

## Appendix 7: Young persons supported housing pathway EAA

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<b>Date</b>	<b>May 2021</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Joint Commissioning: Prevention, Inclusion &amp; Public Health Commissioning Team</b>

### 1. The project or decision that this assessment is being undertaken for:

The Prevention, Inclusion and Public Health Commissioning Team (PIPHCT) commissions a range of floating & accommodation based support services to meet the needs of homeless service users who require support to manage and maintain their accommodation including young people aged 16 – 21.

PIPHCT works to align services with the ambition of Lewisham Council working in partnership with other directorates such as Housing, Children’s Social Care, Adult Social Care & Clinical Commissioning Group to improve access to the supported accommodation & floating support services to maximize effectiveness and strategic use of these services.

As several supported accommodation services & floating supported services are due to be re-commissioned across 2021-2022, this Equality Analysis Assessment aims to inform re-commissioning and re-specification of the Young Persons supported accommodation pathway services for new arrangements to commence in 2022.

This EAA will feed into the Permission to Procure report being present to Mayor and Cabinet on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

### 1. The protected characteristics or other equalities factors potentially impacted by this decision

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity/Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Language spoken	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please define:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender/Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender identity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Household type	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carer status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Socio Economic	
<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy and Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refugee/Migrant/Asylum seeker	<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Social Care	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nationality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment			

As Supported Housing services for young people are designed to support a broad range of need, the above protected characteristics and equality factors are relevant to this assessment and are included in assessment below.

#### **Characteristics not included in this analysis and rationale:**

**Marriage & Civil Partnership:** As this is assessment is for accommodation based services for single young people aged 16-21 this characteristic was assessed as not relevant to this assessment.

**House Hold Type:** Although this question was asked within the Equality & Diversity audit undertaken, most recipients recorded supported housing as their current accommodation and no useful trends will be observed through this data, as such this characteristic is not included for further analysis below.

**Health & Social Care:** There is no specific analysis on this area included below, however trends for the protected characteristics listed have been assessed against available data from Children’s Social Care.

### 2. The evidence to support the analysis

#### Approach

Equalities and Diversity information has not historically been collected or compiled in a consistent way across the range of supported housing PIPHCT commission. To enable meaningful data to be compiled, an

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Equality & Diversity audit was completed in January 2021 across all commissioned supported accommodation services using the LBL Equality Assessment questionnaire to ensure responses were collated in a consistent way in line with the Lewisham's Corporate Equality Policy.

Data from all services was compiled to enable officers to compare Equality & Diversity information captured from supported housing services to other relevant data sets to identify gaps and unmet need.

The focus of this EAA is to assess the impact that the re-commissioning of **young persons supported housing** will have on protected characteristics.

The analysis will examine trends seen in the young persons supported housing pathway based on data captured in the Equality & Diversity audit undertaken in 2021, and will compare these trends with different data sets relating to young people in the borough including:

- Population data held on the Lewisham Observatory - 2021
- LB Lewisham Housing data: Homeless Approaches 2020-2021
- Data obtained from LB Lewisham Children's Social Care - 2021
- Inequalities identified through service users and stakeholder feedback 2021

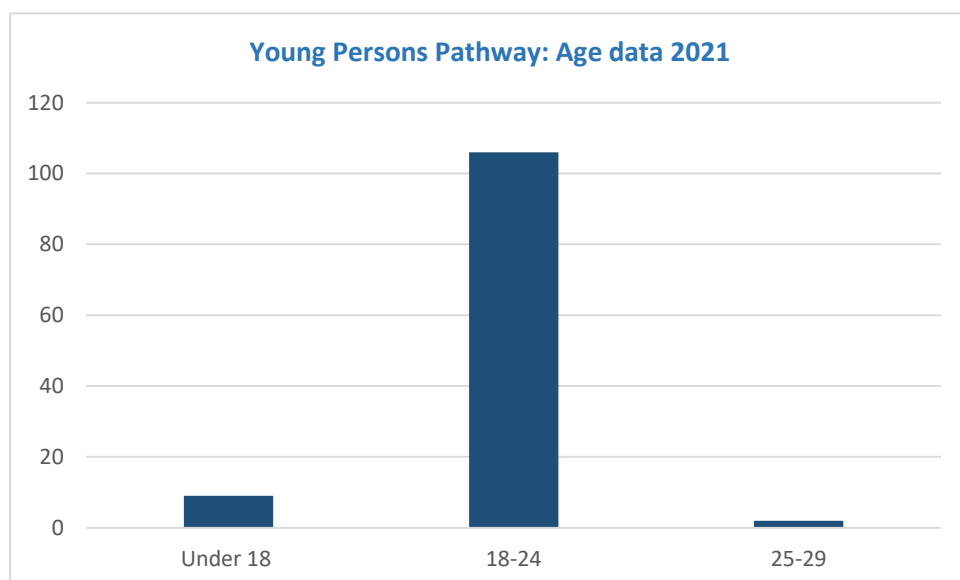
## ➤ The analysis

### Age:

The young persons supported housing pathway is commissioned to meet the needs of 16 – 21 year olds in housing need in the borough. This will include young people who approach the Local Authority as homeless between ages of 16-21, or who are 18 + and leaving care. It is essential that supported accommodation services are in place to ensure the Local Authority can meet the duties owed to these cohorts and to minimise spend on more costly placements.

The re-commissioning of service does not look to change the age criteria, however will re-configure pathway to offer a more tailored service for 16-17 year olds and 18 y/o leaving care.

### *Young Persons Supported Housing pathway data:*



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- of the 116 responses to this question, 106 of young people placed were between the ages of 18-21, 9 were under the age of 18 and 2 were over the defined age limit for the pathway.
- Review of referral and placement data captured on CDP system for the young person's pathway between 2019-2020, showed that of the 120 referrals made, 41 were for young people who had presented as homeless under age of 18, 33 were for Care Leavers (18+), and 46 were for over 18's with support needs.
- Of these 3 cohorts, under 18's were more likely to be placed in the young person's pathway

## *Population data from the Lewisham Observatory 2021:*

- 22 % of the population in Lewisham is made up of young people aged 0-17.
- Population growth for 10-14 year olds is projected to rise by 6.1 % over the next 5 years which is slightly higher than the overall London projections for this age group of 5.9 %. The population of the 15-19 age group is projected to rise 5.2 % which is in line with the London average of 5.3%,
- Both statistics highlighting the demand for young persons supported housing is likely to increase in line with this projected growth over next 5 years and ring-fenced provision for young people is required based on population information.

## *Data from LB Lewisham Housing: Homeless Approaches*

- LB Lewisham SHIP service recorded 65 homeless approaches for 16-17 year olds across 2020/2021 which highlights the need to have suitable accommodation services to support young people who are homeless in the borough.

## *Data from LB Lewisham Children's Social Care:*

### **Looked After Children's data:**

Age	Number of CLA	Percentage (%)
0	22	4.67
1	17	3.61
2	9	1.91
3	11	2.34
4	14	2.97
5	13	2.76
6	14	2.97
7	15	3.18
8	9	1.91
9	19	4.03
10	17	3.61
11	24	5.10

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12	21	4.46
13	32	6.79
14	38	8.07
15	45	9.55
16	60	12.74
17	91	19.32
<b>Total</b>	471	

- Data collected by LB Lewisham Children's Social Care show the age breakdown of the Looked After Children population in Lewisham, highlighting 161 Looked After children who will turn 18 in the next 1-2 years.
- This data highlights the demand for young persons supported accommodation to move young people on from Looked after Children placements who are not yet ready for independent living.

### **Leaving Care Data:**

Age	Number of Care Leavers	Percentage (%)
18	14	3.43
19	22	5.39
20	34	8.33
21	79	19.36
22	71	17.40
23	97	23.77
24	91	22.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>	

- This data highlights the need for age specific accommodation services to move on 18+ care leavers on from paid for placements.

### **Safe Space Data:**

Age	Number of cases	Percentage (%)
6	1	1.11
7	1	1.11
8	1	1.11

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11	1	1.11
12	3	3.33
13	11	12.22
14	7	7.78
15	20	22.22
16	23	25.56
17	22	24.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	

- This data highlight the numbers of young people Children's Social care are supporting who are 16 -17. Future analysis should explore how many of this cohort are at risk of homelessness or placed in accommodation by the Local Authority.

### *Service User / Stakeholder Feedback:*

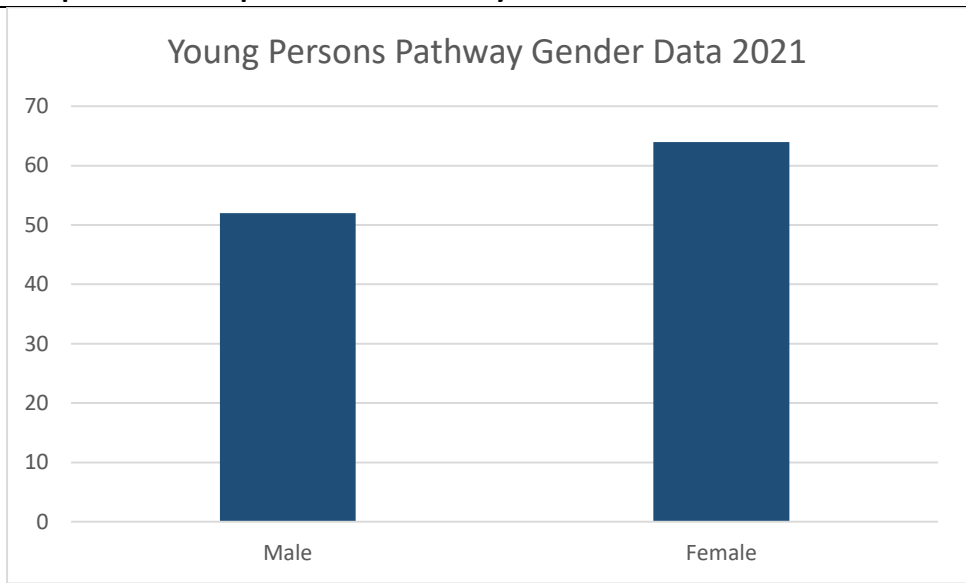
- Stakeholder's feedback gathered from supported housing consultations and focus groups between January – March 2021 highlighted the challenges young people under the age of 25 face in terms of access to affordable private rented accommodation options.
- Young people under age of 25 are more impacted than older cohorts by the benefit cap.

### *Age – Key findings:*

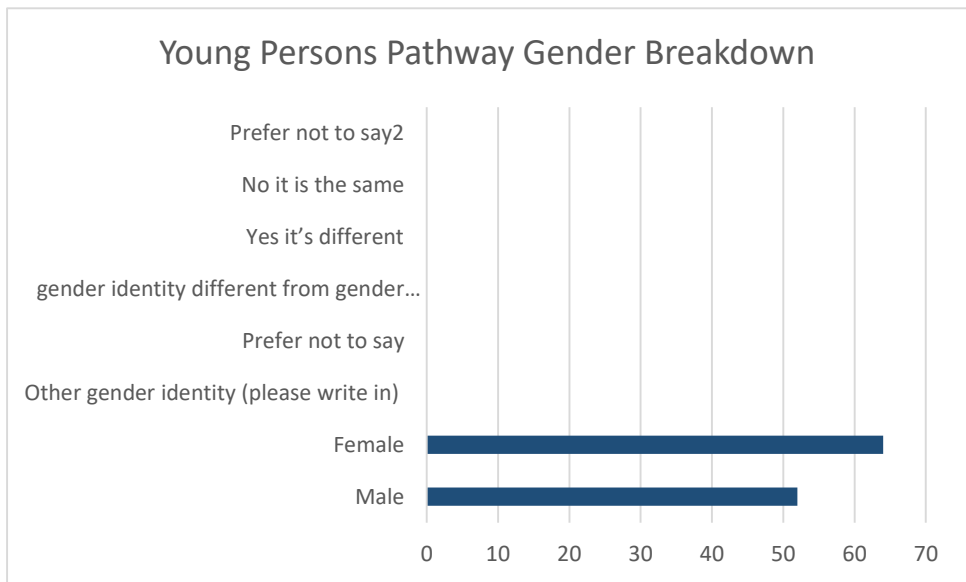
- As young persons supported housing services are commissioned to meet the needs of a specific age group, this does preclude over 21's from being referred to this pathway.
- It would not be appropriate to accommodate young people in other supported accommodation services commissioned to work with 18+ adults, and specialist services are required to meet the needs of 16-21 year old.
- Data from Housing and Children's Social Care, and population data highlights the demand for ring-fenced specialist accommodation services to support young people in housing need.
- Young people are impacted by the high costs of rents in the private rented sector, and the benefit cap which limits the options available to move to independent living and highlights age inequalities in this area in terms of access to affordable accommodation

### **Gender:**

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## Gender Identity:



- Of the 116 responses, 55% of the young people placed in supported accommodation services were female and 45 % were male, indicating that the supported housing pathway is supporting more females than males
- The pathway includes female only provision and mixed provision indicating males may be disadvantaged over females in terms of suitable placements.
- There were 0 responses to further Gender Identity questions from young people accommodated in the pathway, and a lack of wider data sets to compare responses to. Better recoding and monitoring of gender identity is required to start to understand themes and trend in young people.

## Population data from Lewisham Observatory:

- The total projected population for Lewisham for 2030 is 327,545, of which 163,245 are projected to be males, and 164,300 are projected to be females indicating a slightly higher female population in the borough overall.

## Data from LBL Housing: Homeless Approaches:

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Gender	16-17	18 or over	Grand Total
Female	60.00%	50.90%	51.12%
Male	40.00%	49.10%	48.88%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

- This data highlights that in both age groups (16-17 and 18 or over) females made up a higher proportion of homeless approaches across 2020-2021.

## *LB Lewisham Children's Social Care Data:*

### Looked After Children's data:

Gender	Number of CLA	Percentage (%)
Female	238	50.53
Male	233	49.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>471</b>	

- This data shows that females make up a slightly higher proportion of Lewisham's LAC population compared to males.

### Leaving Care Data:

Gender	Number of Care Leavers	Percentage (%)
Male	244	59.80
Female	163	39.95
Not Specified	1	0.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>	

- This data shows that males make up a greater proportion of the Leaving Care cohort compared to females.
- This could indicate that it is more difficult to move males on from LAC placements into independent accommodation.

### Safe Space Data:

Gender	Number of cases	Percentage (%)
Female	29	32.22
Male	61	67.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	

- This data shows that males make up a greater proportion of the Safe space cohort compared to females.
- This finding could be indicative that there are inequalities in terms of access to preventative services for young males in the borough. More detailed analysis would be needed to draw more established conclusions.

## *Service User / Stakeholder Feedback:*

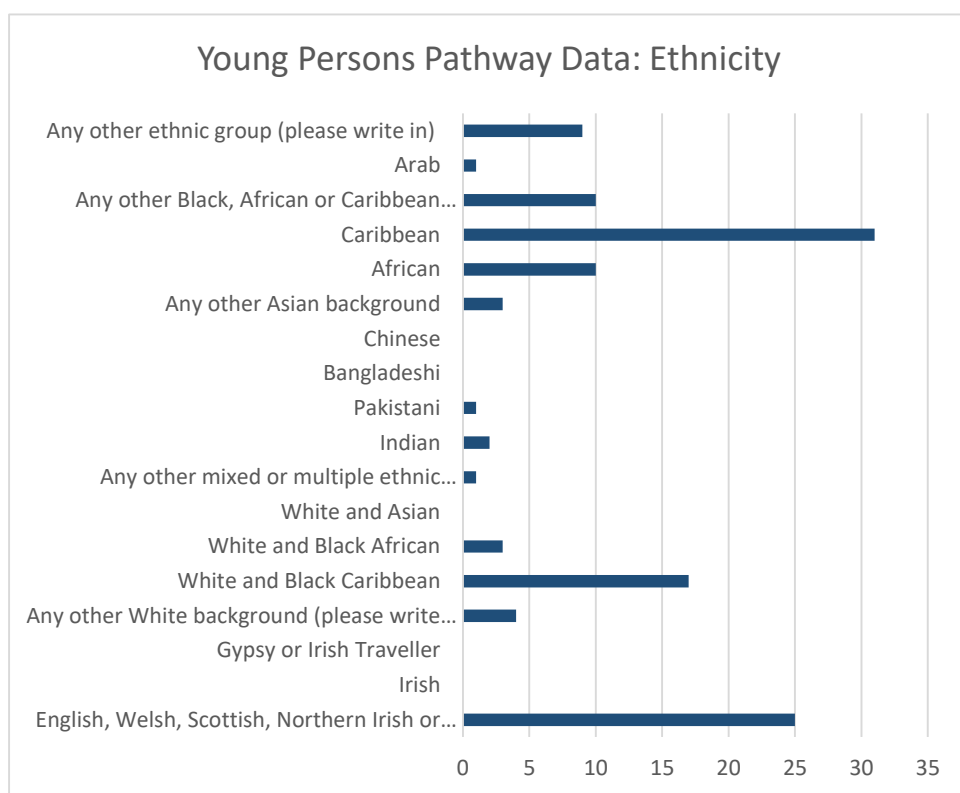
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- Female only provision is required to meet the needs of young females who may be vulnerable if placed in a mixed setting.

## Gender – Key findings:

- The young persons supported housing pathway services accommodate a slightly higher proportion of females to males.
- This finding is in line with gender data analysed from Housing, Looked After Children and Lewisham population data which all showed slightly higher proportions of females in the data sets analysed.
- Higher proportions of males are seen in the Leaving Care and Safe Space cohorts which should be taken into considering when re-commissioning service provision.
- Better recoding and monitoring of gender identity is required to start to understand themes and trend in young people.

## Ethnicity:



- Of the 117 responses to this question, 26 % of young people placed were Caribbean, 21 % were English, Welsh, Scottish or Northern Irish, 14 % were White and Black Caribbean, and 8.5 % were African.

## Population Data from Lewisham Observatory 2021:

Ethnicity	Lewisham		London	
	Count	%	Count	%
Arab	2,565	0.8	146,572	1.6
Bangladeshi	1,644	0.5	263,556	2.9
Black African	36,838	11.6	669,217	7.3
Black Caribbean	30,533	9.6	346,086	3.8



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Chinese	8,101	2.6	158,737	1.7
Indian	5,832	1.8	654,653	7.1
Other Asian	15,440	4.9	518,236	5.6
Other Black	15,341	4.8	214,057	2.3
Other Ethnic Group	7,952	2.5	224,729	2.4
Other Mixed	7,123	2.2	167,217	1.8
Other White	40,922	12.9	1,457,978	15.8
Pakistani	2,149	0.7	281,377	3.1
White & Asian	4,281	1.3	132,736	1.4
White & Black African	5,061	1.6	86,605	0.9
White & Black Caribbean	10,467	3.3	141,984	1.5
White - British	117,474	37	3,552,634	38.6
White - Irish	5,743	1.8	186,955	2

- Population data shows the most prevalent ethnic categories recorded in Lewisham were: White British 37%, other white 12.9 %, Black African, 11.6% Black Caribbean 9.6%
- This data suggests there is an over representation of service users with a Caribbean heritage placed in the young person's pathway compared to population averages. This is not a conclusive finding, and more detailed analysis would be required to better understand this comparison.
- Overall the prevalent ethnic groups are comparable across supported housing and population data indicating no significant inequalities in supported housing service provision.

### Data from LB Lewisham Housing: Homeless Approaches

Ethnicity	16-17	18 or over	Grand Total
Any other Asian background		0.0%	2.0%
Any other Black/African/Caribbean background		0.0%	0.7%
Any other ethnic group		2.3%	6.7%
Any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background		2.3%	1.5%
Any other White background		2.3%	5.0%
Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi		0.0%	0.3%
Asian/Asian British: Chinese		0.0%	0.3%
Asian/Asian British: Indian		0.0%	0.7%
Asian/Asian British: Pakistani		0.0%	0.6%
Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: African		25.0%	22.2%
Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British: Caribbean		27.3%	24.7%
Don't know / refused		13.6%	8.8%
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Asian		0.0%	0.3%

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Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black African	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean	4.5%	1.9%	2.0%
Other ethnic group: Arab	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%
White: English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	20.5%	22.4%	22.4%
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
White: Irish	2.3%	0.3%	0.3%
(blank)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

- Ethnicity data for young people's homeless approaches to the Local Authority across 2021-2022 indicated the 3 most prevalent ethnic categories to be recorded were: Black or Black British Caribbean, Black or Black British African and White: English, Scottish, and Northern Irish.
- These findings are consistent with trends seen in young persons supported accommodation services with the most prevalent ethnic category recorded being Caribbean in both data sets.
- This finding indicates that young people from Caribbean heritage may be more at risk of becoming homeless and requiring support services.
- Ethnicity data from other key areas such as young person's mental health services and substance misuse services would be useful to make a more informed assessment of whether this trend is seen in other areas where young people access support services

### *LB Lewisham Children's Social Care Data:*

#### **Looked After Children Data:**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of CLA</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
White British	117	24.84
Black Caribbean	75	15.92
Black African	62	13.16
Black Caribbean & White	59	12.53
Mixed Race Other	47	9.98
Black Other	21	4.46
White Other	18	3.82
Asian Other	15	3.18
Vietnamese	14	2.97
Black African & White	11	2.34
Black British	10	2.12
Other Ethnic Group	9	1.91
Asian & White	5	1.06
Chinese	3	0.64
Bangladeshi	2	0.42
Turkish Cypriot	1	0.21
White Irish	1	0.21
Not Known Or Not Stated	1	0.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>471</b>	

- The most prevalent ethnic categories in the Looked After Children data included, White British, Black Caribbean, Black African, and Black Caribbean & White.

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- These findings are consistent with trends seen in the young person's pathway ethnicity data and indicates that young person's pathways are accommodating a cohort representative of this LAC population.

### Leaving Care Data

Ethnicity	Number of Care Leavers	Percentage (%)
Black African	92	22.55
Black Caribbean	79	19.36
White British	69	16.91
Mixed Race Other	33	8.09
White Other	22	5.39
Black Caribbean & White	21	5.15
Vietnamese	19	4.66
Black Other	18	4.41
Other Ethnic Group	18	4.41
Asian Other	15	3.68
Black African & White	10	2.45
Black British	6	1.47
White Irish	2	0.49
Indian	2	0.49
Pakistani	1	0.25
Chinese	1	0.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>	

- The most prevalent groups were Black African, Black Caribbean, White British and Mixed Race Other. This is consistent with prevalent ethnic categories from other data sets compared in this report.

### Safe Space data:

Ethnicity	Number of cases	Percentage (%)
Black Caribbean	24	26.67
White British	11	12.22
Black African	9	10.00
Black British	9	10.00
Black Caribbean & White	9	10.00
Mixed Race Other	7	7.78
Not Recorded	5	5.56
Asian & White	3	3.33
Black Other	3	3.33
Pakistani	3	3.33
White Other	3	3.33
Not Known Or Not Stated	2	2.22
Other Ethnic Group	1	1.11
White Irish	1	1.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	

- The most prevalent ethnic categories recorded were Black Caribbean, White British, Black African and Black British.

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- This trend is consistent with other data sets in this report.

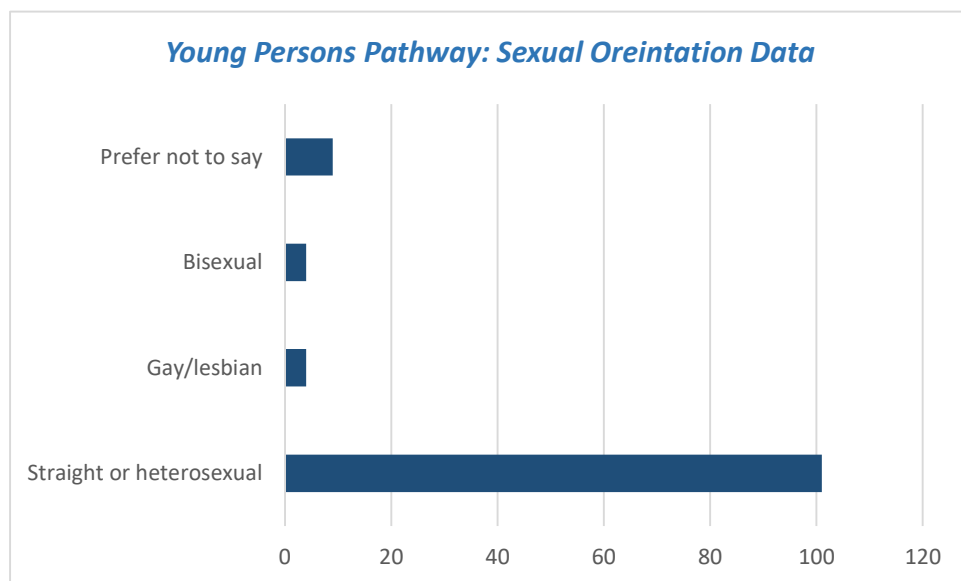
## Service User / Stakeholder feedback:

- No feedback points recorded

## Ethnicity – Key Findings:

- Young people accommodated in supported housing services are representative of the prevalent ethnic groups identified in population, Housing, and Children’s Social Care data.
- Young people from Caribbean heritage had higher representation in Housing, supported housing, and Safe Space data indicating there are inequalities here that need to be more fully understood in terms of ethnicity and links to youth homelessness and contact with Children’s Social Care.

## Sexual Orientation



- Of the 118 responses to this question, 86% of young people identified as being straight or heterosexual, 3% gay/lesbian, 3% bisexual, and 8% preferred not to say.

## Population Data from Lewisham Observatory 2021:

- Data not available.

## Data from LB Housing: Homeless Approaches 2021:

Sexual Orientation	16-17	18 or over	Grand Total
Gay / Lesbian	4.08%	3.05%	3.07%
Heterosexual / Straight	77.55%	85.29%	85.10%
Other	4.08%	1.39%	1.46%
Prefer not to say	14.29%	10.27%	10.37%
(blank)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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- This data highlights comparable findings to those recorded in the young persons supported housing pathway showing very similar percentages of young people identifying as straight / heterosexual, gay / lesbian.
- This finding indicates that young persons supported housing services are representative of the needs of young people who approach the Local Authority as homeless.

### **LB Lewisham Children's Social Care data 2021:**

- Data not available.

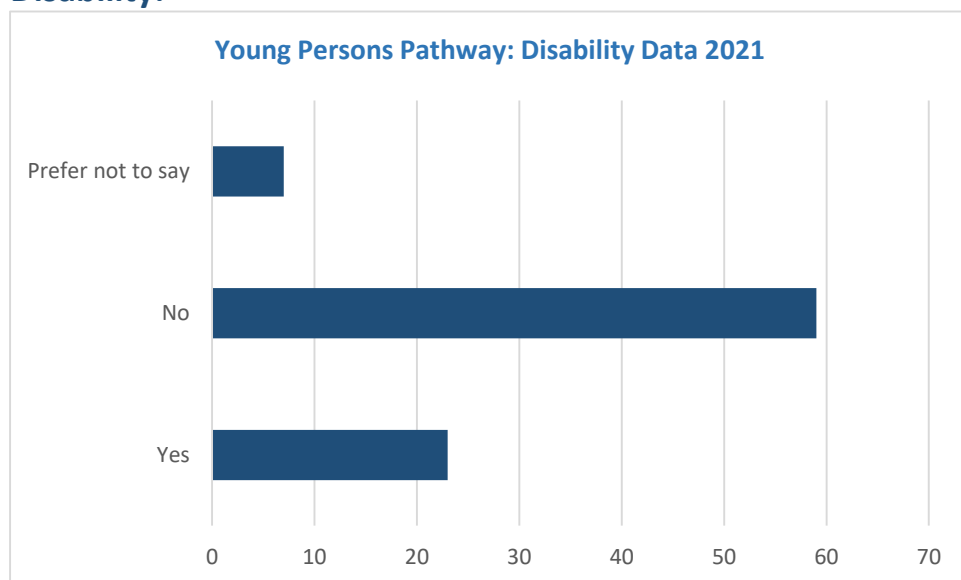
### **Service User / Stakeholder feedback**

- Service user's consultation feedback highlighted the need for young person's support staff to have more specialist training around sexuality. One young person feedback that they did not feel the provider understood how to support them fully in this area which negatively impacted on the overall support provided.

### **Sexual Orientation – Key findings:**

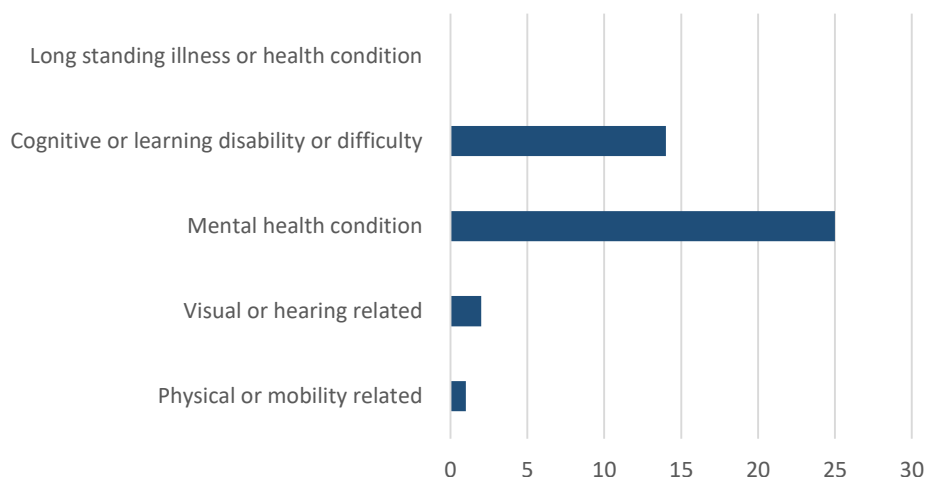
- The trends found in the young person's pathway around sexual orientation were also seen in the data held by Housing on homeless approaches for young people across 2020-2021.
- It would be useful to have the data breakdown for sexual orientation from other departments such as Children's Social Care and population data to better analyse if the supported housing cohort is representative of trends seen in other settings
- Ensuing project staff have the necessary knowledge and skills to support young people around their sexual orientation will be addressed in new services specifications for young person's services being re-procured in 2021.

### **Disability:**



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## Young Persons Pathway: Disability Data 2021



- Of the 82 responses recorded to this question, 72% of young people reported they did not have a disability, 28 % indicated they did have a disability
- Of the 28% who identified as disabled, 60% identified as having a mental health condition and 33% identified as having cognitive or learning disabilities.

### Population data from Lewisham Observatory:

- Data not available

### LB Lewisham Housing data: Homeless Approaches

Disability	18 or over	Grand Total
Blind or serious visual impairment	40.00%	40.00%
Deaf or serious hearing impairment	20.00%	20.00%
Physical impairment or mobility issues	40.00%	40.00%
(blank)	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

- The data for the 16-17 cohort is not available.
- This data highlights that visual impairment and mobility issues were the two most prevalent disability type recorded in homeless approaches in 2020-2021

### LB Lewisham Children's Social Care Data:

#### Looked After Children:

Disability	Number of CLA	Percentage (%)
Yes	57	12.10
No	414	87.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>471</b>	

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## Leaving Care Service:

Disability	Number of Care Leavers	Percentage (%)
Yes	31	7.60
No	377	92.40
<b>Total</b>	408	

- The data from both Looked After Children and Leaving Care services indicates a much larger percentage of the cohort identifying as not having a disability
- This trend is also observed in the young person's pathway, however higher percentages are recorded for young people who do identify as having a disability (28%) compared to the 12 % in the LAC population and 7.6 % in Leaving Care population.

## Safe Space:

- Data not available.

## Service User / Stakeholder feedback:

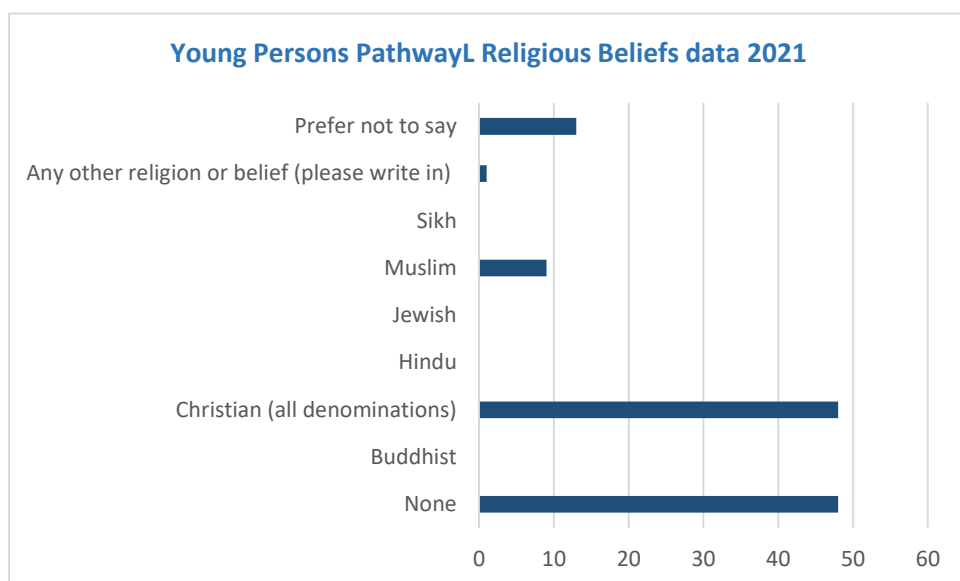
- There is a lack of accommodation to meet the needs of young people with physical disabilities or mobility issues.
- Young people surveyed as part of the consultation work to inform re-commissioning of services in 2021 recorded consistent feedback from young people that they found access to mental health provision in the borough difficult and this was an area they needed more support with.

## Disability – Key Findings:

- More data collection is required to more meaningfully assess disability trends in young people cohorts in Lewisham.
- Young people accommodated in the housing pathway showed similar trends to disability assessment in other cohorts analysed indicating most young people do not identify as having a disability.
- The supported housing pathway data highlighted most young people who identified as having a disability reported having a mental health issue.
- The supported housing pathway data also highlights the needs of young people with cognitive / learning disabilities. The threshold for Learning Disability services is very high, and young people often do not meet threshold for support however need help to live independently. Further analysis is needed to better understand any inequalities in this area and how supported housing services can respond to meet these needs, however specifications will include requirements to ensure staff are adequately trained to meet support needs of young people affected by cognitive and learning disabilities.
- The buildings used for supported housing services in Lewisham do present some barriers to ensuring equal access to service provision for young people who have physical disabilities and mobility issues.

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## Religious Beliefs



- Of the 119 responses to this question, 40 % of the young people placed in the supported housing pathway 40% identified as Christian, 40% identified as having no religion, and 8% identified as Muslim.

### Population Data from Lewisham Observatory 2021:

Religion	Lewisham		London		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Buddhist	3,664	1.3	82,026	1	238,626	0.5
Christian	145,588	52.8	3,957,984	48.4	31,479,876	59.4
Hindu	6,562	2.4	411,291	5	806,199	1.5
Jewish	643	0.2	148,602	1.8	261,282	0.5
Muslim	17,759	6.4	1,012,823	12.4	2,660,116	5
Sikh	531	0.2	126,134	1.5	420,196	0.8
Other religion	1,478	0.5	47,970	0.6	227,825	0.4
No religion	75,155	27.2	1,694,372	20.7	13,114,232	24.7

- Population data for Lewisham highlights that the most prevalent religious beliefs identified were Christian 48.4 %, no religion 20.7%, and Muslim 12.4%.
- These findings are consistent with the trends seen in supported housing services and indicates that religious beliefs in young people accommodated in supported housing reflect wider trends in the population.



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## LB Lewisham Housing: Homeless Approaches 2020 - 2021:

Religion	16-17	18 or over	Grand Total
Buddhist	0.00%	1.18%	1.04%
Christian	36.36%	47.06%	45.83%
Hindu	0.00%	1.18%	1.04%
Jewish	0.00%	1.18%	1.04%
Muslim	0.00%	8.24%	7.29%
No religion	63.64%	37.65%	40.63%
Other religion	0.00%	3.53%	3.13%
(blank)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

- This data highlights the most prevalent religious belief recorded for young person's homelessness approaches across 2021/2022 were: Christian, 45.8%, No religion 40.6 % and Muslim 8.2%
- These trends are consistent with religious belief data from supported housing services indicating that young persons supported housing provision is representative of young people who approach the borough as homeless.

## LB Lewisham Children's Social Care data 2021:

### Looked After Children Data:

Religion	Number of CLA	Percentage (%)
Christian	160	33.97
No Religion	123	26.11
Not Recorded	47	9.98
Islam	34	7.22
Non Specific Belief	26	5.52
Church Of England	19	4.03
Unable To Establish	18	3.82
Buddhist	10	2.12
Pentecostal	9	1.91
Roman Catholic	9	1.91
Hindu	5	1.06
Orthodox	4	0.85
Baptist	2	0.42
Jehovah's Witness	2	0.42
Methodist	2	0.42
Greek Orthodox	1	0.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>471</b>	

- This data highlights the most prevalent religious beliefs recorded in the Looked After Children Services was Christian, 33.9%, No religion 26.11%

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- This data is consistent with religious belief data collected from other sources including supported accommodation services for young people.

## **Leaving Care Service**

- Not data available.

## **Safe Space Service**

- No data available

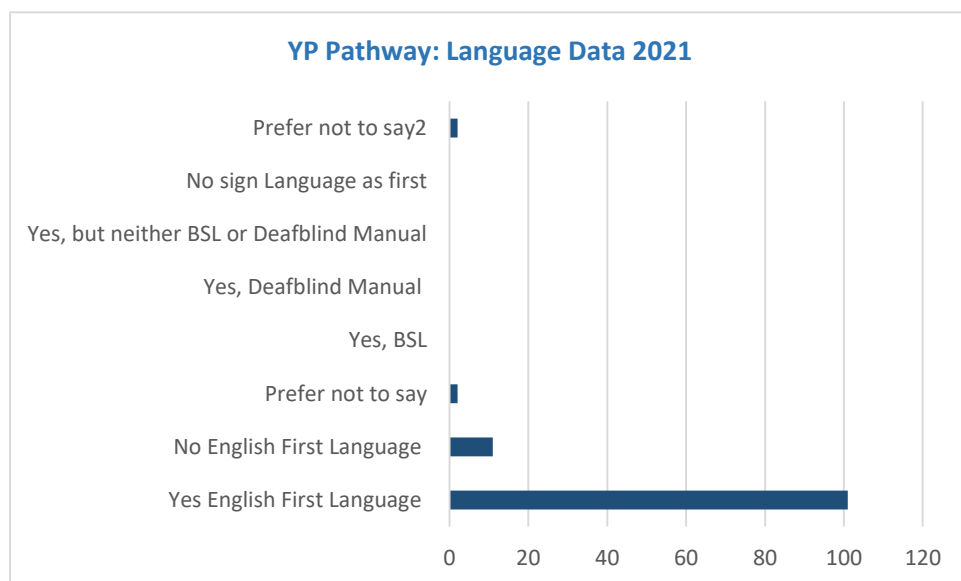
## **Service User / Stakeholder Feedback:**

- No feedback

## **Religious Beliefs – Key Findings**

- The religious belief trends seen in young persons supported accommodation services are in line with trends seen in population, Housing, and Children’s Social Care data indicating no significant inequalities in this area.
- The percentage of young people who report having no religious beliefs is higher than in seen in the general population which indicates young people are not as engaged with religion compared to older cohorts. This finding would need further examination with wider data sets to fully establish any trends.

## **Language:**



- of the 116 responses to this question, 87% of young people placed in the supported housing pathways reported English was their first language, 9 % reported that English was not their first language.

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## Population Data Lewisham Observatory 2021:

Language	Lewisham		London		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
English (English or Welsh if in Wales)	219,035	83.5	6,083,420	77.9	46,936,780	92
Welsh/Cymraeg (in England only)	34	0	1,310	0	8,248	0
Other UK language	46	0	1,166	0	4,637	0
French	3,929	1.5	84,191	1.1	145,026	0.3
Portuguese	1,966	0.7	71,525	0.9	131,002	0.3
Spanish	2,477	0.9	71,192	0.9	118,554	0.2
Other European language (EU)	11,673	4.5	423,054	5.4	1,155,972	2.3
Other European language (EU): Any other European language (EU)	44	0	1,506	0	2,878	0
Other European language (non EU)	1,433	0.5	38,419	0.5	64,985	0.1
Other European language (non-national)	3	0	3,818	0	4,600	0
Russian	940	0.4	26,603	0.3	66,271	0.1
Turkish	2,227	0.8	71,242	0.9	98,083	0.2
Arabic	964	0.4	70,602	0.9	152,490	0.3
West/Central Asian language	1,543	0.6	82,246	1.1	181,424	0.4
South Asian language	5,998	2.3	507,675	6.5	1,281,168	2.5
East Asian language	5,118	2	128,149	1.6	374,013	0.7
Oceanic/Australian language	6	0	204	0	1,729	0
North/South American language	3	0	438	0	1,022	0
Caribbean Creole	32	0	234	0	506	0
African language	4,422	1.7	132,216	1.7	240,572	0.5
Other languages	247	0.1	8,250	0.1	17,675	0
Sign language	160	0.1	3,988	0.1	20,853	0

- Population data for Lewisham highlights the prevalent language spoken in the borough is English 83.5 %, with other European languages reported in 4.5 % of the population.

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- This finding is in line with trends seen in young persons supported accommodation services.
- This data does not indicate the need for services to cater for specific languages, however given the range of languages recorded highlights the need for interpreting services.

## **LB Lewisham Housing data: Homeless Approaches**

- Data not available

## **LB Lewisham Children's Social Care data:**

- Data not available

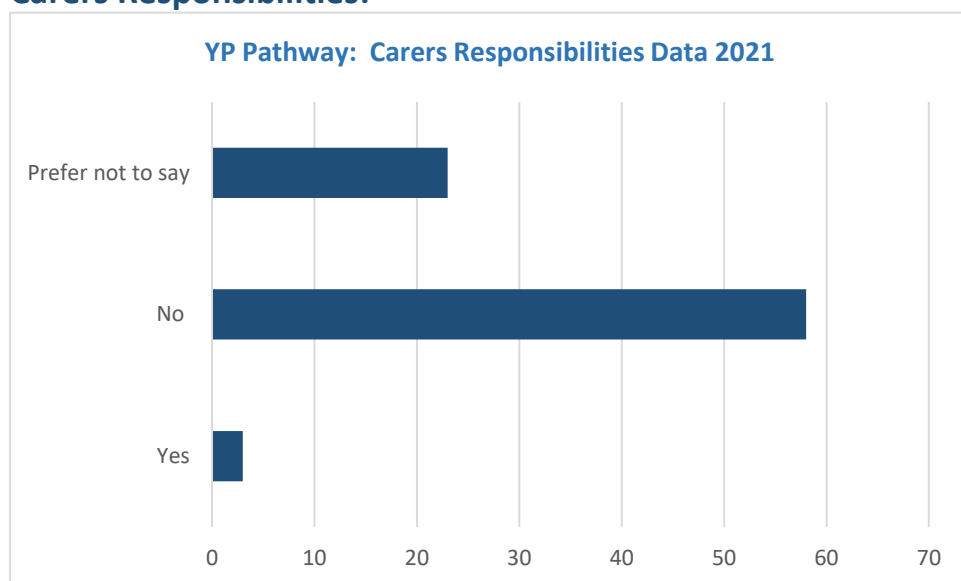
## **Service User / Stakeholder Feedback:**

- Access to interpreting services is essential to fully support some young people.

## **Language – Key Findings**

- The data available indicates that the language trends seen in the young person's pathway are in line with population data indicating no significant inequalities in this area.
- Interpreting provision should be included in any new service specification to ensure a range of language needs can be met.

## **Carers Responsibilities:**



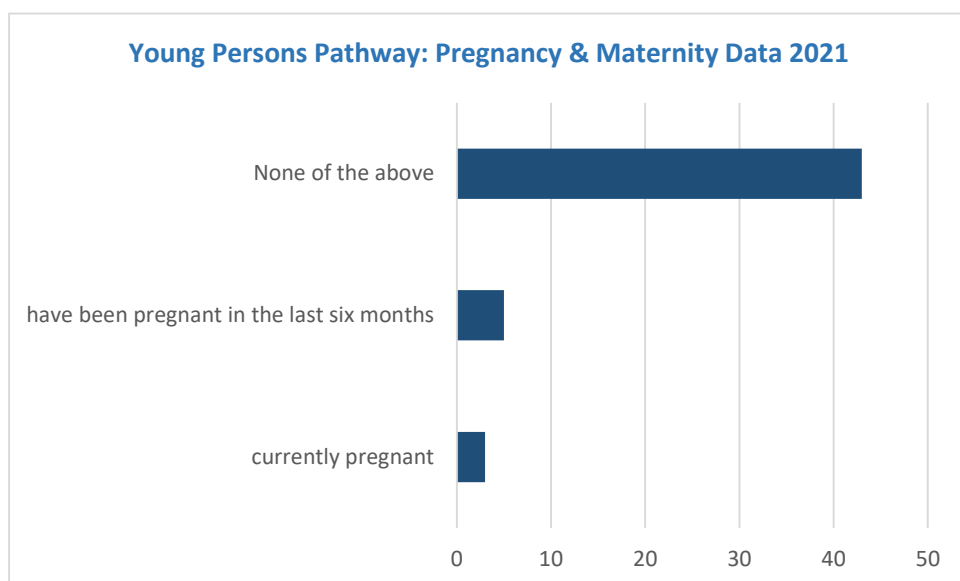
- Of the 84 responses to this question, 64% of young people reported no caring responsibilities, 27% would prefer not to say, and 4% reported they did have caring responsibilities.

## **Carers Responsibilities – Key findings**

- There is no other comparable data sets at this time that can be used to better establish whether this finding is representative of young people more generally in Lewisham.
- Data from Housing and Children's Social Care would be helpful to establish comparable data sets.
- There is more work to be done in this area to fully understand what tailored support young people who have caring responsibilities require in supported housing settings, which is something that can be explored in more detail with service providers.

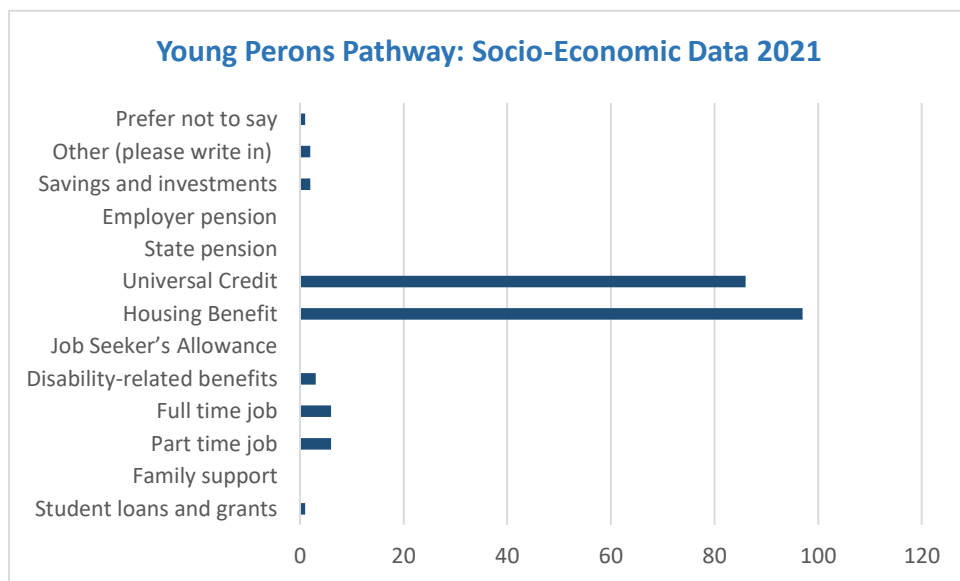
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## Pregnancy & Maternity:



- Of the 59 responses to this question 3% of young people reported that they are currently pregnant, and 8% had been pregnant in the last six months.
- Young females are supported to move on in a planned way from supported housing services if they fall pregnant – usually temporary accommodation.
- The young person’s pathway is single accommodation and so pregnant females are not eligible to be referred.
- There is no available data in which to further analyse pregnancy and maternity trends in the wider young person’s population. This analysis would be more relevant if commissioning services for families compared to single young person accommodation.

## Socio-Economic



- Data from supported housing services indicated that the majority of the young people accommodated were in receipt of Universal Credit and Housing Benefit
- 6 young people reported they worked part time, and 6 young people reported they worked full time.

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## Population Data from Lewisham Observatory:

Not In Education Training or Employment	Lewisham		London		England	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male 16 and 17 year olds	200.0	6.5	4,520.0	5.0	35,300.0	6.2
Female 16 and 17 year olds	140.0	4.6	2,830.0	3.3	25,360.0	4.7

- This data indicates that Lewisham have a higher proportion 16-17 year olds not in education, training or employment than London averages.
- The low numbers of young people in the supported housing pathway to be in paid employment is indicative of the high numbers recorded as NEET in wider population data.

## Socio- Economic: Key findings

- Young people in supported accommodation services are usually in receipt of Universal Credit with low numbers of young people recorded in paid employment.
- The way supported housing services are funded which includes income from Housing Benefit (which support providers claim at an enhanced rate) to make the contract financially viable means that rents are very high and extremely challenging for young people who are in employment to afford. This has been common practise in supported housing services as a result of substantial funding cuts and austerity measures. This can negatively impact on young people's ability to work and develop whilst living in supported housing services – which is contrary to the reasons the services exist in the first place.
- Young people's engagement with Education, Training and Employment services are monitored as part of quarterly contract monitoring with providers and is one of the key outcomes for young people. This issue is regularly raised by stakeholders, providers and services users as an area where there are significant inequalities for young people who are in employment.
- Private rented move on options are also often unaffordable for young people who are in employment, and young people are often impacted by the benefit cap once they move into PRS accommodation.
- Supported accommodation services should include some options let at social rent levels to enable young people in employment to be supported to sustain and manage their supported housing.
- The socio economic inequalities that exist for young people as a result of central government policy and legislation will require continued discussion and innovation between the Local Authority and support providers to come up with creative solutions to support young people to move onto independence.

## Refugee / Migrant / Asylum Seeker:

- This data was not collected as part of the audit undertaken in 2021, however will be included in all data collections and provider reporting going forward.

## 3. Impact summary

### Age:

The re-commissioning of young persons supported housing services will have a neutral impact on age. Services are already designed to meet the needs 16 – 21 age group and this will not change through the re-commissioning process. However services will be re-specified to better meet the needs of 16/17 year olds who present as homeless and 18+ Care Leavers to support moves to independence.

### Gender & Gender Identity:

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The re-commissioning of young person's supported housing service will have a neutral impact on gender. The trends seen in young persons supported housing provision are in line with data analysed from different cohorts that show a slightly higher need for females compared to males.

Given the higher proportion of males seen in Leaving Care and Safe Space caseload data, and that these are two key services areas that rely on supported accommodation services, the need for male only / ring-fenced provision should be considered in the re-commissioning process.

Better recoding and monitoring of gender identity is required to start to understand themes and trend in young people.

### ***Ethnicity:***

The re-commissioning of young persons supported housing services will have a neutral impact on ethnicity. The trends seen in the young persons supported housing provision are in line with data analysed from other sources.

There is a need to more fully understand why young people from Caribbean heritage are slightly over represented in supported housing, homeless approach and Safe Space data compared to population averages. Ethnicity data will be monitored at more regular intervals across 2021/2022 to more fully identify themes and trends and to inform on strategies to reduce inequalities.

### ***Sexual Orientation:***

The re-commissioning of young persons supported accommodation services will have a neutral impact on sexual orientation. The trends seen in the young persons pathway are in line with data analysed from other sources, however there is a lack of available data for this characteristic which is required to assess this more fully.

Ensuing project staff have access to training on supporting young people around sexual orientation will be included in new service specifications for services being re-procured in 2021.

### ***Disability:***

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodations services will have a neutral impact on disability. The trends seen in the young person's pathway are replicated with other young person's cohorts, however this analysis is very limited.

Given that mental health and cognitive impairment were the two most prevalent categories recorded for disability, supported accommodation services need to be specified to support young people in these areas.

### ***Religious Beliefs:***

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodations services will have a neutral impact on religious beliefs. The trends seen in the young person's pathway are replicated with other young person's cohorts, however this analysis is very limited.

### ***Language:***

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodations services will have a neutral impact on language. The trends seen in the young person's pathway are replicated with other young person's cohorts, however this analysis is very limited.

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Given population data shows a range of languages spoken within Lewisham, ensuing services are commissioned to provide access to interpreting services to ensure equal access for young people where English is not their first language should be included in service specifications.

## **Carers Responsibilities:**

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodation services will have a neutral impact on Carer's Responsibilities. Young people who have carer responsibility can still access supported accommodation where support is available to help manage any responsibilities and ensure the right services are involved in supporting the young person.

## **Pregnancy & Maternity:**

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodations services will have a neutral impact on pregnancy & maternity. The current provision is only available to single young people in need and there is no change to this criteria planned through the re-commissioning of services at this time.

## **Social Economic:**

The re-commissioning of the young persons supported accommodation services will not meet the needs of young people who are in full time employment where rents will be very high and unaffordable for young people. This is the case under the current service arrangements and is an area of inequality that can only be addressed through additional revenue funding to enable rent setting in supported housing to be lower.

Supported accommodation services should however include options at social rent levels to enable young people in employment to be supported to sustain and manage their supported housing.

## **Refugee / Migrant / Asylum Seeker:**

There was no data available to assess the impact that re-commissioning will have on this characteristic. Supported housing services are accessible to single adults who have support needs, are in housing need, and who are eligible for support and assistance in this country, this criteria will not change through the re-commissioning process.

## 4. Mitigation

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>To be Actioned</b>
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure adequate number of bed spaces for males in young person's accommodation services to promote equal access for young males.</li> <li>To ensure gender identity is included in the contract monitoring process and reviewed on a quarterly basis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young Persons Procurement Project Group – September 2021</li> </ul>
Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure access to sexual orientation training for staff is assessed during the procurement process.</li> <li>To review access to sexual orientation training with current providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young Persons Procurement Project Group September 2021</li> <li>PIPHCT June 2021</li> </ul>



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Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve access to mental health services for young people through collaborative work with SEL CCG</li> <li>To review what training is in place to ensure project staff have access to specialist training to support cognitive impairments &amp; Learning Disability needs</li> <li>To work with providers and Registered Social Landlords to improve building arrangements to cater for young people with physical disabilities and mobility issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing 2021-2022</li> <li>June 2021</li> <li>Ongoing 2021-2022</li> </ul>
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure young people have access to interpreting service within current service provision</li> <li>To include requirement for interpreting services in new services specifications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June 2021</li> <li>July 2021</li> </ul>
Socio-economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure some bed spaces are available on social rent levels in the young person's pathway to accommodate young people in employment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 2021</li> </ul>
Refugee / Migrant / Asylum Seeker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure this characteristic is included in reporting to analyse trends in supported accommodation services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ongoing</li> </ul>

### 5. Service user journey that this decision or project impacts

Access to the young persons supported housing pathway is via LBL Single Homeless Intervention & Prevention team or LBL Leaving Care service. Each service has its own complaints and appeals procedures which young people have access to should they need to raise a complaint.

Once placed in supported accommodation provision, the support provider will have an organisational complaints procedure which young people will be supported to use should they wish to raise a formal complaint.

Complaints are also made directly to the PIPHCT team, or passed on by Corporate Complaints team for further investigation by the commissioning manager. These complaints are managed in line with the Complaints Procedure.

Service user feedback is sought at regular intervals to inform service delivery and identify themes and trends to be addressed through contract management.

When a service user is ready to move on to independent accommodation, they will be referred back to the Lewisham SHIP service and referred for suitable move on accommodation including social nomination and Private Rented options. Both the SHIP service and the Allocations Team have complaints and appeals procedures should a young person need to raise a complaint.

# Corporate Equalities Policy

Signature  
Director

of



Dee Carlin, Director of integrated commissioning