



# Hackney Impact

Skills, Economy & Growth Scrutiny Commission  
19<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Hackney Town Hall

# Objectives

Understand why Hackney Impact was set up.

Evaluate alignment with the Economic Development Plan.

Develop the vision for business support in Hackney.

# Consortium Partners



**Green Business  
Action London**





## Why do we need Hackney Impact?

To drive economic growth and community.

To support the Economic Development Plan.

To build a more resilient ecosystem for SMEs and social enterprises.

## What is required of Hackney Impact?



- Multi-faceted
- Place-based
- Relational
- Designed for inclusion
- Leverages peer connections
- Policy-led
- Iterative
- Focused on real world needs
- Spends money in Hackney
- Extended timeframes

# Residents can actively participate in the economy and society.

More than 7.5% of participants have become involved in delivery of Hackney Impact.

*"Firstly, I feel heard and supported...*

*Secondly, I am being introduced to many people from my local community...*

*Lastly, I receive tangible help when I ask for it...*

*I know I can count on practical support every step of the way."*

(Agathe Cury, Madame Makery)

	V1.0 (Oct 23-Mar25)	V2.0 (Oct 25-Current)	Combined
Applicants	506	103	609
Activities	1241	72	1313
Participant Hours	3849	596	4445
Jobs Created/Safeguarded	121.7	4	125.7
New Enterprises	20	4	24

# Hackney's economy is climate resilient and sustainable.

72 Free Energy Audits

£50k Green Grants distributed

£50k Green Grants being distributed.

Circular economies our priority for v3.0.

*"Hackney Impact has enabled us to explore ways to make our organisation more sustainable, both environmentally and economically, giving us the focus to make changes that are better for our community. Thanks!"*

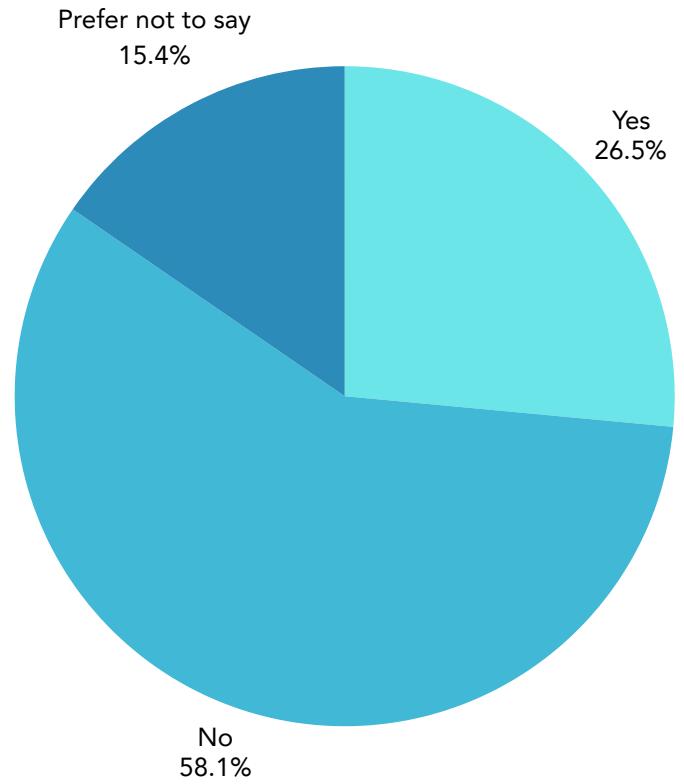
(Christopher Steele-Kendrik, Streetbox)



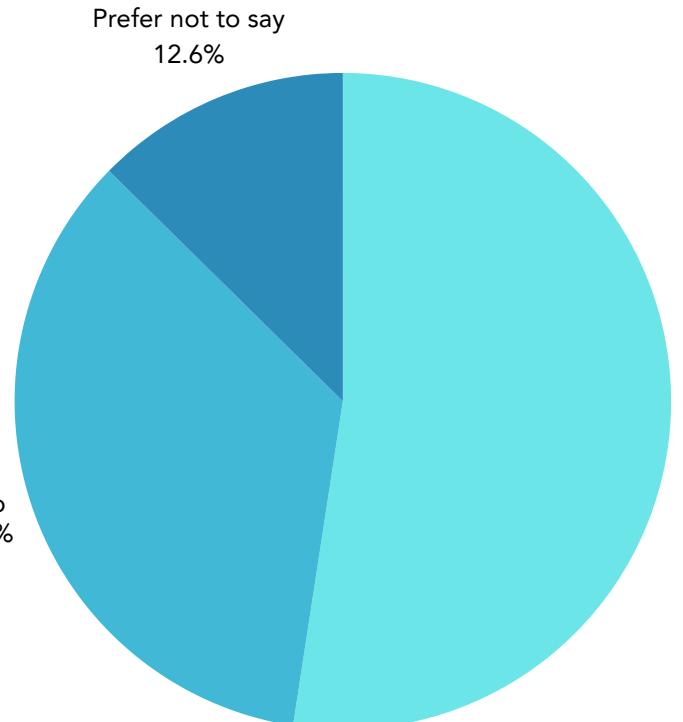
# Hackney's economy is fairer and more inclusive.

We have embedded ourselves in communities and listened to what people in the real world need from us.

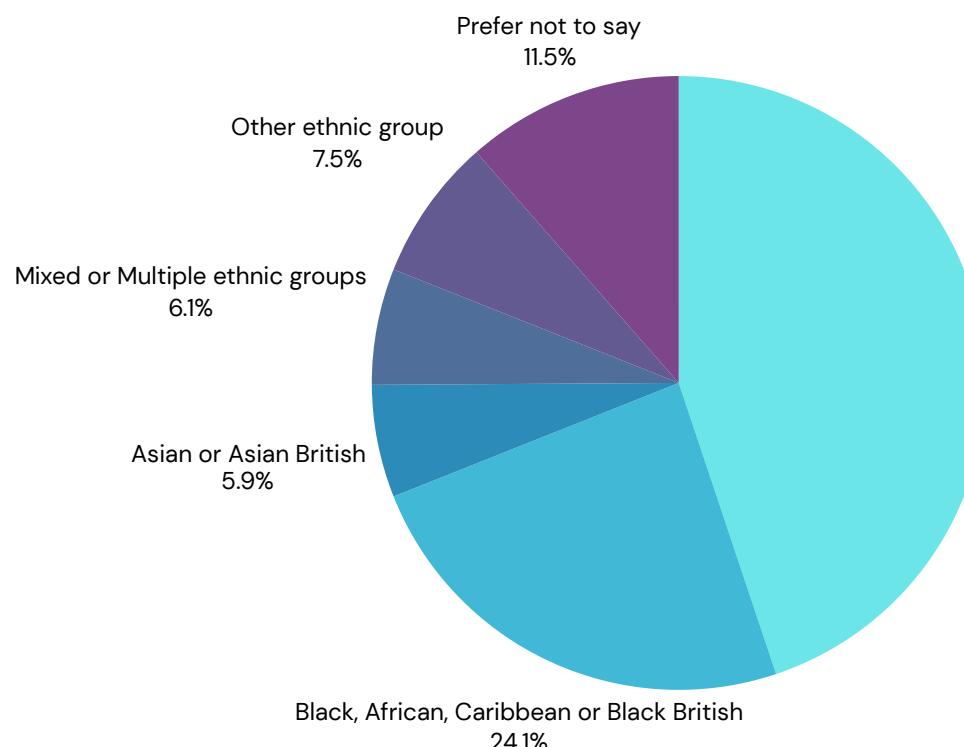
V1.0 Participants by long-term health conditions, disability and neurodiversity



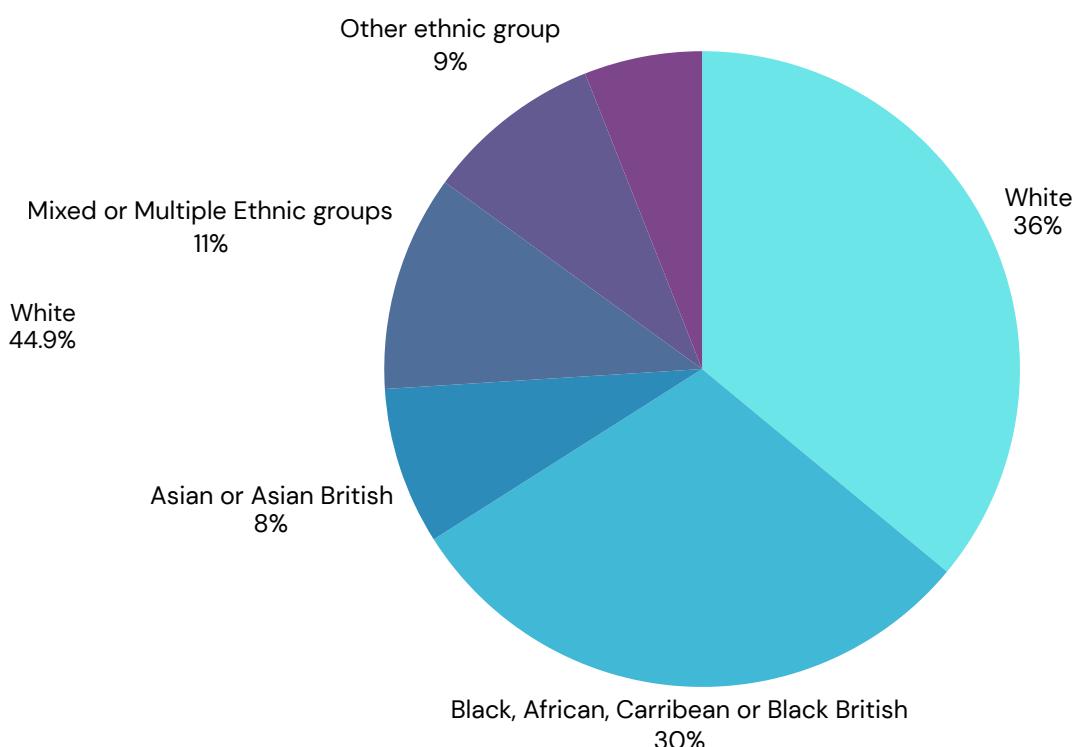
V2.0 Participant by long-term health conditions, disability and neurodiversity



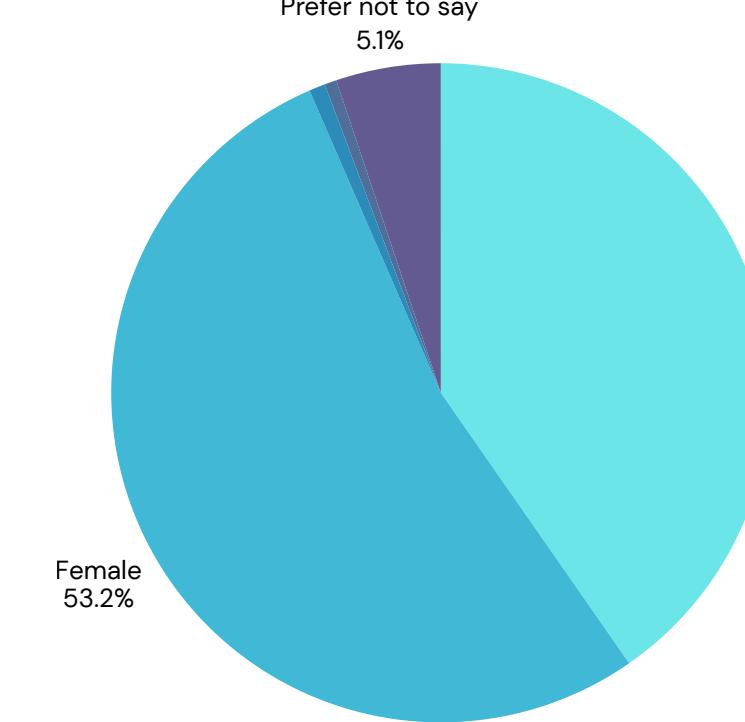
V1.0 Participants by Ethnicity



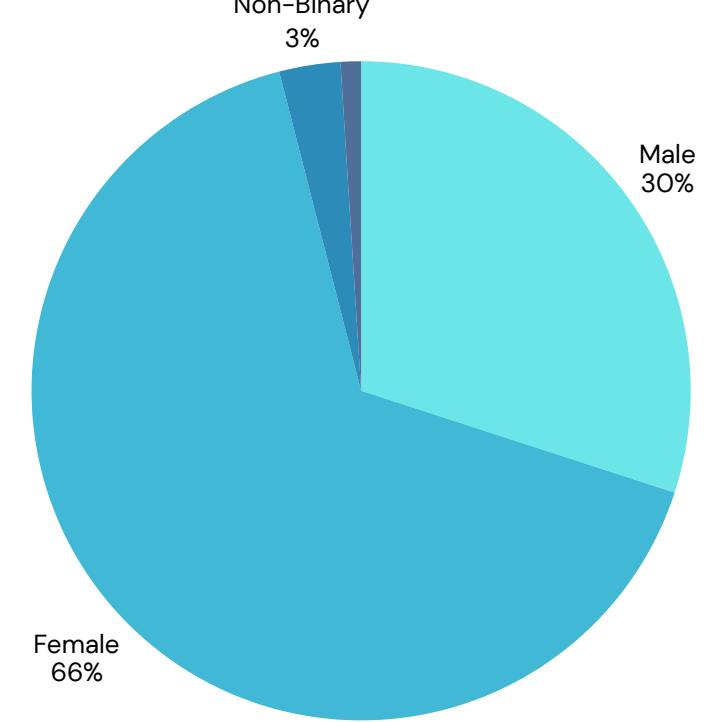
V2.0 Participants by Ethnicity



V1.0 Participants by Gender

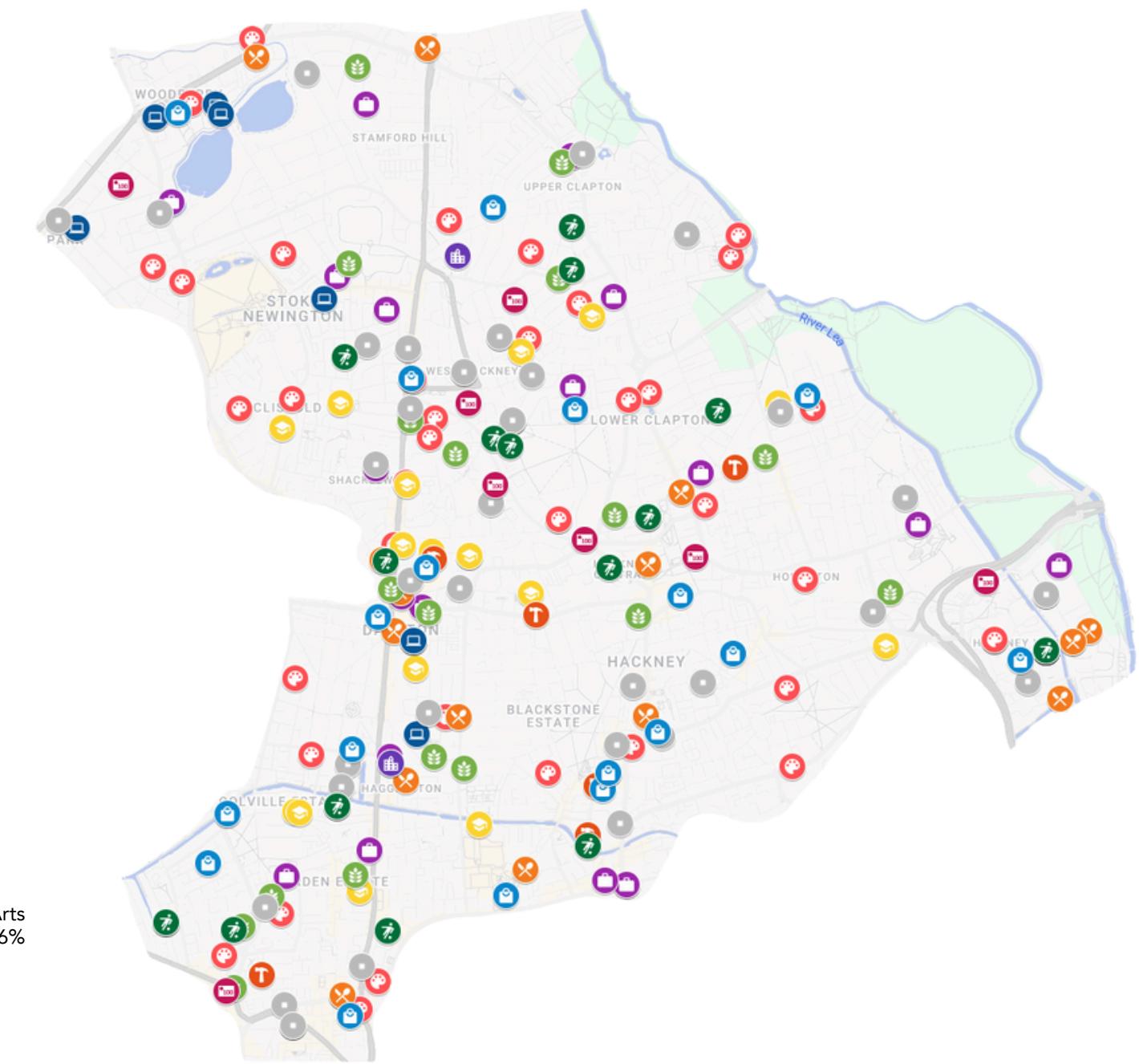
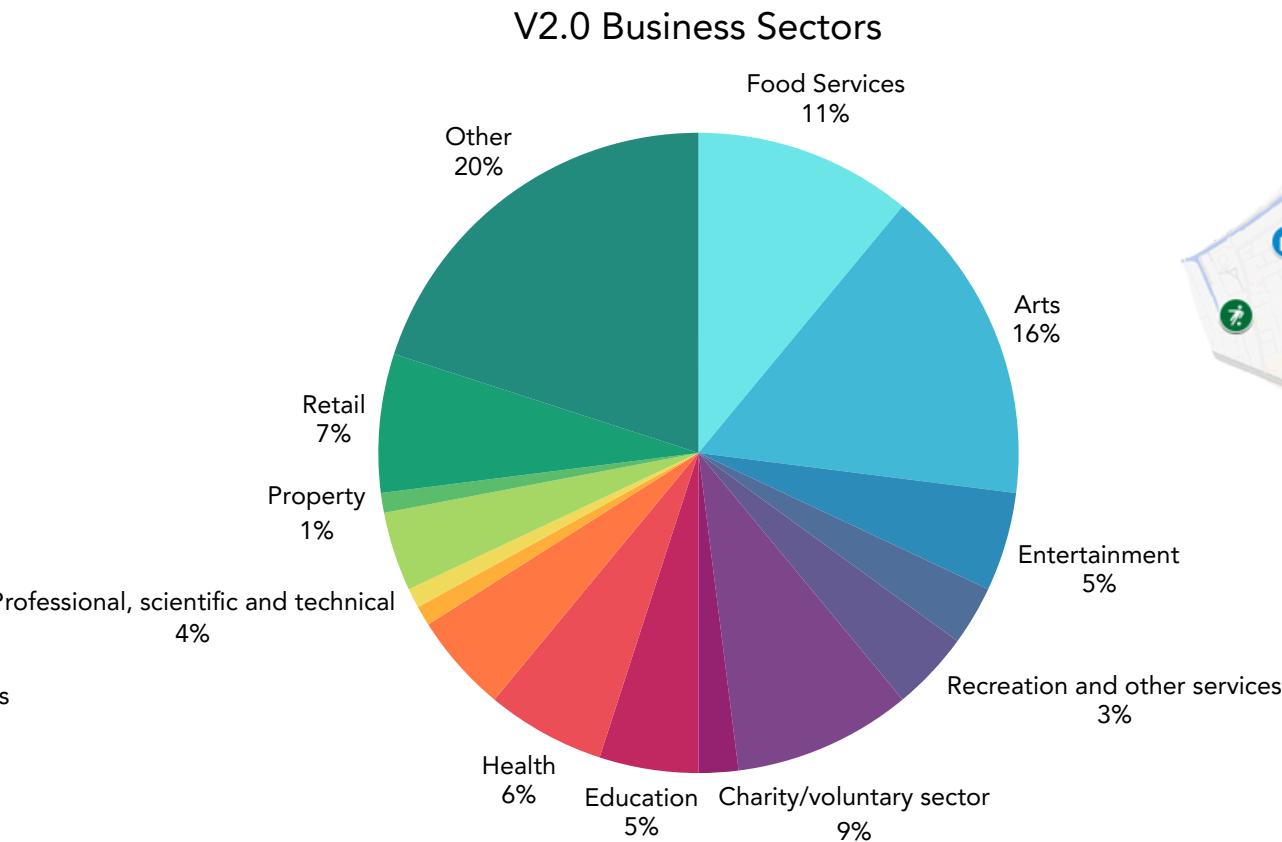
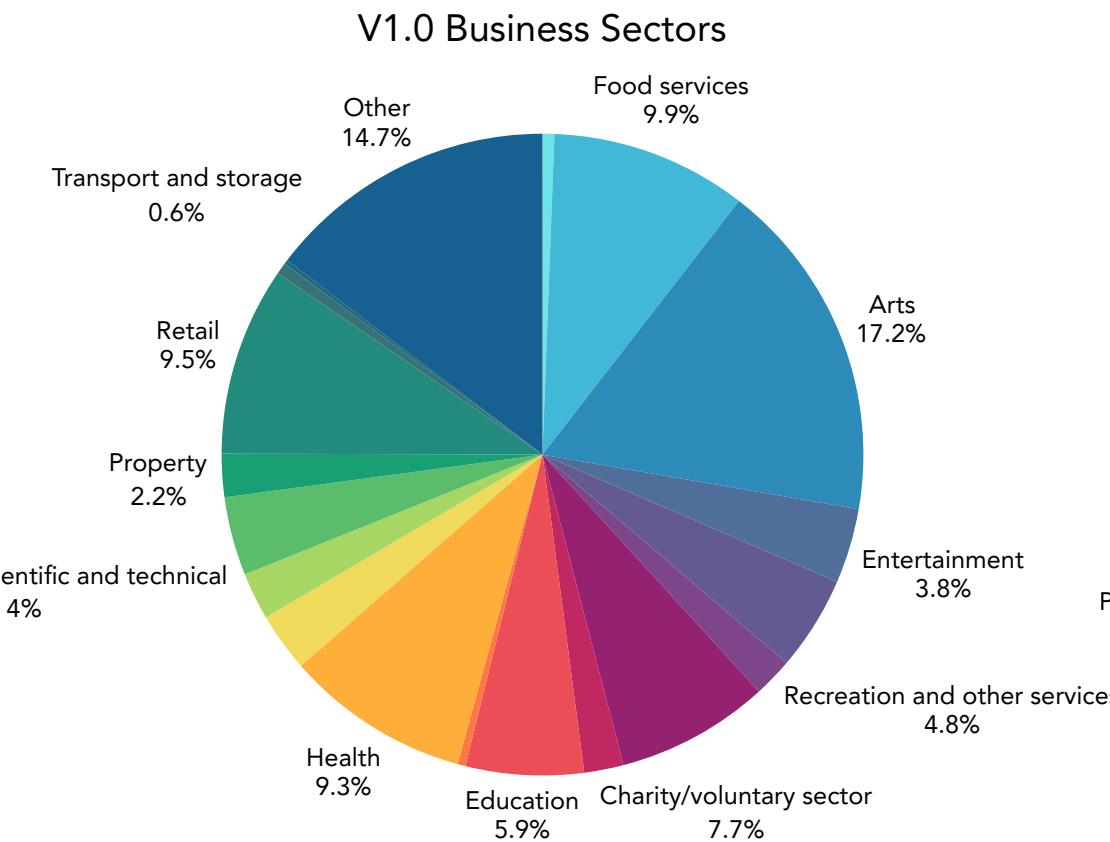


V2.0 Participants by Gender



# Regeneration and investment benefits more of Hackney's communities and places.

Spending within Hackney Impact wherever possible.  
Always spending within Hackney.



# Ecosystem

Hackney Impact is building a stronger ecosystem for SMEs and social enterprises.

These are SOME of the partners that we have worked with.



Leading Inclusive Futures  
through Technology



# Renaisi's role as learning partner

Co-designed with Hackney Impact partners

- 1.What are the needs of Hackney Businesses?
- 2.What are the benefits for participants of engaging with a consortium over and above its individual members?
- 3.Which businesses are involved in HIC and which businesses are not? Why?
- 4.What about the Hackney Impact Consortium model is working well and what is working less well, including any elements that were not planned?
- 5.How can Hackney Impact work better as a consortium?
- 6.What does it take to build a collaborative model?



# Themes and learning from v1.0

Hackney Impact is a brand trusted by external stakeholders:

- Participants consistently emphasise positive impact,
- The Consortium is a driver of innovation,
- A catalyst for greater community support,
- Hackney Impact strengthens relationships among businesses.

The depth and quality of the Consortium's person-centred interactions have been central to the programme's success.

Participants praised:

- Hackney Impact's ongoing, individualised support,
- the connections they had made through the programme,
- its inclusive methods of service delivery.



# Evolution of Hackney Impact

What changes have been made?

Project driven by Economic Development Plan.

Focus on procurement readiness:  
Mentorship/Events/Workshops/Connections.

Green Grants expanded to reflect broader scope.

Updated website (ongoing) to support:

- inclusion,
- navigation,
- peer connection,
- broader business support
- visibility.

Formalised policy to spend money within Hackney.

Updated Governance Package (ongoing)



# Shoreditch Town Hall

From a chance encounter to an enduring relationship.

Local Lounge Project

Grow (sales and marketing)

Social Founder forums

East End Trades Guild events

The power of Networking

- Renee Materials
- Queertopia Consortium

Affordable Workspace Fund

Green Grants & the Fun Palace



*“Hackney Impact has introduced me to so many people in the community and supported us with our plans. They’ve helped make the Town Hall part of Hackney’s creative business ecosystem.”*

(Julie Flavell, Shoreditch Town Hall)



# The future of Hackney Impact

The case for continued business support.  
(That impact increases over time)

The potential to work across council teams.  
(That value increases with better integration)

What we would ask from LBH.  
(Beyond funding)



# Thank You!

We look forward to your questions.



*"If you are starting a business, do this programme.  
I promise you will not walk away without having learned  
something or without meeting an amazing bunch of people."*  
(Shauna Johnson)

# Renaisi's Learning Partner Brief and Methodology

Renaisi acted as a learning partner to the Hackney Impact Consortium, using a developmental evaluation approach to collect data in real-time to inform on-going reflection, adaptation and improvement.

Our learning partner framework and approach was co-designed with Hackney Impact Consortium members, who selected the learning questions. These questions focused on the process of implementing Phase 1 of the programme.

Our findings draw on 33 interviews, case studies, and a focus group with Consortium members, Hackney businesses, the council and peer organisations during three fieldwork phases.

Over 18 months, we held seven workshops with Consortium members to reflect on emerging data, co-develop insights and discuss how to iterate and improve the programme in response to these insights as it progressed.

The learning partnership was structured around six co-produced learning questions prioritised through a member voting exercise.

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# Key themes and learning from Hackney Impact Consortium Phase 1

Hackney businesses reported tangible benefits from participating in Hackney Impact, including increased confidence, a clearer sense of direction, operational improvements, strategic planning and growth. Hackney Impact was a trusted brand, with external stakeholders and participants consistently emphasising its positive impact, viewing the Consortium as a driver of innovation, a catalyst for greater community support and a brand that strengthens relationships among businesses in Hackney.

The depth and quality of the Consortium's person-centred interactions have been central to the programme's success. In particular, participants praised Hackney Impact's ongoing, individualised support; the connections they had made through the programme; and its inclusive methods of service delivery.

The Consortium continually improved its programme by reflecting on the emerging needs of businesses, for example, by establishing peer-to-peer networking opportunities.

For successful collaborative delivery, there is a need for strong governance, rooted in trusting relationships. This requires a deliberate investment of time, particularly at the early stages of a project. This phase is crucial for defining a shared purpose, setting a joint strategy, and agreeing on ways of working to ensure all partners are aligned in their goals, and with accountability mechanisms in place.

There is a powerful connecting force of pride and deep connection to Hackney, motivating individuals and organisations to work together, invest in their communities, and commit to long-term change.

Engaging with the Consortium offers Hackney businesses access to a wide range of support that goes beyond what individual organisations can provide, and as such the Consortium is more than the sum of its parts. Triaging the needs of businesses ensures they are directed to relevant, tailored support that aligns with their challenges and goals. Participants benefit from the deep local knowledge, relationships and networks of the five Consortium members, including access and connections to trusted suppliers. The Consortium provides an important infrastructure function for Hackney businesses.

# Hackney Impact Consortium Phase 2 Learning Partnership

## Project Aims and Objectives

Support the consortium to reflect and learn about the implementation of Phase 2

Provide actionable insight to inform future delivery and partnership structure

## Dates

December 2025 – March 2026

## Learning questions

What has Hackney Impact Consortium achieved in Phase 2?

Has the Consortium delivered what you said you would, and how has it gone?

What do Consortium members want the next phase of Hackney Impact to be and what do Consortium members feel should be its legacy?

## Method

Consortium member survey

Consortium member interviews

Programme administrative data

2 x reflective workshops