



At Middlesex University

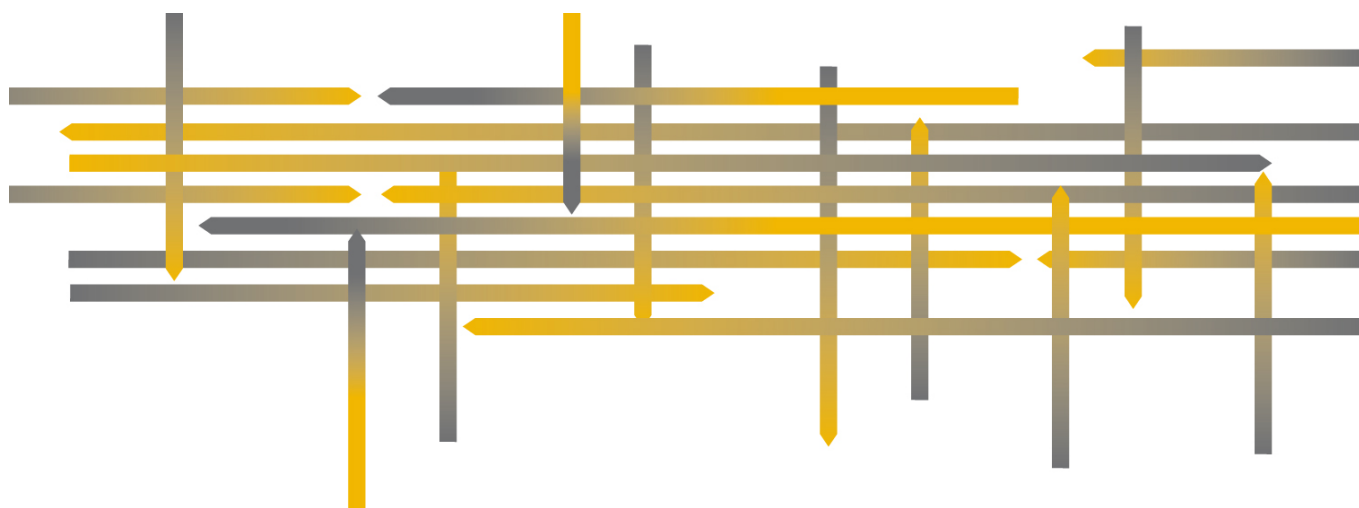


WELFARE NEEDS OF TURKISH AND KURDISH COMMUNITIES IN LONDON

A community based research project

FINAL REPORT – JULY 2013

Alessio D'Angelo, Ozlem Galip, Neil Kaye



WELFARE NEEDS OF TURKISH AND KURDISH COMMUNITIES IN LONDON

Alessio D'Angelo, Özlem Galip, Neil Kaye

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. The local community: a profile from official statistics	6
3. Survey Results: use of services and changing needs	23
4. Interviews: the impact of the economic crisis and welfare restructuring	35
- General issues faced by the community	35
- The effects of the economic crisis	36
- Changes and cuts in public services	37
- The impact of policy changes and welfare restructuring	38
- An unequal impact: older and disabled people, women and young people	40
- The role of community organisations	44
- The challenges for the local community sector	46
5. Conclusions	48
6. Recommendations	50
7. References	52

The Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), Middlesex University

The social policy research centre (SPRC) was established in 1990 to provide a focus for research in the social sciences at Middlesex University and supports high quality research of national and international standing. Members of staff are involved in a wide range of projects funded by research councils, the EU, government departments and the major charities. The Centre supports postgraduate research students, including students funded by research councils, and a number of well-established masters programmes. The Centre runs events, including conferences, seminars and short courses. Main areas of interest include: migration, refugees and citizenship; identity and equality; welfare restructuring; service provision; third sector organisations; urban policy, regeneration and communities; drug and alcohol policy; human security and human rights. For further information and to view reports from our recent projects visit: www.mdx.ac.uk/sprc

Day-Mer

Based in the London Borough of Hackney, Day-Mer was established in 1989 to work with and on behalf of Turkish and Kurdish people living and working in London, to help them solve their problems and promote their cultural, economic, social and democratic rights; to strengthen solidarity among themselves as well as local people; and to help their integration into the society. The organisation's work is centred on a view of integration that emphasises the creation of conditions for the migrant communities and the rest of the society to work and live together. Current Day-Mer services include a drop-in centre for the community, information, advice and awareness sessions, comprehensive education and youth services, health, education, human rights and pro-democracy campaigns, regular arts and culture activity and festivals, the work of its local groups, youth, arts & culture and women's commissions and its football federation. The organisation has a high level of engagement within the structures of the local authority as well as the local voluntary community sector by which the needs and issues of its target groups are communicated to the relevant strategic and policy structures. For further information: <http://daymer.org/>

1. INTRODUCTION

The current economic crisis and the ongoing welfare restructuring are having a disproportionate impact on Black and Minority Ethnic people throughout the UK. With a history of over 30 years in this country, Turkish and Kurdish communities face significant welfare issues which are both specific to them and shared with the local communities of which they are part. Deprivation and low income, significant housing and health issues, high rates of unemployment and lack of professional progression constitute some of the problems which these communities face in the London boroughs of Hackney, Haringey, and Enfield. Language barriers and lack of knowledge of life in the UK are additional factors in the persistence of these welfare issues.

As far-reaching government changes to benefits, housing, healthcare, advice provision and other services affect an already deeply unequal population, local community organisations need to work and advocate even more effectively for their clients and members. This requires the active involvement of local communities in the production, analysis and dissemination of evidence and in the identification of practical interventions and common strategies. At the same time, recent funding and policy trends – from the shift to service commissioning to the ‘social cohesion’ agenda – have raised new challenges for the sustainability of the local community sector and BME organisations in particular.

About the research project

This report presents key findings from a research project on the characteristics and needs of Turkish and Kurdish communities in London and the effects of the recent economic crisis and welfare restructuring. The study, conducted between 2012 and 2013, was commissioned by Day-Mer (Turkish and Kurdish Community Centre) to Middlesex University’s Social Policy Research Centre. The project’s budget is part of a Big Fund's 'Transition Fund' grant.

The project aims included:

- To map the characteristics and socio-economic conditions of the Turkish and Kurdish communities in London, focusing specifically on Turkish-speaking people living in North London.
- To discuss the impact of the recent economic crisis and the ongoing welfare restructuring, including changes in the benefits system, on the provision of statutory services and in the funding of community-based initiatives.

- To identify emerging advice and welfare needs and gaps in service provision.
- To inform local policy makers, service providers and the community sector on priorities and development needs.

The project was developed with a community-centred approach, ensuring the voice of members of the local community was heard and actively involving some of them in the research process. In particular, the following activities took place:

- **Review and analysis of existing data.** Including academic and grey literature, policy documents and official statistics.
- **Community based survey.** Six locally based, Turkish-speaking volunteers received training in 'community research'. The course was delivered at Middlesex University by members of the Social Policy Research Centre. The community researchers were then involved in conducting a survey amongst over 100 members of the local community, focusing in particular on users of public and community-based services and those in need of welfare support.
- **In-depth interviews with individuals.** These were conducted by experienced researchers with a smaller number of participants (15) to get more detailed accounts of personal experiences and perceptions. Most interviews took place in Turkish and were then translated into English.
- **Interviews with key informants.** The research team approached several representatives from local authorities, Turkish and Kurdish community organisations and other third sector organisations to collect additional data and insights on the issues explored by the research project.
- **An interim report** with some preliminary findings was presented at a **community event** (Day-Mer, February 2013) where the views and feedback of local organisations, community members and other stakeholders were gathered. This was followed by additional interviews and data collection, which informed the final report.

Research team and acknowledgments

The research project was coordinate by **Alessio D'Angelo** (Middlesex University), working closely with Day-Mer's coordinator **Taylan Sahbaz**. The research team included **Ozlem Galip** (interviews in Turkish) and **Neil Kaye** (statistical analysis). **Magdolna Lorinc** provided additional support with setting up the questionnaire and analysing survey data. Professor **Louise Ryan** delivered the research training together with Alessio D'Angelo. The community researchers involved in this project were: **Mustafa Cengiz, Asli Demirel, Anil Duman, Dilan Secgin, Sevgi Tas, Kahraman Yadirgi**.

The research team would like to thank all the people who generously gave their time to assist with this project, either responding to our questionnaire, taking part to the interviews or providing us with data, information and advice. Organisations involved as informants and interviewees included: **Alevi Centre, Day-Mer, Derman, Halkevi, Hackney Advice Forum, Hackney CVS, Imece, Enfield Racial Equality Council, Hackney Council, Enfield Council**.

For further information about the research project please contact:

- AlessioD'Angelo, Lecturer in Social Sciences, Middlesex University, SPRC,
Email: a.dangelo@mdx.ac.uk
- TaylanSahbaz, Centre Coordinator, Day-Mer,
Email: info@daymer.org

2. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY: A PROFILE FROM OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Until recently, research on the characteristics and needs of Turkish and Kurdish communities in the UK was relatively limited. Because of ethnic classifications and different priorities in the policy discourse, they were largely regarded as disadvantaged but ‘invisible’ groups (Enneli 2005). The body of evidence developed over the last few years indicates that this population hits high on most indicators of social exclusion: high unemployment rates, poor housing, limited English skills, and high levels of school underachievement (Greiff et al. 2011; Aydin 2001; D’Angelo 2008; GLA 2009; Holgate et al. 2010; D’Angelo et al. 2011).

This section uses the latest official statistics to present an overview of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of Turkish and Kurdish communities in London, particularly Turkish-born and Turkish-speaking people living in the North of the capital. Specific data on ‘Kurds’ are especially difficult to obtain since Kurdish identity goes across or beyond most of the ‘variables’ traditionally used by policy-makers, such as country of birth, citizenship and the traditional ethnic categories. However, data on language spoken and self-reported Ethnicity offer some useful indication on the size and characteristics of Kurdish communities¹. Tables and charts were produced especially by the research team and include original analysis of the Census 2011 datasets, released between December 2012 and June 2013.

Population born in Turkey

- The Census data show that between 2001 and 2011 the number of people born in Turkey and living in England and Wales grew from 52,893 to 91,115: a 72.3% increase against an overall population change of +7.8% (see Table 2.1)
- The large majority (65%) of this community lives in London, where in 2011 there were 59,596 Turkish-born residents: the 15th largest migrant community in the capital. (Table 2.2)
Within London, the 3 boroughs with the largest Turkish-born communities are Hackney, Haringey and Enfield, which together host 55% of the Turkish-born population of the city.

¹ An investigation of Kurds from Iraq, Syria and Iran – mainly settled in the West of London – is beyond the scope of this study.

(Table 2.4). Whilst Hackney and Haringey represent the historic areas of settlement of these communities, over the last few years increasing numbers of people have moved to Enfield, which now hosts the largest proportion of Turkish-born people.

- In terms of the Turkish-born community, the Census also reveals when individuals arrived in the UK, with by far the major period of immigration from Turkey being in the 1990s. Flows of immigration are still significant (more than 2,000 Turkish-born people arrived in 2010-11) although on the whole they have been declining in recent years (Table 2.5).
- Most members of this population acquired British citizenship during the course of their life. In 2011 the number of London residents with Turkish citizenship was only about 15,000 (Table 2.6) and the number of citizenship acquisitions went from over 5,500 in 2006 to less than 4,800 in 2012 (Table 2.7).
- As for those with foreign citizenship, the majority are in the UK with a family, study or work visa, whilst the number of asylum seekers has been steadily decreasing over the last few years (Table 2.8), with just 189 applications from Turkish citizens in 2012 and 268 from Iraqi citizens (in both cases a large proportion would be Kurds).

Turkish and Kurdish speakers and second generations

- Detailed statistics released from the 2011 UK Census reveal Turkish to be the 7th largest minority language spoken in London, with over 71,000 people reporting to speak it as their first language. Kurdish speakers also number more than 15,000 in the capital (Table 2.9a)
- Those whose main language is Turkish are mostly concentrated in the boroughs of Enfield, Haringey and Hackney, whilst Kurdish speakers are more geographically dispersed (although the largest populations are also to be found in these three boroughs) (Table 2.9b)
- These data refer to all Turkish-speaking groups, whether they were born in Turkey, the UK or in a third country. Estimates for second- and third-generation groups are harder to attain accurately. However, according to the School Census for England, in January 2010 there were

18,570 pupils in primary and secondary schools whose main language was Turkish, and almost 4,500 pupils who spoke Kurdish as their first language (Table 2.10)

- The more geographically detailed data from 2008 indicated 16,460 Turkish-speaking student and 3,740 Kurdish speaking students, the majority of which were in London and in particular in the boroughs of Enfield, Hackney and Haringey (Table 2.11).

Self-declared ethnicity: Turkish and Kurdish

- 'Turkish' and 'Kurdish' are not among the standard ethnic categories used in most official statistics, including the Census. However, the Census questionnaire allowed respondents to tick a box to indicate 'other' ethnic groups and to write down their self-ascribed ethnic identity.
- For the first time the Census 2011 gives us a comprehensive and timely breakdown of these data. By definition, this is only an indication of those people who decided to write down, for example, 'Turkish' or 'Kurdish', however many members of these communities (particularly the latter) might have decided not to do so for a number of personal reasons including concerns about privacy, suspicion about the 'authorities', multiple-identities or even political affiliations.
- Nonetheless, the Census data on 'stated ethnicity' provides an interesting indication of those people willing to actively report themselves as member of a specific community. In particular, as shown on Table 2.13a, 71,301 people in London stated their ethnic group as Turkish, whilst a further 20,988 people described their ethnicity as Kurdish.
- According to these data, Turkish was the third most populous group in each of the boroughs of Enfield, Haringey and Hackney with Kurdish communities also significant in number as counting amongst the top 20 minority groups. (Table 2.13b)
- Within Enfield, Haringey and Hackney, the Turkish population (i.e. those stating their own ethnicity as 'Turkish') is generally concentrated in a few wards, specifically in the east of the boroughs of Enfield and Haringey and the west of Hackney. In particular, the ward with the highest concentration of Turkish residents is Edmonton Green in Enfield, whilst 9 of the top 15 wards have a density of Turkish population greater than 7.5% (Table 2.14)

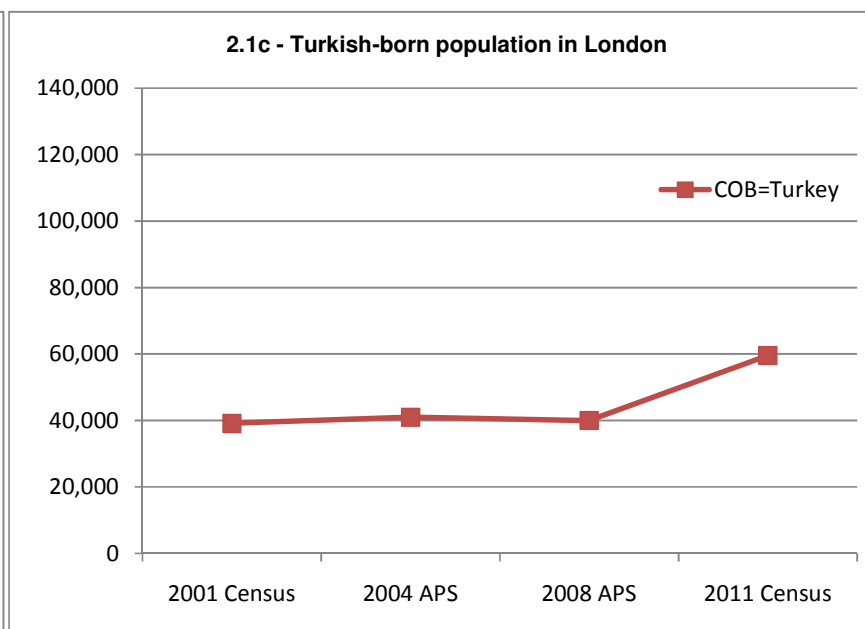
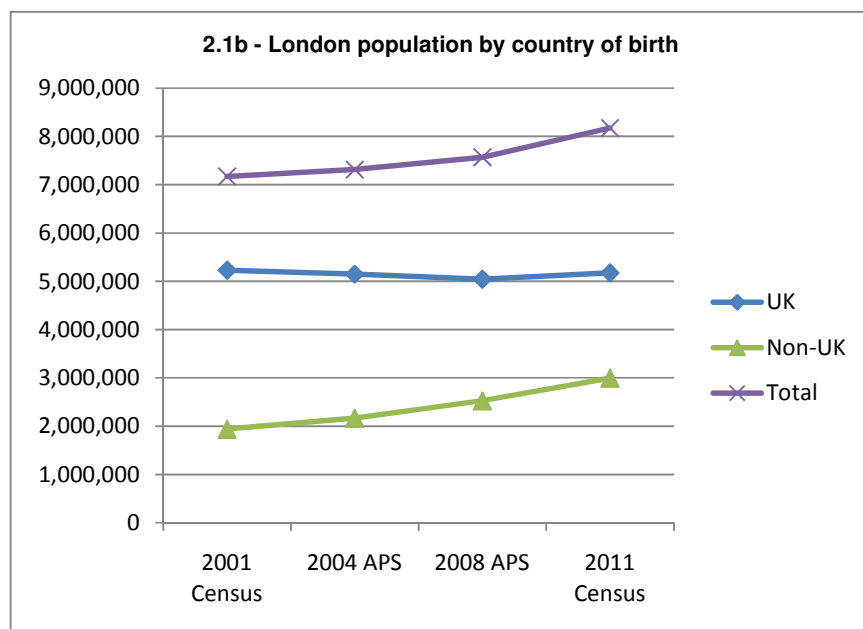
Socio-economic conditions

- Previous research has indicated high levels of deprivation within the Turkish and Kurdish community. In particular, a GLA (Greater London Authority) report based on Census 2001 data (GLA 2009) revealed that at the time Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot people were more likely to be economically disadvantaged than the average London population. In particular, Turkish and Kurdish adults were twice more likely to be unemployed than the general population. They were also significantly more likely to suffer from limiting long-term illness and to live in properties rented from the council or a housing association.
- At the time of completing this report (July 2013), such detailed socio-economic data was not yet available for the latest Census 2011². However, it is possible to look at the socio-economic profile of the wards which in 2011 had the highest concentration of Turkish-born population. In these areas, unemployment rates, social housing levels and proportion of those never having worked or long-term unemployed are much higher than the London average – in some wards (notably Edmonton Green and Northumberland Park) these levels are twice as high as the city-wide average (Table 2.15)
- Additionally, a 2007 study from IPPR (Institute for Public Policy Research) on immigrants in the UK (Sriskandarajah et al. 2007) estimated that for Turkish-born people the unemployment rate was about 7% (against 4% for the whole population) and the proportion of Income Support claimants 21% (more than 5 times the national average of 4%). For those Turkish-born who were employed, the IPPR estimated an average annual income of £ 14,750, against a national average of £21,250. (Table 2.16).
- More recent official statistics from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) show that Turkish nationals were amongst the 10 largest groups of foreign benefit claimants in Britain. In particular in 2011 there were 1,960 Turkish nationals claiming jobseekers allowance and 5,950 claiming ESA/Incapacity benefits (Table 2.17).

² These will be released in the coming months by the Office for National Statistics (ONS): www.ons.gov.uk/census

2.1a - London residents by country of birth

	2001 Census			2004 APS			2008 APS			2011 Census		
Country of birth	London	England & Wales	% London	London	UK	% London	London	UK	% London	London	England & Wales	% London
UK	5,231,701	47,406,411	11	5,148,000	53807000	10	5,044,000	53883000	9	5,175,677	48,570,902	11
Turkey	39,128	52,893	74	41,000	64,000	64	40,000	71,000	56	59,596	91,115	65
All non-UK	1,940,390	4,635,505	42	2,167,000	5233000	41	2,526,000	6683000	38	2,998,238	7,504,912	40
Total	7,172,091	52,041,916	14	7,315,000	59,040,000	12	7,570,000	60,566,000	12	8,173,915	56,075,814	15



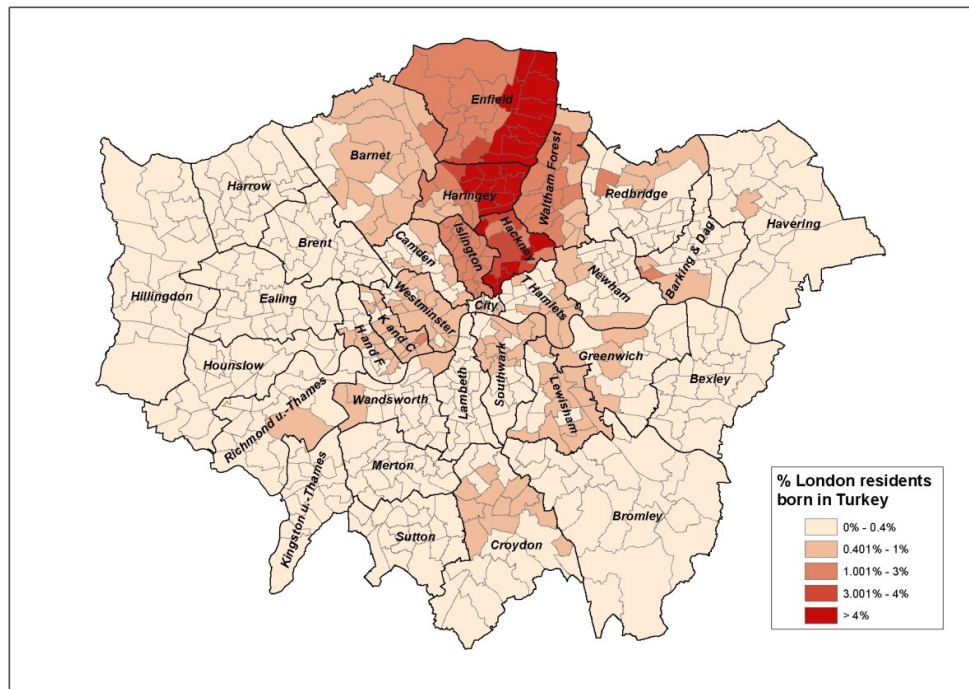
Source: UK Census 2001 and 2011; Annual Population Survey (APS) estimates 2004 and 2008

2.2 - London residents by country of birth outside of the UK, 2011

#	Country of birth	London Population	UK Population	% total UK population
1	India	262,247	694,148	37.8%
2	Poland	158,300	579,121	27.3%
3	Ireland	129,807	407,357	31.9%
4	Nigeria	114,718	191,183	60.0%
5	Pakistan	112,457	482,137	23.3%
6	Bangladesh	109,948	211,500	52.0%
7	Jamaica	87,467	160,095	54.6%
8	Sri Lanka	84,542	127,242	66.4%
9	France	66,654	129,804	51.3%
10	Somalia	65,333	101,370	64.5%
11	Kenya	64,212	137,492	46.7%
12	US	63,920	177,185	36.1%
13	Ghana	62,896	93,846	67.0%
14	Italy	62,050	134,619	46.1%
15	Turkey	59,596	91,115	65.4%
16	South Africa	57,765	191,023	30.2%
17	Germany	55,476	273,564	20.3%
18	Australia	53,959	116,287	46.4%
19	Romania	44,848	79,687	56.3%
20	Philippines	44,199	122,625	36.0%

Source: UK Census 2011

2.3 - London boroughs (2011) - % of residents born in Turkey



Source: UK Census 2011

2.4 - London residents born in Turkey

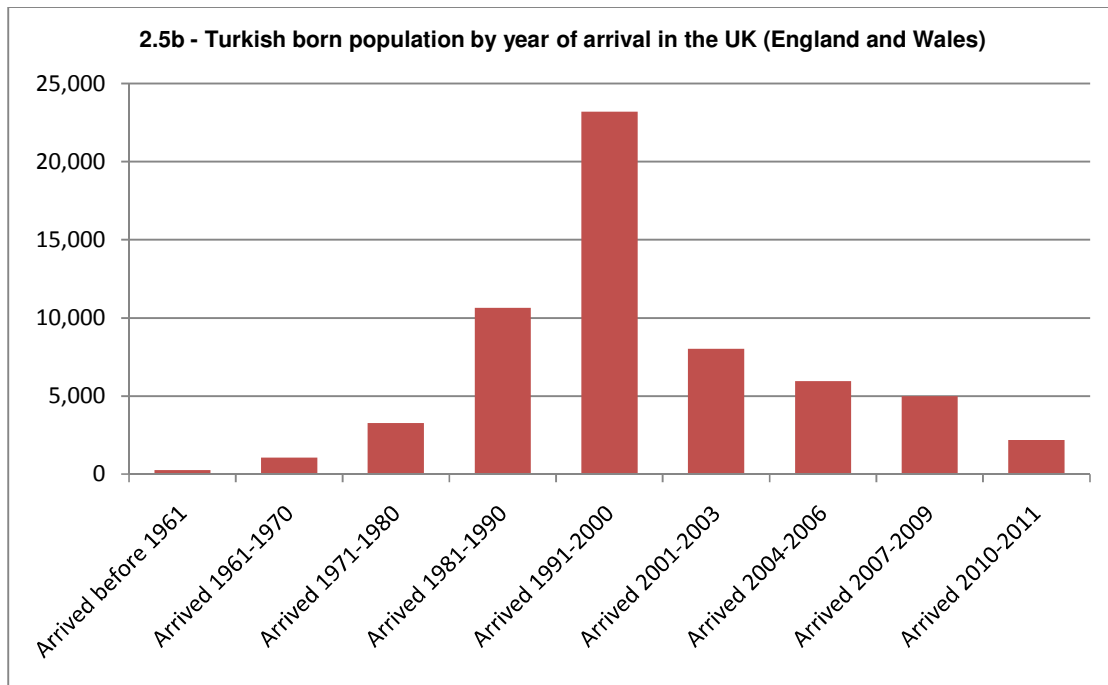
	# Born in Turkey	% of all residents	% of London Turkish-born	% of England Turkish-born
Enfield	13,968	4.5%	23.4%	15.6%
Haringey	10,096	4.0%	16.9%	11.3%
Hackney	8,982	3.6%	15.1%	10.0%
Islington	3,777	1.8%	6.3%	4.2%
Waltham Forest	3,279	1.3%	5.5%	3.7%
Kensington and Chelsea	869	0.5%	1.5%	1.0%
Barnet	1,952	0.5%	3.3%	2.2%
Westminster	1,056	0.5%	1.8%	1.2%
Lewisham	1,294	0.5%	2.2%	1.4%
Tower Hamlets	1,005	0.4%	1.7%	1.1%
Southwark	1,123	0.4%	1.9%	1.3%
Croydon	1,382	0.4%	2.3%	1.5%
Greenwich	924	0.4%	1.6%	1.0%
Camden	799	0.4%	1.3%	0.9%
Hammers. and Fulham	643	0.4%	1.1%	0.7%
Redbridge	889	0.3%	1.5%	1.0%
Barking and Dagenham	573	0.3%	1.0%	0.6%
Wandsworth	795	0.3%	1.3%	0.9%
City of London	19	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Merton	469	0.2%	0.8%	0.5%
Newham	664	0.2%	1.1%	0.7%
Kingston upon Thames	338	0.2%	0.6%	0.4%
Sutton	401	0.2%	0.7%	0.4%
Richmond upon Thames	387	0.2%	0.6%	0.4%
Lambeth	595	0.2%	1.0%	0.7%
Bromley	570	0.2%	1.0%	0.6%
Bexley	402	0.2%	0.7%	0.4%
Hounslow	413	0.2%	0.7%	0.5%
Harrow	385	0.2%	0.6%	0.4%
Hillingdon	403	0.1%	0.7%	0.5%
Havering	323	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%
Ealing	449	0.1%	0.8%	0.5%
Brent	372	0.1%	0.6%	0.4%
London	59,596	0.7%	100.0%	66.6%
England	89,484	0.2%	-	100.0%

Source: UK Census 2011

2.5a – Year of arrival (England and Wales) by country of birth: Turkey

<i>Turkey</i>		
Year of Arrival	#	%
Arrived before 1961	248	0.4%
Arrived 1961-1970	1,066	1.8%
Arrived 1971-1980	3,263	5.5%
Arrived 1981-1990	10,639	17.9%
Arrived 1991-2000	23,207	38.9%
Arrived 2001-2003	8,023	13.5%
Arrived 2004-2006	5,962	10.0%
Arrived 2007-2009	4,998	8.4%
Arrived 2010-2011	2,190	3.7%

Source: UK Census, 2011



Source: UK Census, 2011

2.6 - London population by country of birth and nationality (UK and Turkey)

		Year			
		2004	2008	2010	2011*
Country of birth	Turkey	41,000	40,000	48,000	59,596
	UK	5,148,000	5,044,000	5,136,000	5,175,677
Nationality	Turkey	31,000	26,000	28,000	15,408
	UK	6,020,000	5,987,000	6,158,000	5,820,992
Total pop.		7,315,000	7,570,000	7,820,000	8,173,941

Source: Annual Population Survey, 2004, 2008, 2010 / *UK Census, 2011

2.7 - Citizenship grants by previous country of nationality

	2006	2008	2010	2011	2012
Turkey	5,583	4,641	4,630	3,627	4,726
North Cyprus	391	84	39	34	17
Iraq	4,120	8,894	4,385	5,742	3,822
All nationalities	154,018	129,377	195,046	177,785	194,209

Source: Home Office

2.8 - Asylum application by country of nationality

	2006	2008	2010	2011	2012
Turkey	426	193	155	170	189
Iraq	947	1,852	378	277	268
All nationalities	23,608	25,932	17,916	19,865	21,785

Source: Home Office

2.9a – Main language spoken in London

#	Language	Speakers as main language	% all EAL population
1	Polish	147,816	8.6%
2	Bengali	114,267	6.6%
3	Gujarati	101,676	5.9%
4	French	84,191	4.9%
5	Urdu	78,667	4.6%
6	Portuguese	71,525	4.1%
7	Turkish	71,242	4.1%
8	Spanish	71,192	4.1%
9	Arabic	70,602	4.1%
10	Tamil	70,565	4.1%
11	Panjabi	68,525	4.0%
12	Somali	54,852	3.2%
27	Kurdish	15,230	0.9%

Source: UK Census, 2011

2.9b – Main language spoken in London, Turkish and Kurdish

	Turkish		Kurdish	
	#	%	#	%
England and Wales	99,423	100.0%	48,239	100.0%
London	71,242	71.7%	15,230	31.6%
Enfield	18,378	18.5%	1,990	4.1%
Haringey	11,994	12.1%	1,660	3.4%
Hackney	10,551	10.6%	946	2.0%

Source: UK Census, 2011

2.10 - Primary and Secondary Schools in England (2010)

Main languages reported for those pupils whose first language is other than English.

#	No of pupils	% of all pupils	% of EAL pupils
- English	5,563,830	85.9	
- Other than English	896,230	13.8	
1 Urdu	96,610	1.5	10.8
2 Panjabi	86,030	1.3	9.6
3 Bengali	60,980	0.9	6.8
4 Polish	40,700	0.6	4.5
5 Gujarati	40,550	0.6	4.5
6 Somali	37,450	0.6	4.2
7 Arabic	28,040	0.4	3.1
8 Tamil	20,080	0.3	2.2
9 French	19,140	0.3	2.1
10 Portuguese	19,100	0.3	2.1
11 Turkish	18,570	0.3	2.1
12 Bengali (Sylheti)	17,450	0.3	1.9
13 Panjabi (Mirpuri)	14,790	0.3	1.7
14 Yoruba	14,660	0.3	1.6
15 Spanish	11,890	0.2	1.3
32 Kurdish	4,490	0.1	0.1
Others ¹	370,190	0.1	41.3
Unclassified	18,990	0.3	
All Pupils	6,479,050	100	

Source: School Census 2010 (as at January 2010)

Notes: 1 Others including those whose specific language is not provided

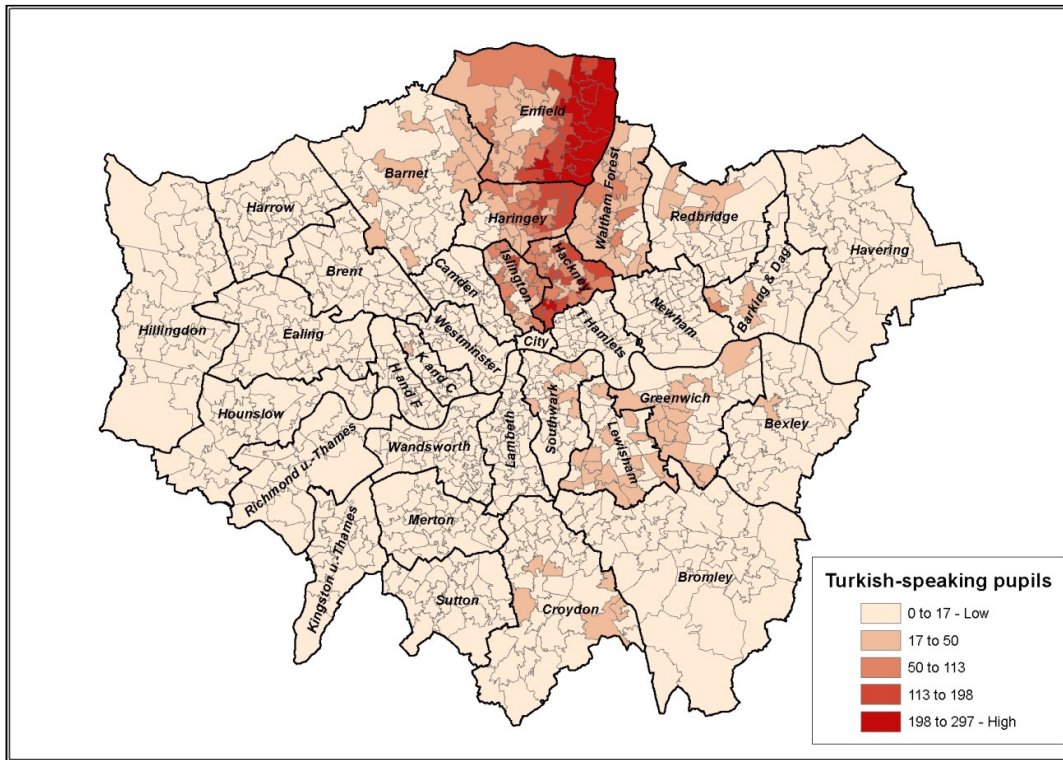
2.11 – Primary and Secondary Schools in England, by local authority area (2008)

Main languages reported for those pupils whose first language is other than English

	Enfield		Haringey		Hackney		London		England	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Other than English	2,450	5.2	3,960	12.2	1,650	5.9	66,280	6.6	175,680	2.7
Panjabi	140	0.3	150	0.5	500	1.8	19,470	1.9	102,570	1.6
Urdu	260	0.6	240	0.8	320	1.1	26,560	2.6	85,250	1.3
Bengali	1,050	2.2	630	1.9	1,230	4.4	42,280	4.2	70,320	1.1
Gujarati	410	0.9	120	0.4	710	2.5	18,590	1.8	40,880	0.6
Somali	1,380	2.9	1,140	3.5	430	1.5	24,750	2.4	32,030	0.5
Polish	440	0.9	720	2.2	390	1.4	10,050	1.0	26,840	0.4
Arabic	410	0.9	370	1.2	370	1.3	17,310	1.7	25,800	0.4
Portuguese	260	0.5	470	1.5	490	1.7	11,000	1.1	16,560	0.3
Turkish	4,470	9.4	2,340	7.2	2,340	8.3	15,420	1.5	16,460	0.3
Tamil	330	0.7	30	0.1	20	0.1	14,540	1.4	15,460	0.2
French	700	1.5	560	1.7	580	2.1	11,680	1.2	15,310	0.2
Yoruba	370	0.8	280	0.9	1,420	5.0	12,970	1.3	13,920	0.2
Chinese	160	0.3	130	0.4	150	0.5	5,460	0.5	13,380	0.2
Spanish	180	0.4	460	1.4	390	1.4	7,940	0.8	10,000	0.2
Persian/Farsi	250	0.5	70	0.2	60	0.2	6,370	0.6	8,510	0.1
Albanian/Shqip	680	1.4	450	1.4	170	0.6	7,580	0.7	8,350	0.1
Other Language	0	0.1	20	0.1	50	0.0	1,170	0.1	8,160	0.1
Tagalog/Filipino	90	0.2	120	0.4	60	0.2	3,590	0.4	7,990	0.1
Akan/Twi-Fante	660	1.4	740	2.3	660	2.3	7,290	0.7	7,230	0.1
Pashto/Pakhto	40	0.1	30	0.1	20	0.1	2,770	0.3	7,090	0.1
Hindi	70	0.2	30	0.1	40	0.2	3,770	0.4	6,740	0.1
Italian	240	0.5	160	0.5	90	0.3	2,930	0.3	5,090	0.1
Nepali	10	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,450	0.1	4,860	0.1
German	50	0.1	80	0.2	50	0.2	1,780	0.2	4,500	0.1
Shona	60	0.1	30	0.1	30	0.1	1,040	0.1	4,420	0.1
Lithuanian	60	0.1	70	0.2	20	0.1	2,770	0.3	4,350	0.1
Swahili/Kiswahili	120	0.2	70	0.2	80	0.3	2,630	0.3	4,180	0.1
Malayalam	10	0.0	0	0.0	10	0.0	1,550	0.2	4,030	0.1
Greek	1,260	2.6	230	0.7	50	0.2	3,190	0.3	4,010	0.1
Russian	100	0.2	100	0.3	40	0.1	2,060	0.2	3,840	0.1
Kurdish	410	0.9	300	0.9	130	0.5	2,550	0.3	3,740	0.1
Lingala	310	0.6	350	1.1	220	0.8	2,820	0.3	2,850	0.0
Vietnamese	90	0.2	170	0.5	300	1.1	2,290	0.2	2,790	0.0
Caribbean Creole English	300	0.6	160	0.5	120	0.4	3,200	0.3	2,670	0.0
Caribbean Creole French									1,120	0.0
Igbo	240	0.5	180	0.6	280	1.0	2,580	0.3	2,610	0.0
Other language codes	990	0.2	430	0.5	570	0.9	17,600	0.3	20,860	0.0
TOTAL	19,550	40.5	15,960	49.0	14,290	50.1	400,310	38.8	815,450	12.5

Source: School Census 2008 (as at January 2008)

2.12 – Geographic distribution of Turkish-speaking pupils in London (2008)



Source: DfE Annual Schools Census, 2008

Note: Lower level data for Kurdish-speaking pupils not available

2.13a – Stated ethnicity (other than White: British) – London

#	Ethnic group	Population
1	Black African	573,931
2	Indian or British Indian	546,016
3	Black Caribbean	344,597
4	Pakistani or British Pakistani	224,569
5	Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi	222,545
6	Other Western European	181,603
7	Irish	177,903
8	Polish	136,598
9	European Mixed	134,044
10	Chinese	126,349
11	White and Black Caribbean	119,708
12	Arab	110,207
18	Turkish	71,301
39	Kurdish	20,988

2.13b – Stated ethnicity (other than White: British) – Enfield, Haringey and Hackney

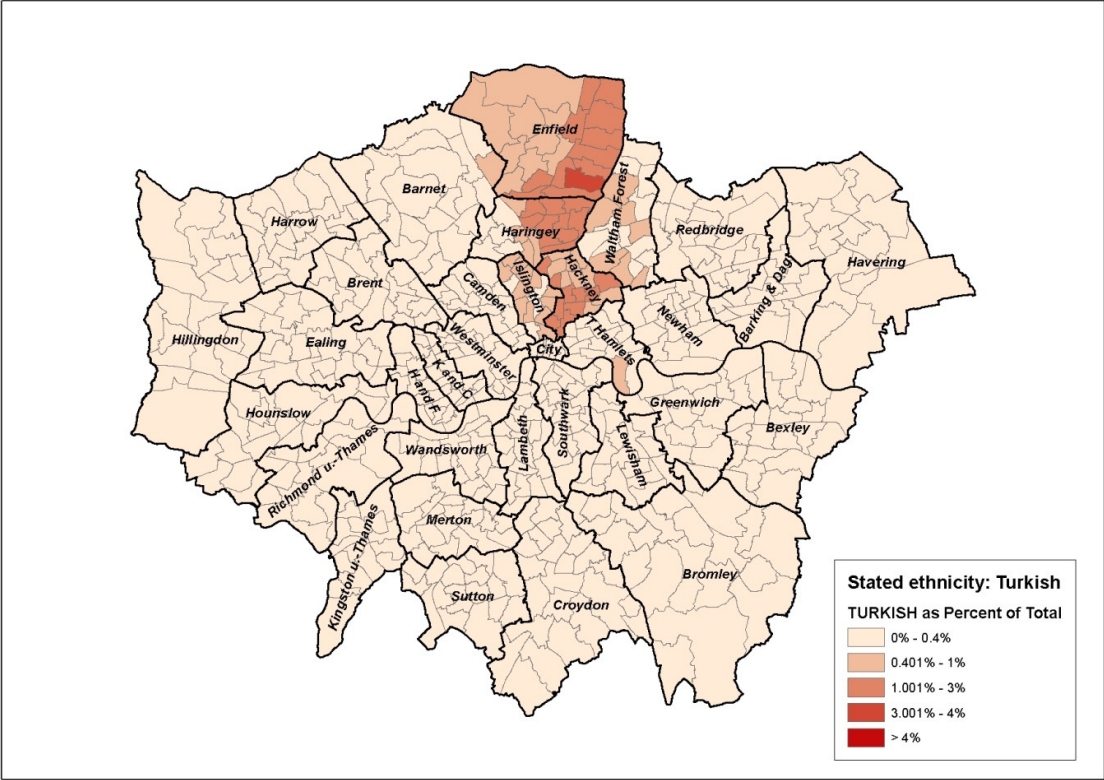
<i>Enfield</i>			<i>Hackney</i>			<i>Haringey</i>		
#	Ethnic group	Population	#	Ethnic group	Population	#	Ethnic group	Population
1	African	28,807	1	African	28,495	1	African	23,919
2	Caribbean	17,740	2	Caribbean	19,374	2	Caribbean	18,369
3	Turkish	16,704	3	Turkish	10,606	3	Turkish	10,329
4	Indian	11,786	4	Indian	7,677	4	Polish	9,312
5	Greek Cypriot	9,257	5	Other W. European	7,075	5	Irish	7,084
6	Irish	6,997	6	Other White	6,481	6	Oth W. European	6,786
7	Turkish Cypriot	5,922	7	Black British	6,373	7	European Mixed	6,226
8	Bangladeshi	5,603	8	Bangladeshi	6,187	8	Indian	6,017
9	Polish	5,486	9	Irish	5,295	9	Other White	5,486
10	White/Black Carib.	4,860	10	White/Black Carib.	4,996	10	Oth E. European	5,373
17	Kurdish	3,584	19	Kurdish	2,083	15	Kurdish	3,280

2.13c – Stated ethnicity: Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot

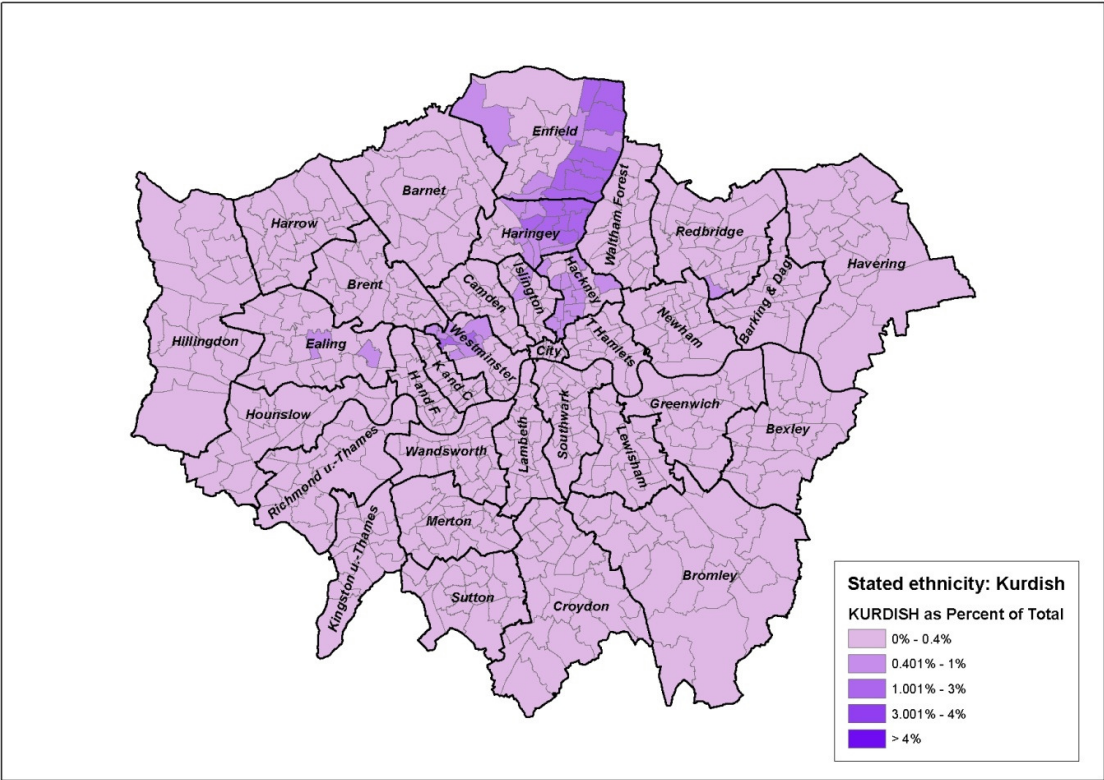
	<i>Turkish</i>		<i>Kurdish</i>		<i>Turkish Cypriot</i>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
England and Wales	101,721	100.0%	48,977	100.0%	19,073	100.0%
London	71,301	70.1%	20,988	42.9%	16,609	87.1%
Enfield	16,704	16.4%	3,584	7.3%	5,922	31.0%
Haringey	10,329	10.2%	3,280	6.7%	1,575	8.3%
Hackney	10,606	10.4%	2,083	4.3%	1,104	5.8%

Source: UK Census, 2011

2.13d – Stated ethnicity: Turkish (Census, 2011)



2.13e – Stated ethnicity: Kurdish (Census, 2011)



Source: UK Census, 2011

2.14 – Stated ethnicity: Turkish (Top 15 London wards, by % Turkish population)

#	Ward	Borough	Ward population	Turkish population	% Turkish population
1	Edmonton Green	Enfield	17,949	1,705	9.5%
2	Upper Edmonton	Enfield	17,374	1,503	8.7%
3	Ponders End	Enfield	15,664	1,299	8.3%
4	Jubilee	Enfield	14,355	1,188	8.3%
5	Enfield Highway	Enfield	16,027	1,325	8.3%
6	Lower Edmonton	Enfield	16,531	1,353	8.2%
7	White Hart Lane	Haringey	13,431	1,068	8.0%
8	Enfield Lock	Enfield	16,469	1,244	7.6%
9	Haselbury	Enfield	16,263	1,213	7.5%
10	Northumberland Park	Haringey	14,429	1,054	7.3%
11	Tottenham Hale	Haringey	15,064	1,071	7.1%
12	Turkey Street	Enfield	14,377	997	6.9%
13	West Green	Haringey	13,372	852	6.4%
14	Tottenham Green	Haringey	14,580	826	5.7%
15	Brownswood	Hackney	11,091	625	5.6%

Source: UK Census, 2011

2.15 – Socio-economic indicators by ward (Top 15 London wards, by % Turkish population)

Ward	Borough	Unemployment rate (%)	Never worked and long-term unemployed (%)	Social housing (%)	Long-term health problem or disability (%)
Edmonton Green	Enfield	14.4%	18.6%	43.1%	16.6%
Upper Edmonton	Enfield	11.5%	15.8%	29.8%	15.1%
Ponders End	Enfield	11.3%	15.1%	25.6%	15.2%
Jubilee	Enfield	9.7%	12.7%	15.5%	16.5%
Enfield Highway	Enfield	11.3%	13.0%	24.4%	15.7%
Lower Edmonton	Enfield	11.8%	15.5%	27.4%	15.5%
White Hart Lane	Haringey	12.7%	17.0%	48.7%	17.4%
Enfield Lock	Enfield	11.5%	13.7%	22.7%	14.3%
Haselbury	Enfield	11.2%	14.4%	19.5%	15.2%
Northumberland Park	Haringey	16.3%	20.0%	48.6%	16.7%
Tottenham Hale	Haringey	11.8%	15.1%	39.2%	14.7%
Turkey Street	Enfield	11.4%	13.4%	26.3%	17.1%
West Green	Haringey	10.3%	13.6%	36.0%	16.3%
Tottenham Green	Haringey	11.3%	14.1%	39.2%	16.4%
Brownswood	Hackney	6.5%	8.5%	32.0%	13.2%
LONDON AVERAGE		7.3%	8.3%	24.1%	14.2%

Source: UK Census, 2011

2.16 – Selected economic indicators for Turkish-born and UK-born populations (2005/06)

	<i>Country of birth</i>	
	<i>Turkey</i>	<i>UK</i>
Employment rate	41%	78%
Unemployment rate	7%	4%
Average hourly wage	£8.20	£11.10
Average annual income	£14,750	£21,250
Proportion of population claiming Income Support	21%	4%
Proportion of population living in Social Housing	49%	17%

Source: IPPR's 'Britain Immigrants - An economic profile, 2007

2.17 – Working age benefits claimants by nationality at NINo registration (10 largest groups overall)

	Jobseeker	ESA/Incapacity benefits	Lone parent	Total
Pakistan	6,450	11,490	4,930	33,060
Somalia	7,660	7,370	7,920	25,480
India	3,570	8,650	1,020	19,380
Ireland	3,280	8,920	960	15,630
Bangladesh	3,970	5,100	1,690	15,450
Iraq	5,300	6,260	1,210	14,520
Poland	6,390	4,390	800	13,940
Iran	5,360	6,370	-	13,690
Portugal	5,170	3,710	1,450	11,650
Turkey	1,960	5,950	1,800	11,250
Total non-UK	121,700	130,400	53,900	371,100
All claimants	1,438,460	2,568,700	613,740	5,749,210

Source: DWP, Feb 2011 (data refer to the whole of Great Britain)

3. SURVEY RESULTS: USE OF SERVICES AND CHANGING NEEDS

The first stage of the project fieldwork involved a survey of community members and service users to gather information about people's needs, their experience of using statutory and community services and their views on the local community. The questionnaire - available both in English and Turkish - was administered by community researchers. These were especially trained at Middlesex University over the course of three months. Overall the survey – which took place around Summer 2012 - involved 112 participants³. Key results are presented below and in the tables and charts on the following pages.

Socio-demographic characteristics of the sample (Figure 3.1)

Although the sample did not aim to be statistically representative, efforts were made to select participants in order to reflect as much as possible the profile of the community under investigation. In particular, there is a relative gender balance (with a slight prevalence of women), with the majority of participants being of working-age. Fifty-one participants are married or with a partner, with the rest being single, separated or widowed. The majority (60) have children, with 18 participants having three or more.

The sample includes 27 relatively recent migrants (people who arrived in the UK in the last 10 years or less), 48 who have been living in the UK for 11-20 years and 33 who have been in the country for more than 20 years (some since childhood). This is reflected in the 'legal status' of participants, with the vast majority (83) now being British citizens and only 7 being asylum seekers and refugees. In terms of borough of residence, most participants live in Haringey (42), Hackney (32) or Enfield (20), with the rest being from Islington or other areas.

Languages and educational level (Figure 3.2)

Almost all (109) participants speak Turkish and many (57) also speak Kurdish-Kurmanji. As far as English is concerned, 54 people declared to have a good or fluent level, whilst 40 reported only a 'basic' level and 8 said to have almost no knowledge of English. The level of education is also diverse, with 51 people having University or College degrees but 30 having only primary education or no formal education at all.

³ The results presented here do not always add up to 112: on the one hand some people did not answer all questions, on the other, some questions allowed for multiple answers.

Economic activity and unemployment (Figure 3.3)

The participants in employment - full-time, part-time or self-employed - are 60, with the others being students (8), housewives (18) or unemployed (21). Twenty-eight people declared they have never had a job in the UK and 12 have a partner or spouse in this situation.

Changes in community life over the last 3 years (Figure 3.4)

Participants were asked to assess - based on their personal knowledge - how the local Turkish and Kurdish community has changed over the last 3 years in relation to a number of areas. Overall, the vast majority of people thought the situation has become worse or much worse. In particular, over 109 respondents, 102 believe unemployment is worse or much worse than 3 years ago. There is also a general perception that the quality of public services has decreased, in particular education, housing and health services are worse than before for 90-95 people. More generally, the recent years are seen as characterised by an increase in crime, including gang crime, racism and discrimination.

Changes in personal life over the last 3 years (Figure 3.5)

As far as their own personal circumstances are concerned, respondents were equally pessimistic. The things that most people (82) identified as having become worse over the last 3 years include stress and mental health issues; whilst for 80 people the household overall standard of living has also worsened. For many, this is a direct effect of financial difficulties. Seventy people reported their level of income as being worse or much worse than 3 years ago, and only for 10 people things have gone better. More specifically, 60 people saw their employment condition as less satisfactory than before (whilst 38 thought they stayed the same and 8 reported an improvement).

Difficulties dealing with cost of living (Figure 3.6)

Participants were asked whether they were "currently struggling to pay" for any necessary cost. The majority reported to have difficulties paying for their utility bills (73), whilst many also have problems buying their groceries (53), paying for transport costs (41) - including both public transport and cars - and dealing with housing costs (39), in particular rent.

Receipt of benefits (Figure 3.7)

Most respondents declared they - or members of their household - receive some kind of welfare benefit (though it must be noted some respondents were unsure about this, particularly when it affected other members of their family). In particular, 62 households receive housing benefits, 52 Council Tax benefits, 32 Child Tax Credit, 24 Working Tax Credit, and 19 Income Support; many respondents reported several of these. When asked "have you or your family been affected by any significant reduction or change" in relation to the benefits received, only 42 people answered yes, whilst 55 thought that, for the time being, things had not changed significantly.

Use of public services (Figure 3.8)

Respondents were also asked to list any 'public service' they have been using over the last 3 years. Not surprisingly, most people had used health services such as GPs (103 people) and hospitals (77), but also libraries (47) and, for those with children, schools (38) and children's centres (8). A considerable number have also used JobCentres (29), legal advice (24) or other advice services (15) and translation services (24). Overall, the majority of people (68) reported that the services they use have been affected by significant reductions, changes or closure over the last 3 years.

Use of community services (Figure 3.9)

As far as community-based services are concerned, these were used by 66 of the participants. In particular, people used community organisations to access interpreting services (28), legal advice (22), welfare advice (22) as well as children's education services (17) and various other types of advice services. Most of those who have used community services thought these have been significantly cut or reduced over the last 3 years (39 'yes' against 26 'no').

Need for additional support (Figure 3.10)

Finally, participants were asked to identify what they would need additional support with. The main priorities emerged to be legal advice (36 responses), welfare advice (33) and employment advice (30), together with English classes (32) and children's education (31). Other types of advice were also mentioned frequently, together with more general training (27) and signposting (13).

3.1- Demographic information

Gender		Age group		No. of years in UK	
Male	48	18-29	20	0-5	7
Female	60	30-39	45	6-10	20
		40-49	31	11-15	30
		50+	13	16-20	18
				20+	33

Borough of residence		Current status	
Haringey	42	British citizen	83
Hackney	32	Indefinite leave to remain	12
Enfield	20	Asylum seeker	3
Islington	5	Refugee	4
Other	9	Other	7

Marital status		Number of children	
Single	38	None	43
Married / with partner	51	One	9
Widowed / separated / divorced	20	Two	33
		Three	14
		Four +	4

3.2 – Languages and educational level

Spoken languages		First language	
Turkish	109	Turkish	63
Kurdish (Kurmanji)	57	Kurdish (unspecified dialect)	25
Kurdish (Sorani)	0	Kurdish (Kurmanji)	18
English	76	English	2
Other	9	Other	4

Level of English		Educational level	
None / almost none	8	None	4
Basic / Survival	40	Primary	26
Good	34	Secondary	16
Fluent	24	University / College	51
		Vocational / Professional	9

3.3 – Economic activity and unemployment

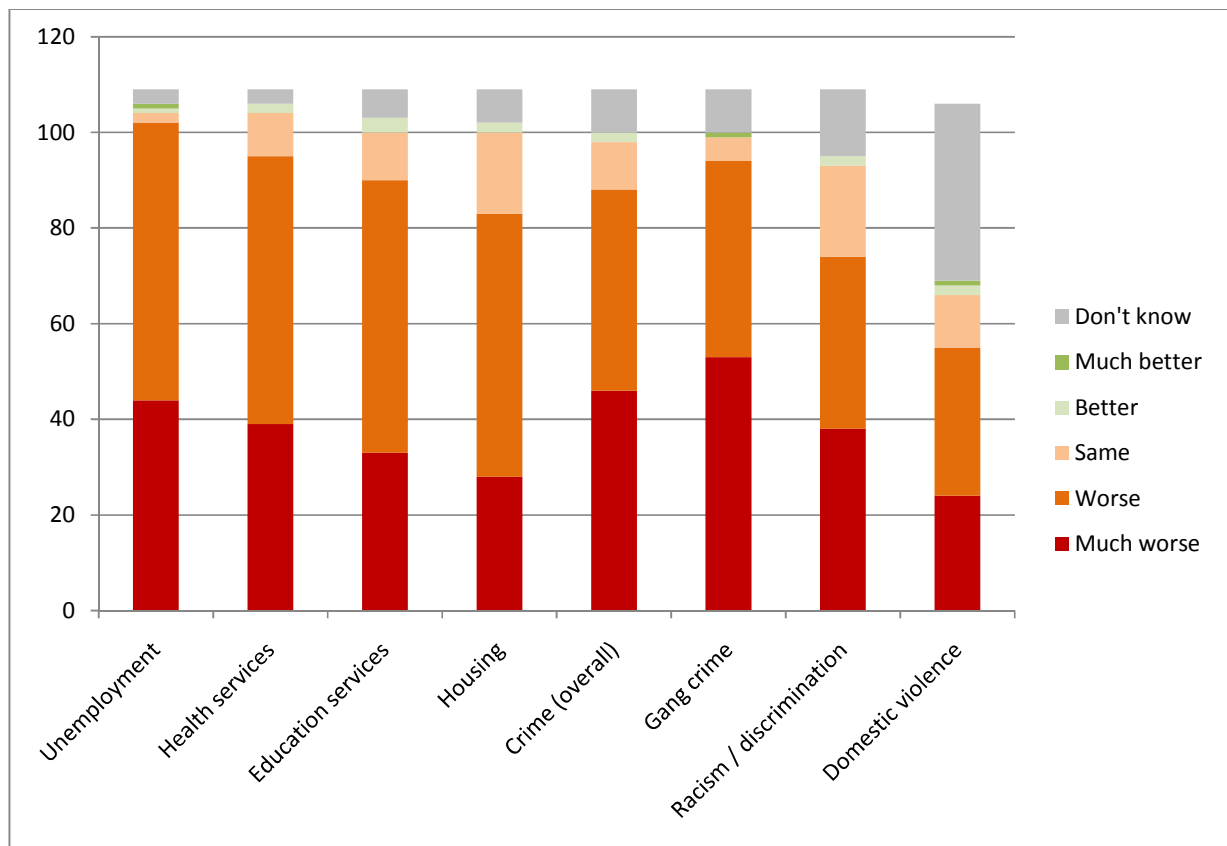
Current main activity		Spouse's current main activity	
Unemployed	21	Unemployed	6
Employed full-time	19	Employed full-time	9
Employed part-time	32	Employed part-time	15
Self-employed	9	Self-employed	2
Student	8	Student	0
Housewife / Househusband	18	Housewife / Househusband	10
Other	12	Other	5

If you are unemployed, have you ever been employed in this country?		If your spouse is unemployed, has he/she ever been employed in this country?	
Yes	20	Yes	6
No	28	No	12

3.4a - Based on your knowledge, how has the local Turkish and Kurdish community changed in relation to the following areas? Have things got better or worse in the last 3 years?

	Much better		Better		Same		Worse		Much worse		Don't know		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Unemployment	1	0.9%	1	0.9%	2	1.8%	58	53.2%	44	40.4%	3	2.8%	109
Health services	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	9	8.3%	56	51.4%	39	35.8%	3	2.8%	109
Education services	0	0.0%	3	2.8%	10	9.2%	57	52.3%	33	30.3%	6	5.5%	109
Housing	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	17	15.6%	55	50.5%	28	25.7%	7	6.4%	109
Crime (overall)	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	10	9.2%	42	38.5%	46	42.2%	9	8.3%	109
Gang crime	1	0.9%	0	0.0%	5	4.6%	41	37.6%	53	48.6%	9	8.3%	109
Racism / discrimination	0	0.0%	2	1.8%	19	17.4%	36	33.0%	38	34.9%	14	12.8%	109
Domestic violence	1	0.9%	2	1.9%	11	10.4%	31	29.2%	24	22.6%	37	34.9%	106

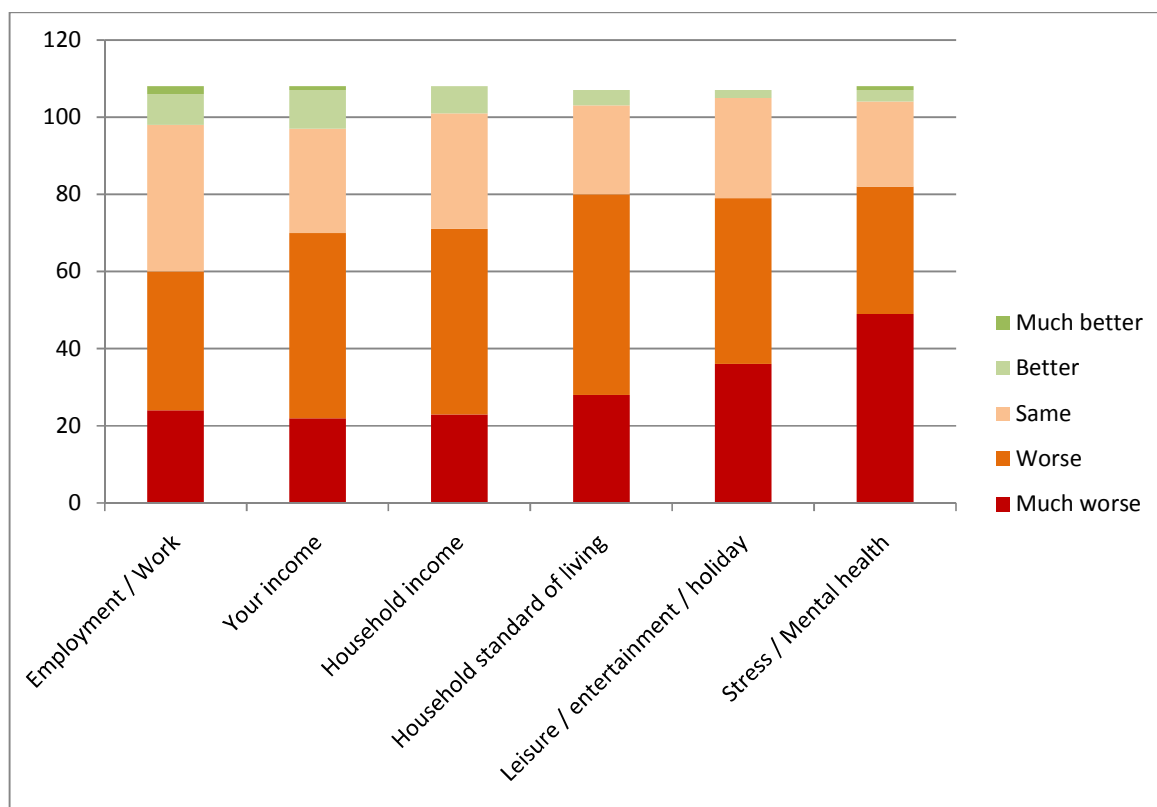
3.4b - Based on your knowledge, how has the local Turkish and Kurdish community changed in relation to the following areas? Have things got better or worse in the last 3 years?



3.5a - In the last 3 years, how have the following aspects of your life changed? Have they got better or worse?

	Much better		Better		Same		Worse		Much worse		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Employment / Work	2	1.9%	8	7.4%	38	35.2%	36	33.3%	24	22.2%	108
Your income	1	0.9%	10	9.3%	27	25.0%	48	44.4%	22	20.4%	108
Household income	0	0.0%	7	6.5%	30	27.8%	48	44.4%	23	21.3%	108
Household standard of living	0	0.0%	4	3.7%	23	21.5%	52	48.6%	28	26.2%	107
Leisure / entertainment / holiday	0	0.0%	2	1.9%	26	24.5%	43	40.6%	36	34.0%	106
Stress / Mental health	1	0.9%	3	2.8%	22	20.6%	33	30.8%	49	45.8%	107

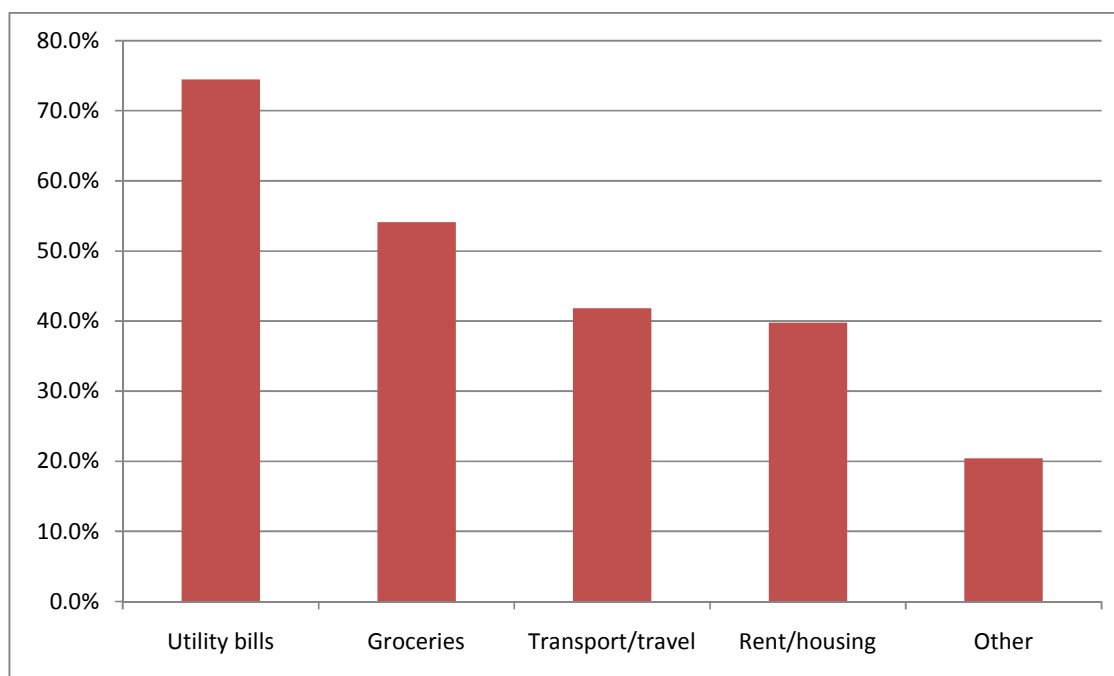
3.5b - In the last 3 years, how have the following aspects of your life changed? Have they got better or worse?



3.6a - Are you currently struggling to pay for any of the following?

	#	%
Utility bills	73	74.5%
Groceries	53	54.1%
Transport/travel	41	41.8%
Housing / rent	39	39.8%
Other	20	20.4%

3.6b - Are you currently struggling to pay for any of the following?

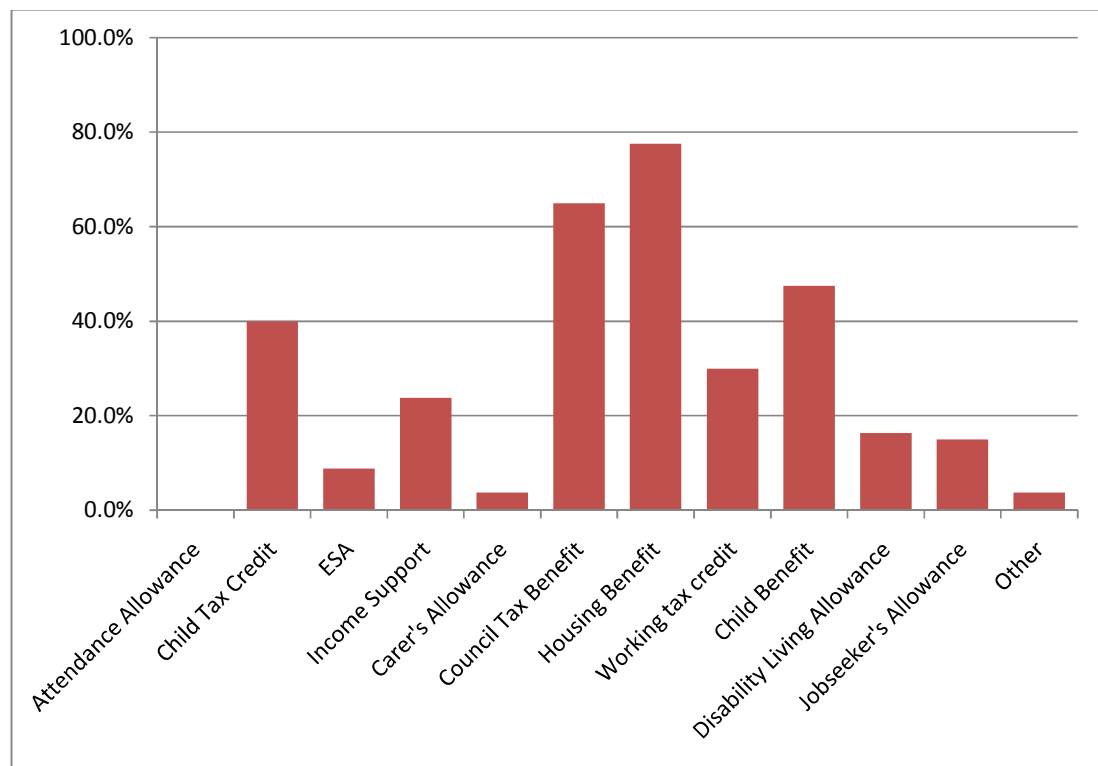


3.7a – Do you or members of your household currently get any of the following benefits?

Benefit	#	%
Attendance Allowance	0	0.0%
Child Tax Credit	32	40.0%
ESA	7	8.8%
Income Support	19	23.8%
Carer's Allowance	3	3.8%
Council Tax Benefit	52	65.0%
Housing Benefit	62	77.5%
Working tax credit	24	30.0%
Child Benefit	38	47.5%
Disability Living Allowance	13	16.3%
Jobseeker's Allowance	12	15.0%
Other	3	3.8%
Response count	80	100.0%

Note: multiple answers were allowed

3.7b - Do you or members of your household currently get any of the following benefits?



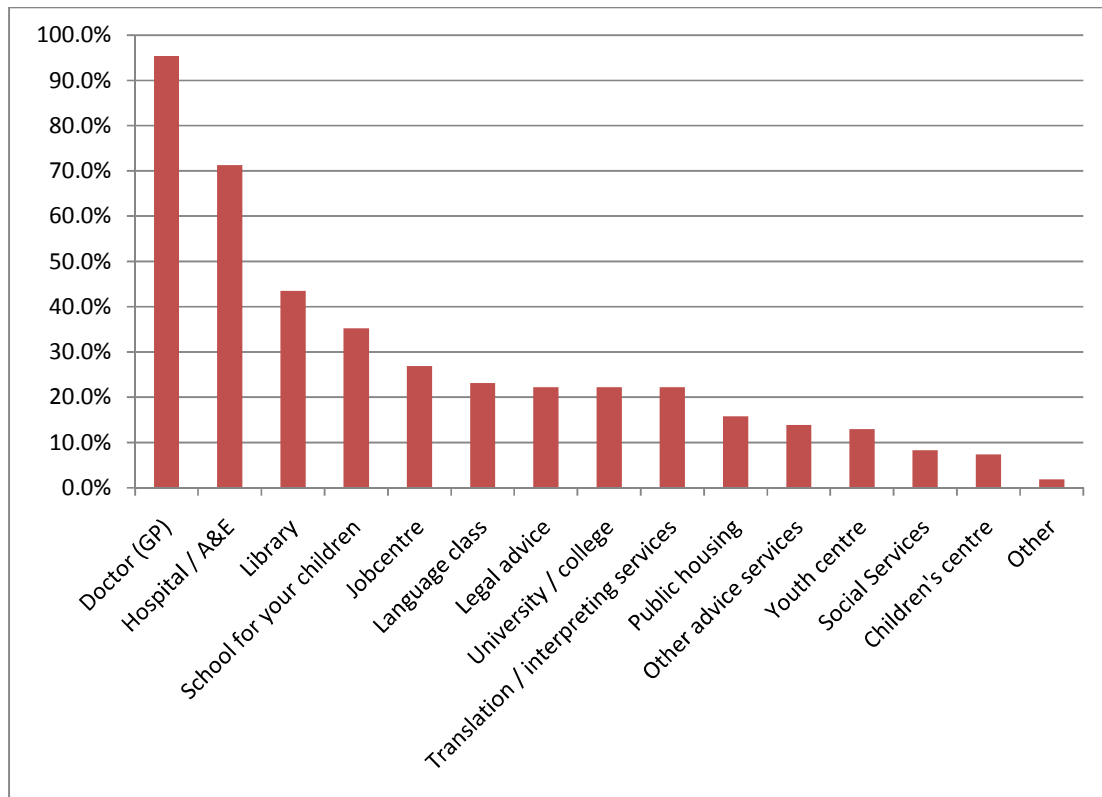
3.7c - In the last 3 years have you or your family been affected by any significant reduction or change in relation to any of the benefits above? No: 55 (56.7%) ; Yes: 42 (43.3%)

3.8a - Which of the following public services have you used in the last 3 years?

Public Services	#	%
Doctor (GP)	103	95.4%
Hospital / A&E	77	71.3%
Library	47	43.5%
School for your children	38	35.2%
Jobcentre	29	26.9%
Language class	25	23.1%
Legal advice	24	22.2%
University / college	24	22.2%
Translation / interpreting services	24	22.2%
Public housing	17	15.7%
Other advice services	15	13.9%
Youth centre	14	13.0%
Social Services	9	8.3%
Children's centre	8	7.4%
Other	2	1.9%
Response count	108	100.0%

Note: multiple answers were allowed

3.8b - Which of the following public services have you used in the last 3 years?



3.8c - In the last 3 years, has any of these public services you used been cut or reduced?

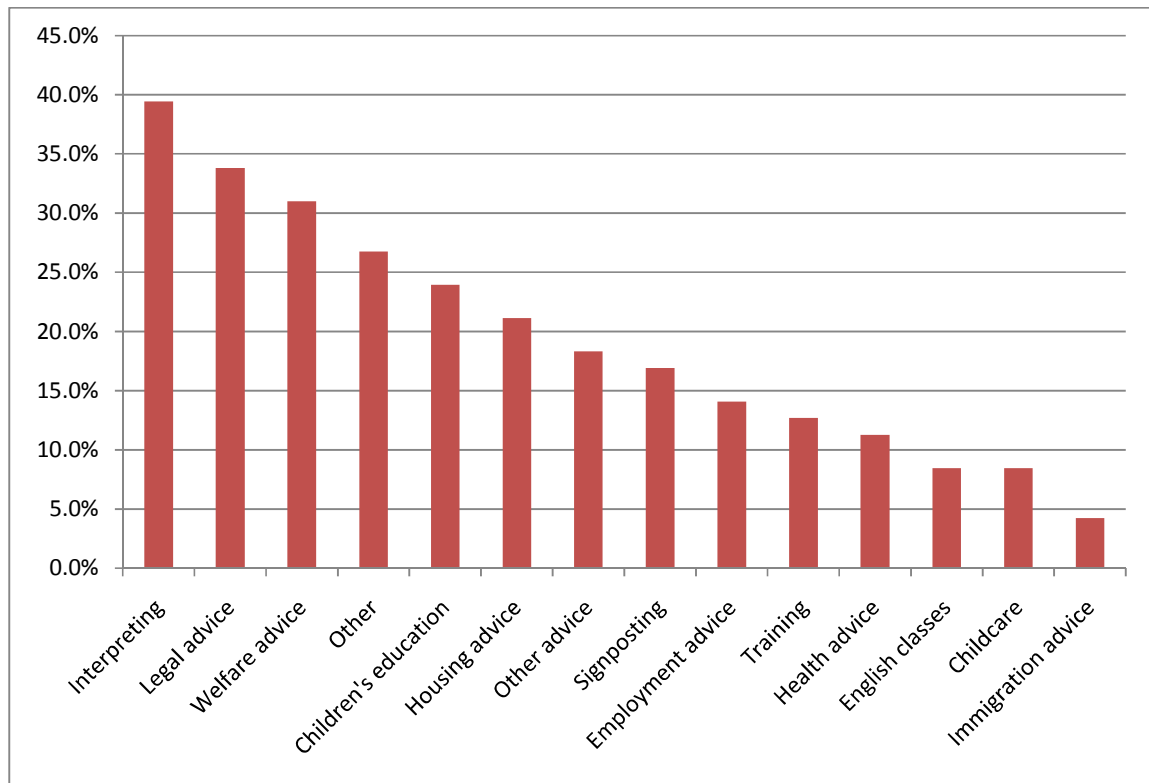
No: 34 (33.3%) ; Yes: 68 (66.7%)

3.9a – What kind of community services did you use?

Community Services	#	%
Interpreting	28	39.4%
Legal advice	24	33.8%
Welfare advice	22	31.0%
Other	19	26.8%
Children's education	17	23.9%
Housing advice	15	21.1%
Other advice	13	18.3%
Signposting	12	16.9%
Employment advice	10	14.1%
Training	9	12.7%
Health advice	8	11.3%
English classes	6	8.5%
Childcare	6	8.5%
Immigration advice	3	4.2%
Response count	71	100.0%

Note: multiple answers were allowed

3.9b – What kind of community services did you use?



In the last 3 years, has any of these community services you used been cut or reduced?

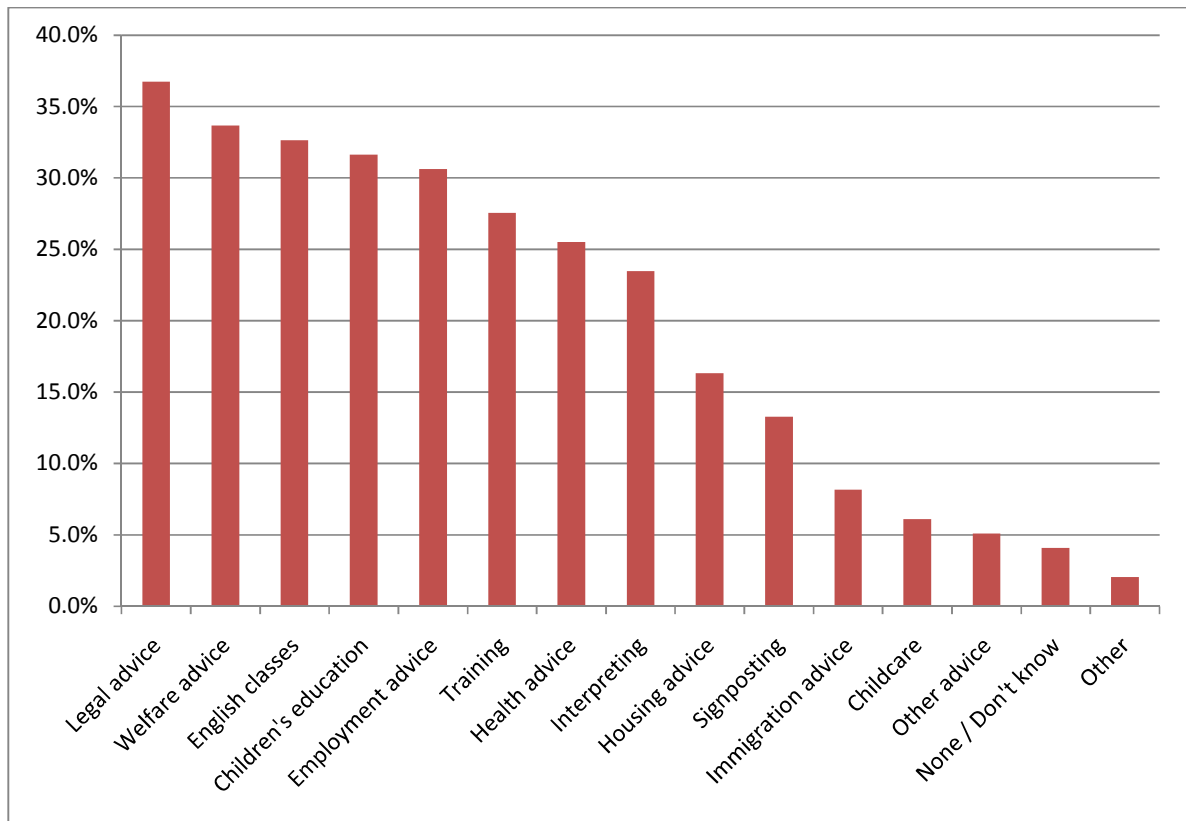
No: 26 (40.0%) ; Yes: 39 (60.0%)

3.10a – Which of the following areas would you need additional support with?

Community Services	#	%
Legal advice	36	36.7%
Welfare advice	33	33.7%
English classes	32	32.7%
Children's education	31	31.6%
Employment advice	30	30.6%
Training	27	27.6%
Health advice	25	25.5%
Interpreting	23	23.5%
Housing advice	16	16.3%
Signposting	13	13.3%
Immigration advice	8	8.2%
Childcare	6	6.1%
Other advice	5	5.1%
None / Don't know	4	4.1%
Other	2	2.0%
Response count	98	100.0%

Note: multiple answers were allowed

3.10b – Which of the following areas would you need additional support with?



4. INTERVIEWS: THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AND WELFARE RESTRUCTURING

This section summarises some of the key findings that emerged from the in-depth interviews with individual members of the Turkish and Kurdish community, service providers and other stakeholders, which took place up to Summer 2013. These are integrated with additional information from previous community-based research. Some exemplary quotes from the interviews are presented in the boxes and provide anecdotal but insightful evidence on the perceived and experienced impact of the economic crisis and welfare restructuring on individual members of the community and on the new challenges for community-based service providers.

General issues faced by the community

- **Language** is usually referred to as the main obstacle to accessing services, exercising rights and becoming more integrated into British society. Many first generation migrants arrived to the UK in their 30s or later, in some cases as refugees, in others expecting to work in local Turkish-owned businesses, so with little motivation or incentive to learn English. Many, especially those coming from the rural areas, had only primary education or were illiterate, which made learning a foreign language even more difficult. For those now keen to learn, limited availability of ESOL classes and personal circumstances often represent a major barrier.

“Because of the language barrier ... they need help in all areas: children education, GP appointments, Council tax ... Sometimes they bring here junk mail for us to read because they do not understand what it is”
[Community advisor]

“Most families have adult children now, but translating a technical letter into Turkish can be difficult. But they do use their children for example to go the GP, as interpreters” [Community advisor]

“They rightly say people should learn the language, but there is no provision of ESOL classes; so how can they do that?” [Community advisor]

- However, the language issue is only one, though the most evident, of the barriers to accessing public services and welfare support. A **lack of knowledge** of the UK system, together with a more general sense that statutory services are not ‘welcoming’ and culturally appropriate is often mentioned as a key problem. Even for some members of the community who speak English perfectly well, there may be a **lack of trust** towards the public sector and ‘the state’.

- Other longstanding problems often mentioned in the interviews include high unemployment rates and difficulties in accessing well-paid and qualified jobs, inadequate housing conditions and conflicts within families, including domestic violence and intergenerational clashes. All these problems have been exacerbated dramatically by the ongoing economic crisis and cuts to public services and welfare – as discussed in the following sections.
- On the other hand, several respondents were keen to highlight that Turkish and Kurdish communities also include many economically active and highly engaged people who have contributed to the socio-economic and cultural development of the areas of residence. Many of these are involved in the public and voluntary sector and are at the forefront of community-based interventions.

“We had a client for whom English was not a problem, but he wanted to see a Turkish speaking counsellor ... they want to see somebody who can understand them and their culture, although they speak very good English. The language is only one aspect of the culture. For example in terms of understanding relationships, domestic violence, arranged marriages, etc. ” *[Community advisor]*

“There are a lot of unmet needs in the community – but we should also get away from the stereotype that all Turkish and Kurdish people are vulnerable. ... For example it was their local enterprises which initiated the regeneration of many neighbourhoods in Hackney” *[Community activist]*

The effects of the economic crisis

- It was generally believed that the socio-economic conditions of Turkish and Kurdish communities in London have worsened significantly over the last three years, in particular in terms of unemployment and poverty.
- Some of the **work sectors** which had traditionally employed a large part of the community have been disproportionately affected. In particular, the public and third sectors - which in North London employ a significant number of ethnic-minority people - have been hit by a large number of redundancies and increased pressures for those still in work.
- Local ethnic businesses, such as cafes, restaurants and convenience stores – which are often family-run – are struggling to cope with the effects of the recession and an increasingly competitive market. Reportedly, several small entrepreneurs have recently moved out of London to open small activities, such as takeaways, since business opportunities in the capital have become extremely limited. Others have left the family business to get low paid jobs, e.g. in mini-cab companies.

- Several individual interviewees felt the impact of the economic crisis very strongly. In particular, many said **paying bills** was getting increasingly difficult and was often a cause of stress. Others have become less able to go on holiday or engage in other leisure or social activities.
- According to community officers and advisors, as a direct effect of the economic crisis, the local community is also facing a major increase in gambling, domestic violence and **family issues**. However very few individual interviewees were willing to discuss such very personal matters.
- Many interviewees reported that levels of **crime**, as well as discrimination and racism against their communities, have increased significantly. Some pointed out that in times of crisis migrant communities easily become a scapegoat.
- A few people said they were contemplating returning to Turkey due to hard economic conditions and fear for their children's safety and future.

"I have [increasing problems with] the utility bills, which are very high. Throughout the week when I am supposed to pay, I do not do any spending. Before receiving the bills, I start to stress out..." *[service user, female 44 years old]*

"I have been in this country for 15 years and I can say that everything is getting worse day by day. I cannot find a job". *[service user, male, 45]*

"The economic crisis is having an unequal impact on BME communities. Everyone is taking a step down, but because of inequality, when we all take a step down, the people at the bottom of the ladder are in the water" *[Council representative]*

Changes and cuts in public services

- For many years members of the Turkish and Kurdish communities have reported the inadequacy of public services in their areas of residence. For example, a 2009 report commissioned by Enfield Council (Ipsos MORI 2009) revealed that many Turkish and Kurdish people had problems with education, housing and the health system. This was due particularly to the lack of language-specific and culturally-specific support and, more generally, to a perceived lack of respect. In Hackney, a Council representative confirmed how for a long time services in the borough had not been really adequate to meet the needs of minority groups; this was one of the reasons why community-led organisations had 'flourished' and gained the trust of local Turkish and Kurdish users.
- The majority of individuals interviewed as part of this study felt that services provided by local authorities -including youth services, social services, social housing and house repairs – have

experienced a further reduction both in terms of quantity and quality of provision over the last 2 to 3 years. The quality of health and in particular GP services was the object of widespread complains, with reported longer queues and difficulties in receiving prescriptions.

- Most parents also reported a reduction in the quality of schools and education services. Some also expressed concern for the increase of university fees, something which will make it very difficult for them to afford sending children to university.
- Across all types of services – from schools and hospitals to advice services - translations and interpreting have been the worst hit by the cuts, thus impacting disproportionately on the most vulnerable members of migrant communities.

“I can say that there is a serious downturn in NHS - hospitals or GP - It was not very good in the past but still much better than now” *[service user, male, 61 years old]*

“There has been a big reduction in health services. [...] We used to have 4 GPs, now we have 1. We can never get appointments on the same day. They give it a week or 2 weeks after. They say if it is too urgent go to casualty [...] The education has been very bad. Last year, in my daughter’s class there was a teacher and an assistant. But this year there is no assistant. There is a teacher for 30 students. What can you expect from this teacher?” *[service user, female, 30 years old]*

“I have asthma. I have been affected by the limitation on the prescriptions for the last 3 months. I used to get the prescription every 2 months. But now they make me go to the GP for an examination and then have the prescription monthly. I have asthma permanently; why am I going to the GP every month? I used this medication regularly. I talked to my GP and he said this is because of the limitations implemented by the government” *[service user, female, 44 years old]*

“The repairs provided for council houses by the council have been reduced a lot. They came to fix a door handle. They need to change it due to some security reasons, but they just tried to fix it and they couldn’t ...They say we do not have the budget so we cannot change your gate” *[service user, female, 47 years old]*

The impact of policy changes and welfare restructuring

- The majority of respondents thought that the UK system is becoming increasingly strict in terms of access to welfare, benefits and other forms of support. Some also thought the current government is characterised by a strong anti-immigrant approach- more than in other European countries - which they find worrying for their future.

“There is a real sense of unfairness at the moment and that's getting worse. And it's a major challenge for advice services. When you have to tell them that something is not possible and it sounds so unfair ... although you are just the messenger, it is very difficult” *[Community practitioner]*

- Many of the community practitioners interviewed identified April 2013 as a sort of ‘D-Day’, after which the real consequences of the welfare changes have started to be fully understood on the ground. The initial service users’ survey part of this project took place a few months before this date and it already showed a widespread sense of worry about the near future, as well as a lot of confusion about the exact nature of what was going to happen. The interviews undertaken up to Summer 2013 provided evidence of the concrete effect of the welfare restructuring on the daily life of people and families.
- Main changes in the welfare system identified as cause of concern include the benefit cap, cuts in council tax benefits, the introduction of the new disability assessment, the new ‘universal credit’ system and changes in housing benefits – particularly the so-called ‘bedroom tax’.

"People are not always aware of the changes. It is only when they face them that they realise what it means for them! For example the new process for the disability allowance has been a real shock for many people who were not expecting it and did not understand why it was happening". *[Community advisor]*

"I do not live in good life conditions. It wasn't like that a few years ago. I used to receive only Income Support, but at least we could survive with it. But now, I am working part-time but I cannot meet the needs of my family". *[service user, female, 35 years old]*

"I receive Working Tax Credit but it is not the same amount [as before]. I do not know how much is the change but it is less than before...you work a few hours more but receive less tax credit. I believe slowly and slowly they will cut it completely...The aim of the state is not to give any benefits to anyone" *[service user, male, 34 years old]*

- Many people complained about the huge imbalance between inflation and lack of increase of benefits – a gap which is perceived as bigger every year. Several people needed to start part-time jobs, or to increase the number of hours worked per week, but paradoxically ended up worse off in terms of their financial circumstances.

"Life got very expensive but the welfare benefits did not get increased. OK I work as part-time but if there is no contribution from the state, it is very hard to make our living [...] They increased part-time working hours to 24; there are some rumours that they will increase it to 36 hours. I think it is going to be like Germany. I am afraid they will even charge people for the health expenses. NHS will charge people in the future.*[service user, female, 31 years old]*

"There is an increase on everything. I have some amount of income but we pay more for the utility bills. The benefits have not been increased but gas, electricity and water charges have been increased a lot. Everything is much more expensive. I have difficulties in affording the expenses. I used to take my daughters to ballet and the state used to cover its fee but they started to charge for it." *[service user, female, 32 years old]*

An unequal impact: older and disabled people, women and young people

- Although respondents generally felt that the economic crisis and welfare restructuring is having an impact of the Turkish and Kurdish community as a whole, many highlighted the different ways in which specific groups within the community are being affected.
- As mentioned before, **older generations** are those more likely to need language-specific support and advice to navigate the changing welfare system. They are also those more likely to suffer from limiting long term health issues and to rely on welfare benefits and care.
- In addition to the actual content of the new welfare system, the bureaucracy associated with it is seen as a major challenge. People have to deal with complex paperwork and go through assessments and interviews to try to maintain in full or in part the benefits or support they used to see as a right. The fact that some applications – such as those for the universal credit – must be submitted online creates an additional barrier both in terms of language and IT skills.

"I dread how members of the community are going to cope. Because you've got changes to housing, to the council tax benefit - all these changes ..it takes about an hour to go through a form for just one thing ... the demand on community organisations will be huge. *[Council representative]*

- For **people with disabilities** – many of whom, though not all, are also older - the new 'disability assessments' are having a major impact, with the whole process largely seen not just as unfair but also humiliating. At the same time, cuts on legal aid and, more generally, reduced availability of legal advice services, are making it more difficult for people to appeal.

"I've got a client who's severely disabled. He is practically wheelchair bound - he can also move around a bit with two crutches, but only if he uses both of them – without he cannot even stand. ... But when he attended a medical assessment at the Job Centre's appointed Atos he's been told that because he can operate with a (mobility) scooter he can go and look for work. They said he does not have any limited capability - he is capable of working. And his benefit was stopped. We have lodged an appeal. But these are the circumstances. The government is exercising so much pressure on those examiners. So they have decided that he is capable of moving around although he is dependent on two crutches or a wheelchair". *[Community advisor]*

- Previous community based research (e.g. Roj 2011) has highlighted how **women**, particularly those belonging to the first generation, can often be vulnerable and socially isolated, as well as suffering from a male dominated culture which leads to domestic violence and marginalisation.

- During the interviews, **women** have been reported to represent a significant majority among the users of welfare advice and other advice services. This is both because they are disproportionately hit by the welfare changes, but also because it is often women who, within a household, are expected to deal with most financial and bureaucratic issues, as well as parenting.
- Because of the welfare restructuring, a large number of women - including single-mothers of young children - who could previously survive on benefits are now expected to find a job. However, this can prove extremely difficult because of limited work experience and skills and for lack of childcare provision. In some cases, cultural and family pressures also play a role.

"Women are using the service more, often because men are working and women deal with most issues at home, including benefits, housing, etc." *[Community advisor]*

"Men control the money. They receive the money, the benefits, it goes to their account most of the time. But women are dealing with the issues that occur because of the changes or the cuts. [...]The men do not want to deal with the nitty-gritty, the paper, so it goes to the women." *[Community advisor]*

"There are now women who are expected to go and seek work outside the home, in very difficult personal circumstances, when that was not the case up to 5 years ago. We are talking about women aged 40+ being expected to seek work if they have children of 5. *[Community advisor]*

"Living standard is getting worse. I have a child and I am a single mother. I have been getting income support and it would stop soon. I can work but child care issue is a problem for me". *[service user, female, 53 years old]*

- The general negative effect of the economic crisis on family lives is also having a particular impact on women, especially when family tensions lead to domestic violence or make it even more difficult to care for the children.
- Some women confirmed an increase in gambling amongst men, both in high-street betting shops and in the traditional coffee houses (*kahvehane*) which, due to high levels of unemployment, are more crowded than before. These places are widely considered as having 'bad effects on men'.

"In the last two years we saw an increase in gambling issues, which also affect women. It's mainly men who gamble. And they use benefits money or any money they have and they just play and lose the money and it creates lots of tensions and relationships problems. [...]People get more stressed and depressed and try to deal with it [with gambling]. [...]We see lots of domestic violence issues related to gambling. The men lose money, there are arguments and they beat the women" *[Community advisor]*

- Economic difficulties and related family tensions are also having a direct effect on **younger generations**. Many community members reported a general issue of lack of confidence and rejection of their own identity – often related to broader intergenerational problems and lack of role models.
- A recent study commissioned by Hackney Youth service to Day-Mer (Greiff et al. 2011) has already reported that a large proportion of young people are not in employment or training. Even those who have a job often live with their parents because of low wage or unstable conditions.

"There is a problem for young people. I am a pensioner but I do not know if my children will be pensioners in the future. Living standard is going to be worse for next generation". *[service user, male, 62 years old]*

" These young generations have different perspectives... there is a lack of role models for the second generation" *[Community advisor]*

" We had a young client with mental health issues and he saw more acceptable to be European, so he would say he was Italian, but he wasn't Italian, he was Kurdish. This is an identity problem. [Some young people] are not happy with their identity. So we need to have some role between the parents and those young people". *[Community advisor]*

- Both parents and community practitioners reported an increase in issues such as alcohol and drug abuse and gang culture. Worryingly, women services also reported the emergence of young people as perpetrators of domestic violence.

"Recently we have seen a lot of 'children perpetrators', especially sons who are violent towards mothers. [...]Sons between 18 to 25, sometimes with drug or gang issues. [...]The second generation has issues with their family who came here without knowing the language and the system, they didn't really integrate. But they started going to school here in a totally different culture and the family weren't able to support the children and this created lots of problems with a series of cultural and other gaps." *[Community advisor]*

- As for **small children**, many difficult cases were reported in relation to the so-called 'bedroom tax' and specifically by the fact that only children aged 10 or older are 'allowed' to have a room of their own without the households being charged extra. As a consequence, several families with young children are now expected to leave the house where they have been living for years and, in theory, move again when the children turn 10.

"There is this lady, she has two children, one of them is 5 and the other is 7. [She has a three bedroom flat] and actually one of the rooms is so small they cannot even put a bed in there, but still she has to pay because she has one room too many. She thinks 'I don't want to move out now and then in 3 years' time, when my child is 10 years old they are not going to give me a 3 bedroom house'. Also she had spent a lot of money in refurbishing that house so she says: 'why did they give it to me?'" *[Community advisor]*

"We have a regular client here and he has a [mentally] disabled son who was provided accommodation [in a care home] - but he doesn't stay at that accommodation all the time. At least 3 or 4 nights a week he goes to stay with [his parents]. He is mentally ill and he can't share a bedroom with his father and mother. So they want to keep an extra bedroom, but they are not allowed. They have move out or to pay. But they don't have any income to pay so they have a dilemma." *[Community advisor]*

- As far as **schooling** and education are concerned, the issue of low academic achievement among Turkish and Kurdish pupils has been known for a long time (Issa 2008). Recent research conducted in partnership by Middlesex University and Day-Mer (D'Angelo et al. 2011) highlighted the importance of a holistic approach involving mainstream schools, supplementary education services, families and the wider community. However, the progress made in the last few years now risks being jeopardised by cuts in the school system and other educational provision.
- Most parents expressed increased concerns about their children's unmet needs for educational support and career advice. Young people interviewed in this and previous studies also complained about the lack of opportunities for development and inability to attend university or vocational courses.
- At the same time, many parents are finding it increasingly difficult to spend time with their children and help them with homework and other school-related issues. This is having an impact on school achievement and behaviour.

"Many parents are getting increasingly concerned about education - before they thought their children could get a job anyway, but now because of the economic crisis they see education as very important. *[Community advisor]*

"Schools are also affected by the cuts. In the past they used to employ people working on areas such as English as Additional Language, BME support and other educational needs. Now any additional support service is subcontracted to external agencies, but funds are limited and in many cases BME underachievers do not get specific support anymore. They cut on translation services for parents". *[Community advisor]*

"A mother was referred to me by her school because of her child's behaviour and psychological situation which had recently changed. I had an interview with this parent and she told me that she has now family problems, she would like to separate from her partner but there are housing issues- they had a joint application for the same property and her partner wants her to leave the property, but she doesn't want to because of her child education. [...] [They have economic issues and he does not work at the moment. This makes things worse]. They always argue, they fight - and this is affecting the child's behaviour. And it is reported by the school that the child should stay at the same address because he has been at the same school for 4 years and all friends are around him, if she leaves the property it will affect the child. So we can clearly see the link between education and the other issues. *[Community advisor]*

The role of community organisations

- Overall, the fieldwork conducted for this study confirmed that a large number of people from the Turkish and Kurdish community rely on local community organisations – particularly Turkish and Kurdish community centres –for a wide range of services. These include welfare, housing and legal advice, employment and career advice, as well as educational support, domestic violence support, general access to information and training.
- Many interviewees also reported to get welfare advice and psychological support from their own networks of relatives and friends – in some cases the boundaries between community centres and personal social networks are blurred.
- A large part of the clients are people unemployed or living on benefits, with the majority being first generation migrants and a considerable proportion being women and single mothers. Turkish and Kurdish organisations are seen to have also a key role in supporting younger generations, increasing their self-esteem and aspirations.
- Community services are used not just to overcome a language barrier, but also because users trust them more than statutory services. Interestingly, the Turkish and Kurdish organisations surveyed for this study often provide advice to members of other ethnic minority groups.
- At the same time, community organisations emerged as keen to encourage language acquisition and more generally to promote the empowerment and independence of their clients.

"I prefer our community centres. Language is not the only reason. I also trust them. I believe they will show their people the best way. They give the best advice to us. They never direct us to the wrong decision. I also come here [community organisation] on purpose to show my support. [...] They also need us. Getting help from such centres is not the only reasons we are coming here. This is our centre. If we do not come here, then where can we go?" *[service user, female, 55 years old]*

"We encourage people to learn English, since most do not want to go back to Turkey even in the long term. ... But it is a challenge because many are illiterate not just in English but also in Turkish". *[Community advisor]*

"What we are trying to do is not only to provide advice for people - to fill a form or write a letter for them - but to educate people so that next time they can deal with their own enquiries. So not only writing the letters but helping them to write the letter by themselves next time". *[Community advisor]*

- Turkish and Kurdish community organisations mainly serve the local community; however, their client base is often cross-borough and in some cases advisors receive phone calls from people living outside of London.
- The majority of these community services are based in the London boroughs of Hackney and Haringey. The large and expanding Turkish population in Enfield is not matched by an equally developed local community sector, the older Cypriot component being the most largely represented. Representatives from Enfield Council and the local community sector reported how some Turkish-speaking organisations are now considering moving from inner London (e.g. Islington) to Enfield both to reduce costs and to better address the needs of the local population.
- Several Council officers approached for this study praised very highly the role played by local community organisations, not just as direct providers of services but as advocates for the community and advisors to the statutory services. On the other hand many expressed concerns about duplication of activities and effectiveness in a changing funding environment.

"Some of these organisations have been crucial in shaping the way in which the Council plans for its services. (...) It is easier for them because they are closer to the community and understand them better". *[Council officer]*

"We have been trying to build a bridge between mainstream service providers and the community we serve. [...] To explain to the statutory services what are the needs and issues faced by our members and what they should do to cater for them" *[Community advisor]*

"These community centres should have a better link with the councils. They need to work together in order to provide good service to the members. I think councils do not pay attention to the community centres sufficiently". *[service user, female, 42]*

The challenges for the local community sector

- The progressive ‘professionalisation’ of the Third Sector, with a shift from core-funding to service commissioning, has posed a challenge to all community organisations. More recently, the Spending Review has drastically reduced the funds available to the sector (LVSC 2011). In addition, the emergence of the ‘social-cohesion’ agenda has seen a progressive reduction of funding for BME organisations, which is often actively discouraged (D'Angelo et al. 2010).
- As council funding - once one of the main sources of support for local groups - is constantly being reduced, organisations are expected to become increasingly self-sustainable, for example adopting a 'social enterprise' model. However, this requires a major departure from traditional models of work based on free services and voluntary involvement.
- Funders and local authorities have been putting pressures for a 'rationalisation' of the sector, encouraging increased cooperation, partnerships and mergers. However, this is made difficult by competition for resources and by a recent past where umbrella groups and infrastructure organisations have not always been successful in trickling-down resources.

“Funders say we don't need cultural specific services anymore. ... At the same time, everyone in the community gives for granted that we will keep doing what we do – and there’s no alternative” *[Community advisor]*

“Nobody wants to fund us anymore, but at the end of the day we are saving the government money.” *[Community advisor]*

“This is a 'sanitation' of the sector from its voluntary ethos. The danger is for the third sector to become like the private sector” *[Community officer]*

“The Council is getting increasingly focused on numbers, measures, assessment” *[Community officer]*

- Together with the reduced availability of funding, the increasing needs among clients, the widening of the areas of enquiry and the need for advisors to catch up with changing legislation and regulations are placing an enormous pressure on local organisations.
- Whilst the impact of the economic crisis and welfare restructuring would require new services and initiatives – including, e.g. outreach support - community organisations are struggling to maintain their current provision.

- Some community organisations have started to charge for their services. In other cases users have reported a reduction in quality due to increased reliance on volunteers rather than paid members of staff. Advice services have been particularly affected.

“The services [of community organisations] have been decreased. There are fewer activities organised by these places. Such places mainly run their activities thanks to the grants. When the grants were cut, the services were also cut. ... The unemployment is getting higher and people do not know what to do. In these conditions there is more urgent need for such places. People need advisors to sort out their issues, but there has been a cut in the number of advisors. The activities for women are not regular due to the lack of funding”.
[service user, female, 34 years old]

“In our community centre there were a few courses. They were running thanks to the funding from the state. Now, there is only a Kurdish language course, which is run thanks to our own efforts. The teacher is voluntarily teaching here. Before, there were grants provided for such courses. Now these grants were completely suspended.” *[service user, male, 50 years old]*

“There are many organisations with strong advice practice, but these are facing reduced funding and increased needs; and there is an unmet need for training and updates, because the system is changing so much”.
[Community advisor]

“In terms of emerging needs more research would be needed, but we 'go with the flow' because resources are limited and we have to cope with daily issues. *[Community advisor]*

5. CONCLUSIONS

- Although small in comparison to other BME groups, the Turkish and Kurdish community has seen a major growth over the last 10 years and it now includes no less than 85,000⁴ people in the whole of London, mainly living in the boroughs of Hackney, Haringey and, increasingly, Enfield.
- Previous research and analysis of the latest statistics indicate that the Turkish and Kurdish communities are characterised by above the average levels of unemployment, poverty and reliance on the welfare system.
- Many members of the community are unable to access adequate support and exercise their rights; this often due to lack of language skills but also to a lack of understanding of and trust in the UK system and inadequate provision of culturally-aware services.
- Although the economic crisis and welfare restructuring are affecting a large part of the UK's population, these limitations in accessing and 'navigating' the welfare system make BME groups such as the Turkish and Kurdish disproportionately vulnerable - with a multiplying effect on long-standing community-specific issues.
- The longitudinal approach of this study indicates how the impact of the economic crisis and welfare restructuring on the Turkish and Kurdish community is changing and 'deepening' over time. Back in 2012, respondents to the questionnaire reported increasing financial and employment difficulties, significant cuts in public services and an overall perception that the quality of life in the local community was worsening. Although most people worried about the future, few had experienced significant changes in their welfare benefits provision.
- In 2013, after a number of key changes in the welfare system have been implemented, their impact on the life of individuals and families has become drastically apparent. The welfare restructuring is affecting every aspect of people's lives: employment, housing, education, social and family relations. The effects of some of these changes are much more complex and far-reaching than many expected.

⁴ This is including just Turkish-born and Turkish and Kurdish speakers, but not other second and third generation individuals.

- Beyond the actual content of the measures implemented by national and local government, the process of welfare restructuring has heightened the lack of trust in 'the state'. Forms of support which were perceived as a right have been removed and there is now a widespread sense of instability and uncertainty about the future.
- Although most members of the Turkish and Kurdish community have been affected, different groups have been hit in different ways. Women, particularly single mothers, older and disabled people and young people are some of those who are suffering disproportionately. On the other hand, it should not be assumed that all Turkish and Kurdish people are vulnerable and in need of support, with many being economically active and engaged in community work.
- In this context, the role of Turkish and Kurdish community organisations - and more generally of the local community sector - is more important than ever. These organisations are highly trusted by local communities and are well placed to provide language and culturally specific advice. However - as in most of the country - BME organisations in North London are facing major difficulties in raising funds to sustain their current activities and to meet the increasing and emerging needs of their users.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings summarised in the previous sections and on the insights gathered from key informants, the following recommendations have been identified:

- Advice quality standards need to be monitored and initiatives should be taken to counter-balance the effects of reduced funding, cuts in professional staff and increased reliance on volunteers. These could include mentoring schemes, time-banks and internships (also to increase the engagement of younger generations).
- The centrality of language-specific support and the need to tackle language barriers should be at the forefront of any local initiative. This goes against recent policy and funding trends and therefore requires innovative ways to finance services and a renewed effort in terms of lobbying and campaigning.
- Further coordination should be developed among local providers of welfare advice, both between different Turkish and Kurdish organisations and between these and other Third Sector and statutory agencies. This should include the development of common short and long term strategies, exchange of knowledge and best practice, discussion of partnership projects and funding applications, joint campaigning and advocacy.
- Initiatives should be taken to raise awareness about future changes in welfare rights and service provisions, both among local service users and community advisors. Such initiatives could include community events, training sessions and campaigns (online, through leaflets, involving local businesses, etc.)
- Further and more structured cooperation and communication between the public and third sector should be sought to address issues of trust and cultural sensitivity and to ensure the 'service commissioning' models is rebalanced by a stronger involvement of communities and community organisations in the identification of priorities and strategies.
- Sustainability of the local community sector should not be at the expenses of its ethos - also in this respect, exchange of knowledge and best practice would be highly beneficial.

- Community resilience should be fostered with initiatives which encourage the development of local networks of mutual support.
- Community organisations should promote and coordinate participatory mapping of welfare needs, cuts in local services and existing forms of support. This should include a differentiation by local areas and sub-groups within the Turkish and Kurdish community, particularly in terms of gender and age. Information gathered at community level should be used also for campaigning, advocacy and fundraising.
- Research and campaigning should be based on the identification of commonalities among different BME communities – and, more generally, local residents who are socio-economically excluded – but at the same time on the recognition of the specific needs of different groups.

7. REFERENCES AND WEB-LINKS

All web-links were correct as of July 2013.

- Afiya Trust (2012), Living in the Margins. The impact of local government social care budget cuts on BME communities
- Aydin, A. (2001), Turkish-speaking communities & education: no delight, Trentham Books
- D'Angelo, A. (2008). *Kurdish Community Organisations in London: A Social Network Analysis*. Social Policy Research Centre, Working Paper. Middlesex University.
 - <http://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/5539/>
- D'Angelo, Sanders, Burkmar. (2010), Migrant and minority community organisations: funding sustainability and ways forward, Middlesex University
 - <https://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/10461/>
- D'Angelo, A., Paniagua, A. & Ozdemir, A. (2011). *BME Children in London: Educational Needs and the Role of Community Organisations. An evaluation of the education services of Day-Mer, Turkish and Kurdish Community Centre*. Middlesex University.
 - <http://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/8248/>
- Enneli, P., Modood, T. & Bradley, H. (2005). Young Turks and Kurds: a set of 'invisible' disadvantaged groups, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
 - <http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/young-turks-and-kurds-set-invisible-disadvantaged-groups>
- GLA. (2009). *Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot Communities in London*. Greater London Authority.
 - <http://www.london.gov.uk/archive/mayor/publications/2009/docs/turkish-communities.pdf>
- Greiff, S., Sahbaz, T., Elibol, B., Dil, O. & Demirel, A. (2011). *The needs and issues of Hackney's Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot Young People*. Day-Mer Turkish and Kurdish Community Centre.

- Holgate, J., Keles, J., Kumarappan, L. & Pollert, A. (2010). *Diaspora, work, employment and community. A report on Kurdish workers in London*. Working Lives Institute, London Metropolitan University.
 - <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/my-esrc/grants/RES-062-23-0464/read>
- Ipsos MORI (2009), *New and existing communities in Enfield*. A series of focus groups to understand perceptions of local public services, community cohesion and participation in Enfield. Final report.
 - http://enfield-observatory.org.uk/downloads/community/new_communities_focus_groups.pdf
- Issa, T., Allen, K. & Ross, A. (2008). Young people's educational attainment in London's Turkish, Turkish Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot Communities. Institute of Policy Studies in Education, London Metropolitan University.
- King, R., Thomson, M., Mai, N. & Keles, Y. (2008). 'Turks' in London: Shades of Invisibility and the Shifting Relevance of Policy in the Migration Process. Working Paper. University of Sussex.
 - <https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=mwp51.pdf&site=252>
- LVSC (2012), *The Big Squeeze: surviving not thriving*, London Voluntary Sector Council
 - <http://www.lvsc.org.uk/research-policy/campaigns/big-squeeze.aspx>
- Roj Women's Association. (2011). *Empowering Kurdish women in London: a consultation on their needs*, Roj Women
 - <http://rojwomen.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/empowering-kurdish-women-in-london.pdf>
- Sriskandarajah, D., Cooley, L. & Kornblatt, T. (2007). *Britain's immigrants. An economic profile*, IPPR (Institute for Public Policy Research)
 - <http://www.ippr.org/publication/55/1598/britains-immigrants-an-economic-profile>