Havering Demographic Profile

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2026

Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

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Document Control

Version history

Version	Change	Date	Author /Analyst	Dissemination
V0.1	First Draft started	05/08/2025	Thomas Goldrick Mark Holder	Working Group
V0.2	First Draft finished removed Infographic and Executive Summary to include separately	02/09/2025	Thomas Goldrick Mark Holder	Working Group
V0.3	Quality assurance and edits	22/09/2025	Anthony Wakhisi	Working group
V0.4	Final draft finished	26/09/2025	Thomas Goldrick	
V0.5	Addressed feedback from DPH	20/10/2025	Thomas Goldrick Anthony Wakhisi	Working group
Final	Updated IMD text, data and graphics following publication of IMD 2025	15/01/2025	Anthony Wakhisi	

1. Introduction

The Havering demographic profile is the first chapter of the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The JSNA is a systematic method for reviewing the issues facing a population, leading to agreed priorities and resource allocation that will improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities within the population.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 supports the principle of local clinical leadership and democratically elected leaders working together to deliver the best health and care services based on the best evidence of local needs. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNAs) and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategies (JHWSs) are an important, locally owned process through which to achieve this.

The purpose of JSNAs and JHWSs is to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community and reduce inequalities for all ages. They are not an end in themselves, but a continuous process of strategic assessment and planning. The core aim is to develop local evidence-based priorities for commissioning which will improve the public's health and reduce inequalities. Their outputs, in the form of evidence and the analysis of needs, and agreed priorities, are used to help to determine what actions local authorities, the local NHS and other statutory and voluntary sector partners need to take to meet health and social care needs, and to address the wider determinants that impact on health and wellbeing[1]

This chapter provides a snapshot of key geographic, demographic and socio-economic facts and figures for the London Borough of Havering[2], with the intention that this will be the "one version of the truth" or reference document for all local stakeholders. The data presented in this chapter is complemented by an online tool to facilitate both the interrogation and further exploration of useful data, reports, and maps by interested stakeholders (Local Insight (communityinsight.org)).

The work to date on the Demographics chapter has been carried out by the Public Health intelligence team and overseen by the Director of Public Health.

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[1] https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7b88cced915d131105fdff/Statutory-Guidance-on-Joint-Strategic-Needs-Assessments-and-Joint-Health-and-Wellbeing-Strategies-March-2013.pdf

[2] Simply referred to as "Havering" throughout this document.

2. Geographic Profile

2. Geographic Profile

2.1 Geographical Location

Havering is the third largest London borough, covering some 43 square miles. It is located on the northeast boundary of Greater London. The location of Havering in the context of Greater London is presented in Figure 1. Havering is bordered to the north and east by the Essex countryside, to the south by a three mile River Thames frontage, and to the west by the neighbouring London boroughs of Redbridge and Barking & Dagenham.

Figure 1: The London Borough of Havering

Source: London Councils

Havering has 20 electoral wards (see Figure 2). Residents' postcodes mainly fall into the Romford postal area (RM1 to RM7 and RM11 to RM14) but a small number fall into the Chelmsford postal area (CM12 and CM13).

Figure 2: The London Borough of Havering ward boundaries

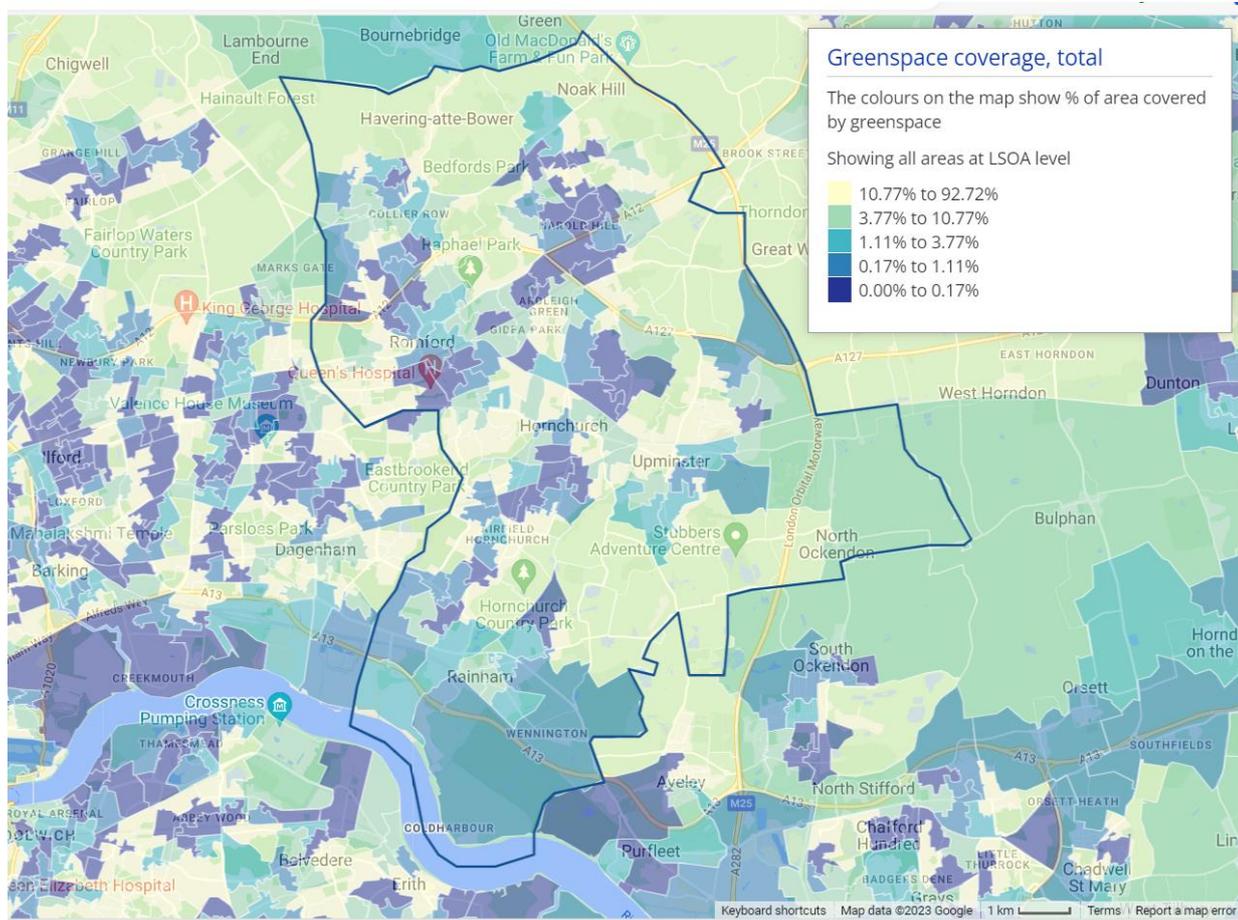Source: LBH Public Health Intelligence

2.2 Parks & Green spaces

Havering is mainly characterised by suburban development, with almost half of the area dedicated to open green space, particularly to the east of the borough where strict Green Belt restrictions have prohibited the extension of existing developments (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Green spaces, Havering 2021

Source: Havering Local Insight

2.3 Population density

Havering's average population density is relatively lower compared with other London boroughs and is estimated to be 2,332 persons per square kilometre (ONS Census, 2021).[3] On the other hand, its principal town (Romford), is densely populated (see Figure 4), and is a major metropolitan retail and night time entertainment centre. The southern part of Havering adjacent to the Thames is within the London Riverside section of the Thames Gateway redevelopment area. This will therefore continue to be a site of increasing development and population change.

Figure 4: Population Density, Havering 2021

Source: Havering Local Insight

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[3] Population estimates - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

2.4 Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)[4] combines many different facets of disadvantage into a single measure. Levels of disadvantage for Havering as a whole are modest but vary significantly within the borough with pockets of significant disadvantage in Harold Hill, Rainham and parts of Romford (see Figure 5).
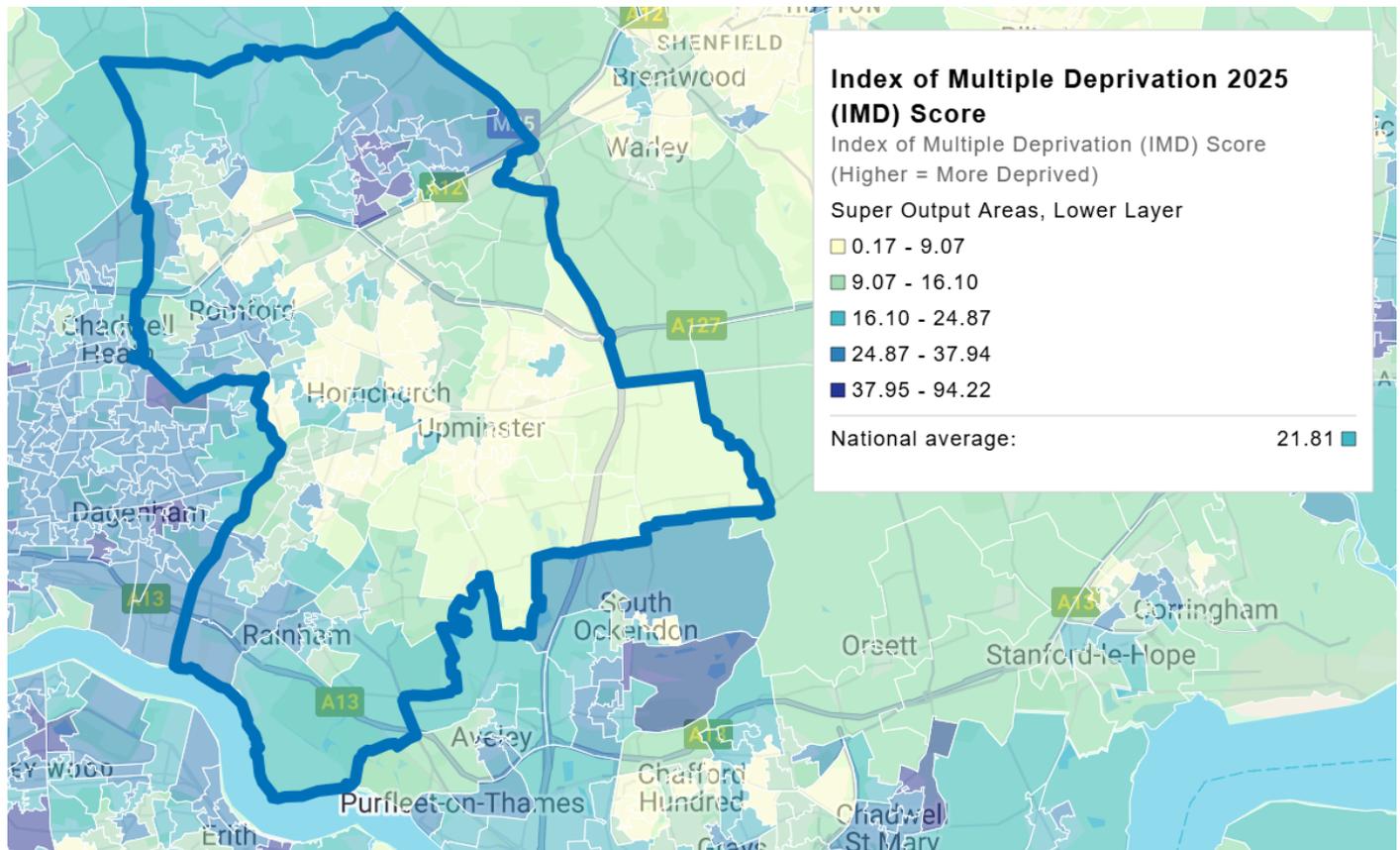
Figure 5: Havering IMD Overall Scores by LSOAs[5], 2025.

Source: Ministry of Housing Communities & Local Government

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[4] IMD - Overall - score is a summary measure. It is a weighted average of the seven IMD domains: Income Deprivation, Employment Deprivation, Health Deprivation and Disability, Education Skills and Training Deprivation, Barriers to Housing and Services, Living Environment Deprivation, and Crime. The more deprived is an area, the higher the IMD score but the lower the rank.
https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025-statistical-release
[5] LSOA - Lower Layer Super Output Areas are a geographic hierarchy used by Office for National Statistics (ONS) to improve the reporting of small area statistics. They are built from groups of contiguous Output Areas and have been automatically generated to be as consistent in population size as possible, and typically contain from four to six Output Areas. The minimum population is 1000 and the mean is 1500.

Figure 6:   Female and Male Life Expectancy at Birth by LSOA, Havering Residents, 2019-24

Source: Havering Local Insight

The strong association between levels of disadvantage and life expectancy (Figure 5 and 6) is evidence that the wider determinants are the most important driver of whether we are healthy or not. At local level, the levers to affect the socio-economic determinants of health tend to lie with councils rather than the NHS.

Health and wellbeing boards give NHS partners the opportunity to ensure that local plans regarding tackling poverty, employment opportunities, educational attainment, housing etc. are robust, focused on reducing inequality and those groups most vulnerable to poor health and wellbeing. However, the health and social care system also has a direct role to play in tackling disadvantage. Residents living with physical and mental illness are at greater risk of disadvantage in all its forms, worsening their wellbeing still further. Effective action to support people with health problems into work or stable accommodation can improve health and reduce demand on health and social care services.

In addition, NHS agencies and Councils have the opportunity to directly impact on the wider determinants to the benefit of local people. To this end, they should view themselves as 'anchor institutions[6]' and consciously seek to maximise the contribution they make to the local community over and above the direct provision of services for example by:

- Further strengthening links (e.g. through work experience, apprenticeships, bursaries etc.) between the health and social care system and local schools and colleges to increase the numbers of young people who aspire to and train towards a relevant career, prioritising more disadvantaged groups and hard to recruit to professions.
- Providing an exemplary work place health scheme to employees and help local SMEs to improve the offer to their workforce.
- Routinely considering the potential for additional 'social value' when procuring goods and services; and how bids from local businesses can be facilitated.

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[6] https://www.health.org.uk/newsletter-feature/the-nhs-as-an-anchor

3. Resident & GP Population

3. Resident & GP Population Profiles
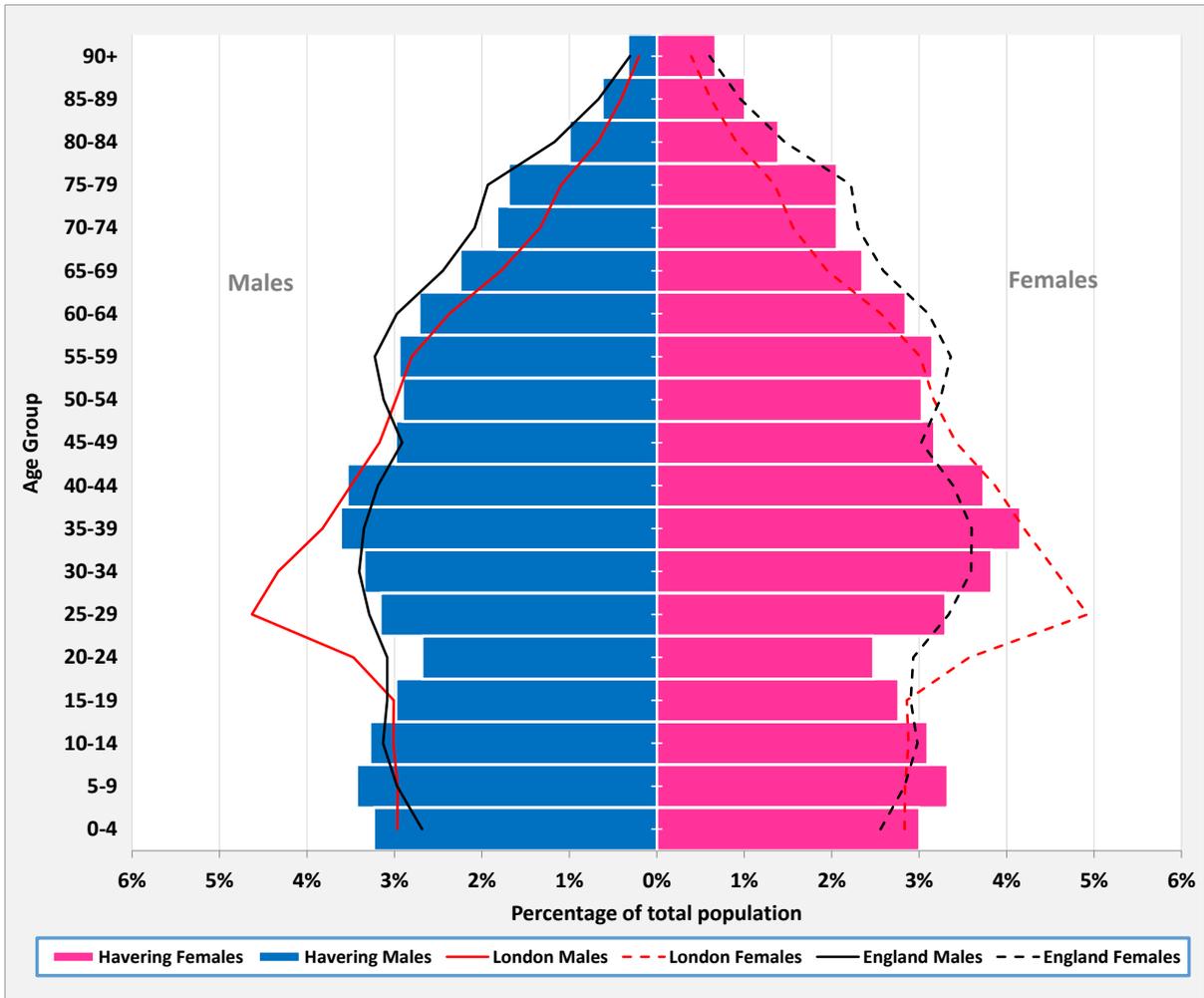
3.1 Havering Residents Population

According to the ONS Mid-Year population estimate 2024, the Havering resident population is estimated as 276,274. The number of people that live in Havering has increased over the last 3 years from 262,052 in 2021 to 276,274 (a 5.4% increase). Table 1 shows the Havering population breakdown by gender and five-year age bands and the population pyramid in Figure 6 compares the population figures for Havering with London and England by five-year age bands. Figure 6 shows a much older age structure for the population of Havering compared to London but similar to England.

Table 1: Estimated population of residents in Havering by gender and five-year age group, 2024

Age Band (Years)	Male	Female	Persons	% Persons
00-04	8,941	8,305	17,246	6
05-09	9,475	9,192	18,667	7
10-14	9,059	8,556	17,615	6
15-19	8,237	7,640	15,877	6
20-24	7,413	6,846	14,259	5
25-29	8,730	9,123	17,853	6
30-34	9,242	10,578	19,820	7
35-39	9,984	11,489	21,473	8
40-44	9,771	10,330	20,101	7
45-49	8,250	8,773	17,023	6
50-54	8,030	8,378	16,408	6
55-59	8,135	8,716	16,851	6
60-64	7,508	7,864	15,372	6
65-69	6,209	6,504	12,713	5
70-74	5,045	5,694	10,739	4
75-79	4,680	5,691	10,371	4
80-84	2,760	3,847	6,607	2
85+	2,629	4,650	7,279	3
All Ages	**134,098**	**142,176**	**276,274**	**100**

Source: ONS Mid-Year population estimate, 2024

Figure 7: Havering, London & England 2024 Population Estimates Pyramid

Source: ONS 2024 Mid-Year Population Estimates; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence
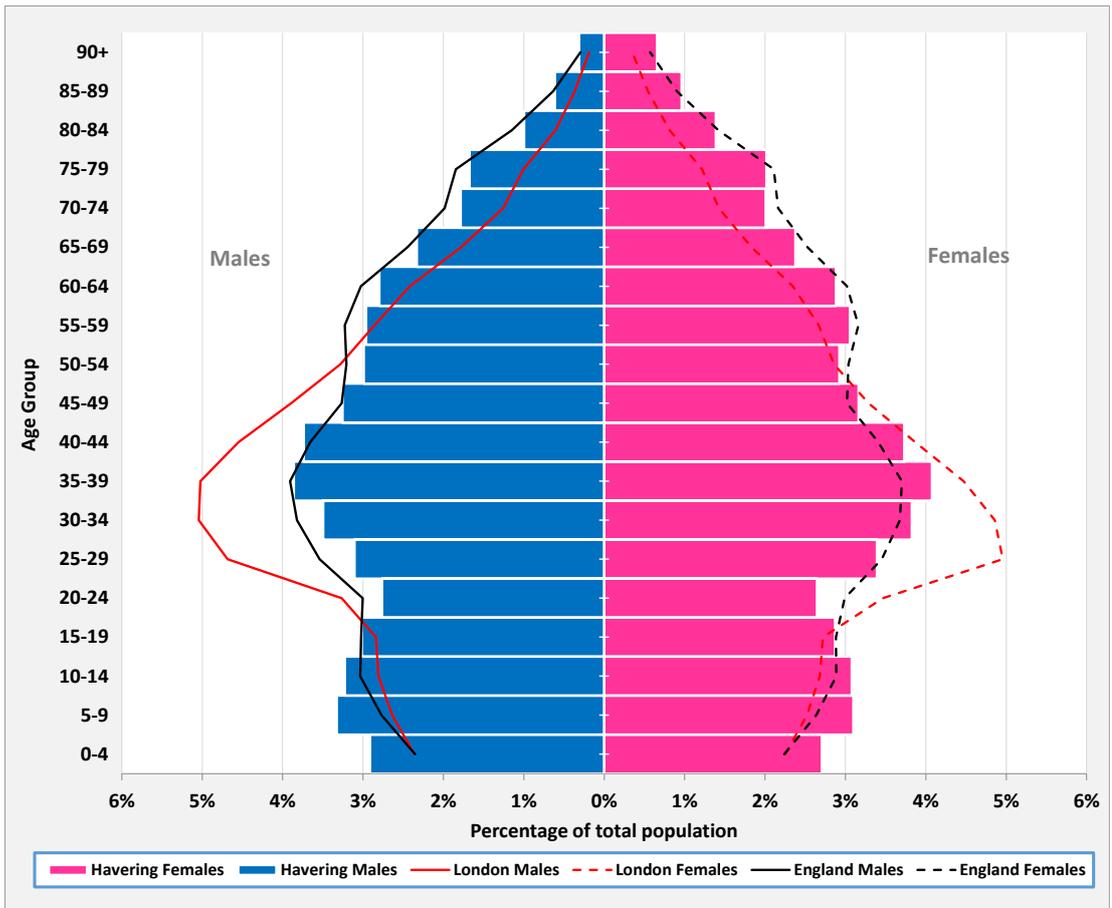
3.2 Havering GP Registered Population

According to the NHS records, 301,849 persons are registered with GP practices in Havering. This is a higher figure by over 25,000 as compared to the resident population. This may be attributed to cross border registrations from neighbouring boroughs and some patients not notifying their practices after moving out of the borough. However, the GP population structure (see Table 2 and Figure 8) is similar to the resident's one.

Table 2: Havering GP registered population by gender and five-year age groups, July 2025

Age Band (Years)	Male	Female	Persons	% Persons
00-04	8,791	8,168	16,959	6
05-Oct	10,038	9,355	19,393	6
Nov-14	9,736	9,291	19,027	6
15-19	9,100	8,667	17,767	6
20-24	8,336	7,983	16,319	5
25-29	9,370	10,237	19,607	6
30-34	10,553	11,548	22,101	7
35-39	11,653	12,306	23,959	8
40-44	11,277	11,262	22,539	7
45-49	9,820	9,550	19,370	6
50-54	9,027	8,828	17,855	6
55-59	8,935	9,220	18,155	6
60-64	8,438	8,697	17,135	6
65-69	7,031	7,175	14,206	5
70-74	5,388	6,061	11,449	4
75-79	5,051	6,084	11,135	4
80-84	3,009	4,189	7,198	2
85-89	1,850	2,901	4,751	2
90+	942	1,982	2,924	1
All Ages	148,345	153,504	301,849	100

Source: NHS Digital, July 2025

Figure 8: Havering, London & England GP registered population pyramid, July 2025

Source: NHS Digital, July 2025; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence
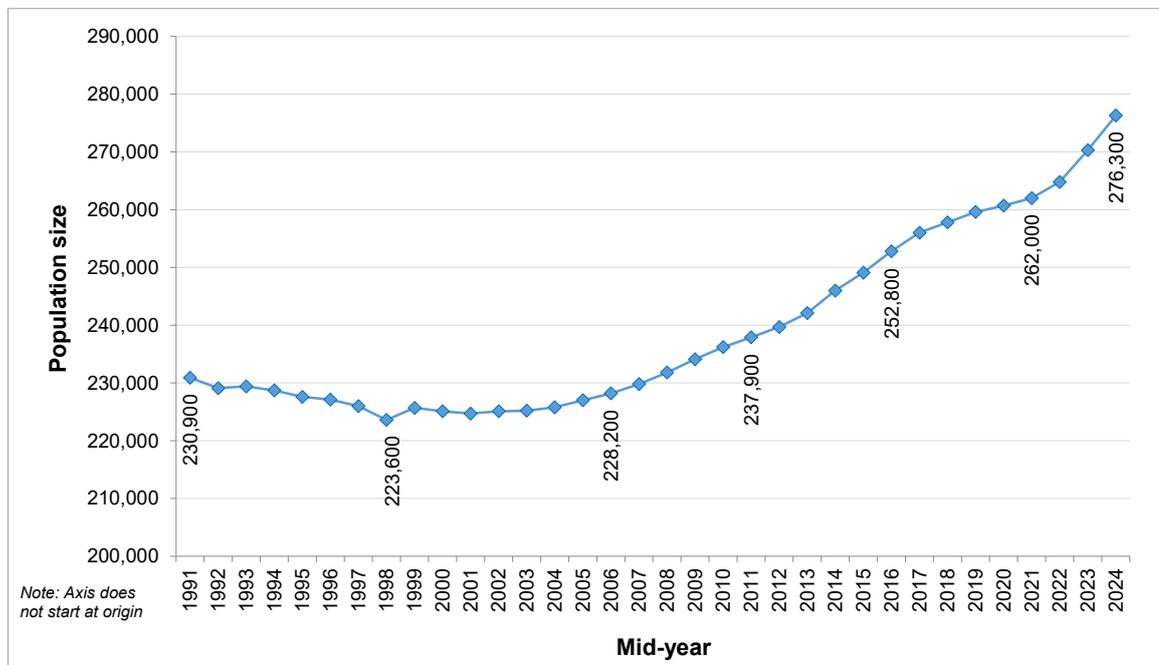
4. Population Change

4. Population Change

4.1 Annual Population Change and Associated Factors

Havering's population has increased year on year since 1998 to approximately 276,300 in 2024 (see Figure 9).

Figure 9: Trend in population size in Havering, 1991-2024

Source: ONS 2024 Mid-Year Population Estimates; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

The ONS mid-year population estimates show an increase of 5,969 residents (2.2%) between 2023 and 2024. This increase is due to a net international migration of 2,853 people (1.1%), net internal migration of 2,104 people (0.8%) and net births minus deaths 1,028 people (0.3%) (Table 3).

Table 3: Havering Components of Population Change, from 2023 to 2024

	Number	Percentage
Estimated Population mid-2023	270,305	
Estimated Population mid-2024	276,274	
Overall Population Change	**5,969**	**2.21%**
• Due to Births and Deaths	1,028	0.38%
• Due to Internal Migration	2,104	0.78%
• Due to International Migration	2,853	1.06%
• Due to Other Adjustments	-16	-0.01%

Source: Analysis of Population Estimates Tool, ONS 2024

4.2 Population change between 2011 and 2021 census

The number of people that live in Havering has increased over the last decade from 237,232 in 2011 to 262,052 in 2021. This is a 10.4% increase compared to a 7.7% increase across London and a 6.6% increase across England. Tower Hamlets had the highest population increase among London boroughs (22.1%) (Figure 10). Between the last two censuses, the median age in Havering decreased by one year, from 40 to 39 years of age. This was higher than London as a whole (35 years) but slightly lower than England (40 years).

Table 4: Havering population change between 2011 and 2021 census

	Number	Percentage
Census Population 2011	237,232	
Census Population 2021	262,052	
Overall Population Change	24,820	10.4%

Figure 10: London boroughs percentage population change between 2011 and 2021 census

Source: ONS Census, 2021

4.3 Ward Level population change

Between 2021 and 2022, St Andrew's saw the largest decline (of around 0.95%); Cranham and Marshalls & Rise Park had a small decline in population whereas all other wards experienced an increase. Beam Park and St Alban's experienced the highest percentage increase in population. The likely explanations for population increase include economic growth and new developments within Beam Park and inflow migration from neighbouring boroughs.

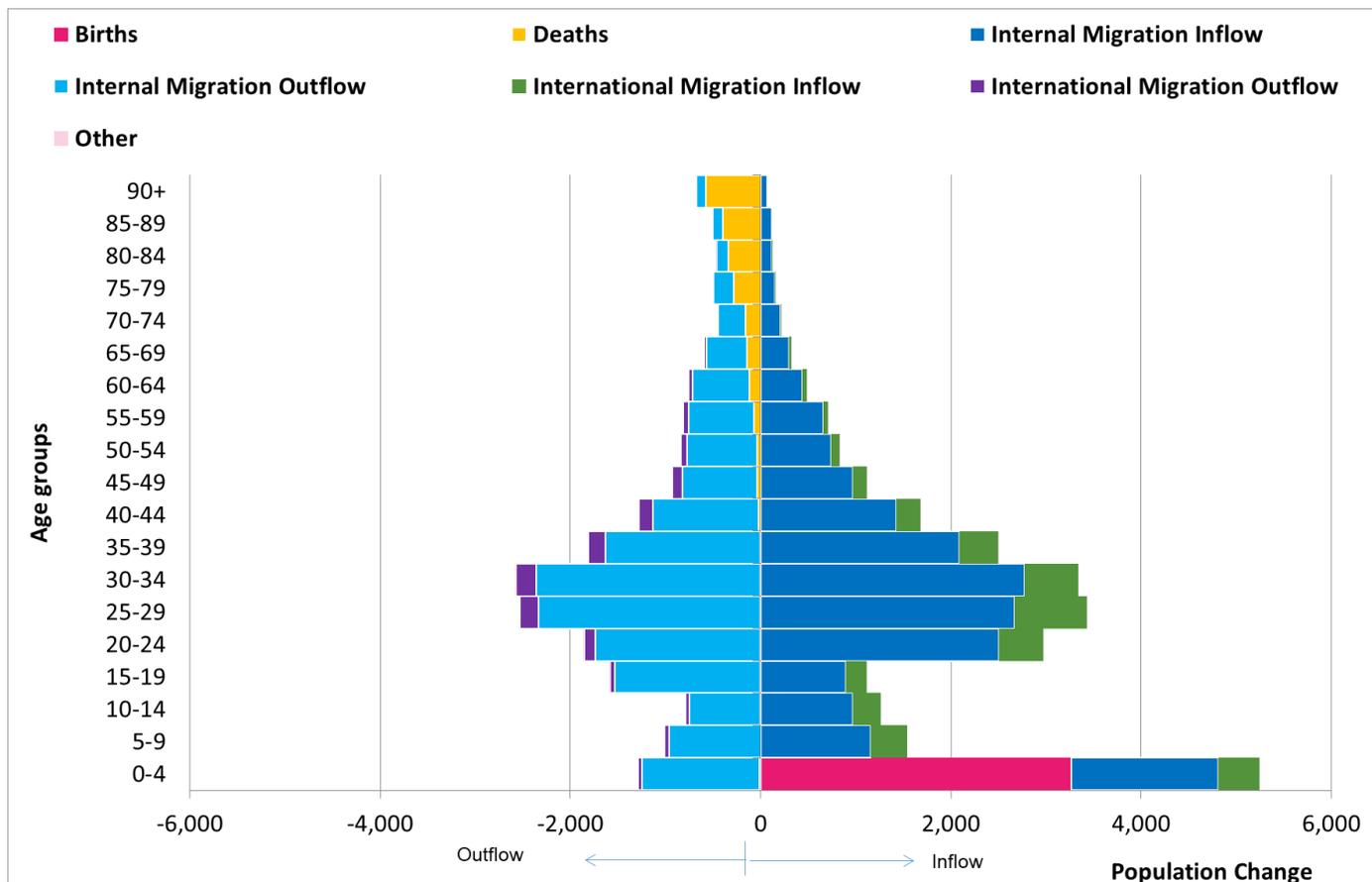**Table 5: Havering ward population change from 2021 to 2022**

	Mid- 2021 Population	Mid- 2022 Population	Change	%Change	Rank of % Change (1 is highest, 18 is lowest)
HAVERING	262,086	264,675	**2,589**	**0.99%**	-
Beam Park	4,911	5,539	**628**	**12.79%**	1
St Alban's	8,755	8,992	**237**	**2.71%**	2
Rush Green & Crowlands	16,023	16,302	**279**	**1.74%**	3
St Edward's	10,400	10,581	**181**	**1.74%**	4
Heaton	17,190	17,473	**283**	**1.65%**	5
Mawneys	14,537	14,750	**213**	**1.47%**	6
Hacton	8,565	8,679	**114**	**1.33%**	7
Elm Park	16,644	16,838	**194**	**1.17%**	8
Harold Wood	13,820	13,977	**157**	**1.14%**	9
Havering-atte-Bower	16,286	16,467	**181**	**1.11%**	10
South Hornchurch	10,982	11,086	**104**	**0.95%**	11
Squirrels Heath	15,534	15,614	**80**	**0.51%**	12
Emerson Park	9,557	9,582	**25**	**0.26%**	13
Upminster	13,322	13,353	**31**	**0.23%**	14
Rainham & Wennington	13,515	13,530	**15**	**0.11%**	15
Hylands & Harrow Lodge	13,747	13,762	**15**	**0.11%**	16
Gooshays	17,796	17,814	**18**	**0.10%**	17
Cranham	12,950	12,943	**-7**	**-0.05%**	18
Marshalls & Rise Park	12,966	12,945	**-21**	**-0.16%**	19
St Andrew's	14,586	14,448	**-138**	**-0.95%**	20

Source: ONS 2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

4.4 Age Population Change and Associated Factors

Figure 11 & Table 6 show the population change in Havering between 2023 and 2024 by contributory factor and age. Figure 10 shows the net change in population due to migration by five-year age groups. Inclusive of 'natural change' (i.e. births and deaths), children aged 0-4 years are the largest contributors to population change, largely due to births. The year 2024 saw a net increase in young adults (20-44 years) largely due to internal migration and a net decrease in adults aged 55-79 years largely due to internal migration out. There was a significant decrease of 15-19 year olds who may have left the borough to pursue higher education elsewhere in the country (see Figures 10 and 11).

Figure 11: Havering population change between 2023 and 2024 by component and five-year age-groups
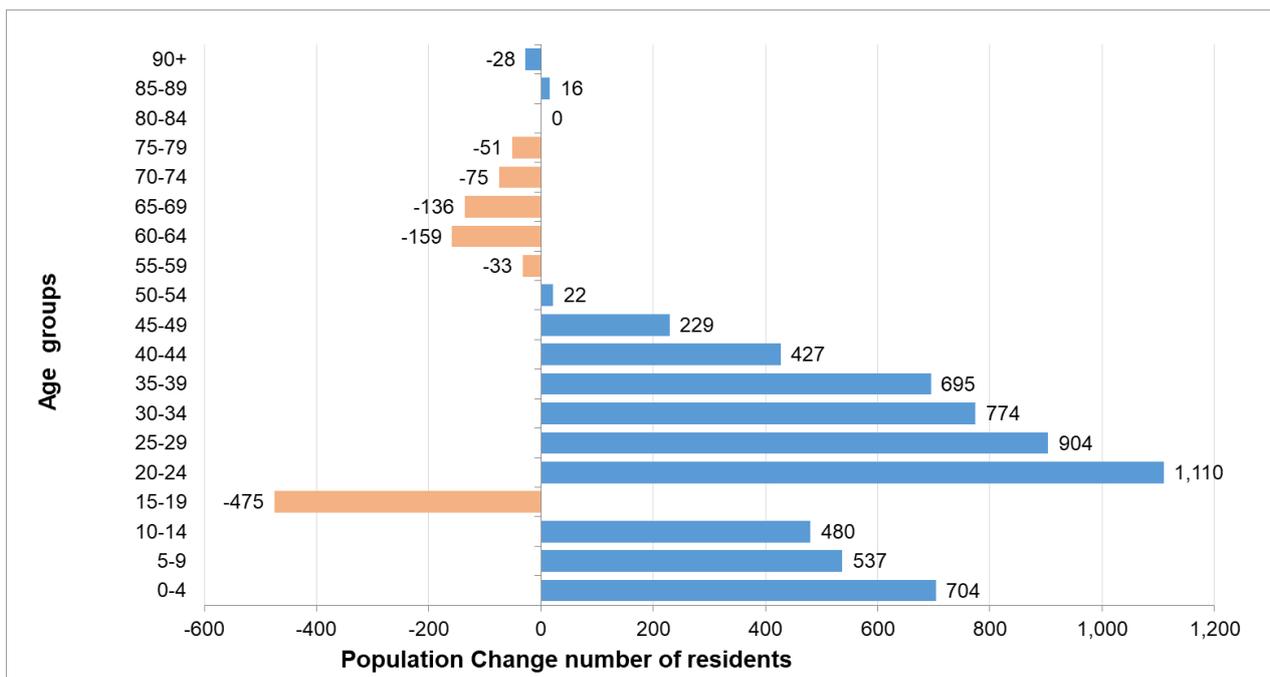

Data source: ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2024 Analysis Tool; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

Table 6: Havering population change between 2023 and 2024 by component and five-year age-groups

Age group	Births	Deaths	Internal Migration Inflow	Internal Migration Outflow	International Migration Inflow	International Migration Outflow	Other
0-4	3,267	-11	1,543	-1,240	435	-34	0
5-9	0	0	1,154	-962	390	-45	0
10-14	0	-1	965	-752	301	-34	0
15-19	0	-3	893	-1,533	222	-45	-12
20-24	0	-2	2,508	-1,736	465	-117	-10
25-29	0	-6	2,670	-2,326	761	-202	1
30-34	0	-9	2,771	-2,350	569	-210	-6
35-39	0	-9	2,086	-1,627	411	-179	4
40-44	0	-20	1,423	-1,114	260	-146	4
45-49	0	-39	969	-782	150	-109	1
50-54	0	-35	738	-742	88	-64	2
55-59	0	-72	658	-687	49	-54	1
60-64	0	-117	440	-596	43	-46	0
65-69	0	-142	296	-424	22	-30	0
70-74	0	-164	207	-280	9	-11	0
75-79	0	-286	153	-208	8	-4	0
80-84	0	-344	119	-120	4	-2	-1
85-89	0	-399	121	-103	0	-2	0
90+	0	-580	70	-98	0	0	0

Data source: ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2023 Analysis Tool; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

Figure 12: Net population change due to migration in Havering, from mid-2023 to mid-2024, five-year age-groups.
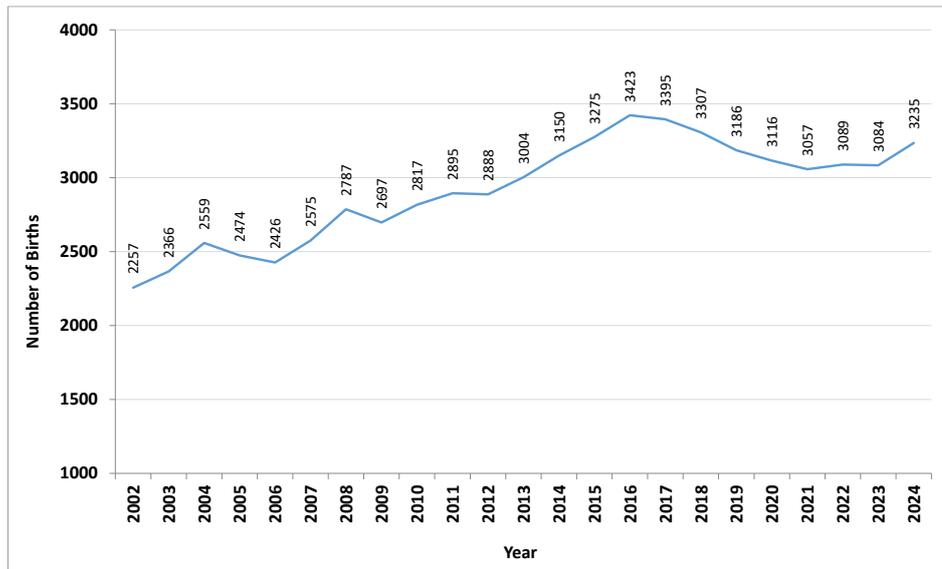

Data source: ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2024 Analysis Tool; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence
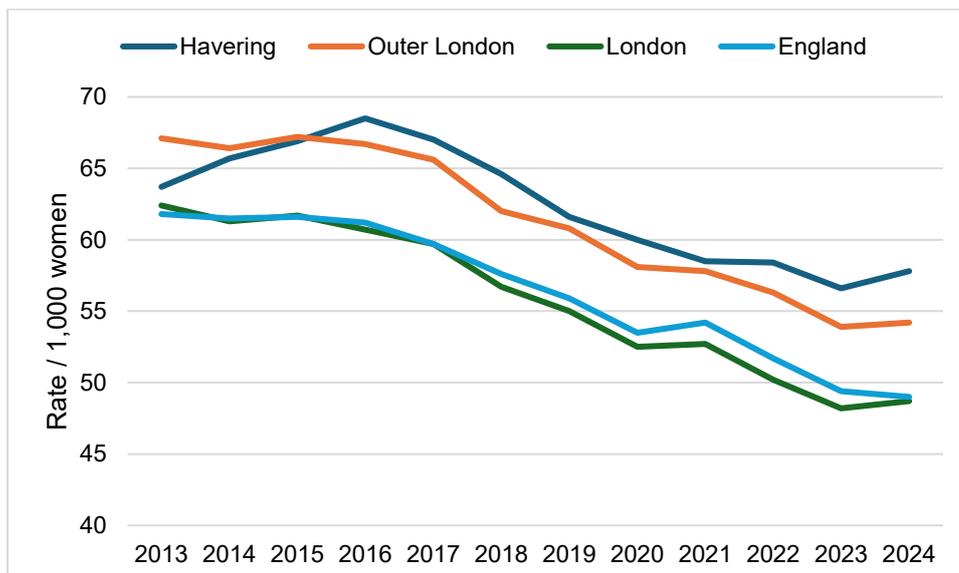
4.5 Births and Migration of Children

Up to 2016, the number of births among Havering women was on an upward trend. A decline thereafter continued until 2021 after which a slight upward trend has been observed. The latest data shows that between 2023 and 2024 there was an increase of 151 births (see Figure 13). The general fertility rate (GFR)[7] trend has been consistent with the number births as shown in Figure 14. The latest (2024) GFR for Havering was 58 per 1,000 women aged 15-44, higher than the outer London, London and England averages.

Figure 13: Number of live births to women residents in Havering, 2002 to 2024

Source: Nomis, Official Census and Labour Market Statistics; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

Figure 14: Trend in general fertility rate of women residents aged 15 to 44 years in Havering, Outer London, London and England, 2013 to 2024
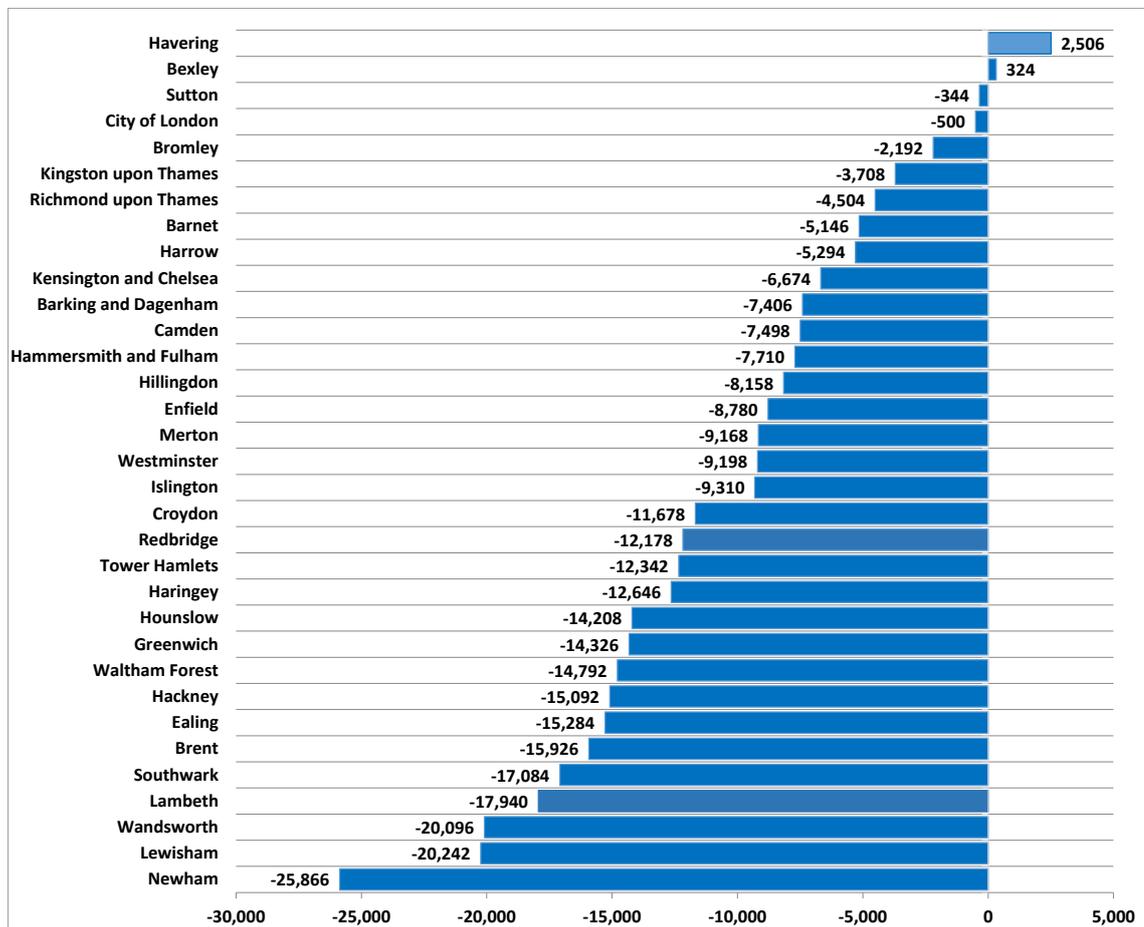

Source: Nomis, Official Census and Labour Market Statistics; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

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[7] This is a measure of current fertility levels and denotes the number of live births as a rate per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 years. Fertility rates are closely tied to growth rates for an area and can be an excellent indicator of future population growth or decline in that area.

In addition, Havering has experienced the largest net inflow of children across all London boroughs in recent years. In a four-year period (from 2020 to 2023), 2,506 children have settled in the borough from another part of the United Kingdom (see Figure 15). Figure 15 also illustrates that there is migration of children out of London Boroughs, which have experienced a negative net flow. However, the biggest inflows of children into Havering in 2023 came from neighbouring Outer London Boroughs, Barking & Dagenham (1,088 children) and Redbridge (972 children).

Figure 15: Net migration flow of children by London Borough, 2020-2023

Data source: Greater London Authority (GLA); Produced by Public Health Intelligence

4.6 Projected Population Change

4.6.1 Borough Level Projections

According to the Greater London Authority (GLA) Local authority population projections, housing led[8], Havering's population is projected to increase from 264,703 in 2022 to:

- 271,502 in 2024 (2.6%) but already at 276,274 ONS 2024 Mid-year (4.4%)
- 277,529 in 2029 (4.8%)
- 278,934 in 2039 (5.4%)

4.6.2 Ward Level Projections

Table 7 shows the projected population and projected percentage population change in Havering at ward level for the next 5, 10 and 15 years based on the 2022 GLA projections. The populations in Beam Park and St Alban's wards are expected to increase the most over the next 10 – 15 years.

Table 7: Projected population growth among Havering wards from 2022 to 2037

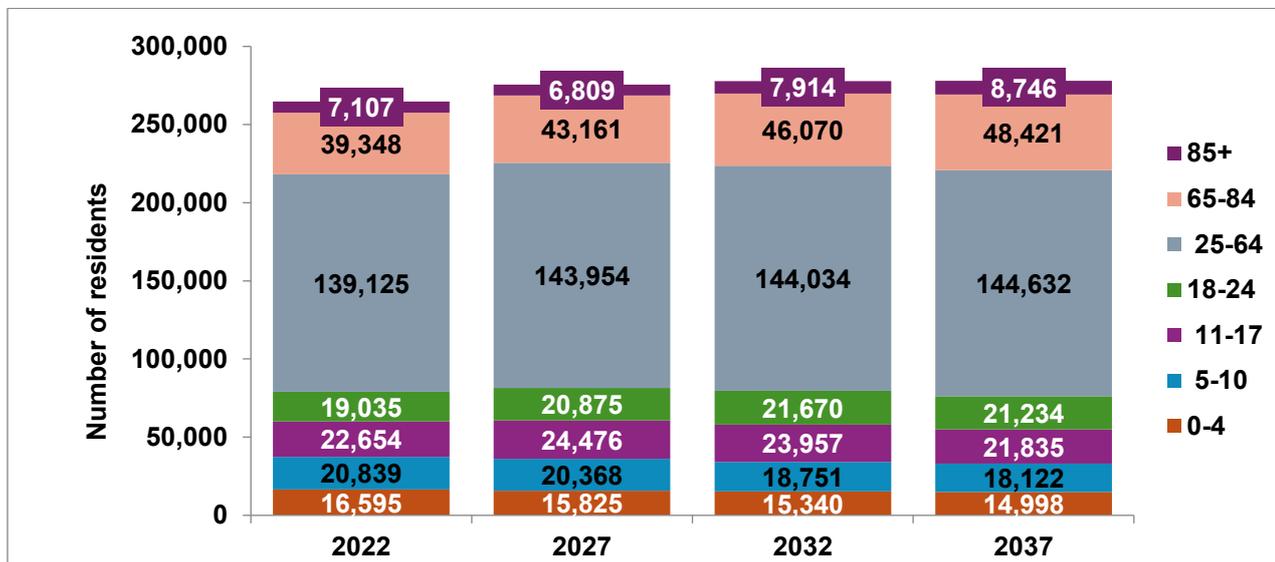| Ward	2022 Number	2027 Number	% change from 2021	2032 Number	% change from 2021	2037 Number	% change from 2021
Beam Park	5,536	7,539	36.2%	9,139	65.1%	9,436	70.5%
Cranham	12,927	13,250	2.5%	13,266	2.6%	13,220	2.3%
Elm Park	16,857	17,357	3.0%	17,256	2.4%	17,142	1.7%
Emerson Park	9,579	9,748	1.8%	9,756	1.8%	9,805	2.4%
Gooshays	17,825	18,177	2.0%	17,753	-0.4%	17,452	-2.1%
Hacton	8,680	9,041	4.2%	9,560	10.1%	9,838	13.3%
Harold Wood	13,972	14,534	4.0%	14,419	3.2%	14,413	3.2%
Havering-atte-Bower	16,486	16,740	1.5%	16,554	0.4%	16,362	-0.7%
Heaton	17,460	17,884	2.4%	17,525	0.4%	17,279	-1.0%
Hylands & Harrow Lodge	13,759	14,010	1.8%	13,919	1.2%	13,991	1.7%
Marshalls & Rise Park	12,949	13,171	1.7%	13,133	1.4%	13,120	1.3%
Mawneys	14,760	15,036	1.9%	14,917	1.1%	14,806	0.3%
Rainham & Wennington	13,528	13,858	2.4%	13,813	2.1%	13,950	3.1%
Rush Green & Crowlands	16,288	17,427	7.0%	17,888	9.8%	17,909	10.0%
South Hornchurch	11,090	11,286	1.8%	11,101	0.1%	11,041	-0.4%
Squirrels Heath	15,620	16,109	3.1%	16,208	3.8%	16,209	3.8%
St Alban's	9,011	10,190	13.1%	10,908	21.1%	10,960	21.6%
St Andrew's	14,437	14,865	3.0%	14,884	3.1%	14,981	3.8%
St Edward's	10,570	11,485	8.7%	11,849	12.1%	12,144	14.9%
Upminster	13,369	13,760	2.9%	13,888	3.9%	13,927	4.2%
Total	264,703	275,468	4.1%	277,736	4.9%	277,986	5.0%

Data source: GLA 2022-based Demographic Projections – Local Authority Population Projection Housing-led Model; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

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[8] This models the population size for each age group based on trend data and strategic housing building plans (the assumption is that the proportion of people in each age group remains relatively stable over the next ten years). The tool is updated annually to reflect the latest ONS mid-year estimates. These projections incorporate assumptions about future development based on the results of the 2016 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA).

4.6.3 Age Level Projections

Figure 16 and Table 8 show change in population by age group as from 2022 to 2037. It is projected that the largest percentage increases in population will occur among older people age groups (65 years and above).

Figure 16: Projected population change by age group from 2022 to 2037

Data source: GLA 2022-based Demographic Projections – Local Authority population projection Housing-led Model; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

Table 8: Projected percentage population change by age group from 2022 to 2037

Age band	2022	2027		2032		2037	
0-4	16,595	15,825	-5%	15,340	-8%	14,998	-10%
5-10	20,839	20,368	-2%	18,751	-10%	18,122	-13%
11-17	22,654	24,476	8%	23,957	6%	21,835	-4%
18-24	19,035	20,875	10%	21,670	14%	21,234	12%
25-64	139,125	143,954	3%	144,034	4%	144,632	4%
65-84	39,348	43,161	10%	46,070	17%	48,421	23%
85+	7,107	6,809	-4%	7,914	11%	8,746	23%
All ages	**264,703**	**275,468**	**4%**	**277,736**	**5%**	**277,988**	**5%**

Data source: GLA 2022-based Demographic Projections – Local Authority population projection Housing-led Model; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

5. Protected Characteristics

5. Protected Characteristics

5.1 Ethnicity

Havering's ethnic structure has significantly changed in the last 10 years. According to the 2021 census data, 66% of its residents were recorded as White British in the 2021 census as compared to 83% in 2011. However, this remains higher than the London average but lower than the England average (see Table 9 and Figure 16).

Table 9: Havering Ethnic Groups, Number & Percentage

Ethnicity	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
White British	84449	89783	174232	66%
Other White	10872	12210	23082	9%
Black	9979	11588	21567	8%
Asian	13799	14351	28150	11%
Mixed	4746	5001	9747	4%
Other	2539	2735	5274	2%
Total	**126384**	**135668**	**262052**	100%

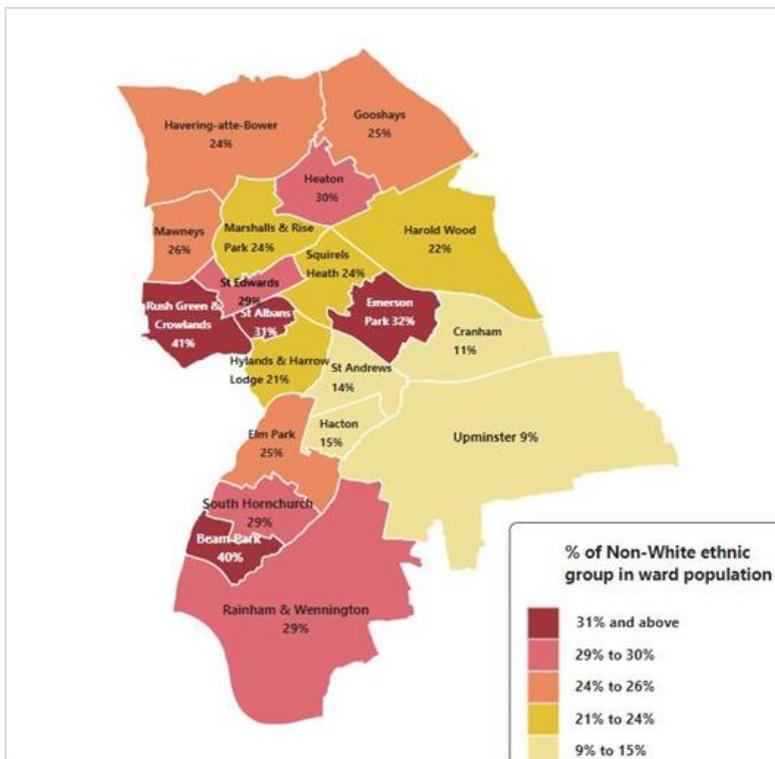Source: Census 2021; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

Figure 17: Havering 2021 Census Population, broken down by proportion of White British and BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) groups

Source: Census 2021; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

Figure 18 presents the distribution of non-white population[9] across Havering wards. Beam Park, Emerson Park, Heaton, Rush Green & Crowlands are the wards with the highest proportion of non-white categories.

Figure 18: The distribution of non-white population across wards in Havering, 2021
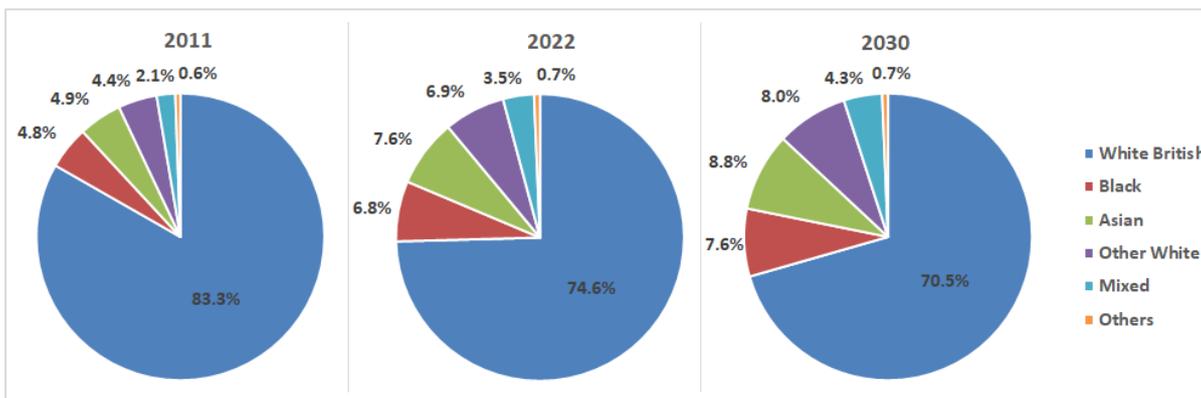

Source: Census 2021; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

Ethnic population projections

Ethnic diversity has increased in Havering since last census in 2011. Nonetheless, Havering remains more similar to England as a whole than London in terms of ethnic diversity with 74.6% estimated to be White British in 2022. This is expected to reduce to 70.5% by 2030 (Figure 19).

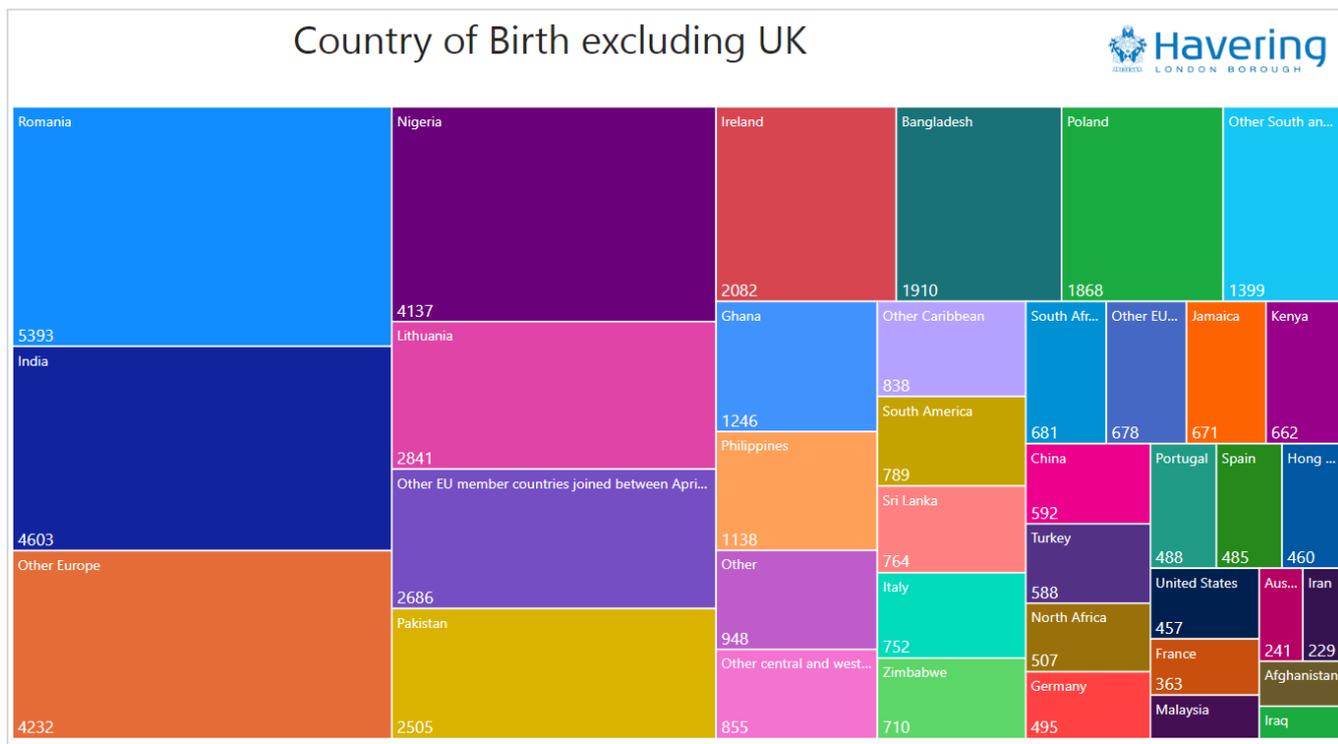**Figure 19: Havering ethnic population projections, 2011-2030**

Data Source: GLA Ethnic Projections; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

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[9] Note that non-white population group excludes minority white ethnic groups

Country of Birth

According to the Census 2011 report, 81% of the residents in Havering were born in the United Kingdom (UK). A breakdown of the minority proportion of Havering residents born out of the UK (19%) is presented in Figure 20. It shows that most of the residents born outside of the UK are from Romania, India, Nigeria and other European countries.

Figure 20: Count and proportion of UK born and non-UK born Havering residents and their countries and regions of origin, 2021

Source: Census 2021; Produced by Public Health Intelligence

5.2 Main Languages

According to Census 2021 data, the most spoken language in Havering is English (90%) followed by other European languages (4%). The most spoken non-European language is Panjabi (0.6%).

Table 10: Main Languages spoken in Havering

Main Language	Number	Percentage
English (English or Welsh if in Wales)	227,346	90.1%
Other European language (EU): Any other European languages	10,198	4.0%
South Asian language: Panjabi	1,393	0.6%
Other European language (EU): Polish	1,320	0.5%
South Asian language: Any other South Asian languages	1,178	0.5%
South Asian language: Bengali (with Sylheti and Chatgaya)	1,131	0.4%
South Asian language: Urdu	1,081	0.4%
European languages (non-EU)	1,001	0.4%
African languages	912	0.4%
East Asian language: Any other East Asian languages	769	0.3%
Portuguese	730	0.3%
Russian	719	0.3%
East Asian language: Mandarin, Cantonese and other Chinese languages	707	0.3%
South Asian language: Tamil	669	0.3%
Turkish	603	0.2%
South Asian language: Gujarati	599	0.2%
Spanish	537	0.2%
West or Central Asian languages	447	0.2%
Arabic	371	0.1%
French	326	0.1%
All usual residents aged 3 and over	**252,281**	

Source: Census 2021

According to School Census 2023 data, the first language for most children in Havering is English (74%) followed by Romanian (4%). The highest percentage among non-European languages is Urdu (2%).

Table 11: Top 10 First Language for Children in Havering Schools

First Language	Number	Percentage
English	31,567	74.4%
Romanian	1,740	4.1%
Urdu	866	2.0%
Lithuanian	720	1.7%
Bengali	625	1.5%
Polish	494	1.2%
Albanian	441	1.0%
Yoruba	404	1.0%
Punjabi	368	0.9%
Russian	352	0.8%

Data Source: School Census, 2023

5.3 Traveller population

There were 339 caravans occupied by travellers in Havering as at January 2025, an increase by 110 from the previous year (229) (see Table 12). Only 111 were on authorised sites while 152 were tolerated. [10] The total number of caravans has increased over the last two years and the number with permanent planning permission is increasing.

Table 12: Count of Traveller Caravans in Havering, Last Seven Counts, January 2020 to January 2023

			2022		2023		2024		2025
			Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan
Authorised sites (with planning permission)	**Socially Rented Caravans**		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Private Caravans	**Temporary Planning Permission**	121	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Permanent Planning Permission	22	22	30	19	107	110	111
		All Private Caravans	143	22	30	19	107	110	111
Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)	**No. of Caravans on Sites on Travellers' own land**	**"Tolerated"**	0	54	57	24	9	16	41
		"Not tolerated"	15	116	105	148	103	122	187
	No. of Caravans on Sites on land not owned by Travellers	**"Tolerated"**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		"Not tolerated"	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total All Caravans			**158**	**192**	**192**	**191**	**229**	**288**	**339**

Data Source: Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

5.4 Sexual Orientation

According to the ONS Census 2021, the majority of Havering residents aged 16 and above (91%) identify as straight or heterosexual. In total, 2% identify with one of the LGB+ orientations ("Gay or Lesbian", "Bisexual" or "Other sexual orientation") (Table 13).

Table 13: Detailed breakdown of sexual orientation in Havering for residents aged 16 and over, 2021
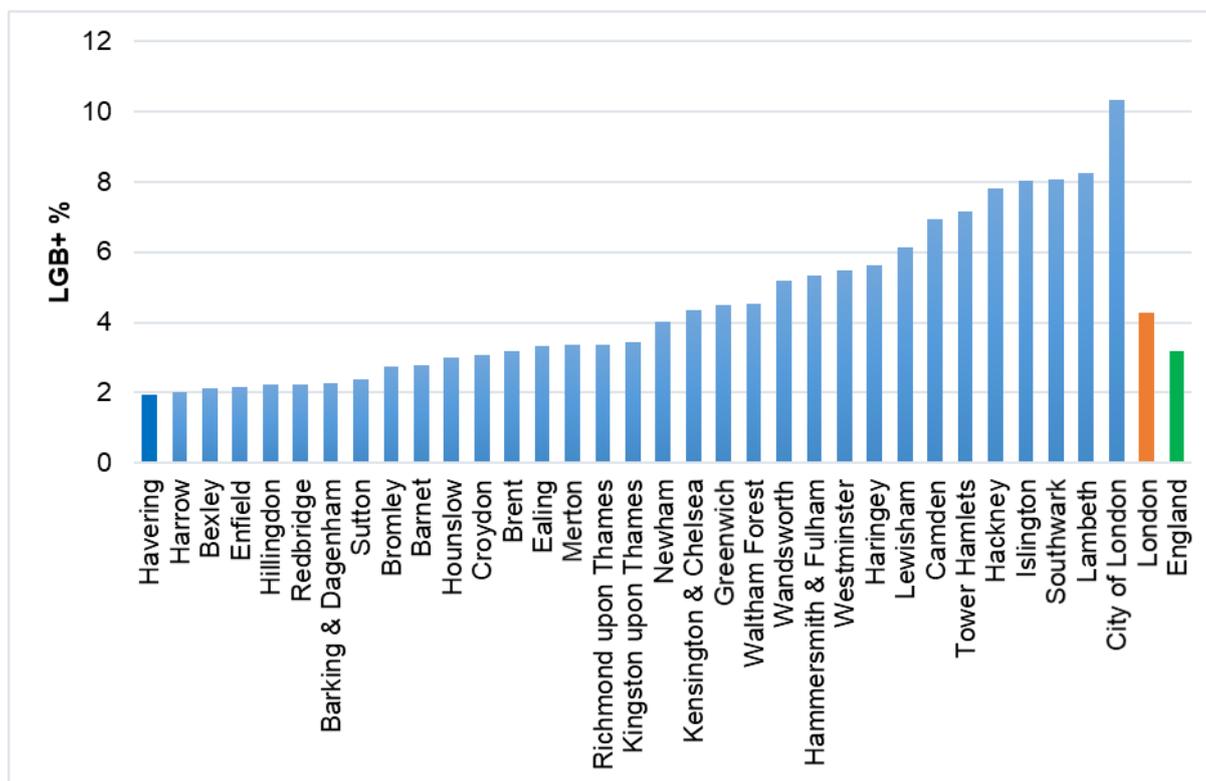
Sexual Orientation	Number	Percentage
Straight or Heterosexual	191,007	91.1%
Gay or Lesbian	1,993	0.95%
Bisexual	1,540	0.73%
Pansexual	436	0.21%
Asexual	56	0.03%
Queer	21	0.01%
All other sexual orientations	46	0.02%
Not answered	14,631	7.0%
Total	**209,730**	**100%**

Source: ONS Census, 2021

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[10] A 'tolerated' site is one where the local authority has decided not to seek the removal of the encampment, and where the encampment has been, or is likely to be, allowed to remain for an indefinite period of months or years

Havering has the lowest proportion of residents aged 16 and over in London who identify as LGB+ orientation ("Gay or Lesbian", "Bisexual" or "Other sexual orientation") (Figure 21).

Figure 21: Percentage of LGB+ residents, London boroughs and England, 2021

Source: ONS Census, 2021; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

5.5 Gender Identity

According to the ONS Census 2021, the majority of Havering residents aged 16 and above report a gender identity that aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth. In total, less than 1% identify with gender identity different from the one registered at birth (Table 14).
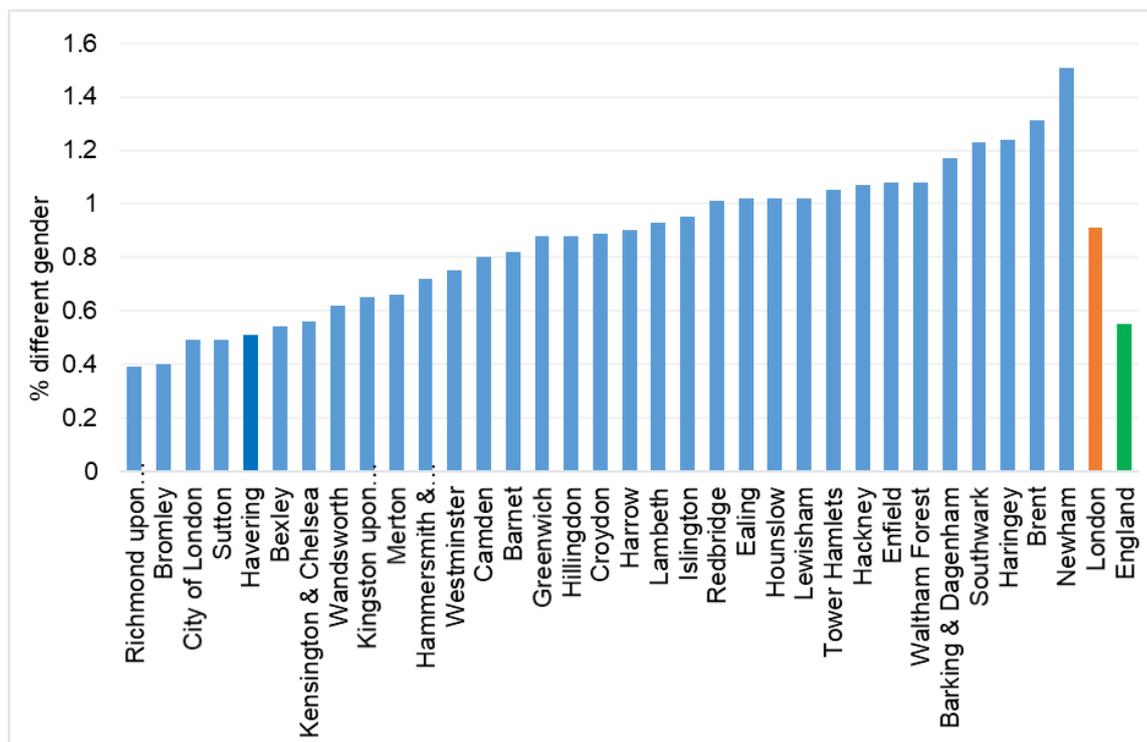
Table 14: Detailed breakdown of gender identity in Havering for residents aged 16 and over, 2021

Gender Identity	Number	Percentage
Gender identity the same as sex registered at birth	196,462	93.7%
Gender identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given	528	0.25%
Trans woman	228	0.11%
Trans man	212	0.10%
Non-binary	60	0.03%
All other gender identities	39	0.02%
Not answered	12,201	5.8%
Total	**209,730**	**100%**

Source: ONS Census, 2021

Within London, Havering has the 5th lowest proportion of residents aged 16 and over reporting that the gender that they identify with now is different to their sex registered at birth.

Figure 22: Percentage of people that identify as a different sex to that registered at birth, Havering, London boroughs and England, 2021

Source: ONS Census, 2021; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

5.6 Religion

According to the ONS Census 2021, just over a half (52%) of Havering residents identify as Christians. This is a significant reduction from 65.6% in 2011. No religion was the second most common response, with 30.6% identifying in this category, up from 22.6% in 2011. Other religions accounted for 11.7% of the total Havering population, which is an increase from 5.1% in 2011.

Table 15: Number and percentage of the population by religion in Havering, London and England, 2021.
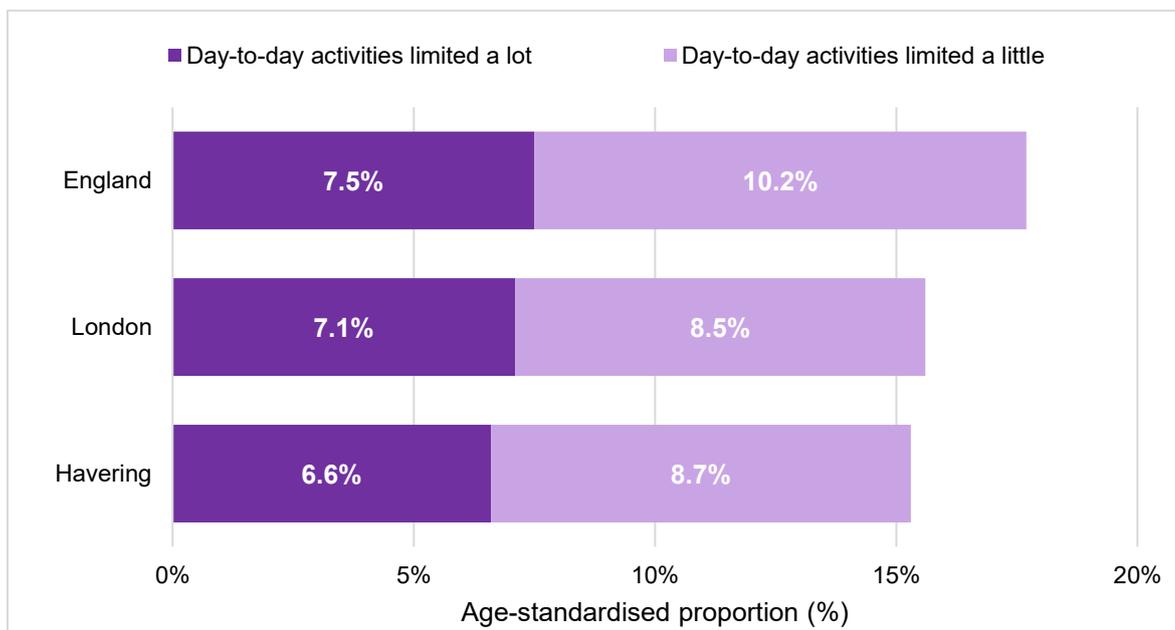
Religion	Havering		London		England	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
Christian	136,765	52.2	3,577,681	40.7	26,167,899	46.3
Buddhist	1,092	0.4	77,425	0.9	262,433	0.5
Hindu	6,454	2.5	453,034	5.1	1,020,533	1.8
Jewish	1,305	0.5	145,466	1.7	269,283	0.5
Muslim	16,135	6.2	1,318,754	15.0	3,801,186	6.7
Sikh	4,498	1.7	144,543	1.6	520,092	0.9
No religion	80,235	30.6	2,380,405	27.1	20,715,667	36.7
Other religion	1,056	0.4	86,755	1.0	332,406	0.6
Religion not stated	14,512	5.5	615,662	7.0	3,400,548	6.0
All Usual Residents	262,052	100	8,799,725	100	56,490,047	100

Source: ONS Census 2021

5.7 People with Disabilities

In Havering an estimated 38,449 residents reported having a disability[11] in 2021. This is an Age standardised proportion (ASP) of 15.3%, which is slightly lower than London (15.6%) and lower than England (17.7%). 6.6% reported that their day-to-day activities were limited a lot and 8.7% reported their day-to-day activities were limited a little, due to a disability (see figure 23 below).
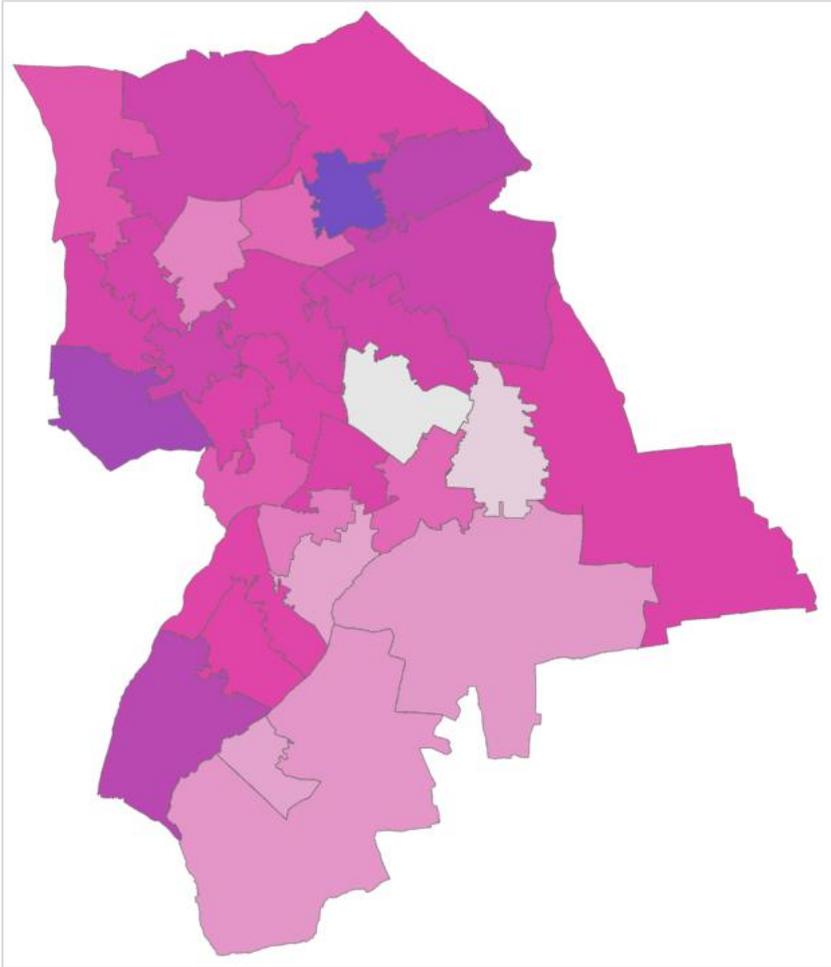
Figure 23: Age standardised proportion (ASP) (%) of population with a disability

Source: ONS Census 2021; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

29,742 households in Havering had at least one person with a disability. Of these households, 6,181 had two or more members with a disability.   The neighbourhoods in Havering that have the highest number of households where at least one member is disabled were Hornchurch Marshes, Rush Green and Harold Hill East. The lowest were Emerson Park, Upminster North & Cranham West and Hacton (*see figure 24 below - darker shades represent areas with a higher number of households where at least one person has a disability*). There are nearly three (2.7) times more households with a disabled person in the highest ranked neighbourhood (Harold Hill East – 1,605) compared to the lowest (Emerson Park – 596).

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[11] People who assessed their day-to-day activities as limited by long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses are considered disabled. This definition of a disabled person meets the harmonised standard for measuring disability and is in line with the Equality Act (2010).

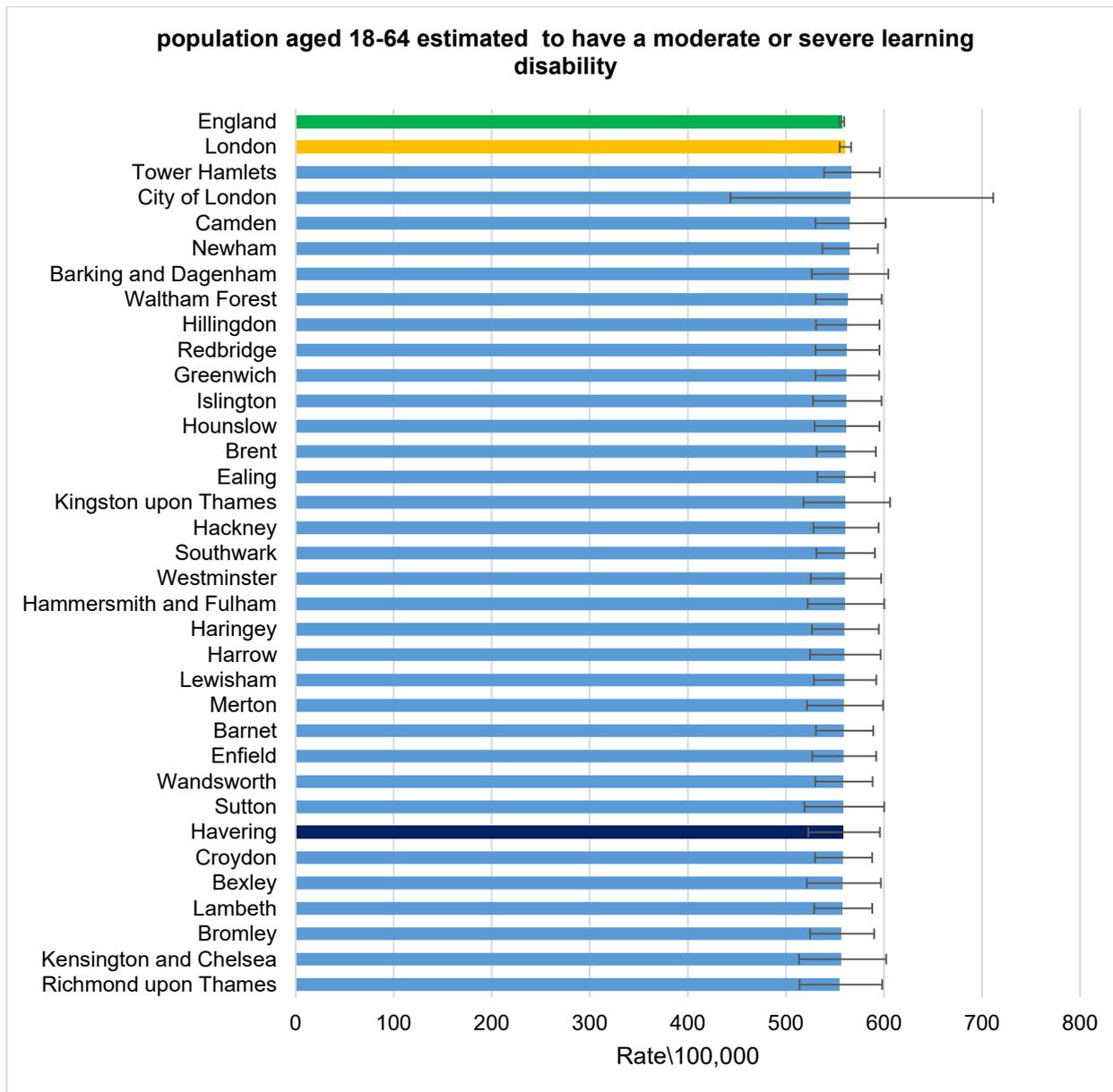**Figure 24: Number of households where at least one person has a disability by Havering neighbourhood (MSOA)**

Source: ONS Census 2021; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

5.7.1 Population aged 18-64 estimated to have a moderate or severe learning disability

It is estimated that the number of people in Havering aged 18-64 with moderate or severe learning disability is 912 (Table 17), a rate of 558 per 100,000 population. This rate is similar to the London and England averages (See Figure 25).

Figure 25: Population aged 18-64 estimated to have a moderate or severe learning disability, 2025

Data Source: Projecting Adult Needs and Service Information System (PANSI, 2025); Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

Table 17 shows that Havering is expected see an increase in persons aged 18-64 with moderate or severe learning disability of 10.2% by 2040, higher than the London and England average changes.

Table 17: Population projections for persons aged 18-64 with moderate or severe learning disability in Havering, 2025 – 2040

Year	2025	2030		2035		2040	
Number &%	Number	Number	% change	Number	% change	Number	% change
Havering	912	945	3.6	977	7.1	1,005	10.2
London	35,076	35,512	1.2	36126	3.0	36,566	4.2
England	199,715	203,843	2.1	207632	4.0	211,262	5.8

Data Source: Projecting Adult Needs and Service Information System (PANSI, 2025); Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

5.8 Recommendations

- *The local authority, NHS and other partners should continue to work together in supporting the needs of the growing young and working age population by ensuring access to essential resources that may include childcare, school places, relevant health services and employment opportunities.*

- *The local authority, NHS and other partners to ensure priority services, particularly those that provide early help and support to prevent escalation of need, are adequately resourced to meet the demands of the growing population of children and young people.*

- *The local authority, NHS and partners should consider the implications of the increasing ethnic diversity in Havering in their plans, including enhancing cultural competence in order to meet specific health and wellbeing needs.*
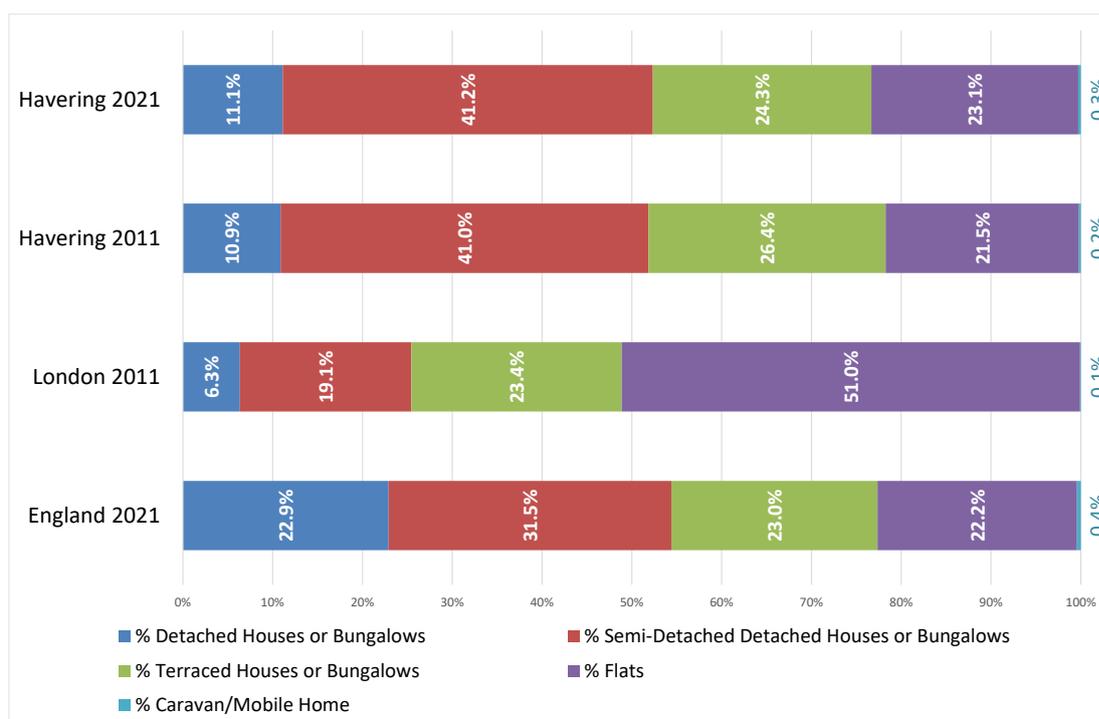
7. Household Profile

6. Household profile

6.1 Accommodation type

According to the ONS Census 2021, there are 101,277 households in Havering, a 4% increase (4,078) since 2011 (from 97,199). Out of these, 77,648 of households live in houses or bungalows (76.7%), an increase of 1,566 since 2011. Although the number of households living in houses has increased in number, as a percentage they have decreased since 2011 (78.3%), but is still higher than London (45.9%) but similar to England (77.4%).

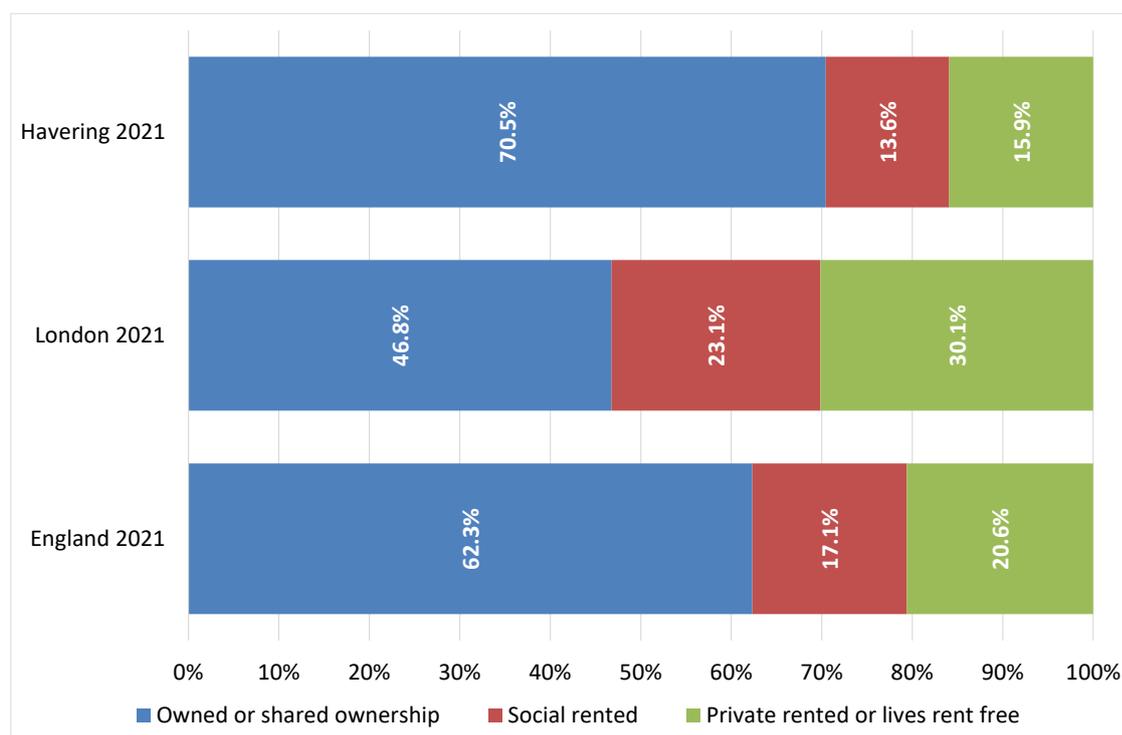**Figure 26: Comparing Havering Accommodation Types to London and England in 2021 and 2011**

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021: Produced by Housing Performance

6.2 Tenure

Tenure is classified in terms of whether a household rents or owns the accommodation that it occupies. Census data shows that Havering has the highest proportion of households that own their accommodation[12] across all London boroughs, at 70.5% (71,355). This is higher than England (62.3%) and London (46.8%), but is a slight decrease from 74.4% (72,284) in 2011. This decrease has also been apparent for England (64.1% in 2011) and London (49.5% in 2011).

Figure 27: Comparing Havering Tenure Types to London and England in 2021

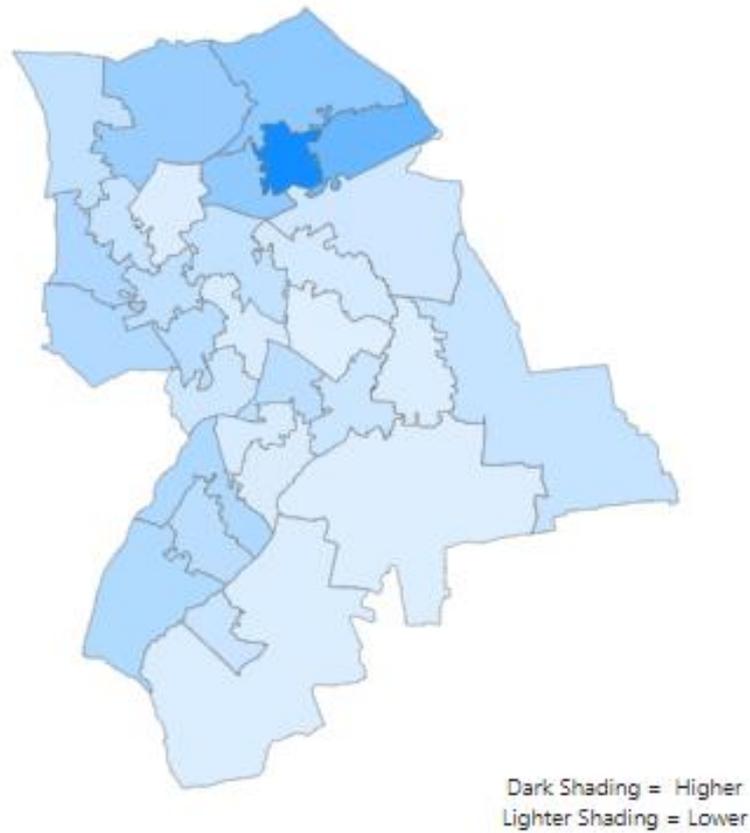Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021: Produced by Housing Performance

The local area with the greatest increase in home ownership in Havering was Harold Park & Harold Wood (10.8%). Hylands (11.3%) saw a higher percentage change of those who owned their home outright. The area with the greatest decrease was in Romford South (-6.7%).

As a consequence of the overall reduction in home ownership, there has been an increase in the proportion of households that rent their accommodation, from 24.8% (24,136) in 2011 to 29.5% (29,826) in 2021. Within Havering, the area seeing the greatest increase in number of households renting is Rush Green, rising from 1,205 in 2011 to 2,269 in 2021, an increase of 87.5%. The area within Havering with the

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[12] Households that own their accommodation either outright or with a mortgage, loan or in shared ownership

highest proportion of socially rented properties from the local authority was Harold Hill East (18.2%). (See Figure 28).

Figure 28: Distribution of Social Renting from council or Local Authority within Havering in 2021

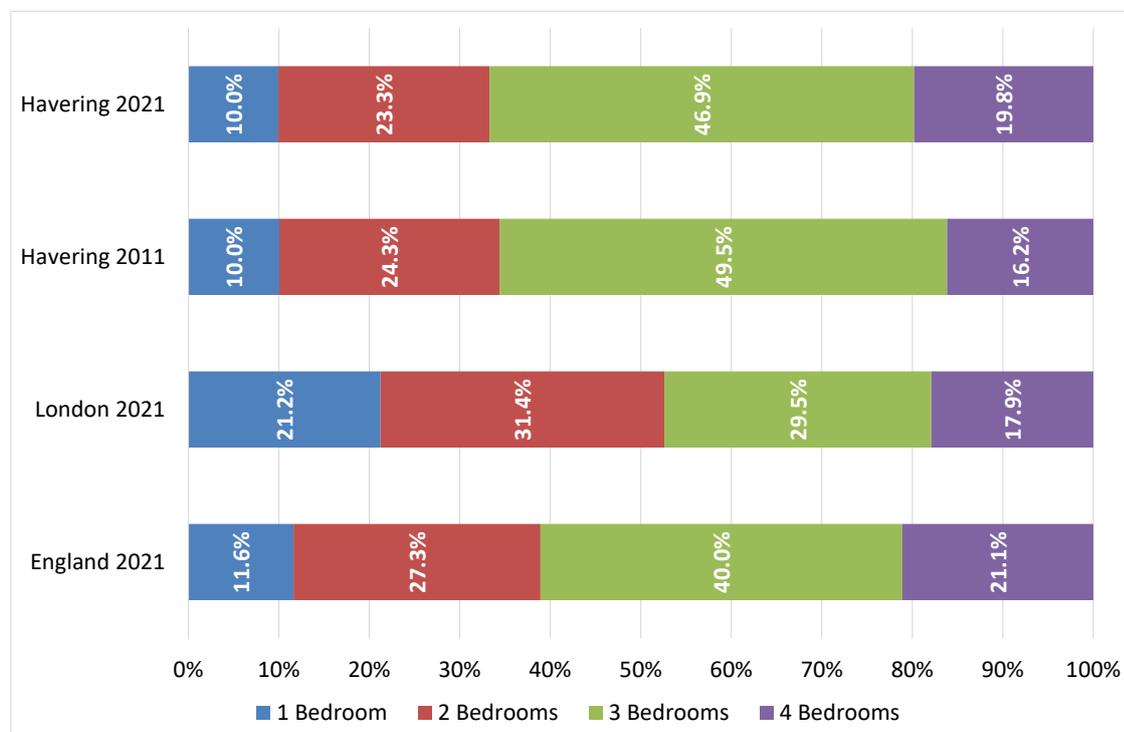Dark Shading = Higher
Lighter Shading = Lower

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by Housing Performance

6.3 Rooms, bedrooms, and occupancy rating

Just under half of all Havering's households have three bedrooms (46.9% of the 101,277 households). This is the highest percentage across all of the London boroughs and is higher than London (29.5%) and England (40%).

Figure 29: Comparing Number of Bedrooms in Havering, London and England, 2021

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by Housing Performance

Within Havering, Central Romford has the highest percentage of one bedroom (30.4%) and two bedroom (39.4%) properties. South Hornchurch has the highest percentage of three bedroom properties (63.9%) and Emerson Park has the highest percentage of four bedroom properties (59.6%).

6.4 Overcrowding and Under-Occupancy

Occupancy rating provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is overcrowded (too few rooms/bedrooms for the number of people living at the address) or under-occupied (more rooms/bedrooms than people living at the address).

England and local authorities in London have shown an average decrease in household overcrowding based on rooms per household size over the last decade. However, Havering has seen a slight increase (0.5%) in the number of households who are overcrowded (7.4% (7,166) in 2011 to 7.9% (8,050) in 2021). Barking & Dagenham (0.3%) are the only other London borough to see an increase.

6.0% of households (6,125) in Havering as a whole, have fewer bedrooms than required, compared to 4.0% (3,901) in 2011. This means that the number of households over occupying bedrooms has increased by 57.0% since 2011.
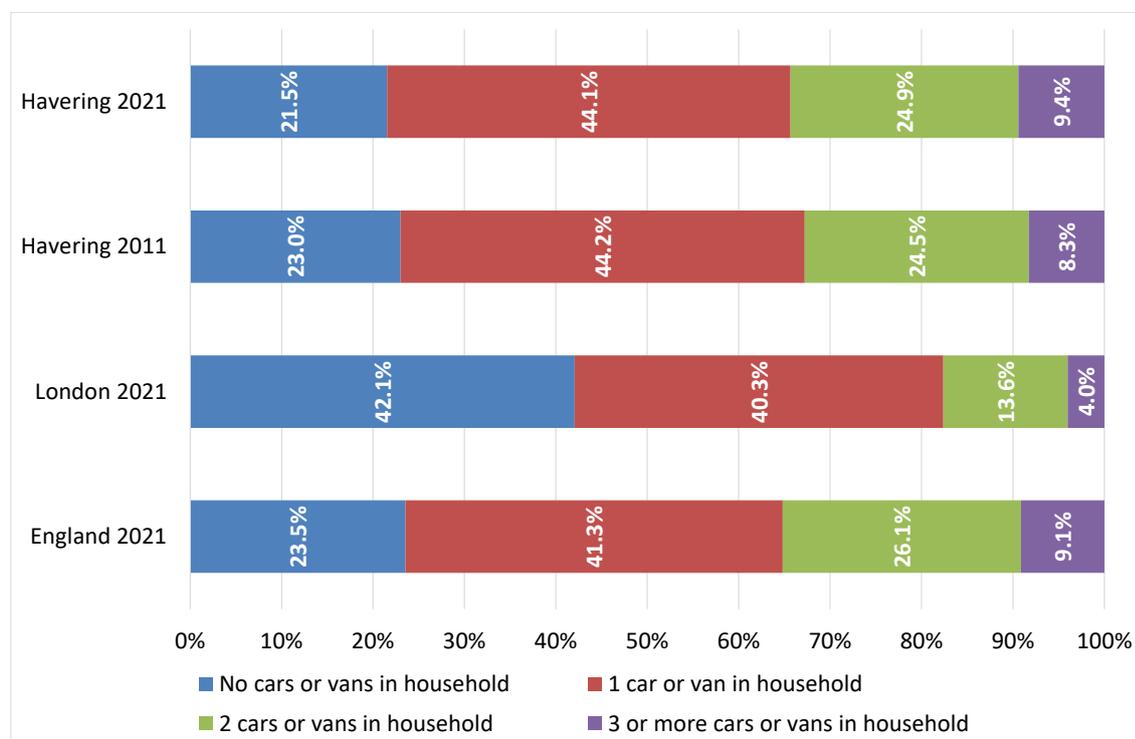
28.0% (28,368) of households in Havering had the required number of bedrooms, with the remaining 65.9% (66,784) of households having more bedrooms than required (a decline from 69.2% in 2011). This is below England (68.8%) but above London (48.9%) in 2021.

The proportion of households that had more bedrooms than required (under occupancy) within Havering was highest in Upminster South & Corbets Tey, with Harold Hill East having the highest rates of bedroom overcrowding in Havering.

6.5 Car or Van Availability

In 2021, Havering had a lower percentage of households with no cars or vans (21.5%) as compared to London (42.1%) and England (23.5%). This was a reduction from 23% reported in 2011. The percentage of households with two cars or vans in 2021 was 24.9%, significantly higher than London (13.6%), but lower than England (26.1%). Havering also a higher percentage of households with three cars or more (9.4%) as compared to London (4%) and England (9.1%).

Figure 30: Comparing Number of Cars in Households, Havering, London and England, 2021
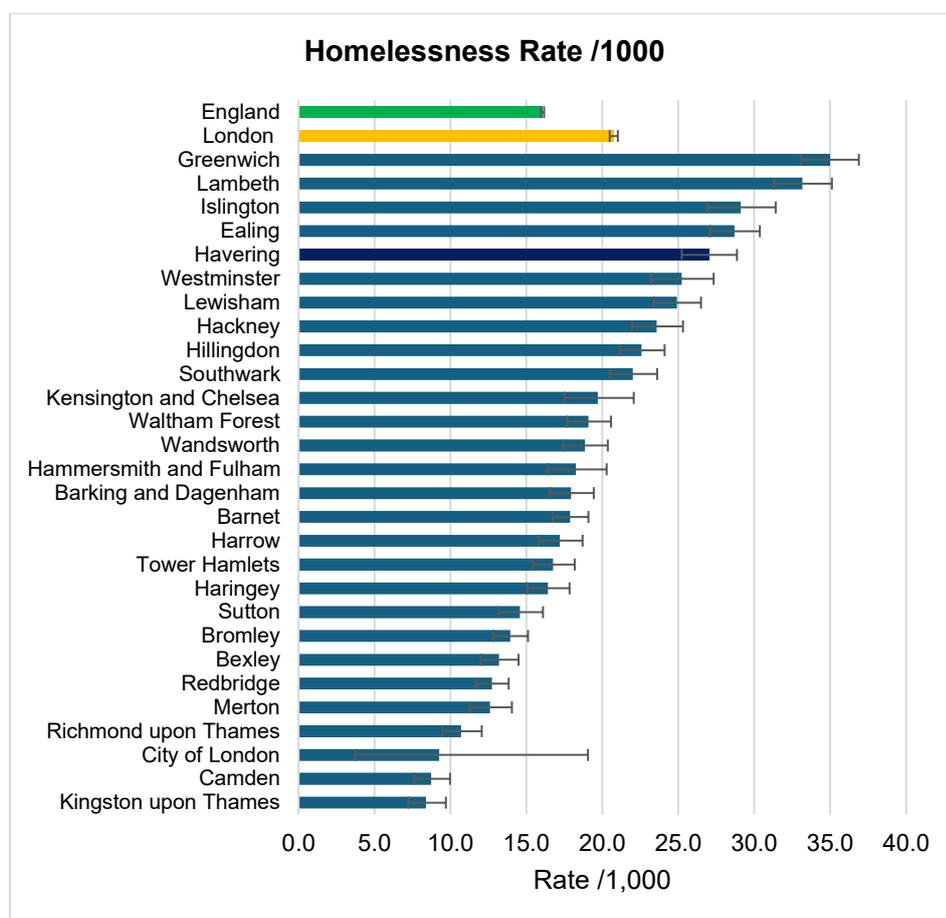

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Census 2021; Produced by Housing Performance

6.6 Homelessness

There are 861 homeless households with dependent children owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act[13] in Havering. The Havering's rate (27.0 per 1,000 households) is among the highest in London boroughs and significantly higher than London (20.8 per 1,000) and England (16.1 per 1,000) averages. Homelessness is associated with severe poverty and is a social determinant of health. It often results from a combination of events such as relationship breakdown, debt, and adverse experiences in childhood and through ill health.[14]

Figure 31: Number of homeless households with dependent children owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act per 1,000 household in Havering, 2022/23

Source: OHID – Fingertips; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

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[13] The Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) introduced new homelessness duties which meant significantly more households are being provided with a statutory service by local housing authorities than before the Act came into force in April 2018. The HRA introduced new prevention and relief duties, that are owed to all eligible households who are homeless or threatened with becoming homeless, including those single adult households who do not have 'priority need' under the legislation. (https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/13/contents/enacted).

[14] Homelessness is associated with poor health, education and social outcomes, particularly for children. (The Impact of Homelessness on Health, LGA 2017, https://www.local.gov.uk/impact-health-homelessness-guide-local-authorities)

6.7 Social isolation

According to Census 2021, about 12.7% (12,838) of the population aged 66 years and above are living in one-person households. This is the second highest proportion after Bexley in London[15]. Older people living alone can be an indicator of social isolation and may require more support from health and social care services.

Table 22: One-person household: Aged 66 years and over, Havering, London & England, 2021

Area	Number	%
Bromley	17443	12.8
Havering	12838	12.7
Bexley	11968	12.6
Richmond upon Thames	10039	12.4
Kensington and Chelsea	7750	11.6
Sutton	9497	11.5
Camden	9718	10.5
Kingston upon Thames	6894	10.5
Barnet	15208	10.2
Hillingdon	11143	10.2
Enfield	12251	10.1
Harrow	9050	10.1
City of London	494	10
Westminster	9498	10
Croydon	14652	9.6
Redbridge	9669	9.3
Merton	7507	9.2
Hammersmith and Fulham	7351	9
Ealing	11837	8.9
Hounslow	9176	8.9
Haringey	8958	8.5
Greenwich	9581	8.4
Brent	9712	8.2
Barking and Dagenham	5991	8.1
Waltham Forest	8254	8
Islington	7636	7.9
Wandsworth	10880	7.9
Lewisham	9365	7.7
Southwark	9507	7.3
Hackney	7489	7.1
Lambeth	9531	7.1
Newham	6377	5.5
Tower Hamlets	5786	4.8
London	**313049**	**9.1**
England	**3001789**	**12.8**

Source: ONS Census 2021

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[15] *Census 2021 (Household Composition by Age), Office for National Statistics (ONS)*

Table 23: Population aged 65 and over in Havering predicted to live alone, 2025 - 2045

	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Total population aged 65-74 predicted to live alone	5,508	5,977	6,264	6,111	6,115
Total population aged 75 and over predicted to live alone	9,088	9,452	10,056	10,944	11,801
Total	**14,596**	**15,427**	**16,318**	**17,053**	**17,915**

Source: ONS & Projecting Older People Population Information (POPPI) 2025.

6.8 Recommendations

- *The local authority and partners need to prioritise addressing the issue of homelessness and overcrowding by including more affordable houses in their housing plans as well as identifying and utilising under-occupied homes.*

- *The local authority needs to engage with other local partners to address the issue of loneliness and social isolation as these are multi-faceted issues and effective responses should be delivered in cross authority partnerships including the voluntary and community sectors.*
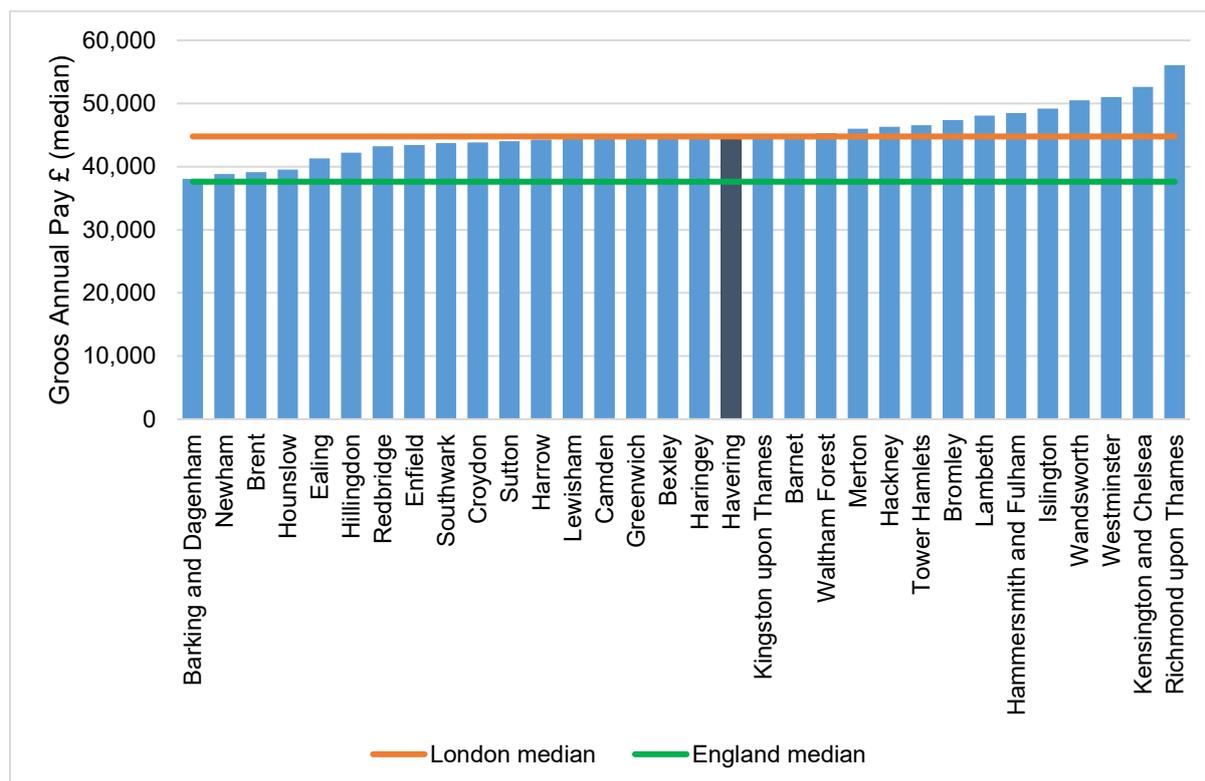
7. Economic Profile

7. Economic Profile

7.1 Income

The median gross annual household income in Havering for full time workers (£44,790) is the same as the London median (£44,780) but higher than the England median (£37,617).

Figure 32: Gross annual income for all full time workers in Havering, London boroughs, London and England, 2024

Source: ONS, annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis, 2024; Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence

7.2 Income deprivation affecting children (IDACI)

Nearly a third (31.8%) of children aged 0-15 years in Havering are estimated to be living in poverty.[16] This is equivalent to approximately 18,000 children. However, Havering is among the London boroughs with the lowest rate. Havering's rate is also lower than the London (41.8%) and England (36.3%) averages (Figure 33). Within
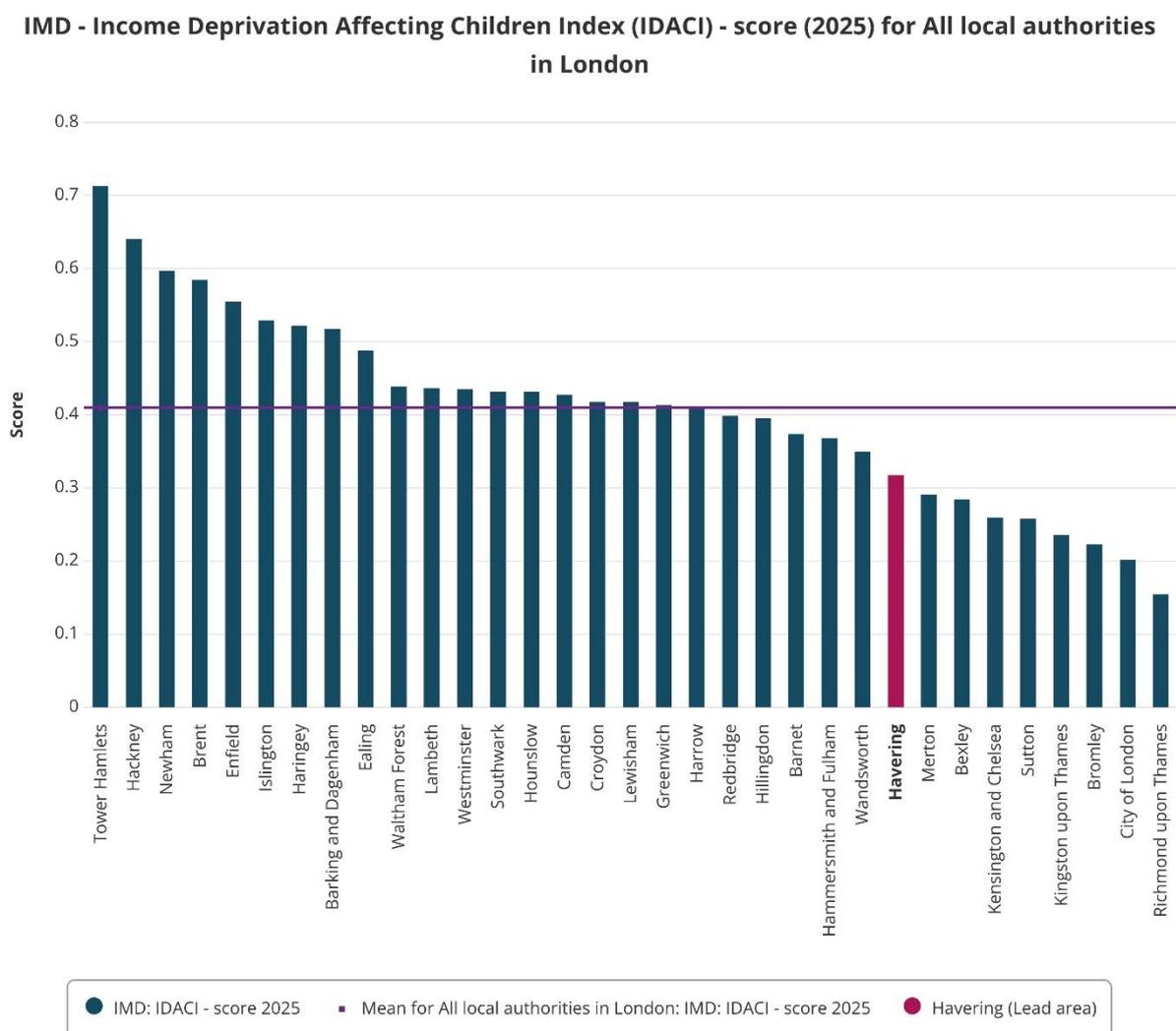
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[16] The rise in IDACI proportions compared to IoD 2019 are attributed to changes in the methodology used to assess income after housing costs, the addition of new indicators, and the use of updated 2021 LSOA boundaries. These changes have led to a more comprehensive and accurate representation of income deprivation affecting children in England.
https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025-statistical-release

Havering a high proportion of children living in poverty are located in the North and South in areas considered as relatively more deprived (Figure 34).

Growing up in poverty damages children's health and well-being, adversely affecting their future health and life chances as adults. Ensuring a good environment in childhood, especially early childhood, is important. A considerable body of evidence links adverse childhood circumstances to poor child health outcomes and future adult ill health.
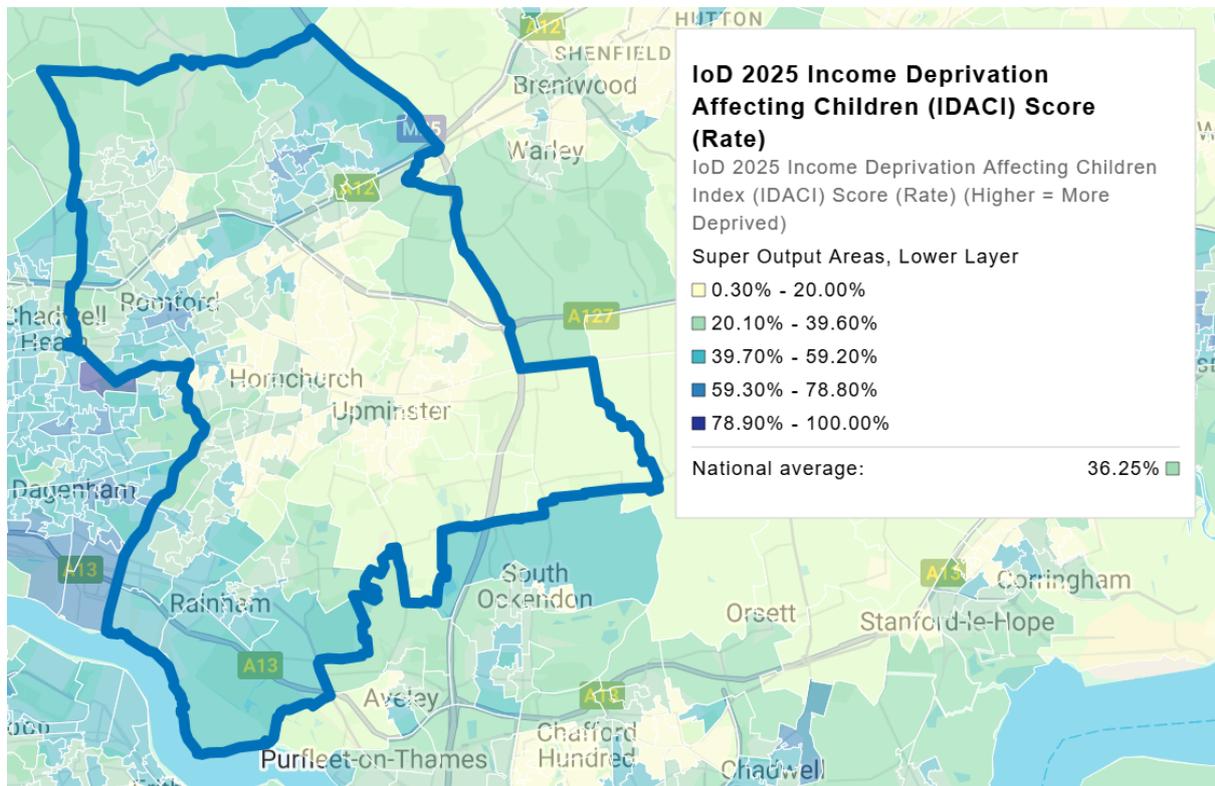
Figure 33: Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI) - Score, Havering and London Local Authorities, 2025

IMD - Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) - score (2025) for All local authorities in London

Powered by LG Inform

Source:
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

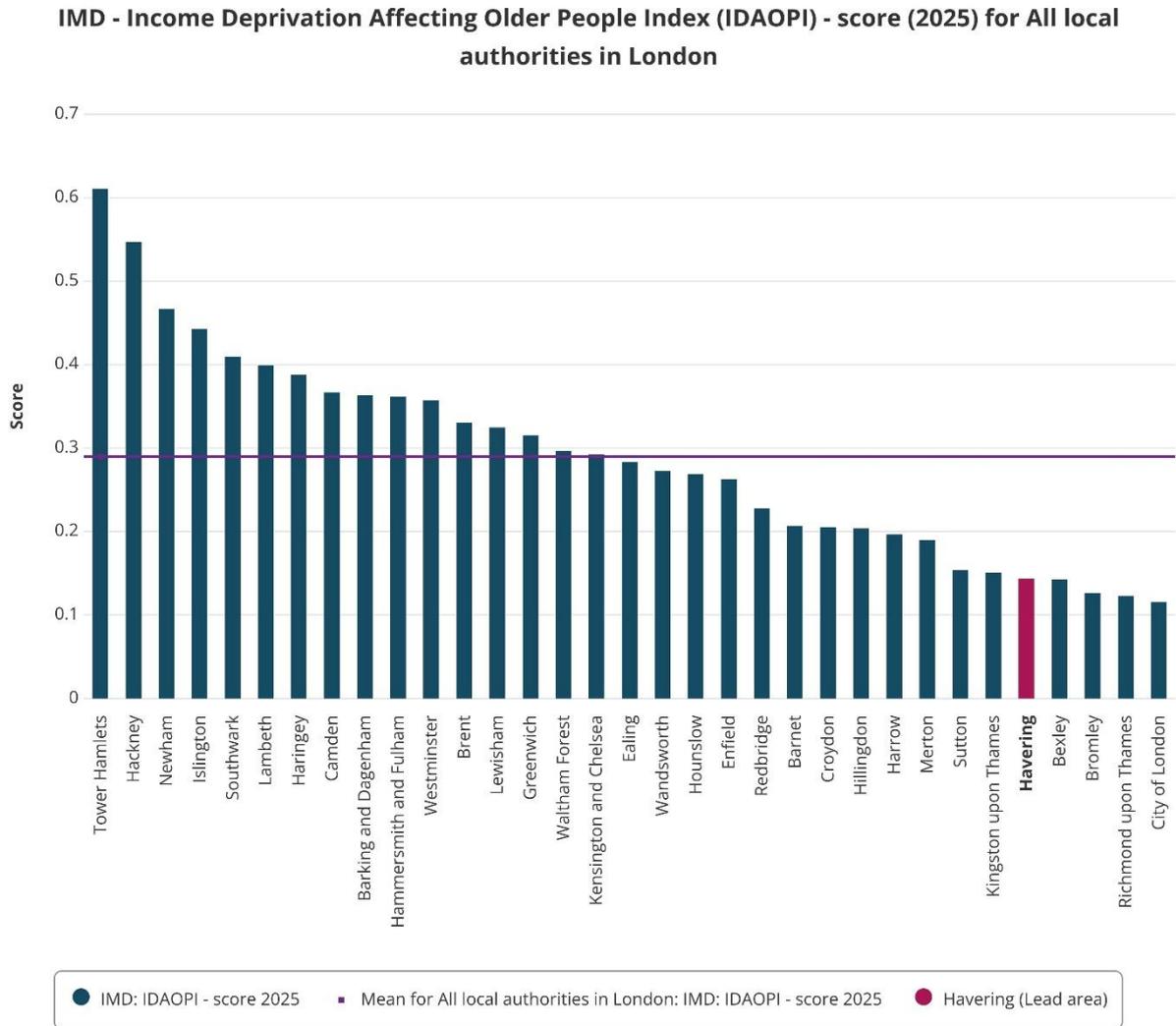**Figure 34: Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI) - Score (%), by Havering LSOA's, 2025**

Source: Havering Local Insight

7.3 Income deprivation affecting older people (IDAOPI)

Nearly 7,000 older people are estimated to be leaving in poverty in Havering. However, Havering is among the London boroughs with the lowest proportions (14.4%). This rate is significantly lower than the London (29.0%) and England (18.6%) averages (Figure 35). Within Havering a high proportion of older people living in poverty are located in the North and other areas considered as relatively more deprived (Figure 36). Although there are no national targets, there is need to tackle poverty and promote greater independence and well-being in later life. People living in more deprived areas have a greater need for health services.
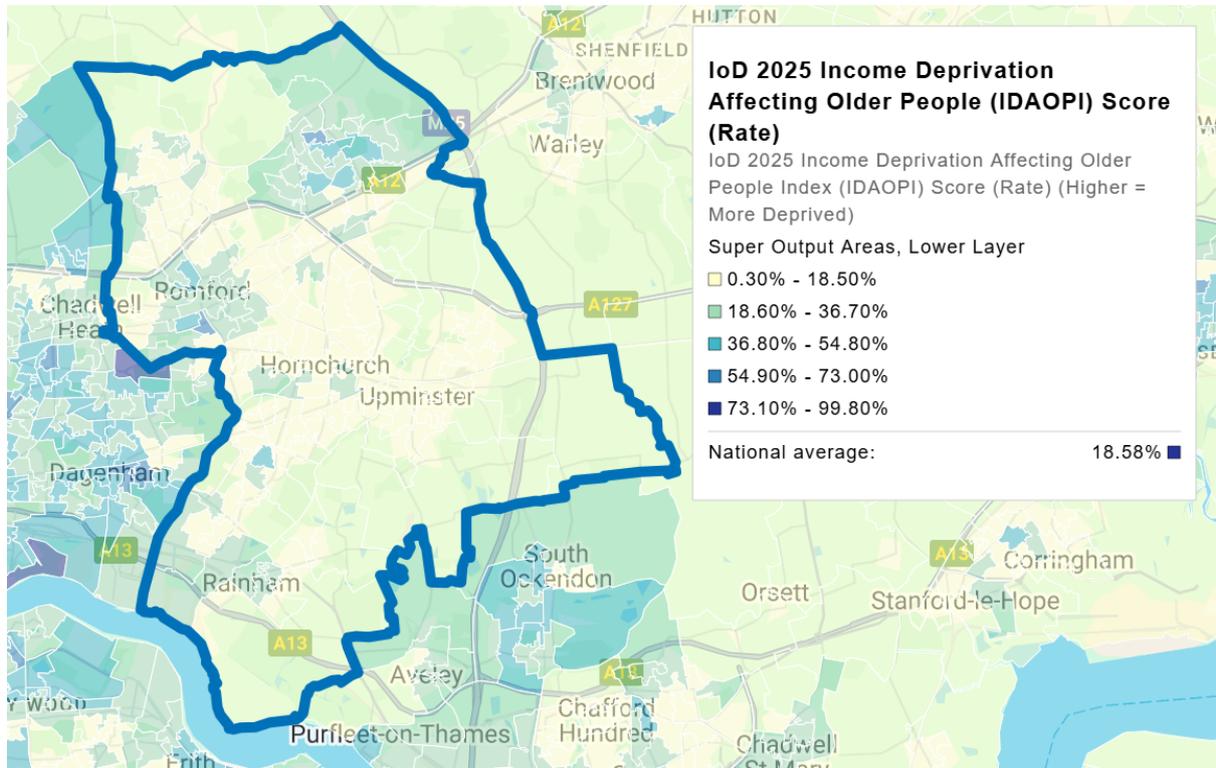
Figure 35: Older people in poverty, income deprivation affecting older people Index (IDAOPI), Score, Havering and London Local Authorities, 2025

IMD - Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI) - score (2025) for All local authorities in London

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Source:
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Figure 36: Older people in poverty, income deprivation affecting older people Index (IDAOPI), Score (%), by Havering LSOA's, 2025
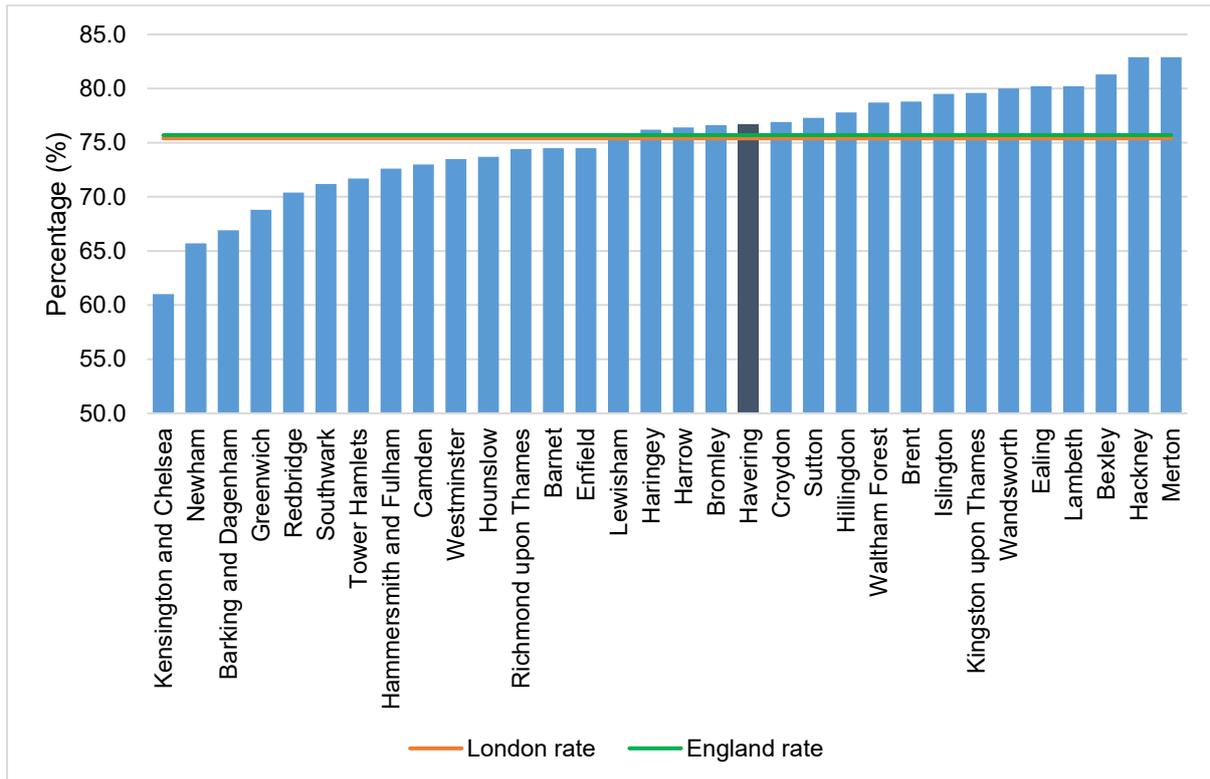

Source: Havering Local Insight
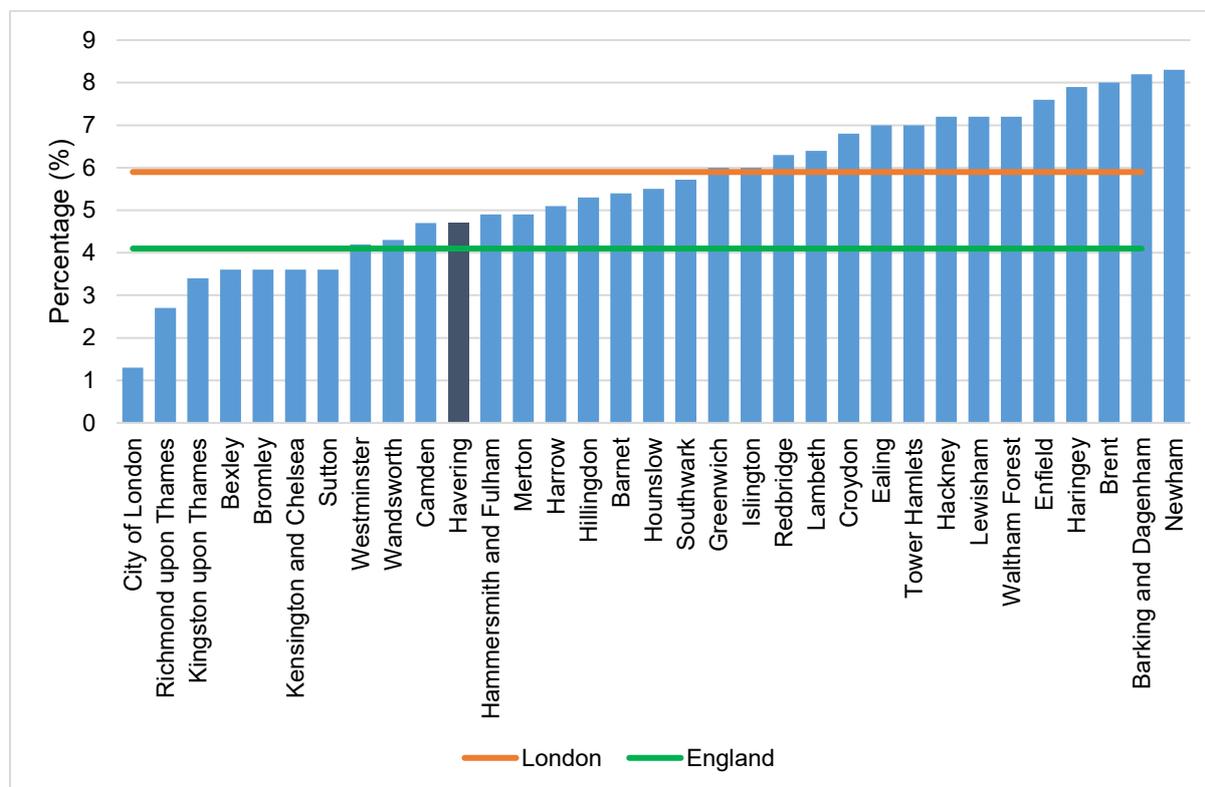
7.4 Employment and unemployment

The overall employment rate in Havering (76.7%) is higher than the London (75.4%) and England (75.7%) averages (See Figure 37). Conversely, the proportion of working age residents in Havering claiming out-of-work benefits (4.7%) is lower than London average (5.9%) but higher than England average (4.1%) (Figure 38).

Figure 37: Proportion of working age residents in employment, Havering, London & England, March 2025

Source: Nomis, Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence.

Figure 38: Proportion of working age residents claiming out-of-work benefits in London Boroughs, July 2025

Source: Nomis, Produced by LBH Public Health Intelligence.

7.5 Occupation

Havering has lower percentage of persons aged 16 over in employment in the managerial and professional qualifications (31.3%) as compared to London (47.6%) and England (38.3%).

Table 24: Havering all usual residents aged 16 years and over in employment (2024-25)

Occupation	Havering		London		England	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	9,800	7.5	675,900	13.9	3,193,700	11.4
2. Professional occupations	31,300	23.8	1,632,700	33.7	7,538,800	26.9
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	18,600	14.1	815,100	16.8	4,242,700	15.2
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	16,500	12.5	379,700	7.8	2,556,700	9.1
5. Skilled trades occupations	13,200	10.0	250,400	5.2	2,352,200	8.4
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	17,300	13.2	341,800	7.0	2,368,500	8.5
7. Sales and customer service occupations	11,500	8.7	236,800	4.9	1,593,600	5.7
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	5,500	4.1	172,500	3.6	1,562,900	5.6
9. Elementary occupations	7,900	6.0	325,600	6.7	2,497,000	8.9

Source: Nomis 2025

7.6 Education

Children's education and development of skills are important for their own wellbeing and for that of the nation as a whole. Learning ensures that children develop the knowledge and understanding, skills, capabilities and attributes that they need for mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in the future.

Children with poorer mental health are more likely to have lower educational attainment and there is some evidence to suggest that the highest level of educational qualifications is a significant predictor of wellbeing in adult life.

Educational qualifications are a determinant of an individual's labour market position, which in turn influences income, housing and other material resources. Educational attainment is influenced by both the quality of education children receive and their family socio-economic circumstances.

The attainment 8 score measures pupil's attainment across 8 qualifications, including Maths, English, Science, Computer Science, History, Geography and Languages. In 2024, the average Attainment 8 score per pupil was **48.8** for Havering children, better than **England (46.1**), but lower than the average score for pupils across the whole of **Outer London (51.1)**[17]

7.7 Recommendations

- *Although Havering as a whole has average levels of disadvantage, there are significant inequalities within the borough, including health inequalities. Health and social care professionals in consultation with patients / residents should consider the extent to which problems with employment, poverty, housing etc. contribute to, or exacerbate a presenting health issue and therefore might benefit from social prescribing in addition to or instead of traditional medical intervention.*

- *Local authority and partners need to work collectively to improve overall educational attainment, address any inequalities in educational outcomes for young people, support them to develop leadership skills and pursue professional careers.*

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[17] Local authority interactive tool (LAIT) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)