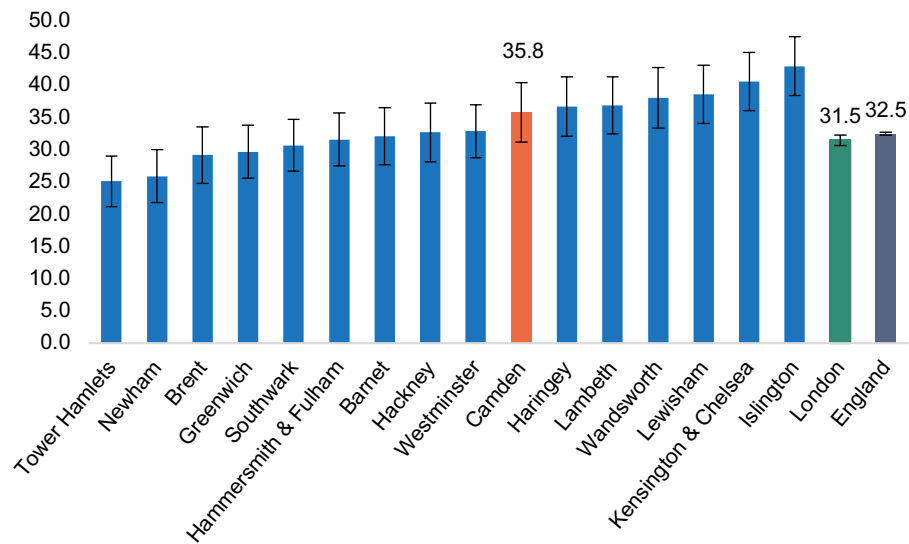
- Member of staff who attended Disability Oversight Panel

The 6 WMC ambitions

Healthier behaviours, such as eating the recommended five-a-day and being physically active, are relatively common in Camden

Eating five portions of fruit and veg a day is based on advice from the World Health Organization (WHO), which recommends eating a minimum of 400g of fruit and vegetables a day to lower the risk of serious health problems.

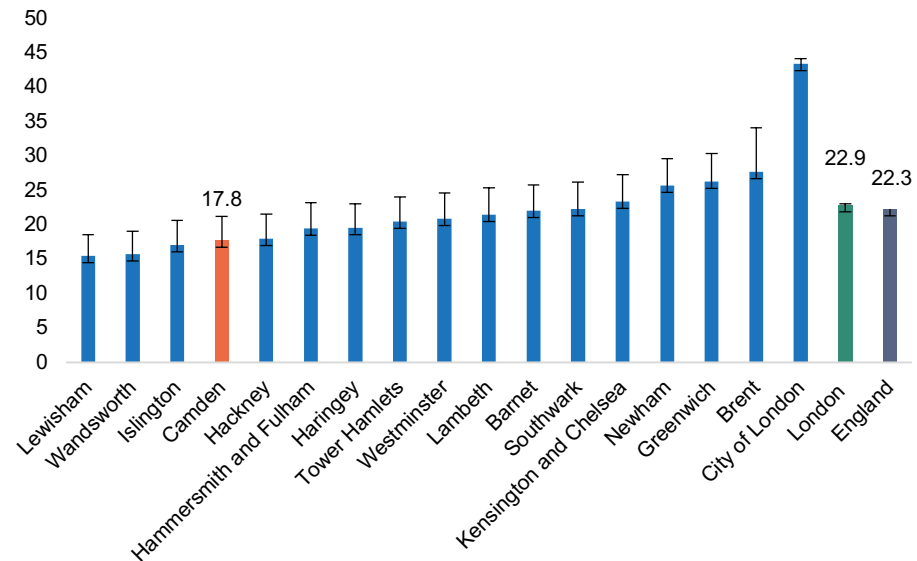
Figure 4.11: Percentage of adults (16+) who ate 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day, 2021/22



Across England in 2021/22, 32.5% of people meet the 5-a-day recommendation on a typical day, and in London 31.5%. In Camden, 35.8% of people meet the recommendations. Confidence intervals are fairly large, so the average could be closer to England and London (or higher).¹²

Physical inactivity ranks as the 4th leading global mortality risk. There is clear and compelling evidence that being regularly active helps prevent and manage a range of long-term conditions such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes and several cancers, as well as preventing hypertension, maintaining a healthy body weight and improving mental health, quality of life and well-being. National recommendations are for adults to aim for 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity or more across the week, and to reduce the amount of time they spend sitting. In 2021/22, 17.8% of adults in Camden were physically inactive (less than 30 minutes of moderate activity per week), compared to 22.9% in London and 22.3% in England.¹³ Across Inner London and neighbouring boroughs, rates of inactivity in Camden were relatively low, but Islington, Lewisham and Wandsworth were lower. Across the UK, certain population groups are less active than the general population, including people from some Black, Asian and other ethnic groups; people with disabilities, older adults, and people living in more deprived circumstances.

Figure 4.12: Percentage of adults (19+) who were physically inactive, 2021/22

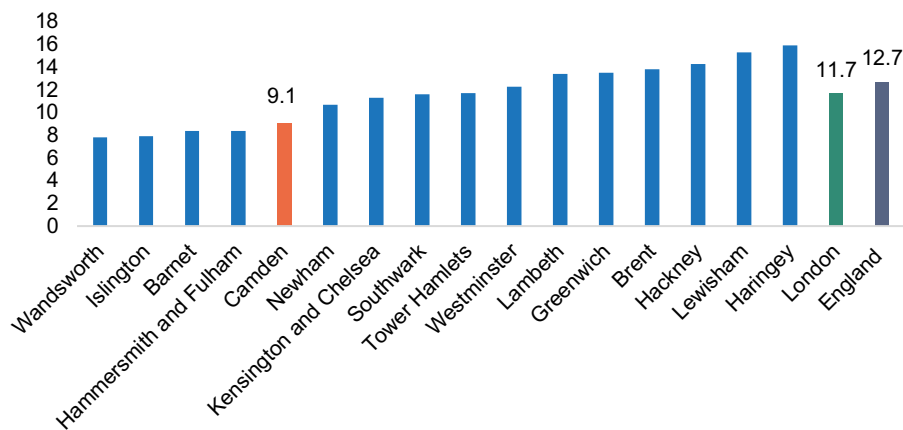


The 6 WMC ambitions

Smoking rates in Camden halved in the past decade, and alcohol-related hospital admissions are lower than England but higher than London, and inequalities remain

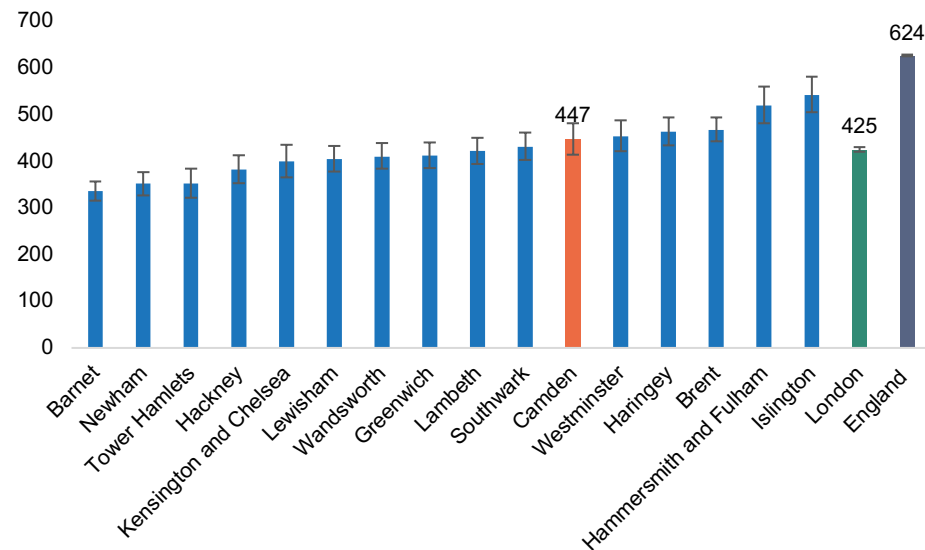
Smoking is the leading cause of preventable health issues and early death in the UK, linked to diseases like lung cancer and heart disease. Fewer people smoke in Camden than across England – 9.1% in 2022 compared to 13% across England, although considering the error margins it is difficult to determine with certainty how Camden compares to London.¹⁴ The percentage of people 18 and older who smoke has halved in Camden over the past decade, from 18.2% in 2011. A similar if more gradual trend has also been recorded across England with smoking rates going down from 19.8% in 2011 to 13% in 2022. There remain inequalities in smoking within Camden, with those living in more deprived circumstances more likely to be smokers. Smoking is also higher among Camden residents with some long-term conditions who have been smoking for many years, based on data from GP registers.

Figure 4.13: Percentage of adults (18+) who smoke in England, London, and Camden neighbours, 2022



Alcohol consumption contributes to hospital admissions and deaths, costing the NHS £3.5 billion annually and society £21 billion.¹⁵ Despite a reduction in consumption in recent years, alcohol remains a significant health burden in the UK, with significant harm to individuals. In 2021/22, 758 people in Camden were admitted to hospital due to alcohol - or 447 for every 100,000 people. Camden has a lower rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions compared to England but slightly higher than the London average. Drug misuse deaths in Camden were higher than London, with 6.75 per 100,000 between 2018-20, compared to 3.51 across London, although the proportion of services users who die while linked to treatment services in Camden has reduced over the past few years and is now comparable to London overall. Approximately two-thirds of people receiving support from substance misuse services have an identified mental health support need, and of these, over 1 in 5 is not currently receiving any mental health support or treatment.

Figure 4.14: Alcohol-related hospital admissions (per 100,000), 2021/22



The 6 WMC ambitions

Experience: Young people smoking and vaping



“We’ve seen a massive shift from people smoking cigarettes towards vaping, they’ve swapped tobacco and moved onto puffing flavours - you can’t walk around without walking through a cloud of cotton candy!

The amount of kids using vapes is also astonishing. We regularly speak to a woman who runs a youth and family hub that supports young people 15-19 and up to 25-year-olds for those with additional needs. She says the number of kids taking up vaping has shot through the roof, it is a real concern, as it’s not a healthy alternative although people seem to see it as such.

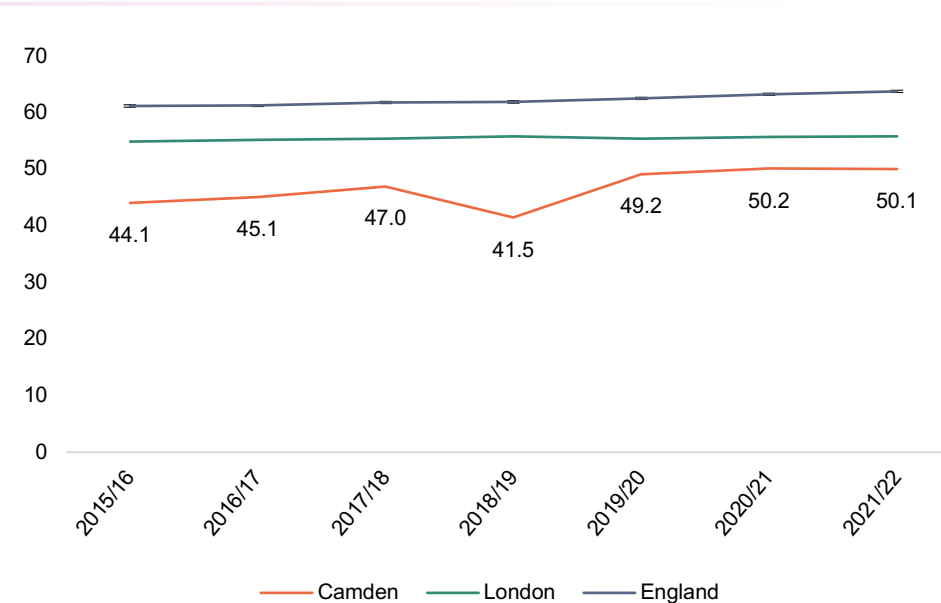
From the conversations I’ve had with people who say they have stopped smoking, the main reason is because they can’t afford it, as the prices of cigarettes have gone up so much, it’s not necessarily because of any motivations around health”

- Member of staff, Camden Council Community Bus outreach team



Half of all adults in Camden are overweight or obese, lower than London and England but on the rise

Figure 4.15: Percentage of adults who are overweight or obese (2015-2022)



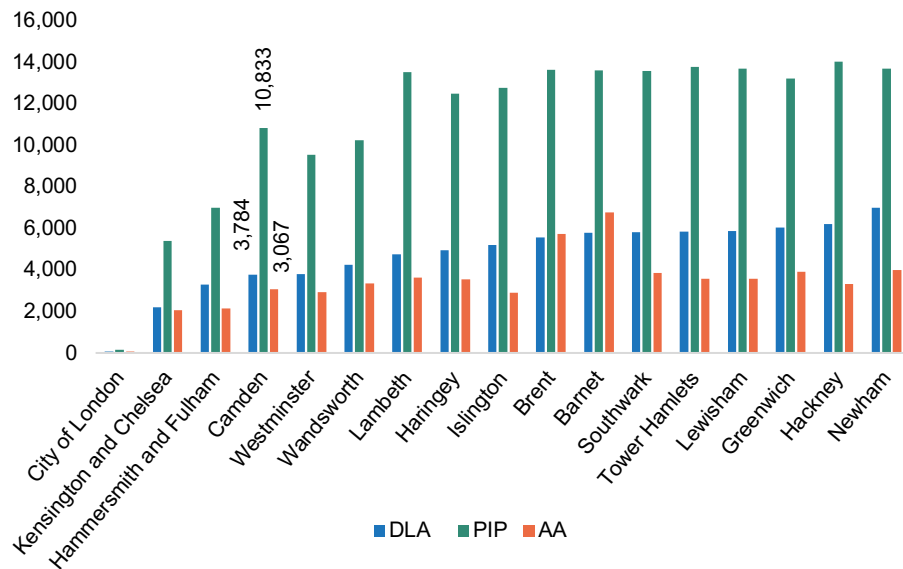
Obesity is a global health concern and has been linked to chronic diseases and reduced life expectancy. In England, the share of adults who are overweight or obese is 63.8%, and in London it is 55.9% in 2021/22. In Camden, the rate was 50.1%, but that is a rise from 2015/16, when the rate was 44.1%. Similar trends are observed in children, with rates of overweight or obese children in reception around 1 in 5, while in year 6 they are one in three – lower than London and England averages but still a considerable share of the population.

The 6 WMC ambitions

In May 2023, there were 3,784 people entitled to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and 10,833 entitled to Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in Camden

Across the UK, the number of people entitled to receive a disability benefit has been rising, and in February 2023 was 6.3 million. The national average is 9.6% (including PIP, DLA, AA and Scottish disability benefits)¹⁶. In Camden in May 2023, there were 3,784 people claiming Disability Living Allowance, which is lower than most boroughs in London, and lowest among Camden neighbouring boroughs. In recent years there has been a decrease in the total number of DLA claimants year on year since 2018 of 39%. In parallel, entitlement for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) has increased, and was 10,833 in May 2023, up from 5,725 in May 2018.¹⁷

Figure 4.16: DLA, PIP and AA cases with entitlement, May 2023

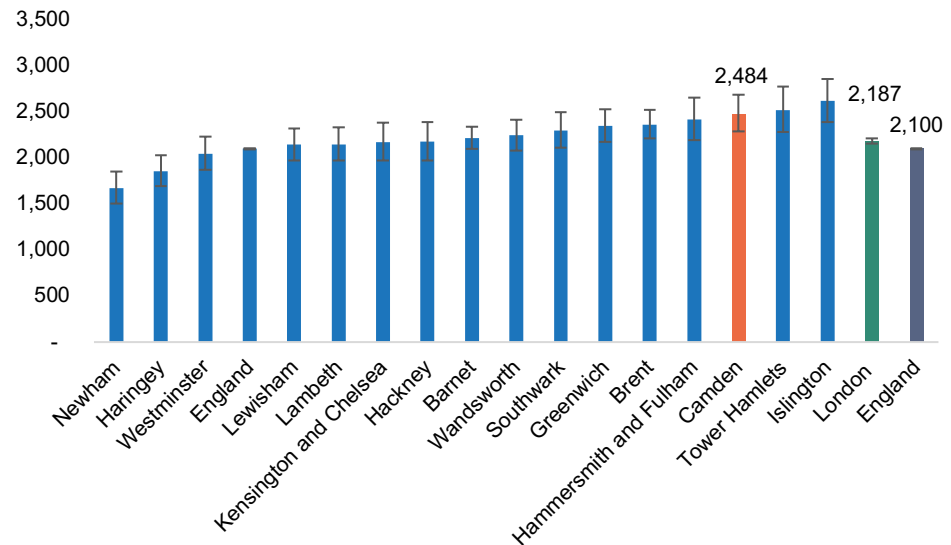


Age well

In 2021/22, 610 people aged 65 and over were admitted to hospital due to fall injuries in Camden, a higher rate than in London and England

Falls are the largest cause of emergency hospital admissions for older people and can have a major impact on long term outcomes such as older peoples ability to live independently. Falls and fractures in those aged 65 and above account for over 4 million bed days per year in England alone, at an estimated cost of £2 billion. In Camden in 2021/22, it is estimated that 610 people were admitted to hospital due to fall injuries, representing a rate of 2,484 for every 100,000 people (accounting for age).¹⁸ This is higher than the England rate and most other Inner London boroughs and neighbours, but the wide confidence intervals should be considered when comparing across boroughs.

Figure 4.17: Emergency hospital admissions for falls injuries in persons aged 65 and over, per 100,000, 2021/22



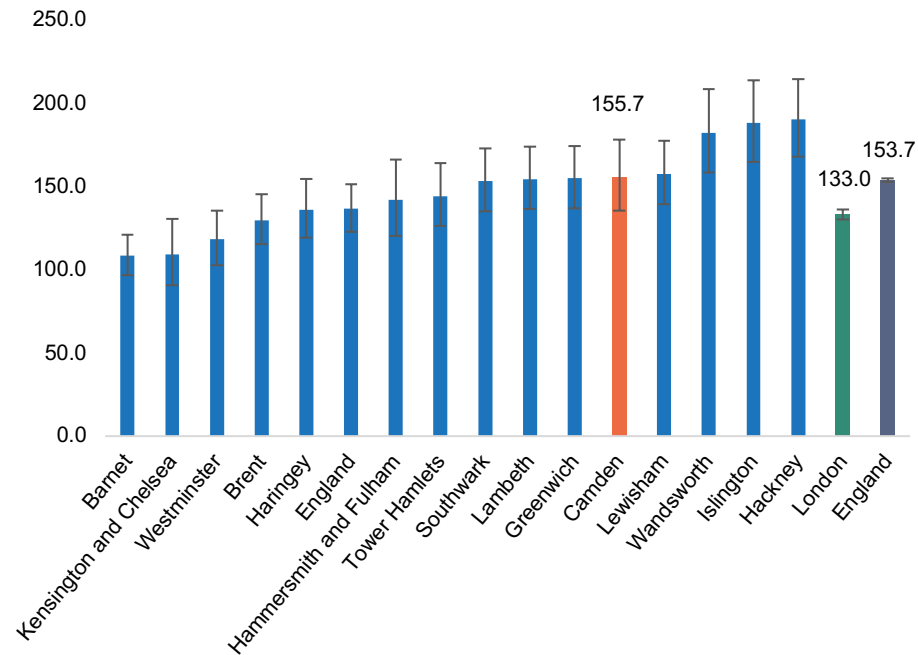
The 6 WMC ambitions

In 2022, preventable mortality rates were 156 deaths per 100,000 in Camden

Preventable mortality means deaths before the age of 75 from causes that could be prevented through effective public health and primary prevention interventions, compared to existing life expectancy, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases. It can also be affected by behaviour, socioeconomic factors and lifestyle, such as smoking, and drug and alcohol consumption.

In Camden, preventable mortality rates were 156 per 100,000 people. This rate is close to the England rate of 154, but higher than the London rate of 133.

Figure 4.18: Under 75 mortality rate from causes considered preventable, standardised per 100,000, 2022



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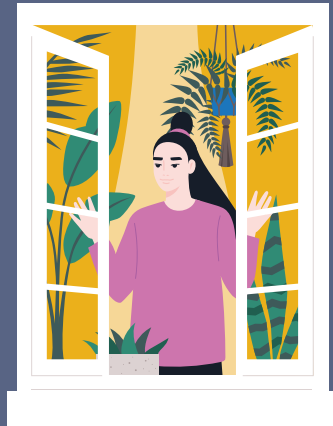
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- 6 Rate of hospital admissions for asthma (under 19 years old) per 100,000 of population, 2020/21, Children, Families and Healthy Ageing, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) (2022), accessed via <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/search/asthma#page/3/gid/1938133231/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/502/are/E09000007/iid/90810/age/220/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/car-do-0> (08/03/2024)
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A Place to Call Home

Everyone in Camden should have a place they call home



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13.5% of the Local Authority housing stock and 20.2% of the Private Rented Sector were found to be non-decent in 2022/23	72
In 2023, there were 6,000 reports of damp and mould from Council tenants	73
Nearly one in ten households in Camden are overcrowded	73
Camden has lower levels of fuel poverty than London and the rest of the country	74

The 6 WMC ambitions

“Everyone deserves a safe and affordable place they call home. However, housing in Camden is some of the most expensive to rent and buy in the UK, and there are not enough truly affordable homes for everyone. The shortage of decent and affordable housing of all types and tenure is forcing people to move out of Camden – and many people who’ve grown up here can’t afford to stay when they come to start a family.”

- We Make Camden, March 2022

Living in safe and decent housing is an essential aspect of a good life. Good housing provides basic needs such as shelter, warmth, safety and privacy. Everyone in Camden should have a safe and affordable place they call home.

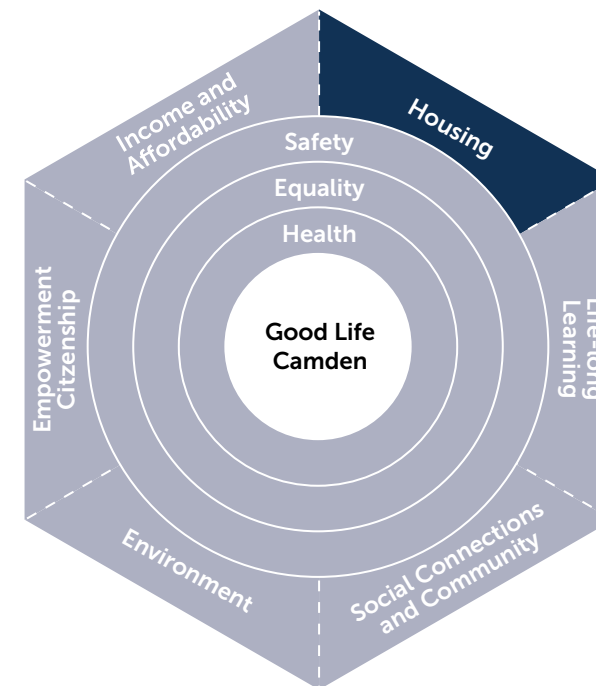
Housing relates not only to having four walls and a roof above your head but also to enjoying your physical surroundings, finding peace and calm as well as places to connect to others. Having enough green spaces to feel connected to nature near your own place of living, as well as access to good local services and amenities are also important factors.

However, Camden has some of the most expensive properties to rent and buy in the UK, and there are not enough truly affordable homes for everyone. The shortage of decent and affordable housing of all types and tenure is forcing people to move out of Camden – and many people who’ve grown up here can’t afford to stay when they come to start a family.

This section will present data and stories about the experience of people in Camden of housing.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



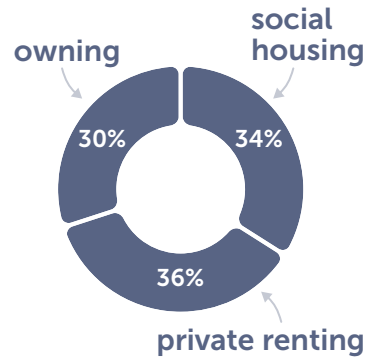
The 6 WMC ambitions

This chapter includes signals from the Housing theme, including that:

- Housing supply meets demand,
- Homes are affordable,
- Quality of housing is high, *and*
- People can afford to stay in Camden and build their life.

See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

Key findings



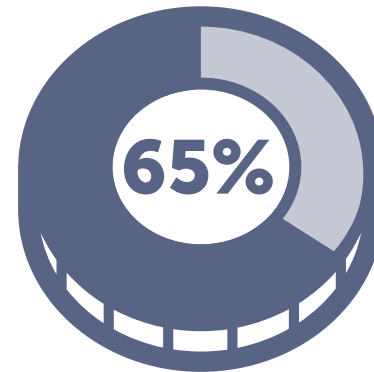
Housing tenure across Camden is split almost equally across tenures.

House prices in Camden have increased by 73% in the last 15 years



The 6 WMC ambitions

Nearly 1 in 10 households in Camden are **overcrowded**, a rate more than twice the national average

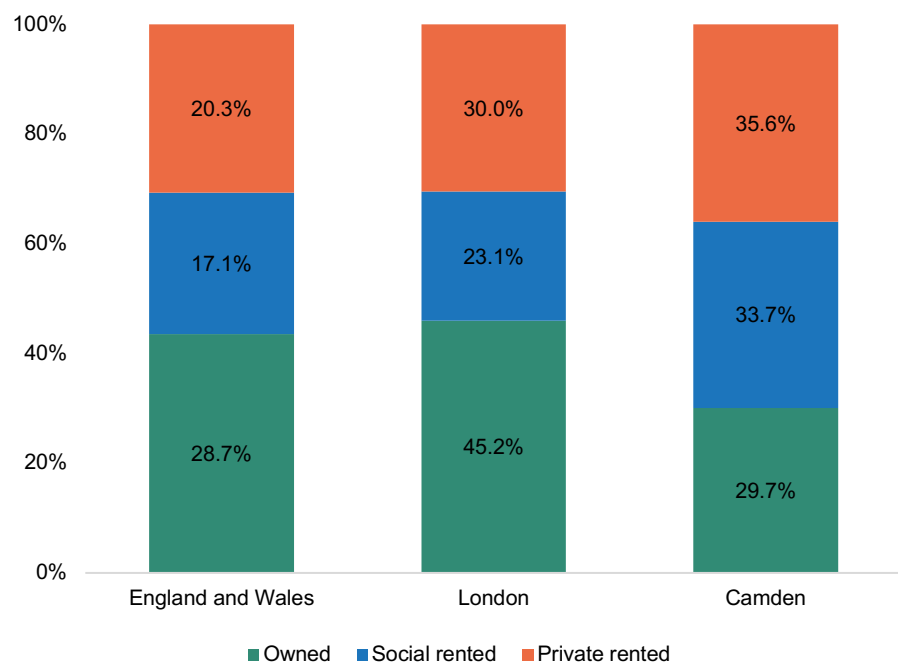


Average rent makes up 65% of median pay in Camden

Housing tenure across Camden is split almost equally, with around a third of residents owning their home (30%), renting privately (36%), or in social housing (34%)

The housing market in Camden is very different to the average UK housing market in terms of ownership and rental, though it is similar to other Inner London boroughs.

Figure 5.1: Households by tenure (%): Census 2021



In Camden, more people live in social rented housing (34%) than the London average (23%), and private renters make up 36% of housing, higher than the UK but in line with other Inner London boroughs.¹

Just under 30% of people in Camden own their homes, which is significantly below the UK average of 62%, and London average of 45%.

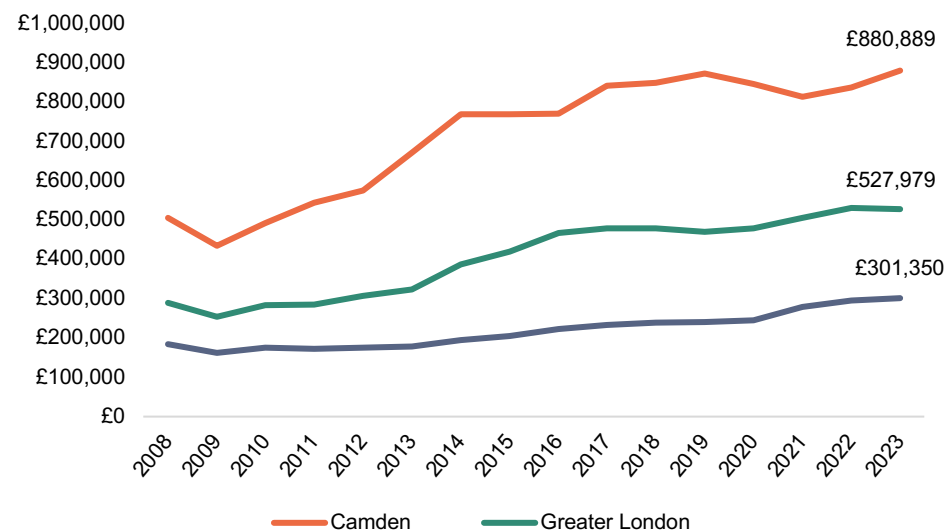
Housing affordability

House prices in Camden are amongst the highest in the UK

House prices across England have risen consistently over the past two decades, but the pace of growth has been different in Camden and London, compared to England.

Median house prices in Camden (£880,889) are significantly more expensive than London (£527,979), and nearly three times as expensive compared to England and Wales (£301,350).² In Camden prices have increased by 72.7% (£370,830) in the last 15 years, compared to 79.8% (£234,374) for London, and 62.0% (£115,299) for England and Wales.

Figure 5.2: Median house prices, 2008-2023



The 6 WMC ambitions

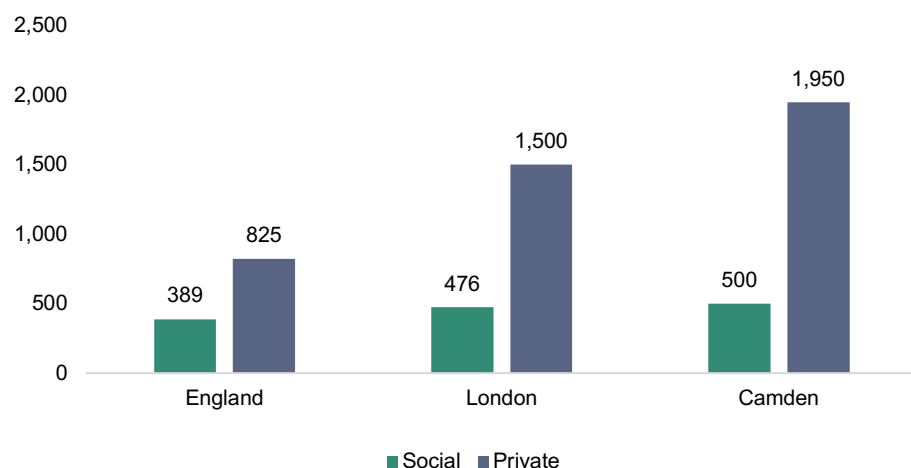
House affordability in Camden is among the lowest in the UK, meaning buying a house is extremely difficult for people with average incomes. The average house in Camden costs around 21.4 times the London median income. This is a higher house price to income ratio than both London (13 times) and England and Wales (9 times).

Over the past decade, Camden’s house price to income ratio has remained relatively consistent with house prices at around 20 times the median annual income for most of the decade.

Camden private renters are paying 65% of the Camden median pay

Camden has a higher proportion of residents living in private rented housing. Monthly rents in the private rented sector in Camden are the third highest in the country, meaning Camden is one of the least affordable places to live in the UK.

Figure 5.3: Monthly rent (£) 2023



Private rent has gone up in Camden by £200 since last year (11%). In 2023, median monthly rents in the private rented sector in Camden were £1,950, which is £450 higher than London median (£1,500) and more than twice as high as in England (£825).³

The average social rent was £500 a month in Camden, compared to £476 for London and £389 for England.

As a ratio, private rent in Camden is 65% of Camden median pay.

Compared to London median pay, at private rent in Camden is 75% Camden, making it third highest in terms of private rent affordability compared to other London boroughs, with Westminster and Kensington at the top.

Housing security

In 2022/23, 719 people were found to be rough sleeping, and of them 443 were moved into accommodation

Camden’s central London location and proximity to national and international transport hubs means that there are many people rough sleeping in the borough. Camden sees some of the highest numbers of people rough sleeping in London, second only to Westminster.

Over the year, April 2022 to March 2023, 719 people were seen rough sleeping in the borough. This represents an 8% increase when compared to 2021/22. 46% of people seen rough sleeping in the borough during the year had never slept rough before and were considered ‘new’ to services and 51% were non-UK nationals with limited recourse to public funds.⁴

Another trend in Camden is the number of people who rough sleep in the borough and don’t have a local connection. In October 2023, only 21% of people who rough slept in the borough had a local connection to Camden.

In addition to this high level of rough sleeping and consistent flow to the streets, 50% of the people rough sleeping in the borough have complex needs, and other disadvantages such as substance misuse, poor mental health, offending and trauma. When someone experiences these overlapping problems at the same time their needs can fall through the gaps between traditional services.

Experience: rough sleeping

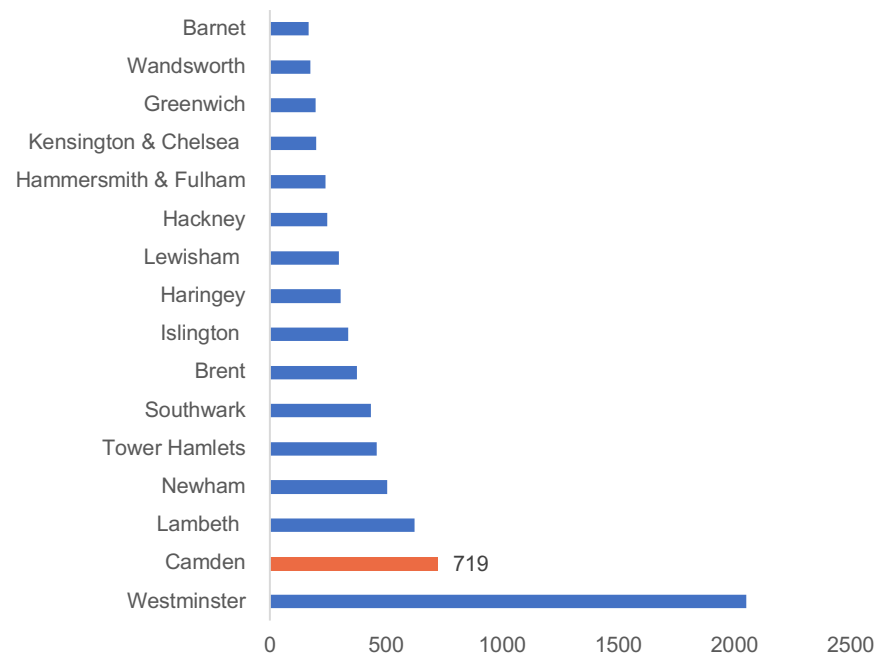


“Generally those rough sleeping are sceptical of support, the amount of times people who are living on the streets say really disturbing things like “I was assaulted or robbed, they set my sleeping bag on fire, people have their tent robbed” One person I met goes to A&E at the local hospital just for a warm place to go, it’s busy so he’s less likely to get noticed, when he is he’s asked to leave the hospital. Another spoke about taking the tube to Heathrow just to get a shower and then getting the train back, at least that’s a few hours he can kill whilst staying warm.”

- Member of staff, Camden Council Community Bus outreach team



Figure 5.4: Total number of people seen rough sleeping, 2022/23 (CHAIN)

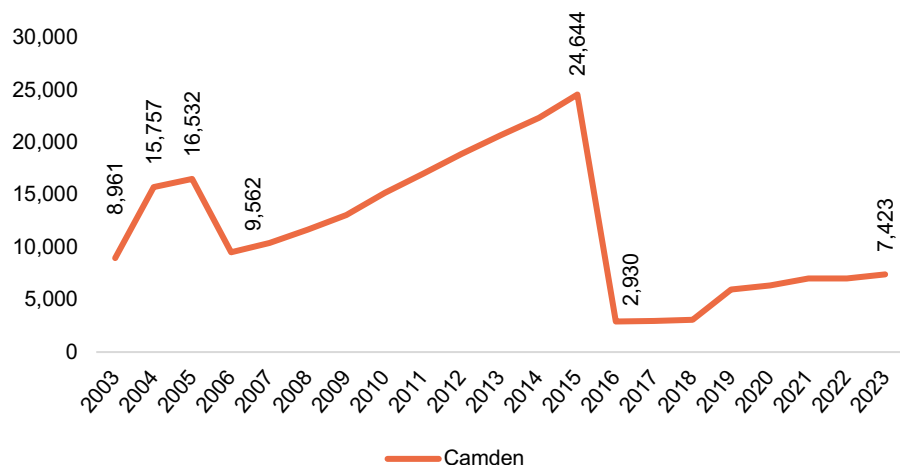


The 6 WMC ambitions

7,635 households are on the waiting list for social housing, and 663 households in temporary accommodation

In Camden, there were 7,635 households on the waiting list for social housing at the start of December 2023.⁵ In 2016, due to changes in the Housing Allocations scheme, the number of households on the waiting list dropped to 2,930 but has since been rising. The latest figure for 2023 is a 9% increase on 2022.

Figure 5.5: Camden Council House waiting lists 2003-2023

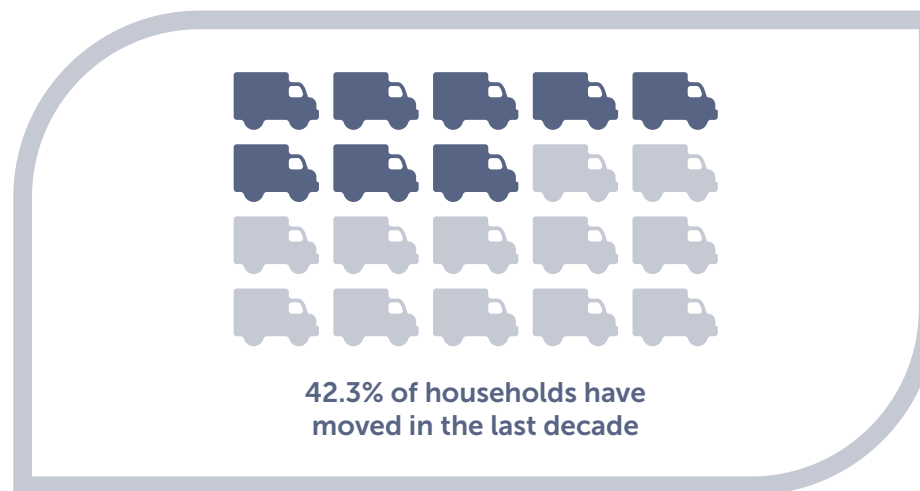


There were 663 households in temporary accommodation in September 2023. Camden has the lowest number of households in temporary accommodation and also the lowest number of children in temporary accommodation compared to other Inner London boroughs. A majority – 62% – of temporary accommodation is located outside of the borough. Camden has the second most households in temporary accommodation in Bed & Breakfast hotels than any other Inner London borough after Westminster.

Households moving in or out of Camden (churn) is higher than in England

Average churn, meaning share of households moving to or away from a neighbourhood (defined as a Lower Super Output Area, LSOA) was 31% across England, in the past decade (between 2014 and 2023), and 42.3% in Camden.⁶

The wards with the highest level of churn in the last ten years were Camden Town and West Hampstead, with between 45 to 100% churn rate.



Experience: housing affordability

The Council have been running a series of projects with staff and residents across the borough to understand the ways communities are being impacted by the cost-of-living crisis.

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“One thing that has really stuck with me was something a head of a community centre said to me - that often people think of Camden as a wealthy borough, and the least wealthy are being squeezed out, but now it's more and more people in the middle bracket of earners that are now unable to afford live in the borough long term. Camden can seem like an exciting place to live for younger renters, but when adults want to settle down and start a family, they can't afford it.”

- Member of staff, Cost of Living Crisis research

Housing quality

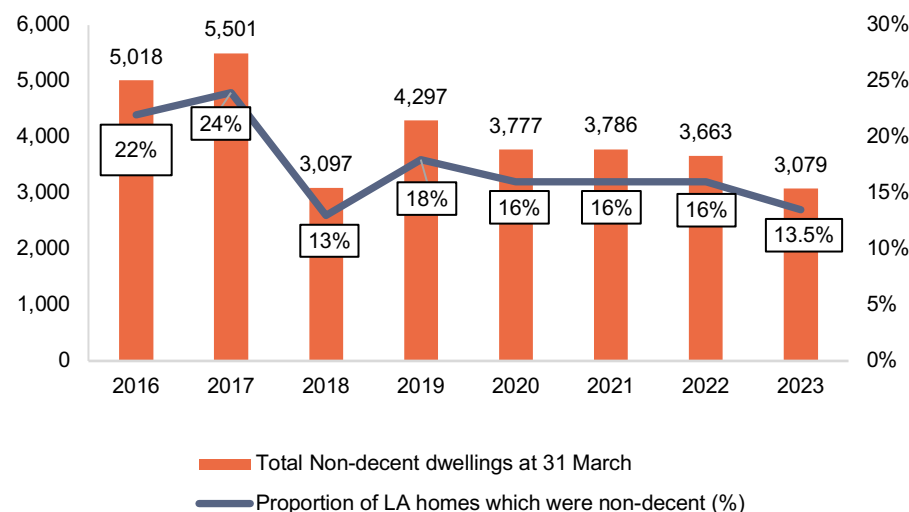
13.5% of the Local Authority housing stock and 20.2% of the Private Rented Sector were found to be non-decent in 2022/23

Living in adequate housing is a basic human right. Housing in poor conditions has an impact on health, wellbeing, employment and education prospects.

A home is defined as non-decent if any of the following apply: it does not meet the basic legal health and safety standards for housing; it is not in a reasonable state of repair; it does not have reasonably modern facilities and services; it has insulation or heating that is not effective.

Although the number of non-decent Council homes has been fairly static over the past 5 years or so, in 2022/23 there was a decrease to 3,079 homes (13.5%).⁷ Camden spends the highest amount of any Inner London borough on bringing council dwellings up to a suitable standard. There are around 135,000 repairs and service requests are raised every year, 500 repair jobs every working day.

Figure 5.6: Non-Decent homes, Camden 2016-2023



According to the English Housing Survey on Stock Condition in June 2023, the proportion of non-decent homes in the Private Rented Sector in Camden is higher still, at 20.2%. Even in the 'Owner-occupied' sector the figure for non-decent homes is at 15.9%, both figures higher than the London averages.⁸ The Regulator of Social Housing (RSH), in October 2023, stated that 2.4% of Housing Association homes in Camden are of non-decent standard.

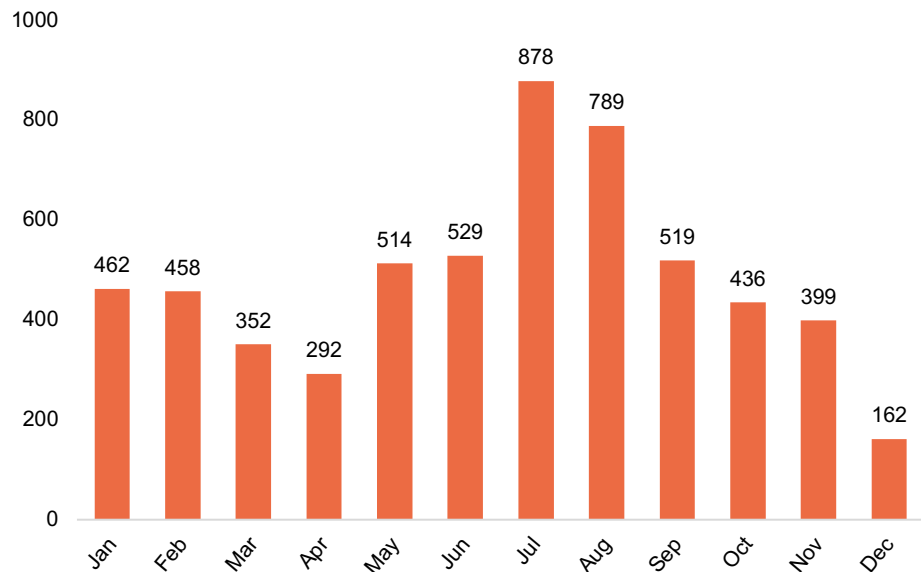
The 6 WMC ambitions

In 2023, there were 6,000 reports of damp and mould from Council tenants

In December 2022, the Council sent a text to 17,500 of their tenants to ask them to get in touch if they had mould in their property. Over 1,000 responded and made a report on the first day. Since then, almost 6,000 reports of damp and mould have been actioned and completed and another 538 cases are active.

Over 5,000 properties had a mould inspection – in over 2000, a subsequent mould wash was carried out. 63 cases were classed as 24-hour emergency requests, and 18 households required a ‘decant move’ due to the seriousness of the mould in the property.

Figure 5.7: Completed mould and damp orders by month, Camden Council tenants, 2023

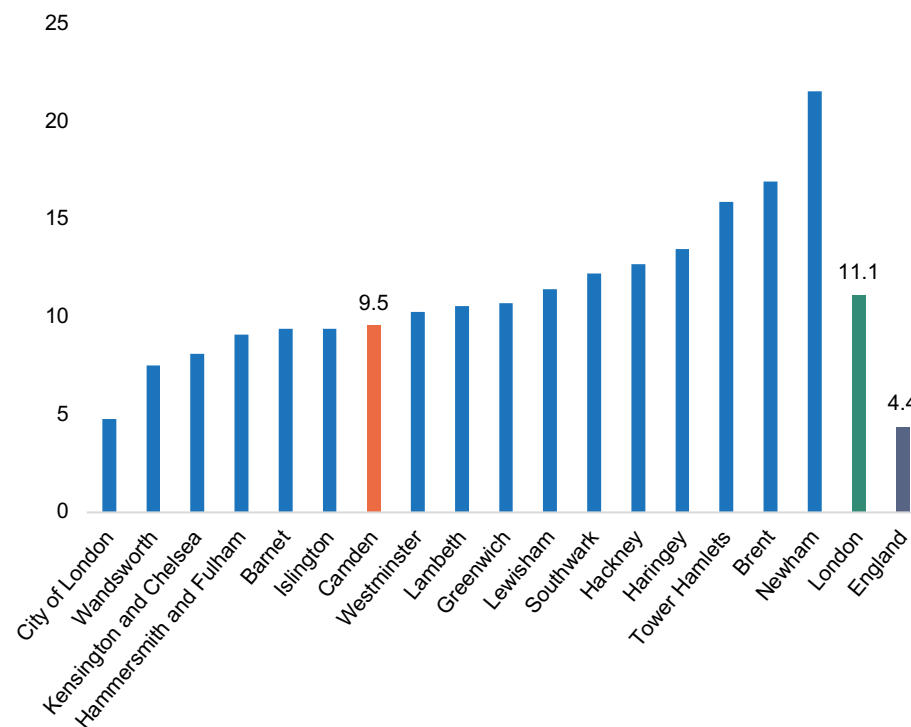


Nearly one in ten households in Camden are overcrowded

Overcrowding in Camden appears to have reduced a little between 2011 (11.7%) and 2022 (9.5%) based on properties having fewer than the necessary number of bedrooms for the size of the household. This compares favourably to the London average (11.1%) but remains higher than the average for England and Wales (4.4%).⁹

Areas such as Highgate and Hampstead Town have the lowest levels of overcrowding at around 1-2%. Meanwhile, areas such as Bloomsbury have overcrowding levels of around 25%.

Figure 5.8: Proportion of households that are over-crowded 2021 (%)



The 6 WMC ambitions

Experience: living in overcrowded homes

As part of a project to redesign housing allocations in Camden, Council staff have been exploring how improving the housing allocations experience could mean better outcomes for residents. Conversations between staff and residents highlighted the difficulties that residents face in relation to overcrowding and how this intersects with and exacerbates other challenges.



“An overcrowded home doesn’t just mean having less space, it can mean less time spent together as a family, as I learnt from several parents during this project.

I met with one mother who explained that her teenage daughter’s education is being affected without a private space to study for her A-levels at home.

Another mother shared that her young disabled son requires space for his specialist equipment and room to train and move around.

When there are competing needs for the available space, difficult decisions have to be made on how the space is utilised. This can lead to a distressing feeling that one child is prioritised over another. There were general fears that families were growing apart with less space to eat together or when forced outside of the home to escape the noise”

- Member of staff, Camden Council Community Bus outreach team



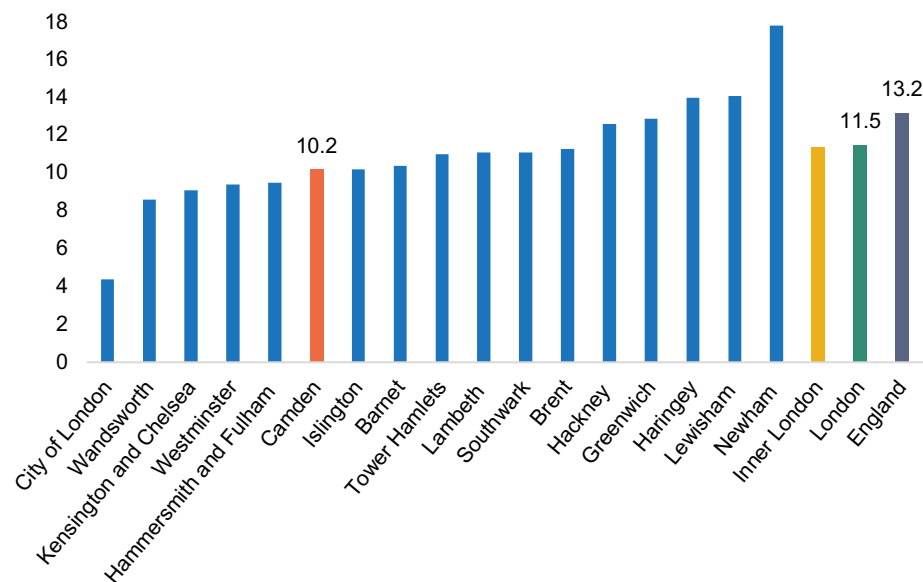
Camden has lower levels of fuel poverty than London and the rest of the country

A household is considered to be fuel poor if: (i) it is living in a property with an energy efficiency rating of band D, E, F or G; and (ii) its disposable income would be below the poverty line (60% below median).

In Camden, an estimated 10.2% of households were in fuel poverty in 2020, compared to 11.5% in London and 13.2% in England.¹⁰

The Energy Price Guarantee, which helped a typical household’s annual gas and electricity bill stay below £2,500, ended in June 2023. From January 2024, Ofgem says the typical annual household bill will remain high and have hiked it up to £1,928 from £1,834, a rise of £94 or 5% meaning most households will pay more than last winter.

Figure 5.9: Proportion of households fuel poor (%), 2020



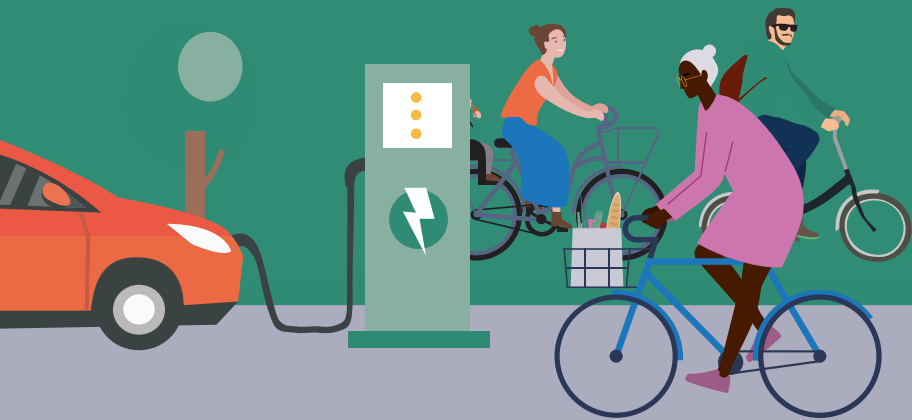
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- 5 Number of households waiting for social housing, Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1164473/LT600_accessible.ods
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Green, Clean and Sustainable

Camden should be a green, clean, vibrant, accessible and sustainable place with everyone empowered to contribute to tackling the climate emergency



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The 6 WMC ambitions

“So many people in Camden – including businesses, residents, and communities – are committed to working together to achieve net zero carbon emissions in Camden by 2030. That means supporting people who live, work, study and visit Camden to actively contribute to tackling the climate emergency in all aspects of their life.”

- We Make Camden, March 2022

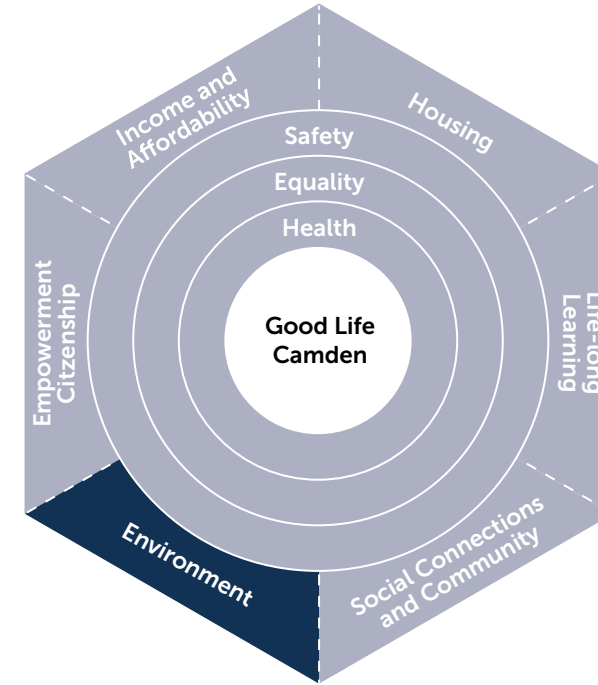
We have a collective impact on the environment and sustainability through transport, the built environment and the way people live, work and interact in the borough. We are also affected by the environment, through access to parks and green spaces, exposure to air and noise pollution, and the impacts of climate change, among other environmental impacts on health and wellbeing.

Camden is one of the densest boroughs in London, and hosts many more people than those who live in it. Employees, visitors, tourists, shoppers, commuters, and others travel through the borough to visit its institutions, transport hubs, hospitals, culture venues and more. This means that the pressures on the environment are relatively high in Camden compared to its population. Camden has also taken action to tackle the Climate Emergency, setting out a Camden Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2020-2025 (see [CAP 2022/23 annual review](#) for more details) and recognising the Climate Emergency as a priority. Reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net-zero will also improve health outcomes and reduce energy spending.

This chapter presents data describing the impact on the environment in Camden and how it affects people.

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



The 6 WMC ambitions

This chapter includes signals from the Environment theme, including:

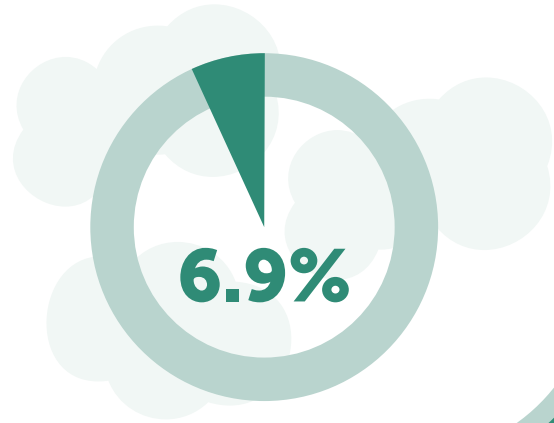
- People use clean modes of transport
- Air quality improves across the whole borough, and
- Camden becomes net zero.

Data was not available for the signal of Camden’s green spaces and parks serve the needs of its diverse communities.

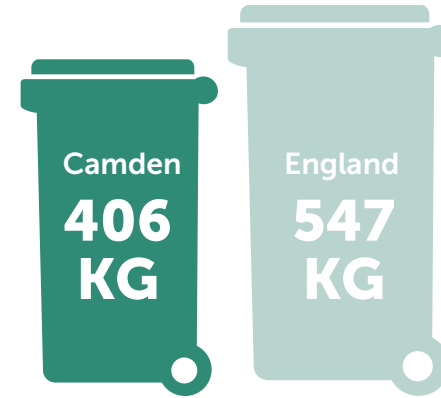
See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

Key findings

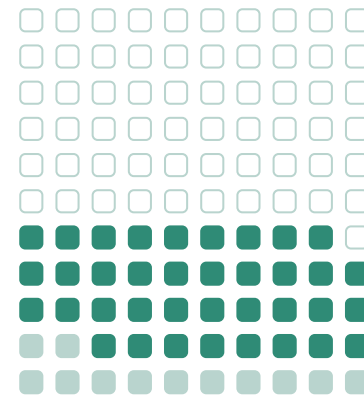
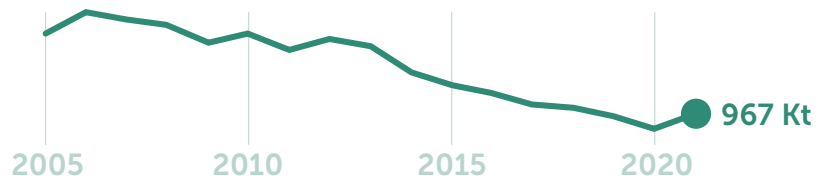
6.9% of deaths in Camden were attributable to air pollution



Households in Camden produced 406kg of waste on average in 2021/22. That's a decrease of 28% since 2015



Carbon emissions continue to decline compared to 2005 but increased in 2021 and are far from net zero



39% of households in Camden have no access to private green space

The average for England is just 12%

The 6 WMC ambitions

| 39% of households in Camden have no access to private green space

In Camden, 39% of households have no access to private green space¹, making it the 3rd Local Authority in the UK whose residents have the least access to private green space. However, data also shows that across the UK, areas least likely to have a private garden are most likely to live close to a public park. In England, Black people are nearly four times less likely as White people to have access to outdoor space at home, whether it be a private or shared garden, a patio or a balcony (37% compared with 10%), according to survey data from Natural England.

In Camden, there are approximately 100 parks in the borough, covering approximately 400 hectares, but this is not evenly distributed with Hampstead Heath making up around two thirds of this. On average, our residents are never more than 338.69 metres from a park or public garden. This places Camden in the top 100 Local Authorities in the UK with the smallest distance to a park or public garden. However, depending on where you live in the borough the distance to travel can vary from 147m to 666m.²

Experience: access to green spaces



“Wellbeing is at the top of family agendas and we’re always doing our best to be outdoors - particularly as our flat has black and rising mould.... We like to walk off our estate and visit our most local green area, Harrington Square, as our closet park is a bit of a walk for us. Harrington Square is so unloved. It’s the place of open drug dealing and a safe space for homeless people to congregate but it means that we do not feel its a suitable and safe space to relax, chill out and have a picnic. It’s a wasted green space that has so much potential to so many families and adults.”

“I enjoy using the green spaces in Camden. For me locally, that means St. George’s Cemetery, Russell Square, Brunswick Square Gardens, Red Lion Square, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, and the Camley Street Natural Park. Having green spaces in Central London is a blessing. I feel very grateful and work as a volunteer gardener to help keep these spaces clean and tidy.”

- Respondents to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024



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Waste and recycling

Households in Camden produced 406 kg of waste on average in 2021/22, and almost 29% was recycled

Generating waste is one of the ways in which people have a negative impact on the environment. Transporting and treating waste produces pollution and land use, and materials are wasted when they cannot be recycled or reused.

In Camden, households produced on average 406kg of waste in 2021/22, placing Camden 5th lowest compared to other London boroughs.³ Since 2015, household waste has decreased in Camden by 28%, from 563kg per household to 406kg.

Of the household waste collected, almost 29% gets recycled in Camden, similar to the North London Waste Authority share, but less than both London (33%) and England (42.3%).

Figure 6.1: Residual household waste (kg per household) in Camden, 2015-2022

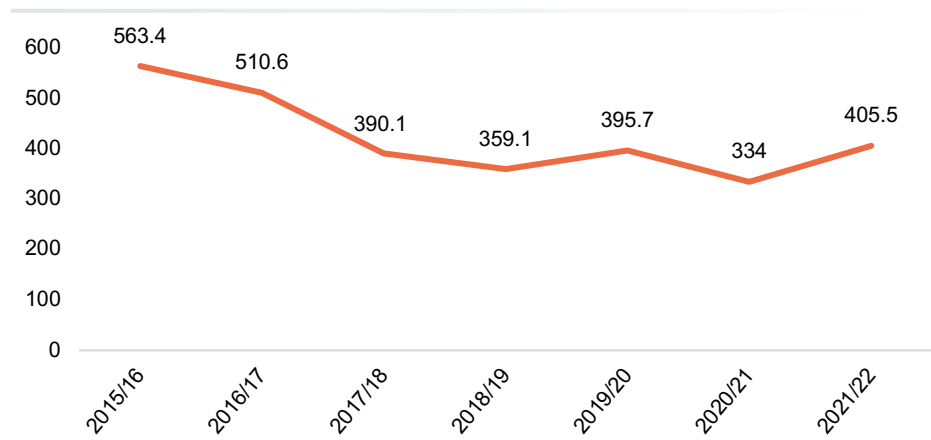
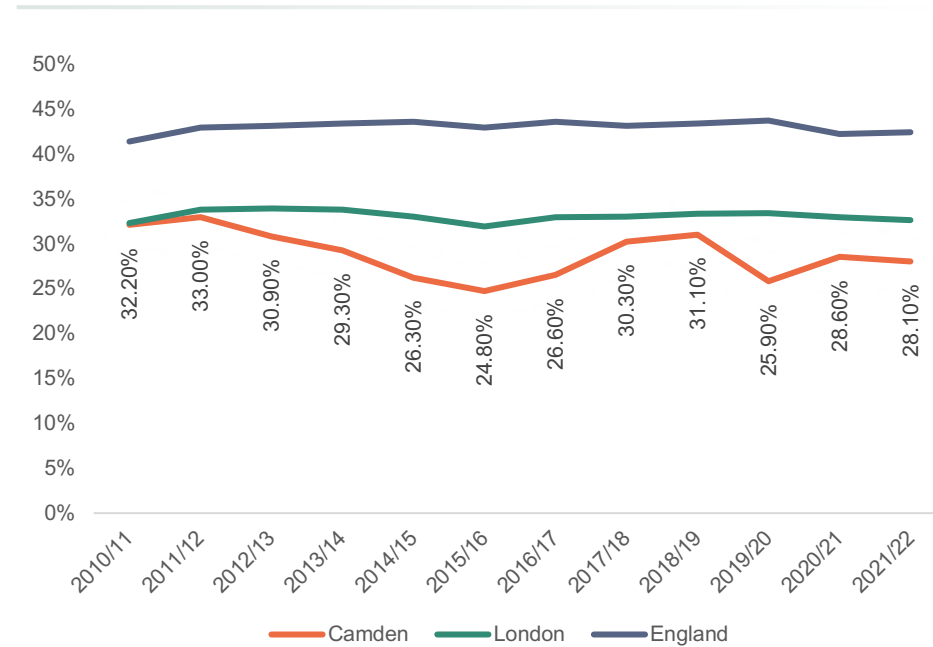


Figure 6.2: Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, 2010-2022



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Experience: littering and recycling



"I wish that there was a compost bin in my block. I wish that people wouldn't litter. I wish that people have the ability to separate trash from recyclables."

- Respondent to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024



In 2022/23, over 90% of streets assessed met the minimum cleanliness standards

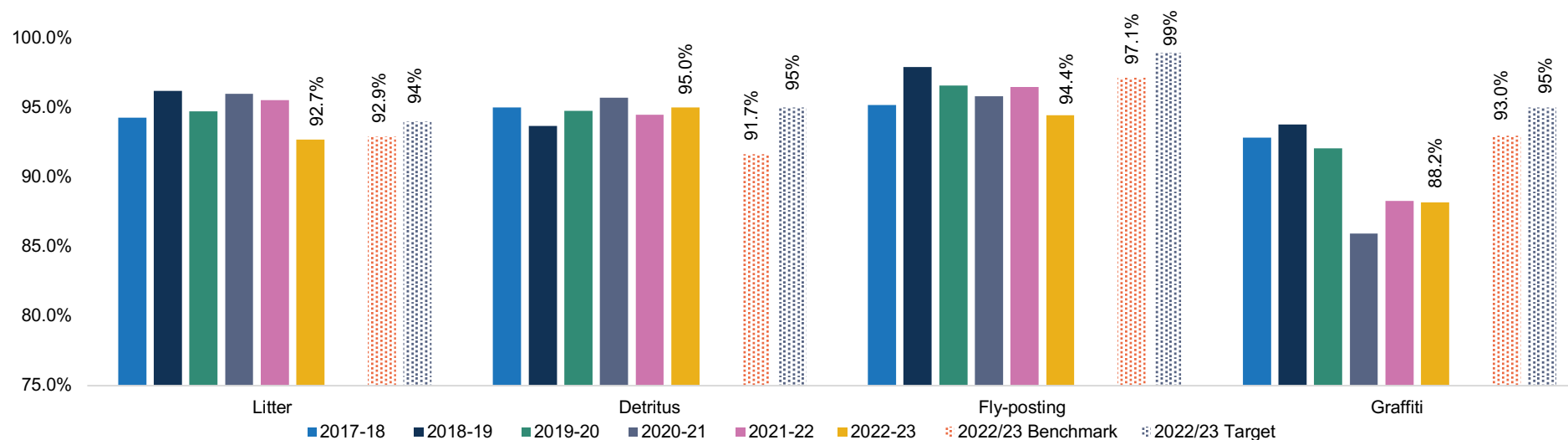


Street cleaning standards are independently measured by Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) on a regular basis. KBT assesses what percentage of sites are at the acceptable standard for each cleanliness measure, using the grades of cleanliness as defined in the Code of Practice on litter and refuse issued under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The assessment in 2022/23 showed that levels of cleanliness were above 90% for all primary street elements except graffiti, although cleanliness levels were still below those of the London benchmark for litter, fly-posting and graffiti and higher for detritus.⁴ Across all measures, cleanliness rates were below the target in the cleaning contract for 2022/23.

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Figure 6.3: Share of streets reaching the cleanliness standard in Camden, Keep Britain Tidy data

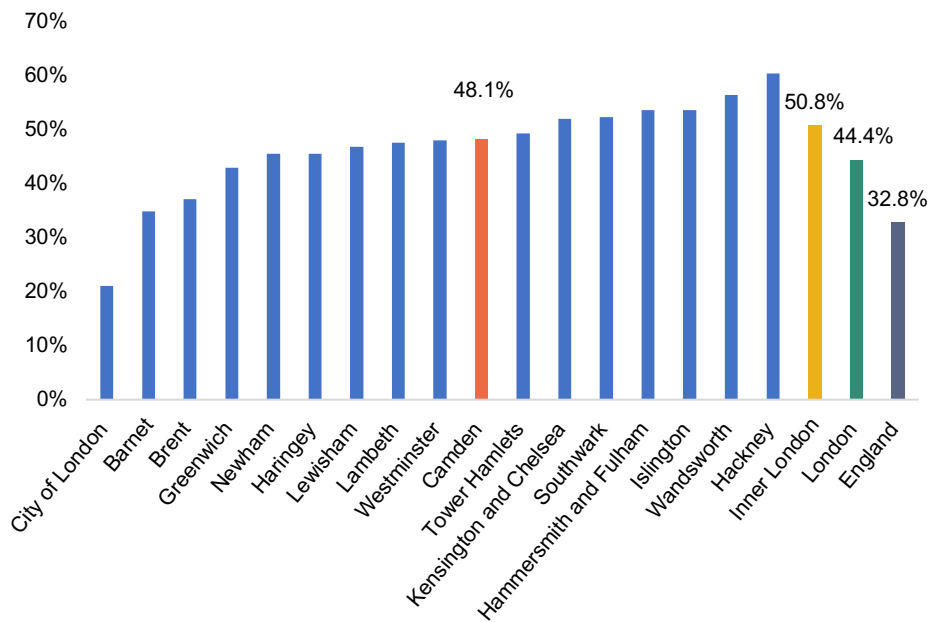


Mobility and transport

People in Camden walk or cycle more than other Londoners

In Camden, people report walking or cycling (active travel) more than people across England and London. In the Sports England survey, 48% of people in Camden said they walked or cycled for travel at least twice in the previous 28 days in 2021/22, compared with 33% in England and 44% in London.⁵ The Inner London average was higher than Camden, with 51% of people using active travel.⁶ Nationally, active travel has decreased substantially over the pandemic, and is slowly starting to return although not yet to pre-pandemic levels (55% in 2018/19 in Camden and 38% in England).

Figure 6.4: Share of adults who walked or cycled for travel in the past 28 days, 2021/22



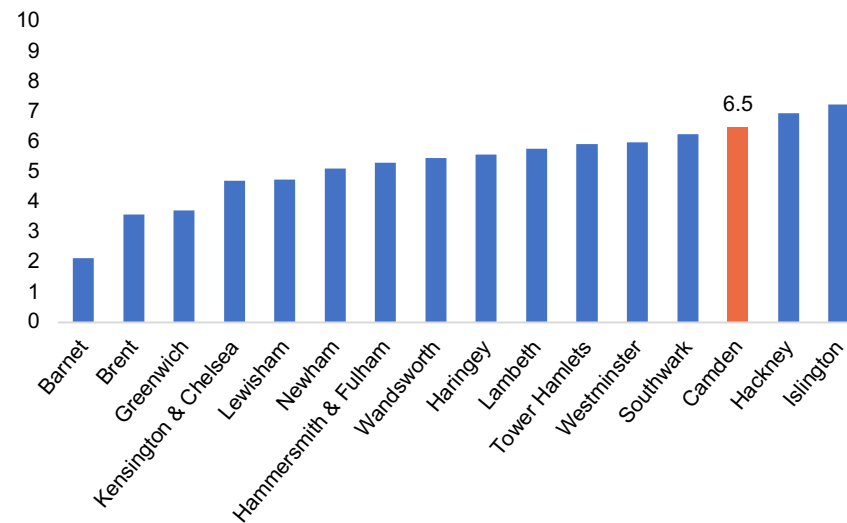
Similar trends were observed seen in Transport for London (TfL) data, with 45% of Camden residents travelling at least 20 minutes by walking or cycling.⁷

In Camden, 48% of the population live within 400m of strategic cycle network,⁸ compared with 24% across Greater London.⁹

Camden is one of the highest performing boroughs in London on the Healthy Streets scorecard

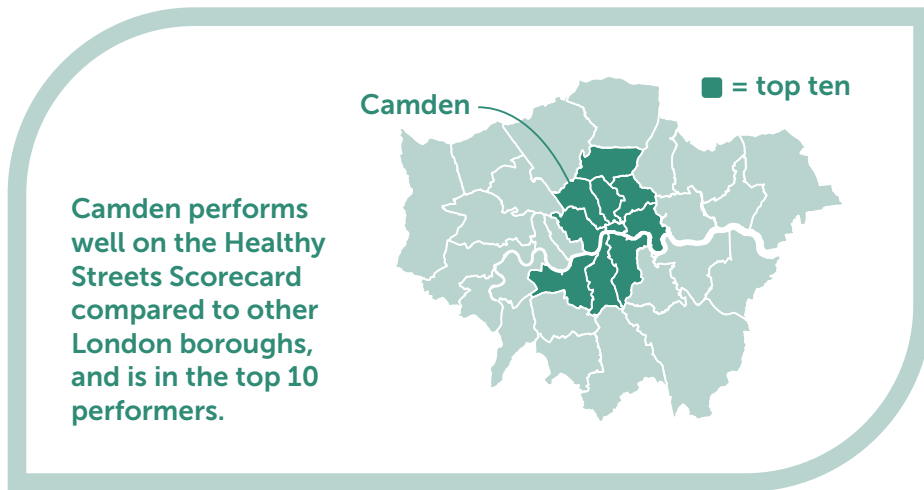
The Healthy Streets Scorecard has been published since 2019, tracking measures relating to transport which reduce road danger, improve air quality, encourage active travel and reduce carbon emissions. It is constructed out of ten indicators relating to both inputs (such as Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and 20mph speed limits) and outcomes (such as active travel, road collision casualties and car ownership).

Figure 6.5: Healthy Streets Scorecard results, 2023



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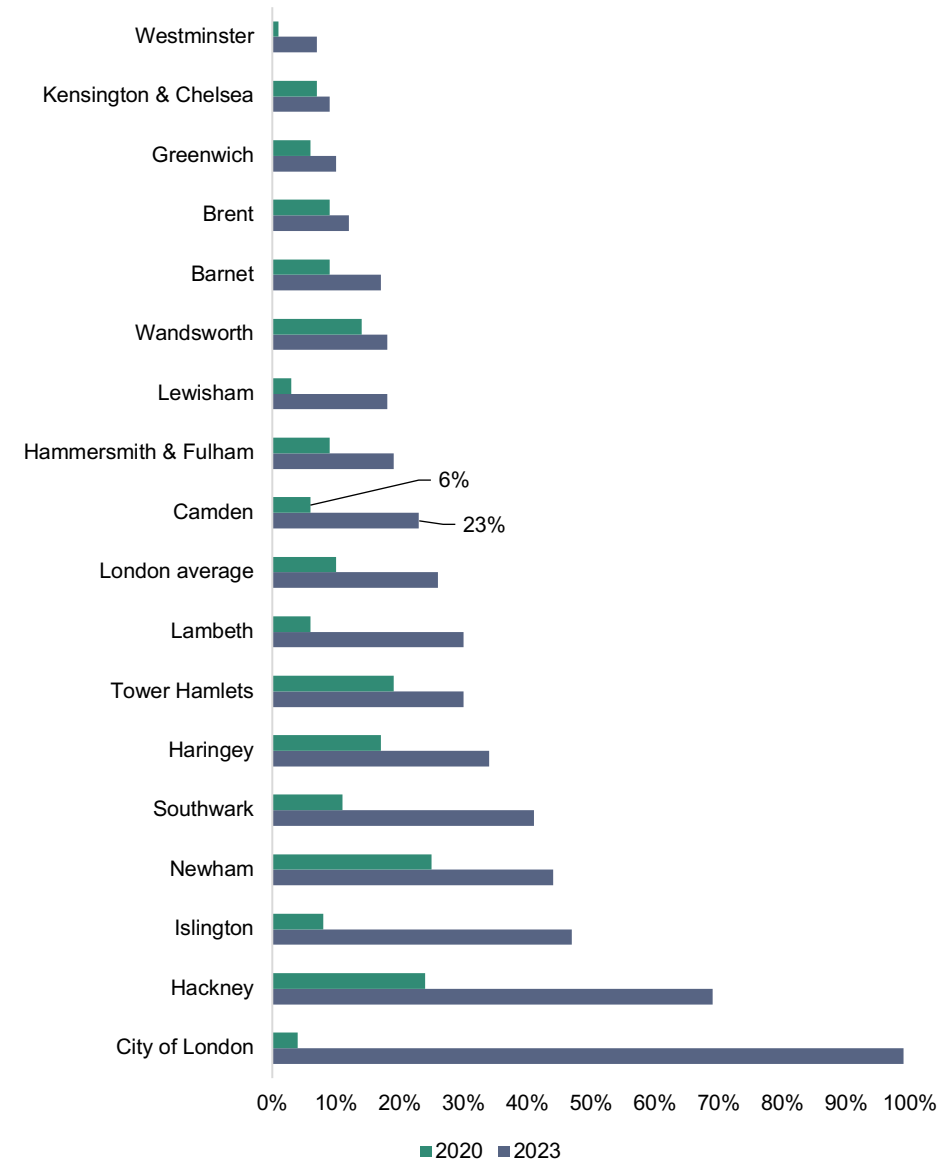
Camden performs better on the Scorecard compared to other London boroughs, and is in the top 10 performing boroughs. Its score has improved consistently over the last five years.¹⁰



23% of Camden’s area is covered by Low Traffic Neighbourhoods

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) is the policy to make roads more accessible for walking and cycling by reducing traffic on quiet roads. They are intended to reduce traffic on side streets and make streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Reducing traffic also reduces air pollution from vehicles, increasing air quality in quieter streets. In 2023, 23% of Camden’s geographical area is covered by Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), up from 6% in 2020. This is just below the average for Greater London, which is 26% - though this varies significantly from the City of London (99%) to Westminster (7%).¹¹

Figure 6.6: Low Traffic Neighbourhoods as a proportion of borough area

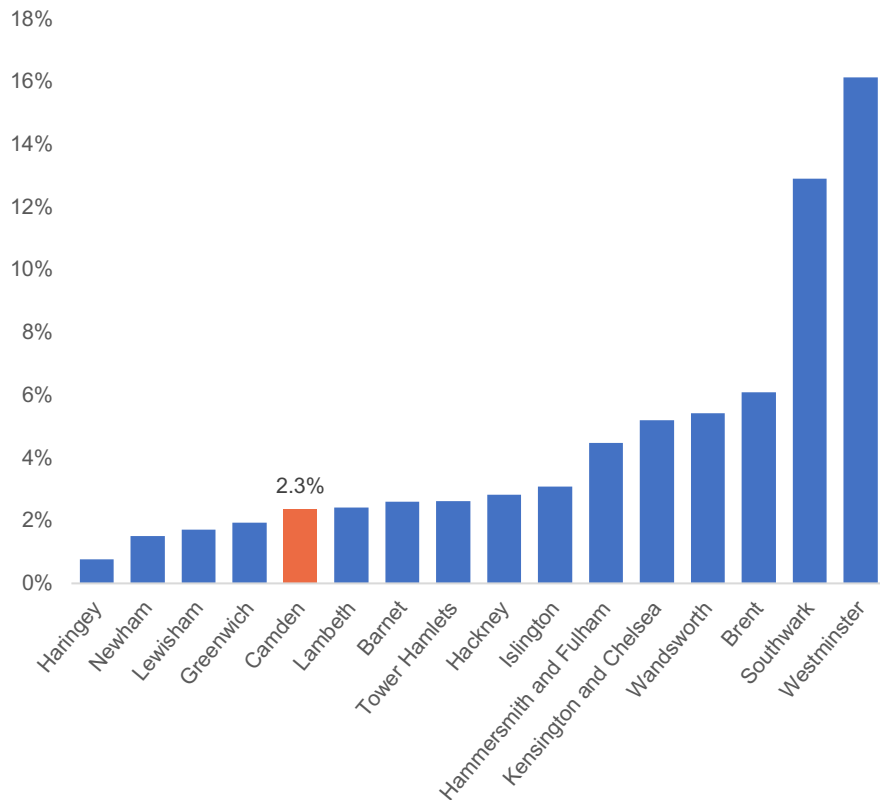


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There are 314 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging sites in Camden, 2.3% of London's total

Camden has a total of 314 electric vehicle charging sites across the borough, or 149 sites for every 100,000 people, comparable to the London average (152) and higher than the England average (67).¹² Compared to Inner London, Camden has fewer EV charging sites per person and considerably fewer than neighbouring Westminster, which has the highest proportion of EV charging sites in London at 1,052 per 100,000 people. Camden has 2.3% of the total number of EV charging sites in London.

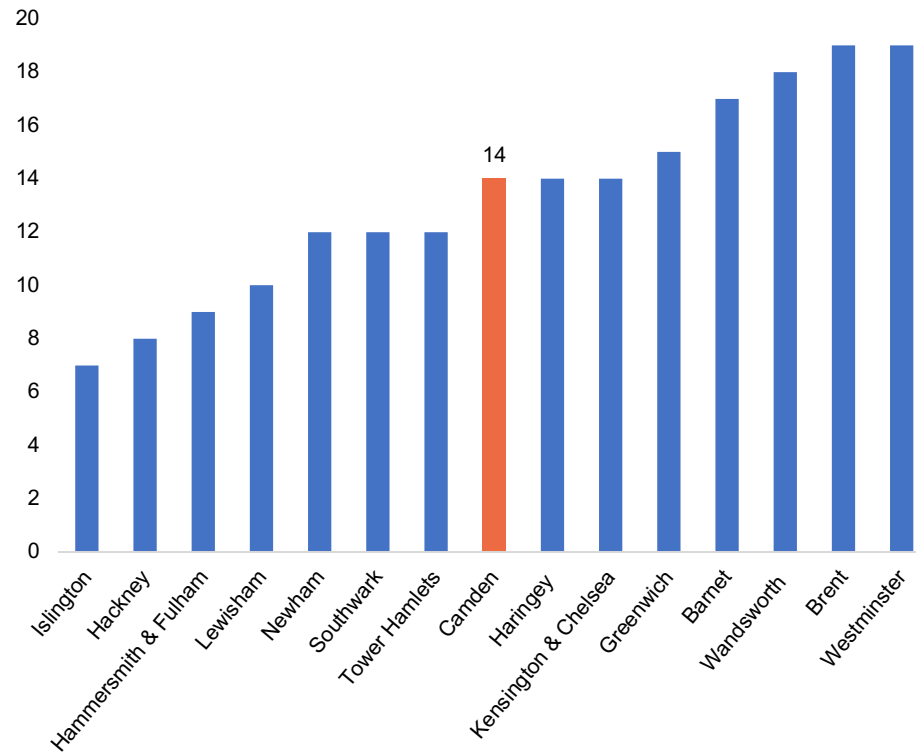
Figure 6.7: Share of London's EV Charging Sites



Since 2019, there have been 14 deaths on roads in Camden

Tragically, while fatal road casualties have been decreasing in recent decades, there are still road fatalities in Camden and across London. Since 2019, there have been 14 road fatalities in Camden.¹³

Figure 6.8: Total road fatalities since 2019



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Air quality

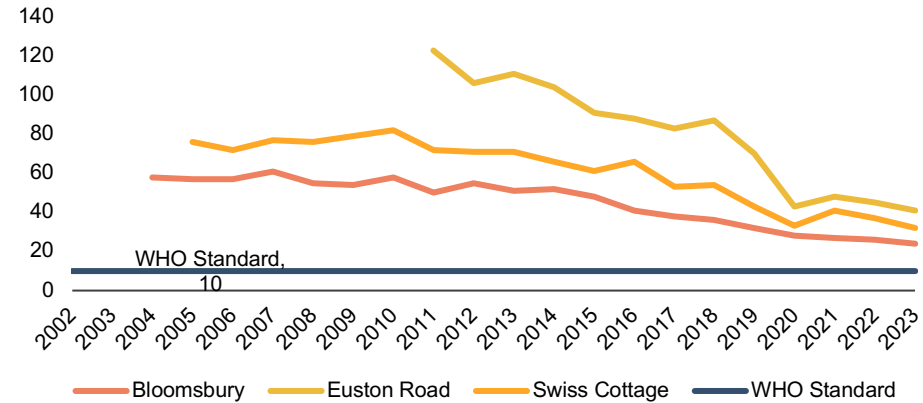
Air pollution has been in decline in recent years in Camden, as measured by concentration levels of NO₂ and PM_{2.5}, but is still higher than the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines

Air pollution has an impact on both our health and on the environment. It is known to affect our lungs, hearts and brains and is linked to long-term impacts on health, with children, older people and people with existing conditions most vulnerable. Air pollution in Camden is emitted from buildings, road traffic, trains and construction, from burning of fuels such as gas, oil, and diesel. Indoor air pollution is also known to have an impact on health, and can be from the use of wood, charcoal and gas for cooking or the heating of oils and fats.

Two types of air pollutants are significant and measured in Camden: Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate matter (PM). In recent years, measured concentration of these pollutants has been declining in recent years where it has been measured (busy sites such as Euston Road, Swiss Cottage and Bloomsbury). In 89 sites where we have data from 2019, our expanded monitoring network shows that air quality has improved throughout the borough.

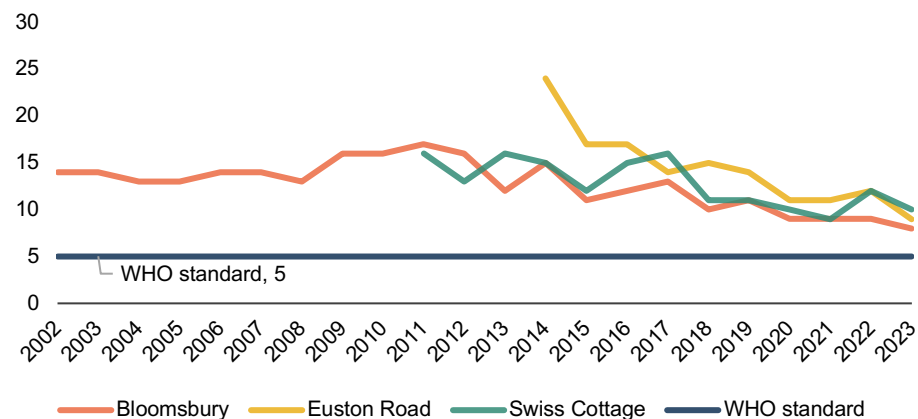
Measured concentrations of NO₂ in particular have declined considerably over the past 20 years, primarily driven by improved emissions standards for road vehicles and construction machinery. The largest reductions have been observed at roadside monitoring sites (Euston Road and Swiss Cottage) with smaller reductions measured at the Bloomsbury background site where emissions from building heating systems contribute a greater proportion of measured NO₂. Building NO₂ emissions have not declined at the same rate as emissions from vehicles.

Figure 6.9: Annual average concentration of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), 2002-2023



There was a noticeable dip in the annual mean NO₂ concentrations measured at Euston Road and Swiss Cottage for 2020 compared to preceding years, and this was due to the significant reduction in road traffic during Covid lockdowns. The 'rebound' in traffic into 2021 and 2022 led to a small increase in annual mean NO₂ compared to 2020.

Figure 6.10: Annual average concentration of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), 2002-2023



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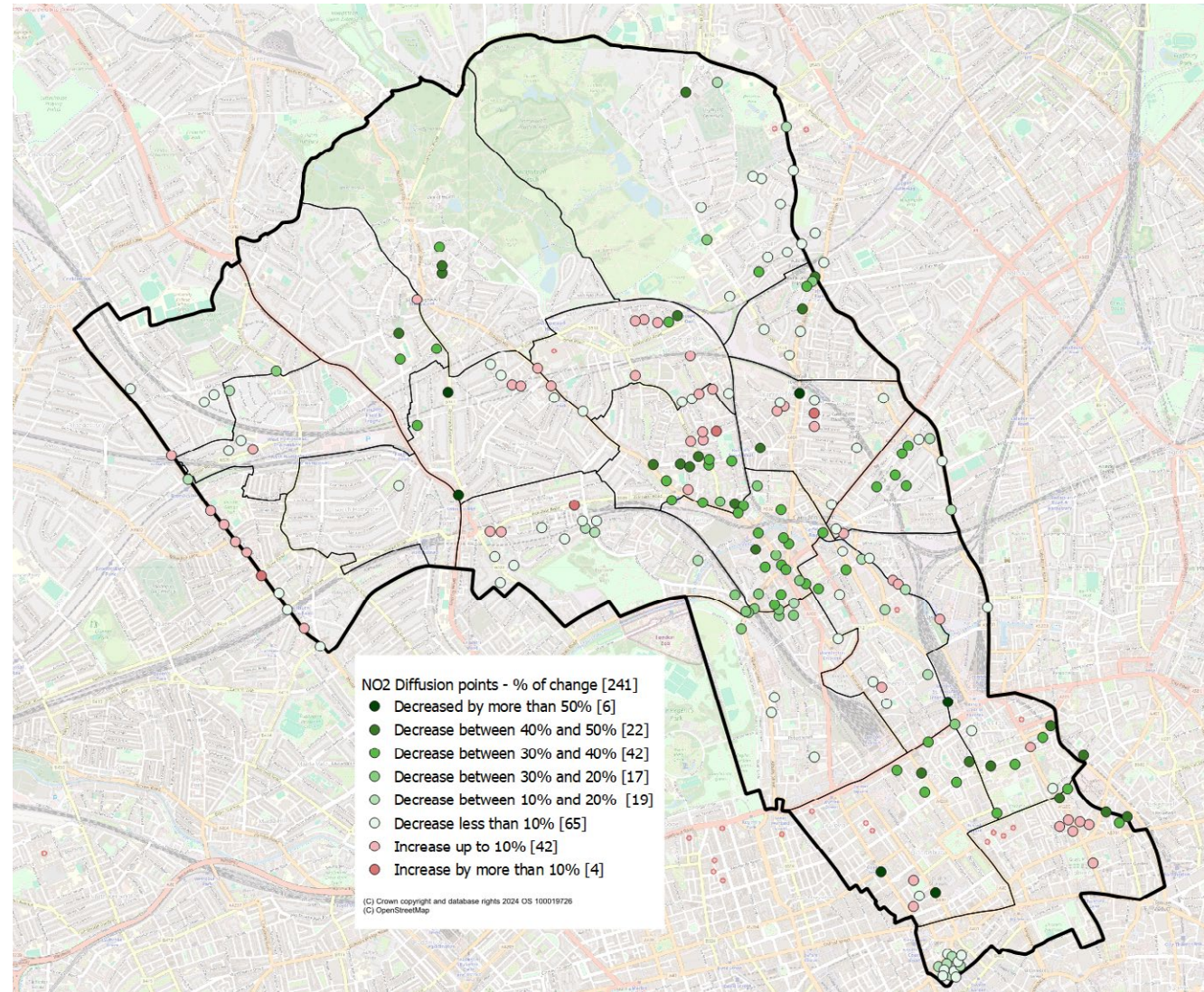
Particulate matter $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations have also declined in Camden over the past 10 years, however the relative change is weaker than has been observed for NO_2 . In any given year, a significant portion of the $PM_{2.5}$ measured in the air in Camden will originate from activities and sources outside of London or the United Kingdom.

These include emissions from agriculture, industrial activities, buildings and vehicles in other cities, towns and rural areas, shipping and transport, and some natural and semi-natural sources like desert sands and smoke from forest fires. This is referred to as 'transboundary' air pollution because it can be transported huge distances and affect air quality and public health far from the source of the pollution,

This component of $PM_{2.5}$ air pollution in Camden depends on weather conditions, and this is largely why the year-on-year change in annual mean $PM_{2.5}$ has not been consistent despite the gradual long-term reduction.

Local sources of $PM_{2.5}$ include building emissions from commercial kitchens, heating and standby power systems, as well as construction activities, road and rail transport.

Figure 6.11: Map of nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) diffusion points in Camden by change annual average concentration



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Experience: perceptions of air quality



In responses to the consultation on the Camden Clean Air Action Plan 2023-2026 many Camden residents described how they felt exposure to air pollution was affecting their health and wellbeing. When asked, 80% of respondents answered that they were either very or quite concerned about how air pollution can affect their health. 38% thought that air quality in Camden had worsened over the last five years, compared to 18% who thought that air quality had improved. Many respondents expressed how they felt air quality had improved noticeably during Covid lockdowns but that pollution levels had returned to pre-lockdown levels and once again posed a risk for public health.

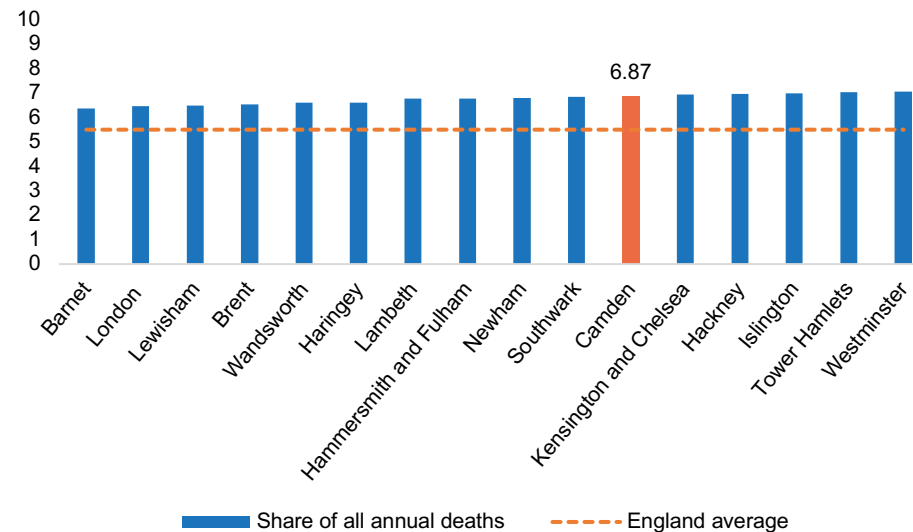


In Camden, 6.9% of all deaths of adults over 30 years old were attributable to air pollution

Air pollution is a major health concern, and is linked to heart disease, stroke, respiratory issues, and cancer. In the UK, it has been associated with 28,000 to 36,000 deaths annually. Exposure to higher levels of air pollution, such as in dense urban areas, present greater risks, exacerbating health inequalities. The annual average metric, accounting for population exposure, focuses on fine particulate air pollution (PM_{2.5})¹⁴, although other pollutants and indoor air quality are crucial considerations.

In 2021 in Camden, approximately 6.9% of all deaths in of adults over 30 years old were attributable to PM_{2.5} air pollution. This is close to London (6.5%) and other Inner London boroughs - but a higher proportion than England (5.5%).

Figure 6.12: Percentage of adult mortality due to air pollution (2021)

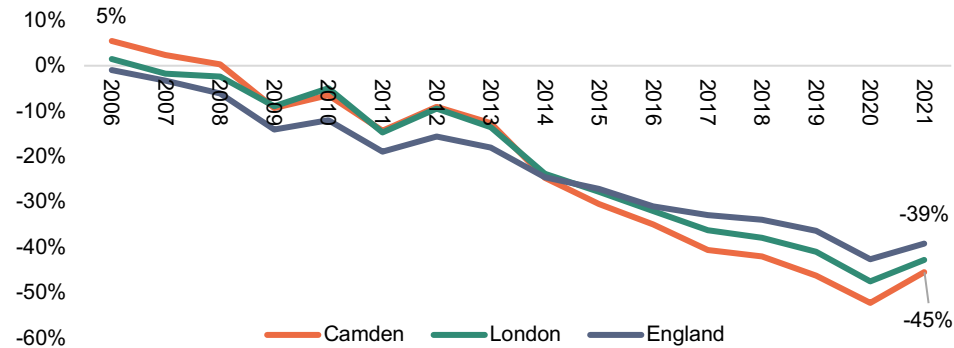


Carbon emissions in Camden have declined since 2005, but 2021 saw a slight increase in emissions and there is still some distance from achieving Net Zero in the borough

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our time and requires a joint effort across all sectors to reduce carbon emissions. Camden has a Climate Action Plan which is regularly reviewed and updated ([see latest update here](#)) which provides data on the current situation and implementation.

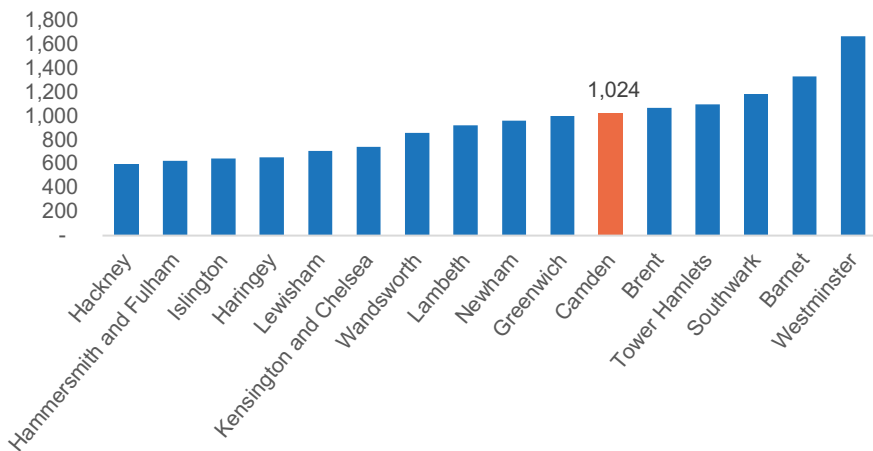
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Figure 6.13: Cumulative percentage change in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 to 2021



Carbon emissions have been declining in Camden (-45%), London (-43%) and England (-39%) since 2005, although the latest data for 2021 shows a slight increase on the previous year. In 2021, there were an estimated 1,024 Kt of CO₂e emissions in Camden. Camden Council also takes stock of the emissions it produces from its assets and activities. In 2022/23, the Council was responsible for 12.4 Kt of CO₂e emissions across its properties and assets, including schools (43%), corporate properties (28%), leisure centres (13%) and transport (6%).

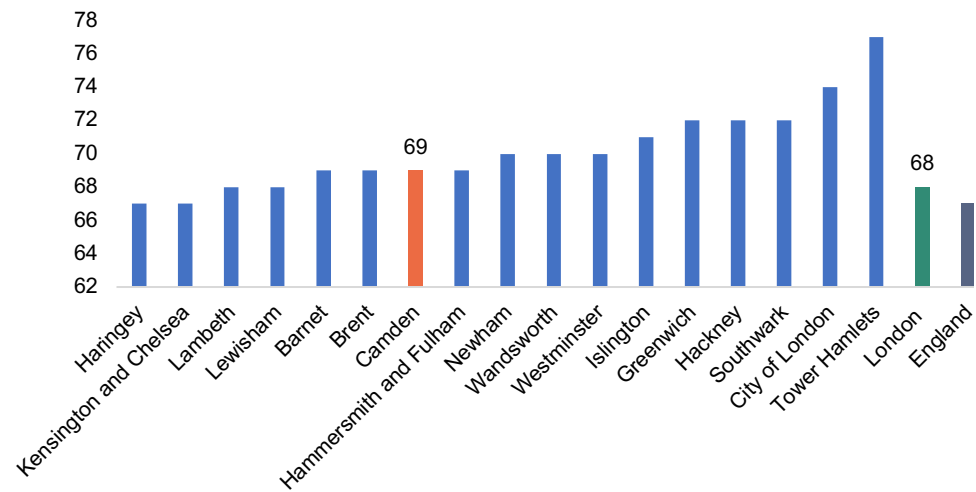
Figure 6.14: Greenhouse gas emissions Kt of CO₂e, 2021



Median energy efficiency of dwellings in Camden was 69 out of 100, similar to London (68) and England (67)

The energy efficiency rating of dwellings means how much energy will be needed for a household in that dwelling for basic functions, such as heating, cooling, and lighting. A better energy efficiency means less energy consumption, which translates to financial savings and a reduced impact on the environment. These impacts are especially significant for households experiencing fuel poverty, meaning that their income is not sufficient to heat their homes effectively. The median energy efficiency of dwellings in Camden was 69 out of 100, close to the London (68) and England (67) figures. Fuel poverty affects an estimated 10.5% of households – lower than the national average of 13.2%.

Figure 6.15: Median household energy efficiency rating, by London borough (2022)



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Endnotes

- 1 One in eight British households has no garden, 14 May 2020, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/accesstogardensandpublicgreenspaceingreatbritain>
- 2 Access to gardens and public green space in Great Britain - Office for National Statistics <https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/accesstogardensandpublicgreenspaceingreatbritain>
- 3 Local authority collected waste: annual results tables 2021/22, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables-202122>
- 4 <https://www.camden.gov.uk/our-environment-services-priorities-and-contract-documents>
- 5 Proportion of people who walk or cycle for travel, Active Lives Survey, Sport England (2022), <https://www.sportengland.org/research-and-data/data/active-lives>
- 6 Active travel means making journeys in physically active ways - like walking, wheeling (using a wheelchair or mobility aid), cycling, or scootering
- 7 Source: TfL, London Travel Demand Survey (LTDS)
- 8 The Strategic Cycle Network is currently comprised of signed Cycleways as well as routes delivered former cycle programmes: Cycle Superhighways, Central London Grid, Quietways and Mini-Hollands
- 9 Source: TfL, map maintained by TfL Strategic Analysis and available on TfL's Surface Playbook in the Cycling Information map
- 10 Healthy Streets London Scorecard, Health Streets Coalition, 2023, <https://www.healthystreetsscorecard.london/>
- 11 Low Traffic Neighbourhoods as a proportion of borough area, https://www.healthystreetsscorecard.london/results/results_input_indicators/
- 12 Number of electric vehicle charging devices per 100,000 people, Electric vehicle charging device statistics: July 2023, Department for Transport, <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electric-vehicle-charging-device-statistics-july-2023>
- 13 Number of road fatalities since 2019, Road Fatalities since 2019, Road Safety Data, Transport for London, 2023 <https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/road-safety>
- 14 Fine particulate air pollution, also known as PM2.5, means the mass (in micrograms) per cubic metre of air of individual particles with an aerodynamic diameter generally less than 2.5 micrometers.

Inequalities



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“Actively tackling injustice and inequality sits at the heart of our shared vision for Camden. We identify ourselves proudly as a diverse community that is an open and welcoming borough. The pandemic revealed the depth of injustice and inequality that has been created by systemic racism, discrimination, and structural injustice.”

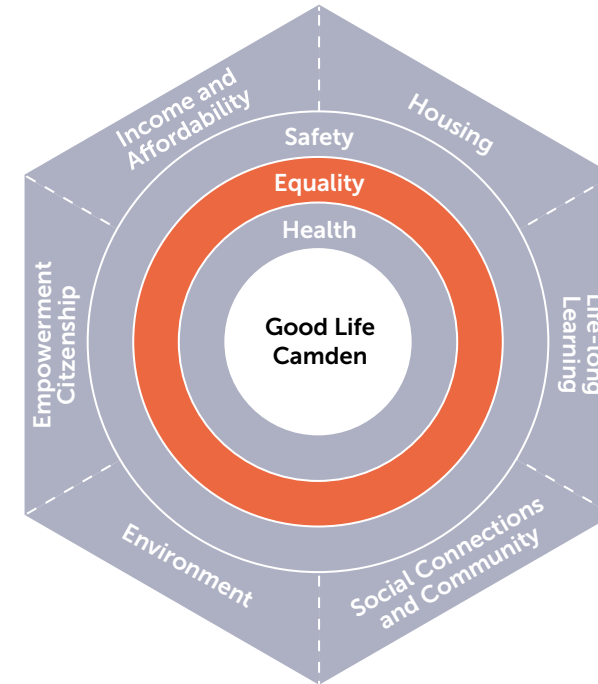
- We Make Camden, March 2022

Camden is a borough with high levels of inequality. While average earnings, house prices, educational attainment, and health outcomes are relatively high compared to the rest of England, these mask some of the deepest inequalities in London and England, with people living in deprivation alongside people living in great wealth.

This chapter explores some of the differences in life outcomes between people living in Camden from different backgrounds and life circumstances. Unless stated otherwise, data is from the 2021 Census.¹

Good Life Camden

The Good Life Camden framework describes the things that are important for living a good life, created by residents and staff.



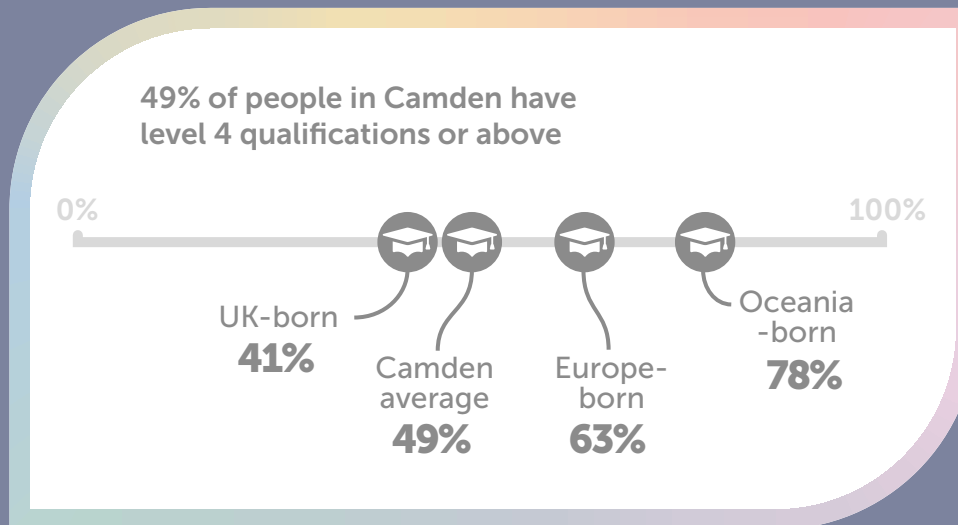
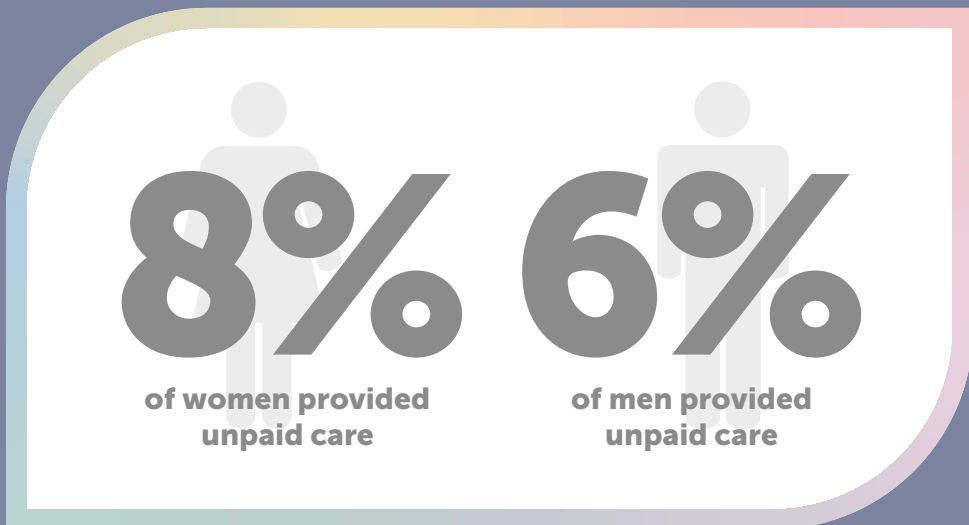
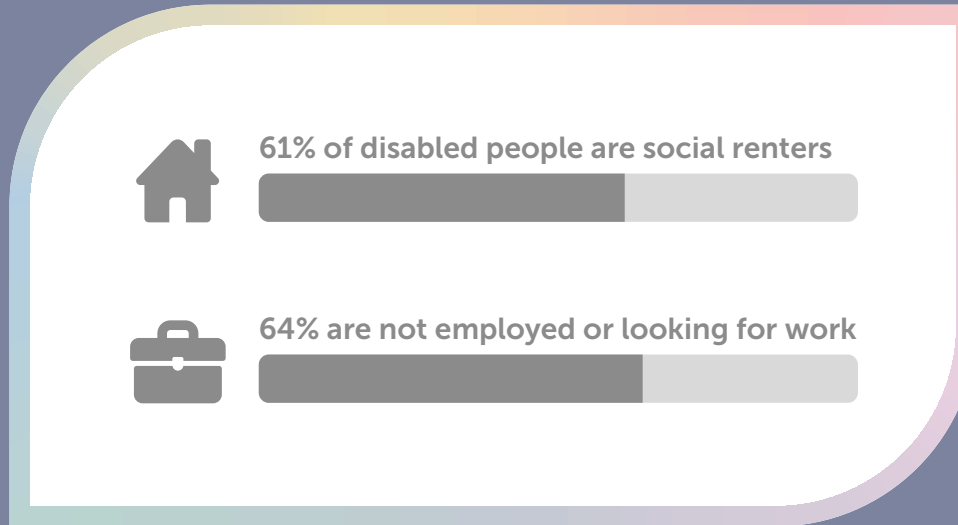
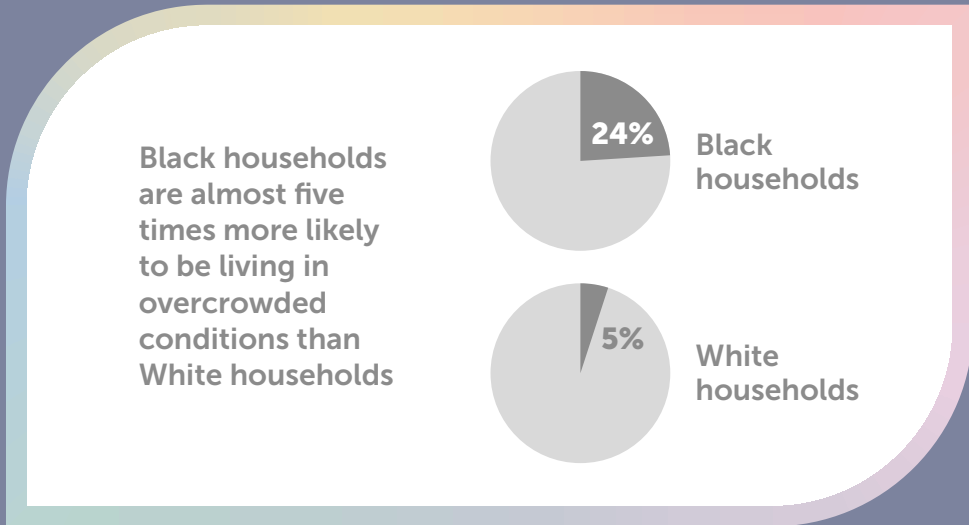
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This chapter includes signals from the Equality theme, including that:

- All people can live a good life in Camden, *and*
- Inequalities in earnings are small.

See the full list of measures in [Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data](#).

Key findings



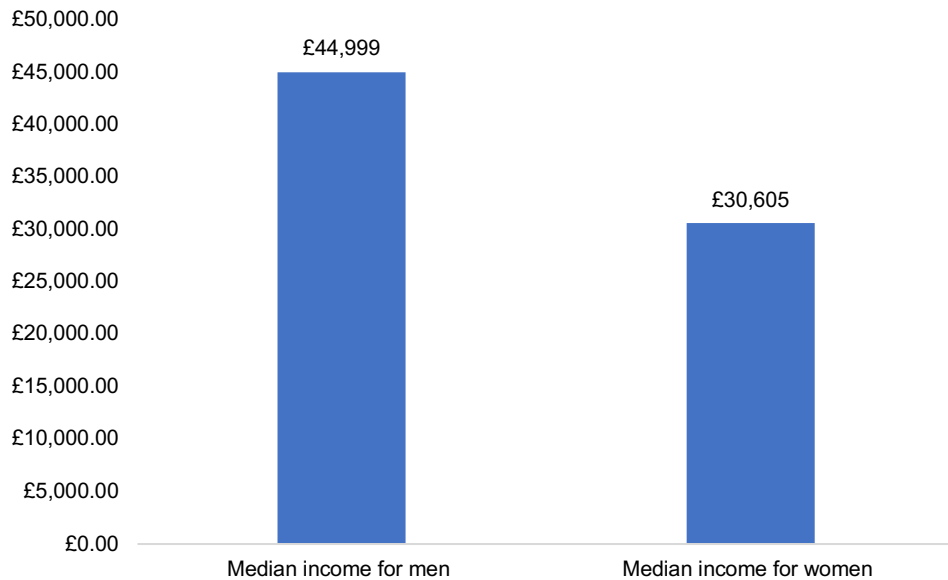
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The pay gap between men and women in Camden is £14,394, a higher gap than London and England

The gap in median earnings in 2023 between men and women who **live** in Camden is £14,394, while for people who **work** in Camden it is £8,845. The median gender pay gap is higher for people living in Camden than London and England.²

In London, the pay gap as measured by the difference in hourly wages was 11.9%³, higher than the UK. The gender pay gap across London is highest in finance, education and professional services, and smallest in public administration and transport, where the gap is negative or close to zero.

Figure 7.1: Median earnings for men and women who live in Camden



Experience: the impact of the Cost of Living on women’s jobs and opportunities

In 2023, the council ran a project with the Camden Women’s Forum to understand the ways in which women were being disproportionately affected by the cost-of-living crisis. Staff spoke to 17 partner organisations and service teams as well as 100 women, through interviews and focus groups. This research informed recommendations for local and national government to support women throughout the cost-of-living crisis.

“*The cost-of-living crisis highlighted the many issues that women were already facing before the crisis, that a rise in inflation only made significantly worse. An increased lack of childcare solutions has meant more families have resorted to taking care of their own children instead of paying for expensive nursery or childminders. Childcare duty often fell on the mothers in the family, meaning more time spent out of employment.*

The lack of flexible work options adds to the struggle, pushing women to juggle between work and caregiving. Roles in the care industry are appealing as they have flexible working arrangements, especially for the school run, but there is a trade off as most caring roles are zero-hour contracts, bringing uncertainty and many roles are less than London living wage.

”

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For those moving to the UK, the job market seems even narrower. The frustration among the women I spoke to, particularly those working in healthcare, was clear. One woman spoke of the many hard years of training to get her qualifications, but now found herself in a lower-level position, with a comparatively lower salary. In short, she was overqualified and underpaid."

The cost-of-living crisis exacerbated these pressures. We heard that women were cutting down their household costs, especially when their own wellbeing and happiness were concerned. For example, they were seeing their friends and families less often, because even having coffee was getting expensive. We heard that women felt guilty that they couldn't afford uniforms, food, or fun activities for their children. They felt stressed, isolated and unheard, but do what they could to suppress their worries."

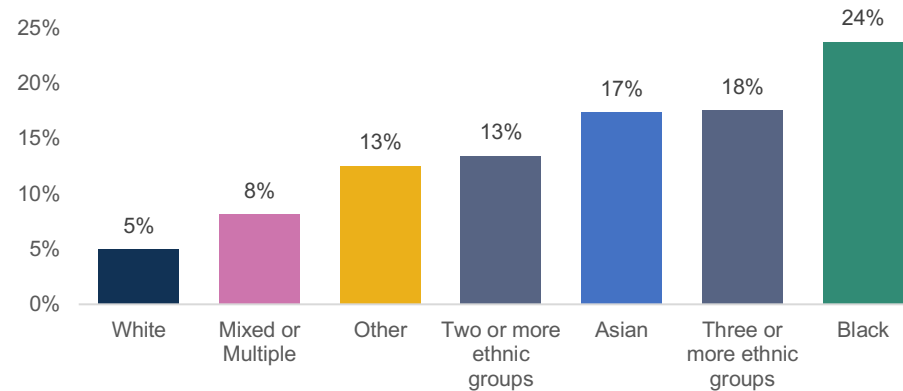
- Staff member, Camden Women's Forum - Cost of Living Crisis



Black households are almost 5 times more likely to be living in overcrowded conditions than White households (24% vs 5%) and 5 times less likely to own their home (7% vs 36%)

Overcrowded housing is when there are less bedrooms than needed for the number of people living in the household (depending on age and household composition). In Camden, overcrowded households make up almost 10% of all households, but that differs substantially across ethnic groups, with 24% of Black households overcrowded and 17% of Asian households, whereas across White households only 5% are overcrowded.

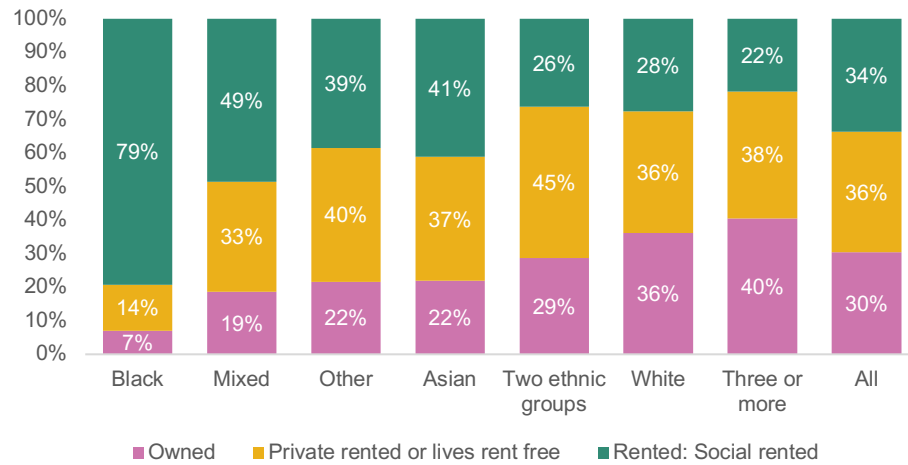
Figure 7.2: Overcrowded households by ethnic group, 2021 Census



Housing tenure is also different across ethnic groups in Camden. Across all households, 30% own their home, 36% rent privately and 34% are social renters. The highest share of social renters are among Black households, where 76% are social renters, then Mixed households with 49% social renters. The highest rate of ownership was for households with three or more ethnic groups, where 40% owned their home, and then White households with 36%, and the lowest rates were for Black households with 7% ownership and Mixed households, with 19% ownership.

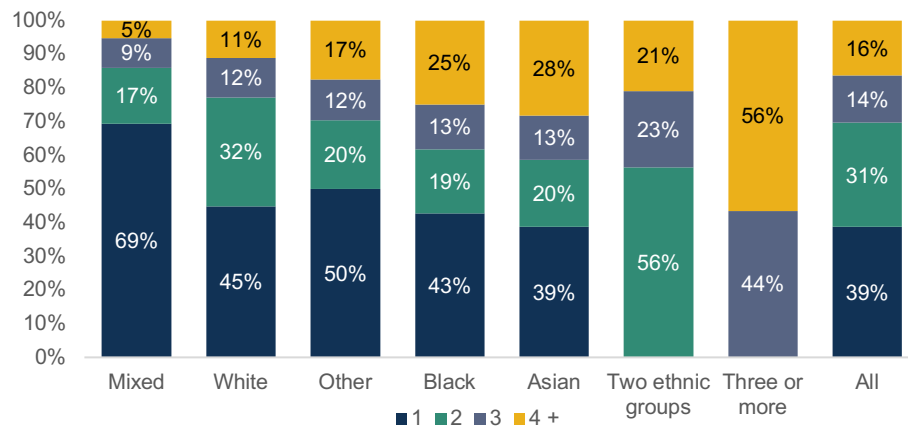
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Figure 7.3: Housing tenure by ethnic group, 2021 Census



While almost 40% of households in Camden are one person households, and only 16% are 4 or more, this differs across ethnic groups, with 28% of Asian households consisting of 4 or more people, and 25% of Black households, whereas for White households only 11% of households include 4 or more people.

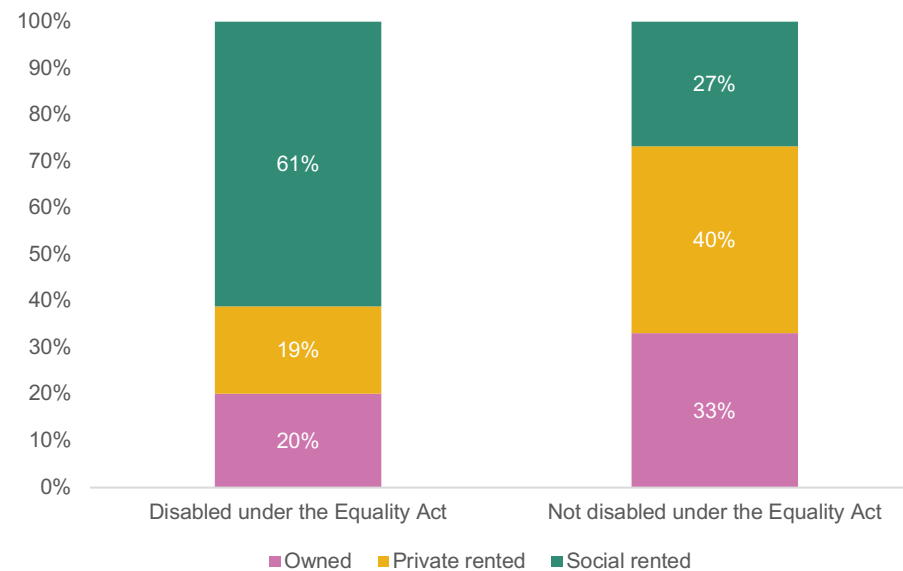
Figure 7.4: Household size by ethnic group, 2021 Census



31% of disabled people in Camden have poor health, 61% are social renters and 64% are economically inactive

Disabled people make up 15.2% of the population in Camden, according to the definition of the Equalities Act (2010). Within this population, 31% define their health as bad or very bad, compared to 1% of the non-disabled population, and only 33% of disabled people say their health is good or very good, compared to 94% of the non-disabled. Housing tenure also differs substantially across these groups, with 61% of disabled people who are social renters and 20% are homeowners, whereas in the non-disabled population, 27% are social renters and 33% are homeowners. 27% of disabled people were employed on Census day 2021 compared to 53% of the non-disabled population, and 64% were economically inactive, meaning they were not employed nor actively seeking employment, compared with 26% of the population.

Figure 7.5: Housing tenure by disability, 2021 Census



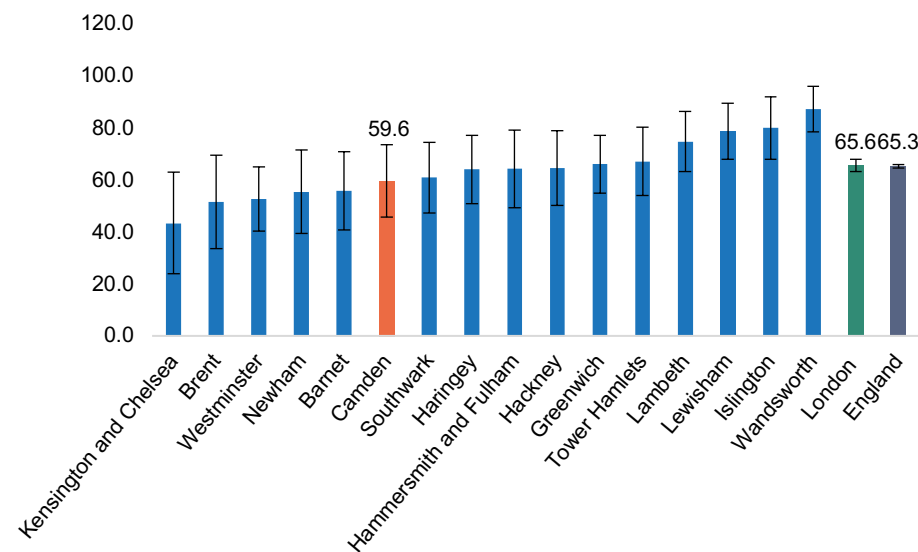
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Among people with long-term health conditions in Camden, an estimated 59% are employed

Long-term health conditions have an impact on people’s ability to be in regular employment. In the UK, the number of people who are out of the workforce because of long-term health conditions has been increasing since the pandemic, and in particular for reasons of mental health. There is an employment and earnings gap between those who report work-limiting conditions and those who do not. On average, people with a work-limiting health condition on average earn 15% less per hour.⁴

In Camden, around 59% of people in Camden with long-term health conditions are employed, compared to 66% in London and 65% in England. However, it is important to note that the error margins are very large for Camden compared to London and England, making direct comparison difficult.

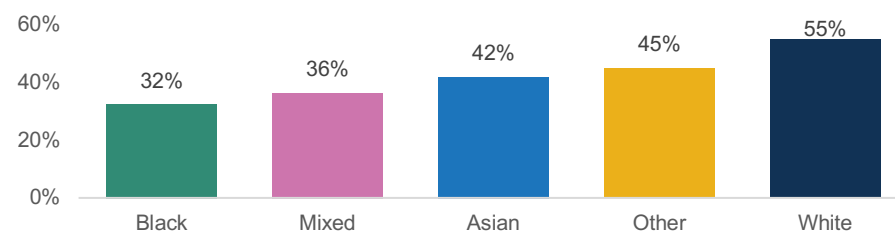
Figure 7.6: Employment rate among people with a long term health condition, 2022/23



Qualifications of level 4 and above were more common for people born outside the UK, non-disabled and White

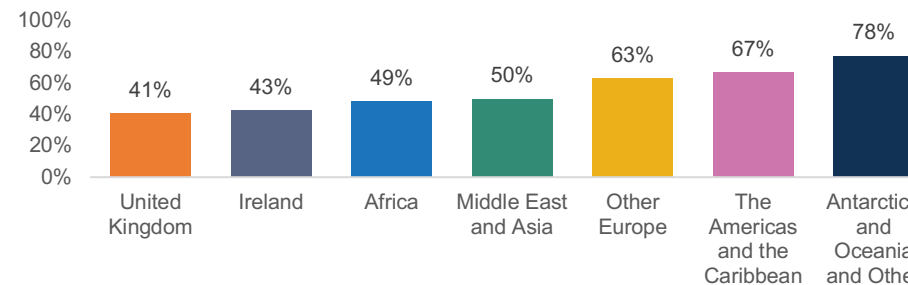
According to the 2021 Census, level 4 qualifications and above were most common for Camden residents who were born outside the UK, with over half of people from the Middle East and Asia (50%), Mainland Europe (63%), America and the Caribbean (67%) and Oceania (78%). These qualifications include: degree, foundation degree, PhD, Master’s degrees, Higher National Diploma or Certificate (HND/HNC), and professional qualifications (for example, teaching or nursing).

Figure 7.7: Qualifications by ethnic group, level 4 and above, 2021 Census



Across ethnic groups, 55% of White people had level 4 qualifications and above, compared to 42% for Asian and 32% for Black people. 37% of disabled people had level 4 qualifications compared to 51% of non-disabled people.

Figure 7.8: Qualifications by country of birth, level 4 and above, 2021 Census



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Unpaid work is one-third more likely to be carried out by women than men in Camden, and more Black and Asian people are unpaid carers compared to White and Mixed ethnic groups

The Census asked people whether they provided help or support to people due to long term physical or mental health conditions or problems related to old age, excluding anything relating to paid employment, and how many hours per week. The 2021 Census was undertaken during the Covid pandemic, which may have affected people’s experience or providing unpaid care. In Camden, 8% of women provided unpaid care, and 6% of men. This gender disparity in unpaid care is consistent across ethnic groups as well, although the gap was smaller for White females and males and Mixed females and males.

Figure 7.9: Unpaid care by sex, 2021 Census

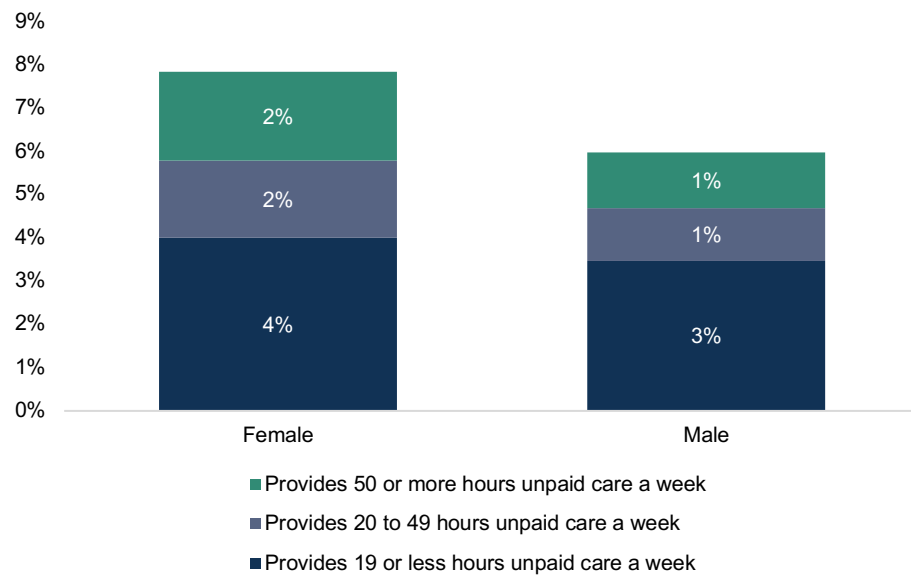
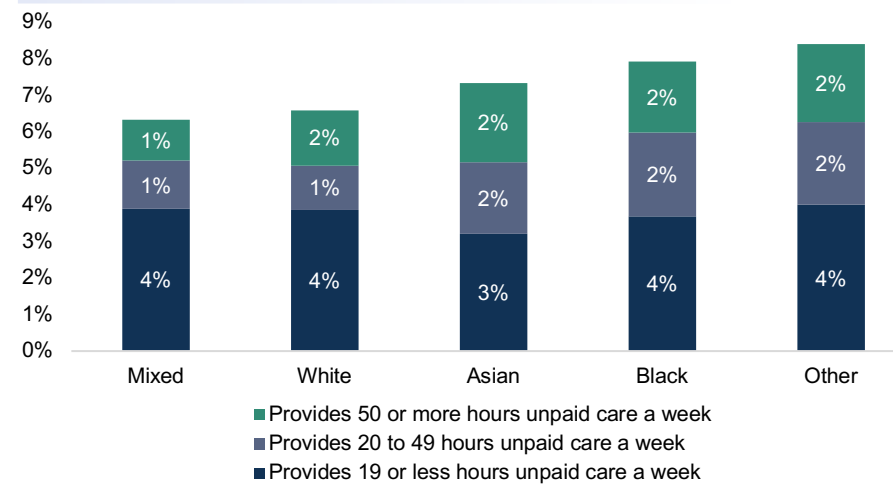


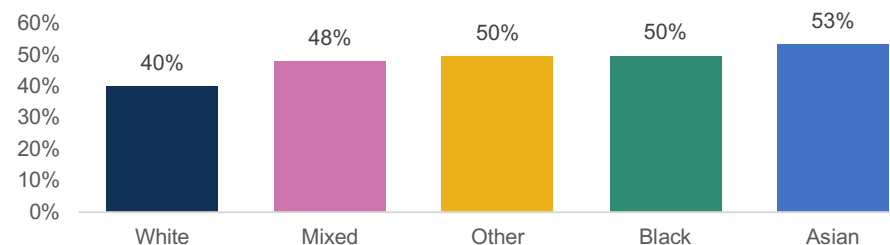
Figure 7.10: Unpaid care by ethnic group, 2021 Census



Of the population over 65 in Camden, 43% report being in poor health, but across ethnic groups there is a gap

The 2021 Census asked people to assess their general health on a five-point scale, between ‘very good’ to ‘very bad’. 43% of people aged 65 and over in Camden reported their health as not good. Across ethnic groups, there are differences in the share of over 65s reporting poor health, with 40% of White people over 65 reporting their health as not good, but 50% of Black people, Other ethnicities, and 53% of Asian people.

Figure 7.11: Over 65s not in good health by ethnic group, self-reported, 2021 Census



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Endnotes

- 1 Ethnic groups: we have used shorthand for the ethnic groupings as presented in the 2021 Census. Black: Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African, Asian: Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh, Mixed: Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups, and Other: Other ethnic group.
- 2 Camden Business and Employment Bulletin Databook, December 21, 2023 (accessed 28 Jan 2024) https://opendata.camden.gov.uk/Business-Economy/Camden-Business-And-Employment-Bulletin-Databook-L/g7ct-v2k3/about_data
- 3 GLA, Gender pay gap analysis ,14 February 2024, <https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/Gender%20pay%20gap%20analysis.pdf>
- 4 The Health Foundation, What we know about the UK's working-age health challenge, 17 November 2023 <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/long-reads/what-we-know-about-the-uk-s-working-age-health-challenge>

State of the missions

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The 6 WMC ambitions



We Make Camden is our shared vision for the future of the borough. It sets out how we want the borough to work together to meet some of the most important challenges we are all facing. We Make Camden Missions are the borough’s priorities developed with our community organisations, local businesses, residents and delivery partners.

| **What is a mission?**

The mission approach takes big, difficult and complex challenges, and breaks them down into ‘missions’: these are focused long term goals around which people can collaborate, innovate and create together.

Our We Make Camden Missions are:

- By 2030, everyone eats well every day with nutritious, affordable, sustainable food
- By 2030, Camden’s estates and their neighbourhoods are healthy, sustainable and unlock creativity
- By 2030, those holding positions of power in Camden are as diverse as our community – and the next generation is ready to follow
- By 2025, every young person has access to economic opportunity that enables them to be safe and secure

The solutions are not prescribed in advance: the ideas, assets and efforts of diverse stakeholders and sectors are engaged to develop a portfolio of ‘bottom-up’ solutions. Mission work requires us to work across sectors and services, using the expertise and experience of our residents and organisations alike. In doing so, there will be short-term successes and incremental, systemic change; both contributing to long-term change for Camden.

| **Learning from missions and understanding our progress**

Missions are trying to change complex social and systemic issues, where traditional ways of working in silos and a culture of performance management aren’t sufficient.

Missions require an ongoing process of experimentation, learning and adaptation to new ways of working. We set out our understanding of the problem and how we think we can influence change and improvement, and then test and learn through the delivery of specific interventions.

We have started to think about how we bring together a range of different data, evidence and insight to embed a learning process over the short, medium and long term of delivering missions.

We have identified some key outcome measures for each mission, linked to our **Good Life Camden** framework, which we will track over time to help us understand whether we are seeing the change we are aiming for. This section of the report presents the latest data and learning for each We Make Camden Mission.

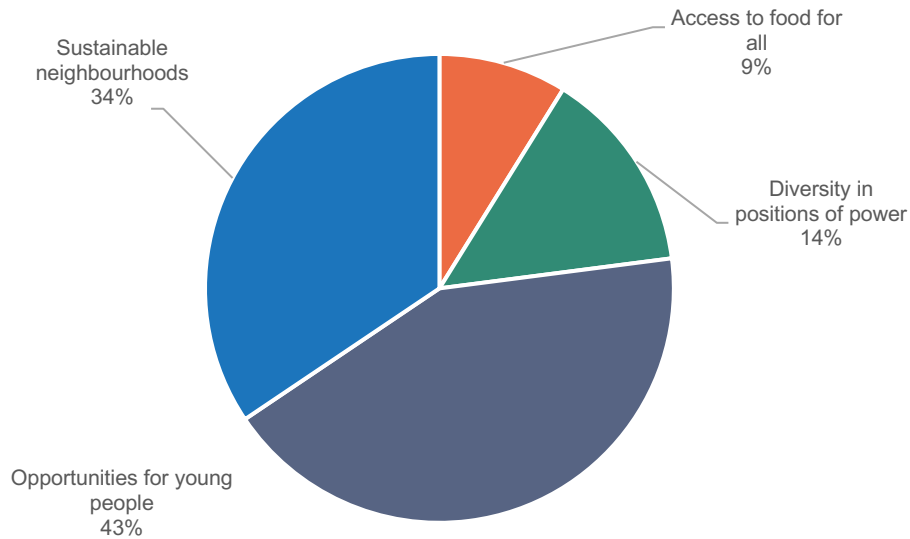
In the short term, we will learn from delivering projects and interventions, talking to staff, residents and partners about their experience of the work, applying evaluation methods where possible to understand small scale results, and building up a picture of what works and what can work to deliver the mission.

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The We Make Camden Kit

Launched in 2021, the **We Make Camden (WMC) Kit** is a partnership between Camden Citizens, Camden Council, Camden Giving and Camden businesses, which funds and supports local citizens and organisations working towards the missions. As of February 2024, 313 projects had been granted the WMC kit contributing across all the four WMC missions.

Figure M.1: Distribution of We Make Camden Kits across missions (as of February 2024)

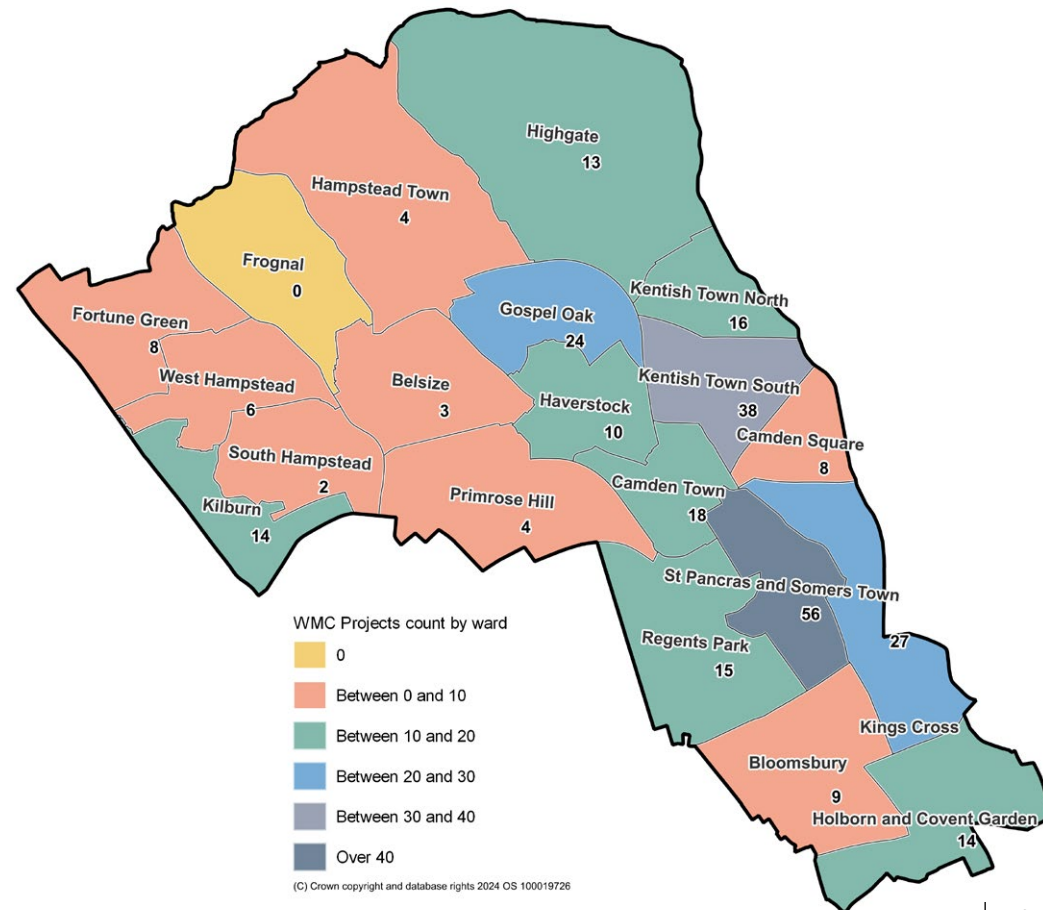


The projects were associated with one of the missions as the main purpose – across all projects, 43% were related to Opportunities for young people, 34% to Sustainable neighbourhoods and estates, 14% to Diversity in positions of power and 9% to Access to food for all.

At the end of last funding cycle, the **WMC Kit Grantees** were asked “You were awarded this grant to contribute to the Camden mission. Having completed your project, what more do you think needs to happen to achieve this mission by 2030?”. Their responses give us an insight into the interconnected nature of missions in the community and act as a guiding light for our future work on missions.

➔ Look out for “*We Make Camden Kit Grantee says..*” boxes along with each mission’s learnings to read some of the responses!

Figure M.2: WMC Kit projects by ward



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By 2030, everyone eats well every day with nutritious, affordable, sustainable food

What if we lived in a borough where everyone ate a healthy, nutritious and sustainable meal every day? Where food supply chains are sustainable and create local opportunities? Where people from diverse background come together to share and connect around food? And where food nourishes us to lead long, healthy and happy lives and helps sustain the planet?

| Why is this a mission?

The affordability of food continues to be a challenge. Nationally, the price of food and non-alcoholic beverages rose by 5.1% in the 12 months to January 2024¹ and the overall price of food and non-alcoholic beverages rose by around 25% over the two years between January 2022 and January 2024, compared with a rise of around 10% over the preceding 10 years. Since 2017, there has been a seven-fold increase in the number of people receiving emergency food parcels in Camden, nearly 45,000 in 2022/23. While existing community crisis food programs provide essential support, they often lack the tools to help individuals permanently escape food insecurity. We recognise that a holistic mission-oriented approach is needed, addressing the deeper causes like fair wages, secure housing, and quality job opportunities.

Experience: rising costs of food

“

“Supermarket products are more expensive now and it feels like they’ll keep rising. While I thankfully haven’t had to skip meals or deprive myself of nutritious food, I have found myself being much more conscious of the price of everything and prioritising price over quality in most foods as a means of watching my finances.”

- Respondent to the We Make Camden Cost of Living survey, February 2024

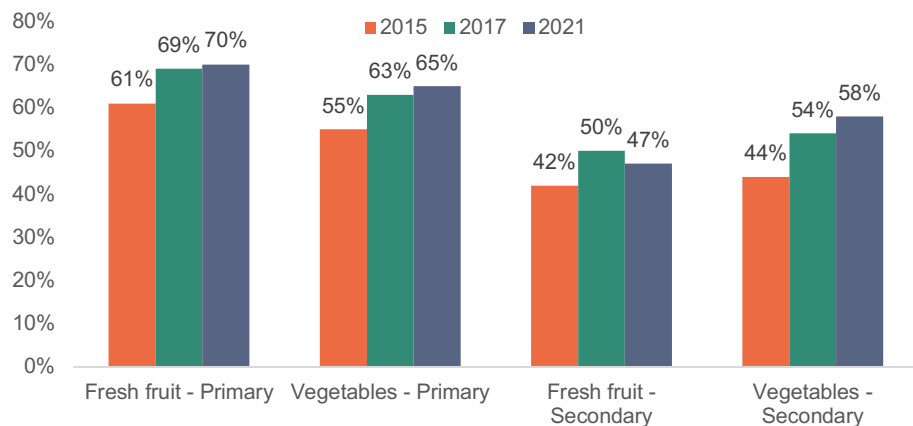
”

The impact of this food and nutrition insecurity is clearly reflected on children in the borough. An increasing proportion of **children are**

The 6 WMC ambitions

growing up in low-income households in Camden: from 13% in 2015 to 20% in 2022 ([see here for more detail](#)). We know that eating healthy nutritious food every day is important for children’s development and flourishing. However, more than 40% of **secondary students in Camden do not eat fresh fruit or vegetables** on most days. In 2022/23, 19% of reception age children in Camden were overweight or obese, compared to 21% across England, but by year six, 36% of children in Camden were overweight or obese, compared to 36.6% in England ([see more here](#)). The proportion of adults who are **overweight or obese** in Camden has increased over time from 44% in 2015/16 to 50% in 2021/2022 ([see here for more detail](#)).

Figure M.3: Share of students eating fresh fruits and vegetables in primary and secondary schools in Camden



| Our Mission Approach and Learning

We envision a future in Camden where, everyone has dignified access to healthy and nutritious food every day, food has a fundamental positive impact on everyone’s wellbeing and the food system actively contributes to fighting climate change, with minimised food waste (ultimately establishing Camden as an ultra-low-food-waste borough).

We believe this future can be achieved by working hand-in-hand with our partners and residents to foster positive changes in food consumption behaviours. A growing movement of people and organisations in Camden are working towards this future through collaboration and experimentation and are being actively encouraged to align with mission outcomes. The council has made £1.15m of additional funding available to VCS partners as part of the mission. The Council, voluntary sector and NHS staff are working together on a rapid review of provision of food support to vulnerable adults. The Council has funded a school breakfast programme where schools are being encouraged to test out delivery methods to increase uptake such as, Playground grab and go; Breakfast Clubs (a primary school created ‘active’ breakfast clubs including physical activity); eating in the first class; food for late arrivals.

The programme currently reaches 22 deprived schools (30%+ Pupil Premium eligibility), up from 7 schools in 2022. In total, 2,980 children now benefit daily from a Magic Breakfast – up from 587 in 2022 – 575,000 breakfasts provided per year.

The schools have also been trialling new approaches to engage and support their pupils and families, for example: a primary school linked with local food bank volunteers to support families experiencing food poverty. Four out of five Camden schools are engaged with Healthy Schools (31 Primaries, 6 Secondary, 5 special). 23 schools have achieved Healthy Schools London Silver and 11 schools achieved Healthy Schools London Gold awards, developing, and implementing action plans to improve the health and wellbeing of their pupils.

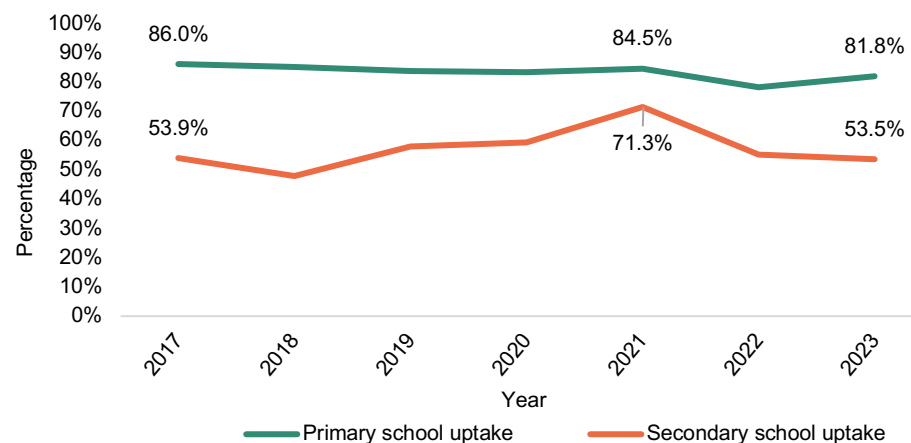
The Holiday Activity and Food Programme is run in partnership with Camden Infrastructure Organisation and provides food, enrichment activities, physical activities, nutritional education and signposting and support for families. In Summer 2023 the programme reached 1 in 3 of children eligible for free school meals. The provision is being extended in Summer 2024 to enough spaces every day for 1762 (5–16-year-olds) in 54 venues across Camden.

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In continuing and redesigning our existing services and programs, we are adopting an evidence and learning based approach to adapt them to emerging circumstances and knowledge.

In Camden, we saw a 27% increase in the number of lunches eaten in schools Sep-Dec 2023 (9,000 additional meals per week). The emerging evidence, such as recent research funded by the Nuffield Foundation, has confirmed that universal free school meals in primary schools result in reduced childhood obesity and an improvement in reading scores. The combination of visible demand within the borough and external evidence of the impact is reflected in council’s commitment to continue the universal free school meal offer beyond the current Greater London Authority initiative.

Figure M.4: Share of uptake on School Census Day of FSM among eligible students, Camden



Evidence also suggests that in 2022/23, 41% of children in Camden schools applied for and were eligible for free school meals, but only 53% of eligible secondary school students take up the offer. Using this as foundational evidence, a discovery phase has been started to

understand why eligible families aren’t applying for their children to have Free School Meals, why those who are registered aren’t eating regularly at school, and how we can support children who are not eligible for free school meals.

Experience: Free School Meals in secondary schools

From early 2023, the council has been engaging with families and pupils to explore how to encourage the uptake of Free School Meals in secondary schools. There is currently a significant gap between those who are eligible for Free School Meals, and those who actually take up the offer of eating lunch in school. Early insights are showing that limited options at lunch time, lack of flavour and cultural diversity of the food, as well as the canteen environment can act as barriers to young people accessing the offer, and might lead to them to spend the school day hungry.

“Many families we spoke to felt that offering at school were not authentic, varied or well portioned. If there was not a halal option, then their children often to turn to the vegetarian choice on offer, which in many cases they felt often lacked variety or flavour. They had come to expect a very basic ‘curry’ with boiled rice. A young person explained that she appreciated it would be difficult to always offer a variety of cultural dishes all the time, but at least having some on rotation would encourage her to eat in her school canteen more.

- Staff member, Free School Meals research

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“We also heard from pupils that sometimes their school canteen environment can be disorganised, unappealing, or has policies around lunch schedules that tend to separate pupils from their friends. Given that young people often prioritise social time with friends, this often leads them to avoid eating at lunch and return home hungry. It’s been surprising to learn how much the layout and environment of where young people eat can have an impact on whether they take up what’s on offer.”

- Staff member, Free School Meals research



Since 2001, food and non-alcoholic drinks consumption-based CO₂ emissions of Camden households have declined, particularly meat consumption. We are further investigating how the local food system can help tackle the climate emergency. We are embedding the mission goals and learning in system-level activities such as: development of Camden Council Buying Standards to inform them to guide the future delivery options of school meals; sharing food procurement standards with businesses; and influencing the Local Plan development with evidence to support the restriction of fast-food outlets within 400m of schools and for growing space to be provided in new developments.

We Make Camden Kit grantee says...

“The community are not aware of resources they can access in Camden like the Household Support Fund. This is due to language barriers and not knowing how to access or find out things online. We need to have more materials written in Somali language and for people to have time together to exchange information via community support networks. It is not just about improving people’s skills and knowledge for cooking healthily; they need to spend time together to exchange information and educate each other informally and socially.”

- The Somali Women’s Support Group comes together to cook and share a weekly communal meal, providing healthy alternatives to a community suffering from health inequality and social isolation.
(Source: Camden Giving)

The 6 WMC ambitions

By 2030, Camden's estates and their neighbourhoods are healthy, sustainable and unlock creativity

What would it look like if our homes, neighbourhoods and estates enabled us all to live happy, healthy, fulfilling and sustainable lives, no matter where we live in Camden?

| Why is this a mission?

Camden is home to a vibrant and diverse community, and 1 in 3 of our residents live in social rented housing, and the majority of our 30,000 tenants – over 75% – live on an estate. We have 385 estates in the borough, ranging from small blocks with 2-3 properties in the south, to larger estates such as Regent's Park which have almost 1,800 homes.

However, the 2021 Census data also reveals the challenges to create healthy, sustainable and creative estates:

- 20% of social rented homes in Camden are overcrowded based on the ratio of the number of people to the number of bedrooms. This compares to 6% of private rented accommodation and 3% of privately owned homes.
- 27% of census respondents living in social rented homes described

themselves as not in good health, compared to 7% in private rented accommodation, and 10% in privately owned homes. People living in social rented properties reported a higher % as not in good health across every reported age range.

- 49% of respondents living in social rented housing were economically inactive, compared to 17% in private rented housing and 26% in privately owned homes. This includes 15% of those living in social rented housing who are suffering from long-term sickness or disability which prevents them from being economically active, compared to 2% in private rented housing and 1% for privately owned homes.

Despite these challenges, residents have deep connection with their estates and so, the condition of their buildings, the quality of public spaces, and the ties to the surrounding neighbourhood truly matters to them. As a landlord, the Council has a crucial role in serving both tenants and leaseholders and partnering with them for a continued sense of belonging and community.

| Our Mission Approach and Learning

Our approach to achieving this mission revolves around the places where people live, their connection to these places, and creativity and strength of partnerships among all. The residents are the driving force behind our mission projects and have already spearheaded changes in estates such as Denyer House and Hilgrove. Therefore, we continuously explore **new and innovative approaches to listen to and engage with communities**.

Several estate action days have taken place across the borough, bringing key services closer to the people and places they serve. These events have been developed through working with Tenant and Resident Associations (TRAs) as well as local partners. Initial learning that has come out from speaking with residents has emphasised that people like

The 6 WMC ambitions

living on their estates and community spirit is immensely valued and likewise, the opportunities for community activities and green spaces have been voiced. Among the concerns raised, housing repairs was a prominent one, which is reflected in hard evidence too.

The recent evidence shows that the proportion of the Local Authority houses that are 'non-decent' in Camden fell from 22% in 2016 to 13.5% in 2023 (see [here](#)). Non-decent includes housing that: does not meet the basic legal health and safety standards for housing; it is not in a reasonable state of repair; does not have reasonably modern facilities and services; does not have effective insulation or heating. However, most Camden properties classed as non-decent are due to not being in reasonable state of repair, which is a continued cause of concern.

Following these events, deliberative conversations are being tested on three estates. In these, there will be feedback from what has been heard from residents, as well as celebrating the positive actions that residents contribute to their estates. TRAs, local partners and the Council are exploring ideas and ways to work together to deliver the estate priorities identified by residents. Some noteworthy examples being the co-creation of a homework club and setting up of community kitchens with partners and residents.

The learnings from resident engagement will form the foundation for partnership working for the mission on estates, unlocking wider partnerships and fostering an environment that supports social action within our estates. The learning from delivery of key projects includes understanding that a project benefits from tapping into trust and connections of local partners to hit the ground running and build on existing relationships. We also understand that we need to be flexible in how we listen and respond to the community, acknowledging how residents want to be engaged.

Experience: Living on Camden estates

The Council has been leading an Intensive Tenant Engagement initiative to get a first-hand insight into what it is like to live on the estates. As part of this initiative, council staff have knocked on the doors of close to 5,000 tenant houses across 25 estates in the borough. Across this engagement, tenants have said that:

“*Lived here since I was born – love it – it’s friendly everyone knows each-other*”
 - (Resident at Amphill Estate)

- The tenure of residents ranged from couple of years to 50+ years living in Camden Estates. Many residents reflected on their experience of living on the estate as a positive one, owing to factors like friends, community and supportive neighbours, the neighbourhood itself being safe and maintained and accessible location (close to shops and facilities).
- Varying across the estates, the challenges with services such as cleanliness and maintenance of common areas, bin collection and pest control were also acknowledged. We also received first-hand account of the multi-dimensional effects of simple interventions – like residents reporting better communal lighting and well-maintained tree canopies having acted as deterrent for anti-social behaviours in the estate premises (and the lack of maintenance acting as a contributor).

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“Streetlight has not worked for years, and this makes entering and walking in the street unsafe.”

- (Resident from West End Sidings)



In terms of repairs, the issues in winter months related to, damp and mould and heating issues were the most common ones. While these engagements reinforce the already identified areas of focus from the council, they also support in detecting early signs of any emerging issues.

We Make Camden Kit grantee says...

“It is important to provide easier and more accessible opportunities to residents to take the lead in making their own change, events or ideas a reality for their community. It is also vital to provide the knowledge and tools (i.e. mental health knowledge, skills-training, meaningful connections) to people living in Camden to continue this work, so that after 2030 the legacy can live on and communities are able to continue supporting one another in reaching these and their own goals.”

- The Zen Project Community supports mental health of residents through activities such as breathing exercises, guided meditation, sound healing, kindness crafts (painting on rocks/positive affirmations) (Source: Camden Giving)

By 2030, those holding positions of power in Camden are as diverse as our community – and the next generation is ready to follow

What if everyone in Camden should had the opportunity to participate fully in decisions that affect their lives and their communities? We believe that positions of power, both formal and informal, should reflect place and communities - and that diversity increases the quality of decision-making and service delivery.

| Why is this a mission?

Camden has made a clear commitment - as part of our Building Equal Foundations Work - to using our powers, services and networks to tackle the discrimination and inequality that results in poorer outcomes and quality of life for people in Camden across all our communities.

We recognise not just inequality of opportunity, wealth and outcomes - but also of how power and authority is exercised and distributed across communities. We believe that the diversification of existing positions of power will lead to better decision making.

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The Diversity Mission focuses on how we can affect:

- Access to leadership opportunities within our communities that the Council has direct control or influence over – e.g. school governors, neighbourhood, tenant and resident representative groups;
- Training and support for leadership roles for people stepping into these spaces for the first time - and building capacity for future leadership;
- Influencing our partners and commissioned organisations to have the same values and priorities as us in diversifying their leadership and power structures;
- Challenging and campaigning for diversity and equity as a critical part of healthy, flourishing and innovative organisational and community leadership.

| Mission learning and data

One of the key outcomes of the wider mission is the diversification of people in positions of power across the borough. This corresponds to the **Good Life Camden** themes of Empowered Citizenship and Equality, which include signals and measures relating to representation and civic engagement.

Over recent months we have collated publicly available data about large local anchor institutions and employers across both the public and private sector, alongside the data about Camden Council's workforce², to help understand the current landscape of diversity in leadership. Based on these data, we have identified several themes which we are aiming to explore further with partners.

We have the following key observations and learnings in adopting an evidence-based approach to this mission:

Data Availability: Diversity data is most commonly available for gender diversity and least available for disability across senior management and board representations. Overall, there was more data about diversity in senior management than in boards.

Geographic reach: Most of these organisations have headquarters in Camden but have offices and activity outside of Camden, with several of the organisations being multi-national entities. The data availability at Camden level is available only for entities whose presence is limited to Camden – for other organisations it is not possible to isolate the Camden-related workforce based on what is publicly available (for example, data on the share of women in senior management in Google was available for the Europe, Middle East and Asia area).

Industry based differences: The sample is spread across industries such as public sector, academia, medical, technology, real estate and others. These industries and sectors have underlying drivers of diversity across the workforce which are reflective in the data. For example, in the UK, 22% of women in employment are in the Human health and social work industry³ and 15% in Education, whereas only 1% in Real estate and 3% in Information and communication industries.⁴

| Diversity in We Make Camden (WMC) Kit Grantees

The We Make Camden (WMC) kit, which mobilizes community action towards the achievement of missions, provides funding and support to both community organisations and citizens. Looking at the snapshot of citizen grantees so far provides a picture of the diversity of recipients and the increased representation of some groups. More than half of grantees (53.5%) are women, and across all age groups except below 25 years. More than a third (37.6%) are from ethnically White background, while in the borough population White ethnic groups are 60% of the population. Among the younger cohort of grantees, there is higher ethnic diversity. Considering intersectionality, the percentage of women grantees is more than double among the white ethnic backgrounds, and more or less equal among other ethnicities.

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Figure M.5: WMC Kit grantees by gender

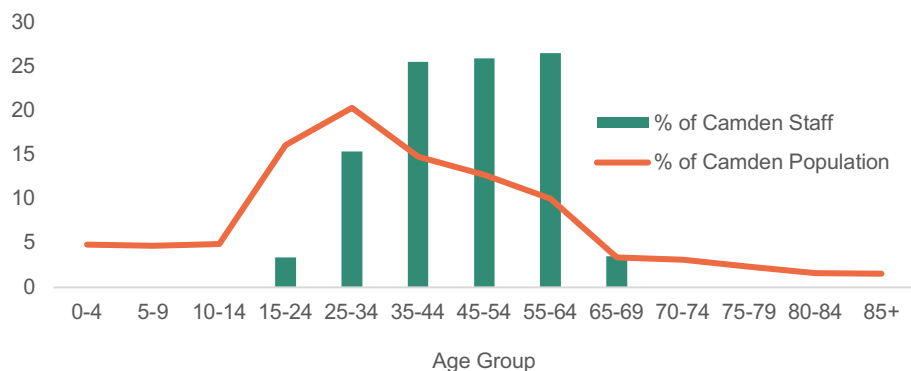


Figure M.7: WMC Kit grantees by ethnic group

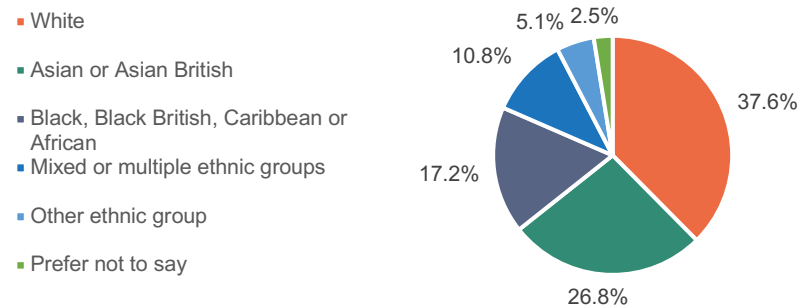
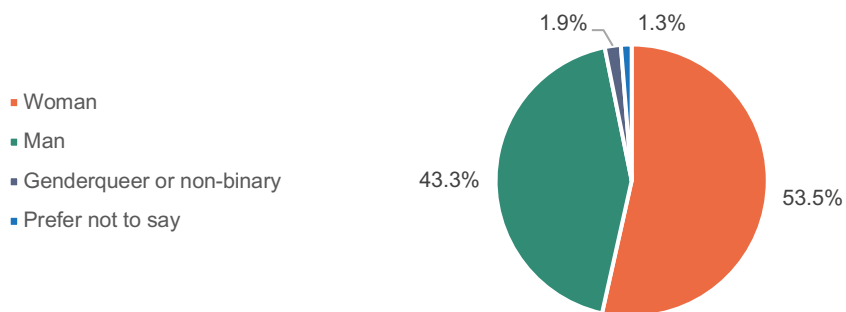


Figure M.6: WMC Kit grantees by age and gender



We Make Camden Kit grantee says...

“There are so many vulnerable people in the disabled community - their parents/carers, young people and those with challenges socially but if they are in a supportive environment they can be confident and successful and we have to build these communities up.”

- Alison, who runs a Friday Night Supper Club
(Source: Camden Giving)

The 6 WMC ambitions

By 2025, every young person has access to economic opportunity that enables them to be safe and secure

What if we lived in a borough where every young person has access to opportunities that make them safe and secure? Where young people's talents and ambitions translate into secure employment or entrepreneurialism, and where young people form a wide network of relationships that support them to grow and develop into their adult life?

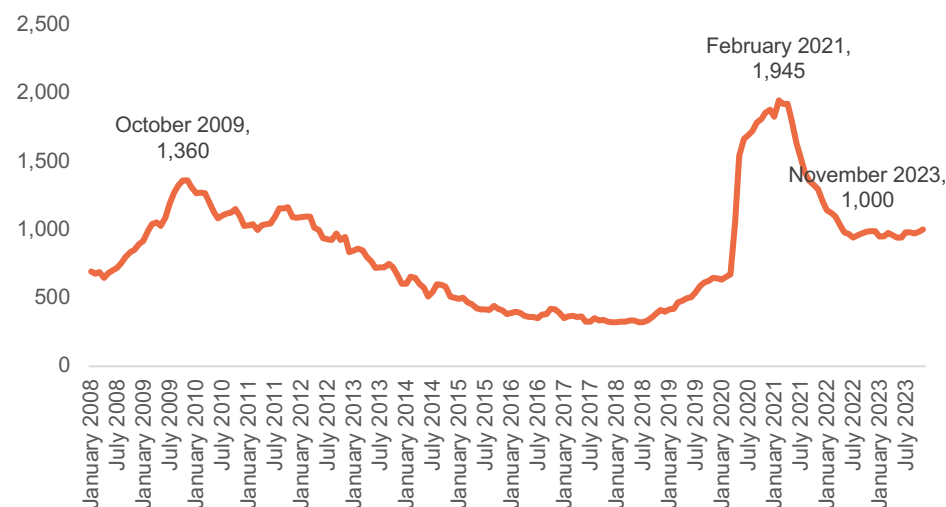
| Why is this a mission?

Currently, [almost 2 in 5 children in Camden live in poverty](#) and we know that the number of children living in poverty has increased significantly since 2015. The Cost-of-Living crisis has exacerbated poverty levels and the proportion of children living in poverty varies dramatically between wards - with the highest rates of poverty in St. Pancras and Somers Town, both overall and when looking at the proportion within working families.

We know that children growing up in the most deprived areas are at greater risk of poorer health, educational and life outcomes. Youth unemployment remains higher than it was pre-pandemic. The claimant

count for 16–24-year-olds rose sharply during the pandemic, peaking at 1,945 in February 2021 (14.9%). The number of claimants has fallen since then (to 1,000 by November 2023) but remains almost 50% higher than pre-pandemic levels.

Figure M.8: Camden residents aged 16-24 claiming out of work benefits



The multi-dimensionality and temporality of determinants of opportunity for young necessitates a long-term focus, which cannot be achieved by a part of council alone (or even the whole of council alone). Hence, we are adopting a mission-oriented approach for better outcomes for youth of Camden.

| Our Mission Approach and Learning

Beyond having a shared long-term goal, we understand that our path to achieving this goal is to be determined in delivery that is directed by continuous learning and collecting evidence.

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We want Camden to be a place with a range of good work and training opportunities which all young people can access easily. As a starting point, we looked at the latest data that shows that increasing numbers of young people are leaving school and going on to find opportunities in higher education, employment or apprenticeship. The percentage of 16- and 17-year-olds in education, employment and training has increased over the course of the last few years, and as of 2023 was in line with the London average ([see more here](#)).

In delivering the Youth Mission over the course of the past year, we have started thinking differently about how we meet our ambition. We recognize that our solutions and interventions won't work as a 'one size fits all' approach. Beyond our universal offer, we recognise the need to take a more targeted approach that focuses on those young people who, for a range of reasons, are furthest away from the job market. This means we will focus on:

- Continued development of a universal offer for supporting **young people access economic opportunities in the future**: Good Work Camden is a universal, strengths-based, locally delivered approach, focusing on developing relationships with citizens and supporting them on their journey to good work, at their own pace.
- Intensive support for **young people currently not in employment, education or training**: Our local Connexions service works with c.140 young people providing different levels of support according to need, and we are exploring ways to expand our support offer for this cohort.
- Targeted cohorts of **young people who face barriers and difficulties in accessing** these opportunities: For each of the targeted cohorts, over the last year we have focussed on understanding the problems and barriers that the mission needs to help young people and their families overcome:

Care experienced young people

These are young people who have experience of being in the care of the local authority (sometimes referred to as care leavers). There are 331 young people in Camden who are care leavers.

We know from historic data and national research that this cohort have poorer outcomes in adult life. Our own work with young people in Camden has helped us understand that issues with how the benefits system works, the quality of advice and skills training available, and having secure accommodation are key issues that we can aim to address through the mission for this cohort.

Young people with Education, Health and Care Plans

These young people have significant special education needs. There are approximately 1,500 young people with EHCP in Camden ([see here for more detail](#)).

We know that supported internships and similar approaches have a positive impact for these young people, but we have to address the challenge of scale and resources. We have already locally launched the Exceptional Needs Grant process to help schools access resources and support for this cohort.

School non-attenders

There are around 4,000 persistently absent school children in Camden, approximately 22% of primary and 26% secondary school children, and 57% of special school children ([see here for more details](#)). This cohort has doubled since the pandemic, in line with national trends.

We know that mental health and anxiety challenges, changing parental attitudes, the impact of financial hardship and temporary accommodation is making regular attendance harder. We know that quality pastoral care at secondary school is a key component to making a difference, but we need to continue to explore a range of different interventions and solutions through the mission.

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Disabled Young People

Disabled young people face more challenges finding good work. Mencap, Camden Council and the Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre have a shared goal of developing a sustainable partnership model for supported internships and paid employment that can be extended to pupils with complex needs profiles in mainstream.

Young People in the Youth Justice System

Only 60% of young people ending an order were in education, training or employment.

As part of getting regular feedback from children in the Youth Justice Service, a survey was administered to explore barriers to employment, training and education (ETE) and what can be done to better support children in this area. We will use this for continued learning about how to support these young people into employment or education.

We Make Camden Kit grantee says...

“Opportunities for young people was the mission I was working towards. This project allowed me to build a great rapport with the young people I worked with in return it allowed me to understand their needs. Which meant in some instances I was able to match them with professionals who may be able to help them in their careers. I believe if we were able to invest more time in one-to-one work with young people, we would be able to help them more sufficiently.”

- Haroun, awarded the WMC kit to provide natural body / weight training for young people who cannot afford it – as a pathway to overcome bullying, conquer fears, push barriers, and achieve goals. (Source: Camden Giving)

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Endnotes

- 1 Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 14 February 2024, ONS website, statistical bulletin, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/january2024>
- 2 Camden Employment Profile 2021-2022, https://opendata.camden.gov.uk/Your-Council/Employment-Profile-2021-2022/2kay-tpb4/about_data
- 3 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 2007
- 4 Employment by industry, ONS, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/employmentbyindustryemp13>

Appendices

| Appendix 1: Glossary

N/EET	Not in Education, Employment or Training. This is a measure for young people who are not learning or working, and is used as a measure of young people at risk of becoming socially excluded, below the poverty line and lacking skills.
Economic inactivity and unemployment	<p>These terms are used to convey how engaged people are in the workforce. Economic inactivity (or inactivity) refers to people of working age (usually 16 to 64) who do not have a job and have not looked for work in the last four weeks, and/or are not available to start work in the next two weeks.</p> <p>Unemployment refers to people who are economically active but not in employment (including self-employed), or in other words, are looking for work in the past 4 weeks and are available to start in the next two weeks, or have found a job and will start in two weeks.</p>
ONS	The Office for National Statistics
Confidence intervals and Error margins	These are statistical terms that mean the range in which we think the actual figure is. For example, if you were guessing the weight of a bag of apples, you could say you guess it is 1kg but are quite confident that it is between 500 grams and 1.5 kgs. In the same sense, for some of the figures in this report, an estimation is made on the basis of a small number of findings (e.g. only 200 people responding to a survey), so while the estimation is of an exact figure, the confidence interval will show what the range of possible figures is, with a high (95%) level of confidence.

| Appendix 2: Data gaps

This report pulls together data from different sources, such as the Office of National Statistics, the Greater London Authority, and NHS England to tell a story about the outcomes experienced by people in Camden. It covers the six broad ambition areas of the We Make Camden as well as the four Missions, as well as lived experiences of residents in Camden. However, for some of the outcomes that are important parts of people’s experience of we did not find data available, and especially for showing the difference in experience of for different communities.

For example, understanding more about the experience of people in Camden of digital exclusion, social connections, sense of belonging and pride in place, feelings of safety and community are all areas where we wanted to find data to show how people are doing but struggled to find good quality data sources. In the next few years we will hope to find more data sources or to collect data that will help us understand more about what people in Camden experience, and especially for the measures in the Good Life Camden framework (see next annex for more details). The data that underpins the report is available at [Open Data Camden](#).

The 6 WMC ambitions

Appendix 3: Good Life Camden data

In 2022, we worked with Camden residents and staff to co-create the Good Life Camden framework - a tool to shape our work based on what matters most to people in Camden, so that we can support everyone to live better lives.

The Good Life Camden framework breaks down the concept of living a good life into nine themes which people told us are most important to them.

Of these, three are ‘**core themes**’, which people told us **cut across all other themes**.

Core themes:

Safety - Personal and collective safety, being free from harm and feeling safe outside and at home.

Equality - Feeling included and represented, and not being discriminated against.

Health - How our body and mind function contributes to living a good life, including physical and mental health.

Domain themes:

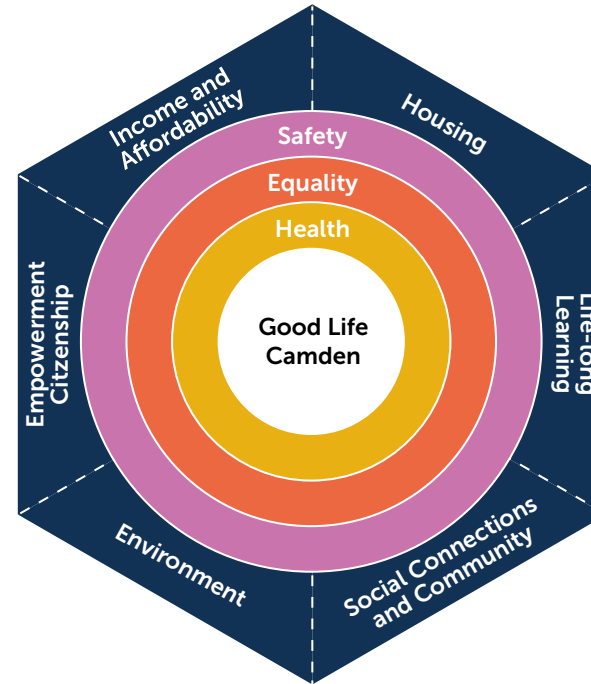
Housing - Having a home that provides good quality shelter, privacy, and safety.

Income and affordability - Having sufficient financial means to live a good life, including income and savings, and good quality jobs.

Life-long learning - Acquiring knowledge and skills, including formal and informal education for all ages, as well as digital literacy and access.

Social connections & community - Having good relationships with others, a sense of belonging and community, as well as not feeling lonely.

Environment - Having clean and green surroundings, including parks, roads, and nature. Being free from harmful pollution, such as in the air, water, and soil, and reducing our own impact on pollution.



Each theme is **underpinned by a set of signals and measures** which helps us understand how to measure progress over time.

Signals are the change we expect to see if we are improving on a theme, and **measures** are the way we measure change using data.

The State of the Borough report includes all the Good Life Camden measures for which data was available. See the table on the next few pages for the detailed list of the themes, signals, measures and a reference to the data in the report.

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Signal	Measure	Data in the report
Theme: Good Life		
People are happy and feel satisfied with their lives	Life satisfaction	In Camden, people report lower levels of life satisfaction, happiness and feeling worthwhile when compared to London and England, although there is some uncertainty in the estimates
	Happiness	
	Anxiety	Anxiety levels in Camden are higher than the London average
Theme: Health		
People live long and healthy lives	Healthy Life Expectancy and Life Expectancy	Life expectancy in Camden is relatively high compared to England, but so is the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, suggesting that socioeconomic factors are also affecting health outcomes
	Preventable mortality	In 2022, preventable mortality rates were 156 deaths per 100,000 in Camden
People have good mental health	Common mental health disorder prevalence	Among adults, around 10% of the population in Camden has been diagnosed with depression, lower than the England average but on the rise across the UK
	Mental health in young people and children	Poor mental health of children and young people has been an increasing concern in recent years, both in Camden and nationally
People have good mental health	Share of adults and children who are overweight or obese	Half of all adults in Camden are overweight or obese, lower than London and England but on the rise
		Almost one in five Camden children in reception are considered overweight or obese, but by year 6 it's more than one in three
	Share of adults who are physically active	Healthier behaviours, such as eating the recommended five-a-day and being physically active, are relatively common in Camden
	People with long term health conditions who are employed	Among people with long-term health conditions in Camden, an estimated 59% are employed
Theme: Equality		
Health outcomes are good for everyone	Gaps in Life expectancy/healthy life expectancy	Life expectancy in Camden is relatively high compared to England, but so is the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, suggesting that socioeconomic factors are also affecting health outcomes

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Signal	Measure	Data in the report
Everyone has access to the services they need	Digital exclusion	No data for Camden Across London, around 14% of people do not have foundational digital skills
	Experience of access to services	No data for Camden
All people can live a good life in Camden	Life satisfaction by protected characteristics	No data for Camden
Inequalities in earnings are small	Earnings gap by gender/ethnicity	The pay gap between men and women in Camden is £14,394, a higher gap than London and England
Public spaces, buildings and transport are safe, inclusive and accessible	Number and share of public building that are accessible	No data
	Transport options available that are accessible	No data for Camden
Theme: Safety		
Everyone in Camden feels safe	Crime rates on public transport within the borough	No data for Camden. Crime on public transport per passenger in London is highest on the London Underground and lowest on TfL Rail and the Elizabeth line
	Road traffic accidents	Since 2019, there have been 14 deaths on roads in Camden
	Perception of safety	No data for Camden
People are safe online	Rates of people who experience online crime or bullying	No data
People are safe in their homes	Number of incidents of violence / disciplinary in school	No data
	Inclusivity in schools	No data
Schools are safe, inclusive and accessible	Number of people who walk or cycle	People in Camden walk or cycle more than other Londoners
	Air pollution	Air pollution has been in decline in recent years in Camden, as measured by concentration levels of NO2 and PM2.5, but is still higher than the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines

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Signal	Measure	Data in the report
Camden becomes net zero	CO2 emissions	Carbon emissions in Camden have declined since 2005, but 2021 saw a slight increase in emissions and there is still some distance from achieving Net Zero in the borough
Camden’s green spaces and parks serve the needs of its diverse communities	Level of satisfaction with green and open spaces	No data
	Access to green spaces	Proxy - 39% of households in Camden have no access to private green space
Theme: Education and Lifelong Learning		
Young people have good opportunities when they leave school	Young people not in education, employment and training	In 2023, 95.8% of 16–17-year-olds in Camden were in Education, Employment or Training (EET)
	School leavers going on to NVQ 4+	In 2021/22, 93% of Key Stage 4 Camden pupils progressed to sustained education destinations
People have opportunities to gain skills and go back into employment at any age	Number of jobs in Camden	There are 432,000 jobs in Camden, 2.82 for every resident of working age, and the job growth rate has been higher than London and England
	Unemployment	The employment rate was 74.8% of work-age residents in June 2023, and 4.3% of people were unemployed
Access to online and offline learning opportunities is for all ages, including those digitally excluded	Number of people in adult learning opportunities	No data Proxy - Nearly three in five adults have a higher education qualification (level 4 or above)
Theme: Housing		
Housing supply meets demand	Number of households waiting for social housing	7,635 households are on the waiting list for social housing, and 663 households in temporary accommodation
	Households in temporary accommodation	

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Signal	Measure	Data in the report
Homes are affordable	Rent prices as share of median income	Camden private renters are paying 65% of the Camden median pay
	House prices as a share of median income	House prices in Camden are amongst the highest in the UK
	Rough sleeping	In 2022/23, 719 people were found to be rough sleeping, and of them 443 were moved into accommodation
Quality of housing is high	Overcrowding	Nearly one in ten households in Camden are overcrowded
	Share of housing that has been found as non-decent	13.5% of the Local Authority housing stock and 20.2% of the Private Rented Sector were found to be non-decent in 2022/23
	Share of housing with damp and mould problems	Proxy - In 2023, there were 6,000 reports of damp and mould from Council tenants
People can afford to stay in Camden and build their life	Average length of residency in Camden	Households moving in or out of Camden (churn) is higher than in England
Theme: Income and Affordability		
Young people can afford a good life in Camden	Income by age	No data for Camden (age breakdown)
A good life is affordable in Camden	Disposable income per household after housing costs in Camden	The rising cost-of-living has had a greater impact on low-income families, and in Camden one in four households has an annual disposable income below £30k, after housing costs
	Childcare costs as a share of income	No data
People in Camden get paid fairly	Working poverty	Proxy - The rising cost-of-living has had a greater impact on low-income families, and in Camden one in four households has an annual disposable income below £30k, after housing costs
	Share of earners below the London Living Wage	

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Signal	Measure	Data in the report
Theme: Social Connections and Community		
There are things to do and places to go to meet people and strengthen relationships	Number and diversity of amenities in the borough for social connections	No data
People feel part of their neighbourhood, trust their neighbours and can ask them for help	Trust in neighbours	No data
	Sense of belonging	London proxy - Londoners have a lower sense of belonging than the England average, and although most think their local area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together, this has gone down since last year
People interact with people from different communities and are tolerant and inclusive	Agree that local area is place where people from different backgrounds get on well together	No data London proxy - Londoners have a lower sense of belonging than the England average, and although most think their local area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together, this has gone down since last year
	Hate crime rates	In 2023, there has been an increase in hate crime, and in particular from October 2023 a 400% rise in Antisemitism in October and 270% rise in Islamophobia in November compared to the annual average
	Sense of belonging by protected characteristics	No data
Theme: Empowered Citizenship		
People representing the borough's diverse population are engaged in local decision making	Share of residents who vote in the local elections (by age, ethnicity, gender & other protected characteristics)	Voter turnout is similar in Camden to London and England averages, but lower than some other London boroughs No data for demographic breakdown
	Number and proportion of participants taking part in consultation, by different demographics	No data

Signal	Measure	Data in the report
People feel they can be part of making things better	Share of people who feel that they have a say in decision making locally	No data
	Perception that people in this neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood	No data
People are active, creating change for their community, representing the diversity of the borough	Formal or informal or employer volunteering in the last 12 months	No data
	Diversity of borough leaders	By 2030, those holding positions of power in Camden are as diverse as our community – and the next generation is ready to follow

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