

# Equalities impact assessment

Everyone In – 2020/21



# Background

- This assessment will explore the impact of the Everyone In work undertaken by Islington Council between the Government's announcement of the programme on 26 March 2020 and 31 March 2021.
- This will include demographic analysis of:
  - All single adults who were placed in temporary accommodation in the study period. This population has been used as a proxy for all people housed through Everyone In, as there was no specific recording mechanism set up for these residents.
  - The population approaching Islington Council to lodge a homelessness application in 2020/21
  - And the borough's overall population.
- This assessment will seek to identify any areas where the Everyone In process might have an undue impact on the inequalities within the borough, with relation to the protected characteristics under the Equalities Act, 2010.

## Background

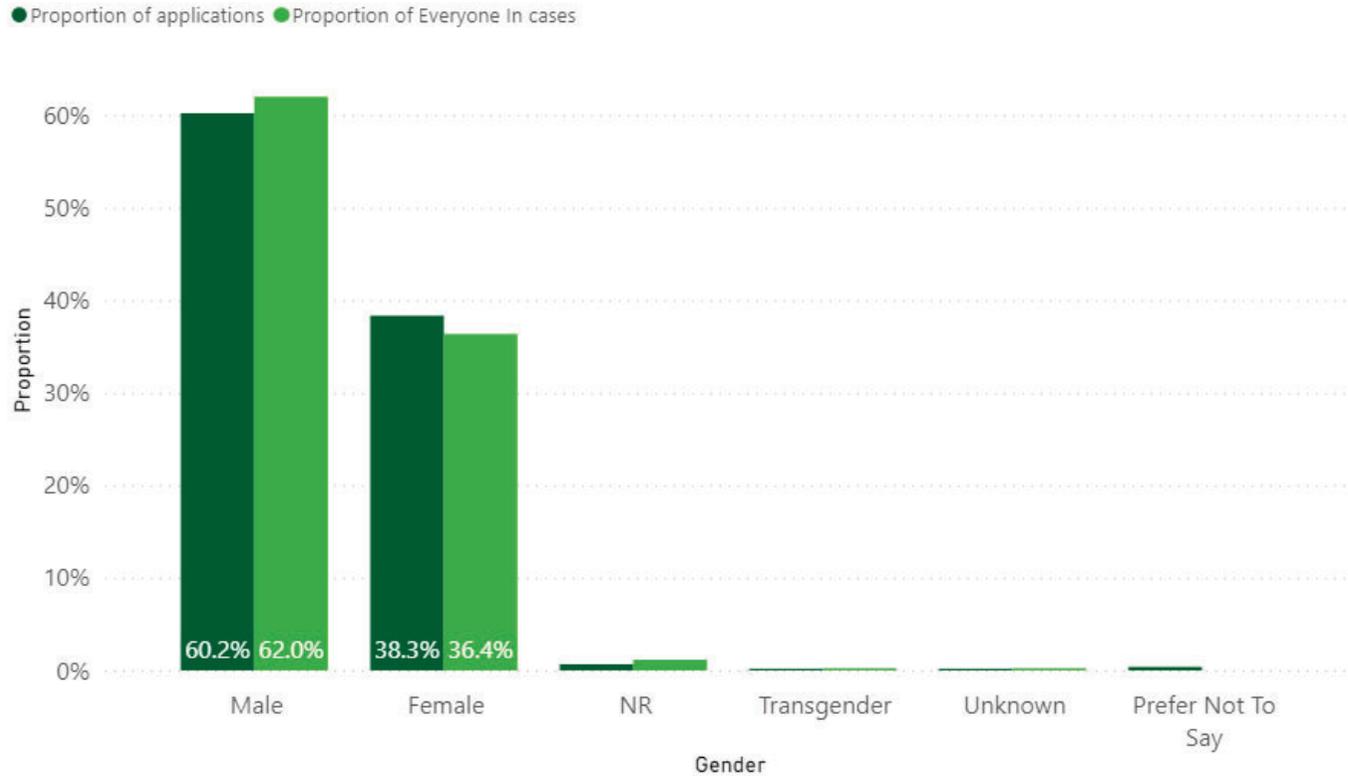
- In the period studied, 429 people were housed in Islington through the Everyone In process. In 2020/21, Islington Council received 1,051 homelessness applications, and this population will be used as a comparator.
- Overall, 33,139 rough sleepers were supported across the country by the end of November, according to the National Audit Office's estimates.
  - Source: <https://www.nao.org.uk/report/the-housing-of-rough-sleepers-during-the-covid19-pandemic/>
- This figure far out-stripped all estimates of rough sleeping nationally, so while this EQIA will refer to the known rough sleeping population in Islington as a comparator we know that the actual population supported is larger than, and different to, the rough sleeping group.

# Executive Summary

- This analysis explores the demographics of people supported through the Everyone In programme in Islington, and compares them with the homeless applicant and general populations, as well as information from Chain reports where possible.
- It finds that those supported through Everyone In were more likely to be younger, male, and more ethnically diverse than the general population, and slightly older than the homelessness applicant population.
- The one area that may be of note is the difference between the Chain reports finding that around 25% of rough sleepers in Islington are from a White-European ethnic background, particularly Romanian, while the closest comparator in our data, White-Other, only accounts for 6.1% of the Everyone In cohort.
- Other than this, the differences seen are in keeping with the expected demographics of the rough sleeping population, and there is no obvious indication of inequitable processing in the Everyone In initiative.
- However, it should be noted that there may be gaps in the recording of disability, given the very low number of people with a recorded disability, and there is relatively little recording of religion and sexual orientation. There may be value in improving recording of these factors, to further inform future work in this area.

# Gender

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21

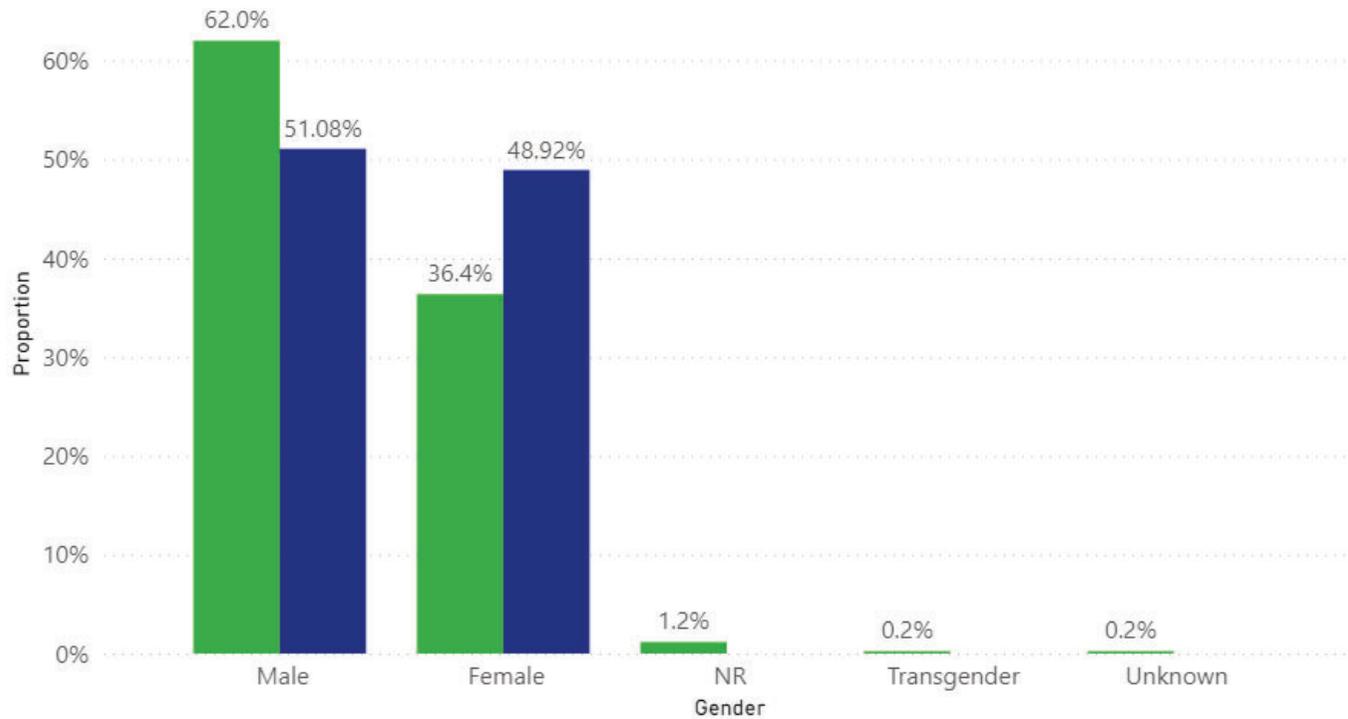


- These figures show a close similarity between the demographics of the population housed through Everyone In and the general applicant pool in Islington.

# Gender

Comparison of people accommodated through Everyone In against the Islington population aged 16+

● Proportion of Everyone In cases ● Proportion of general population



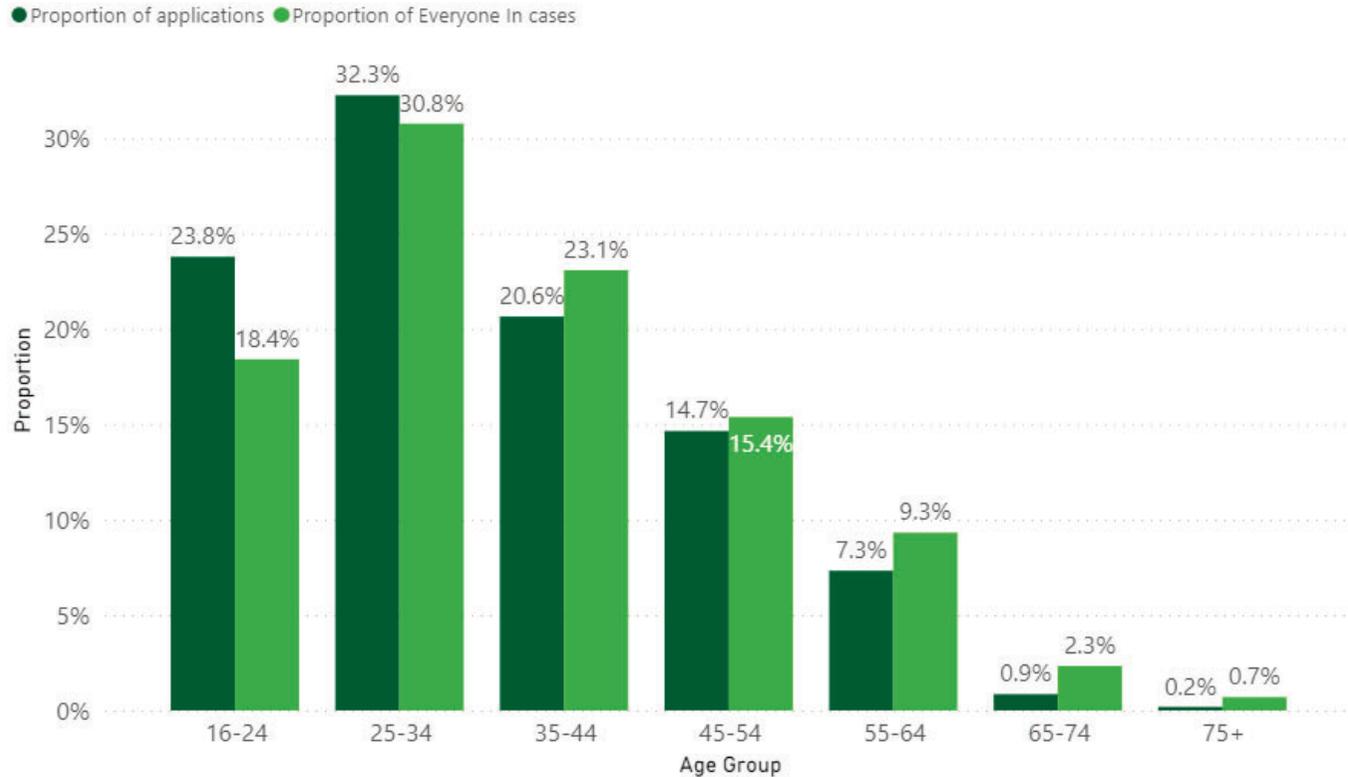
- This chart compares the population housed through Everyone In against the Islington population, based on GLA estimates.
- The population housed through Everyone In had a significantly higher proportion of men; 62% to 51% in the borough population.

## Gender

- This analysis shows that the population housed through Everyone In appears to bear similar demographic characteristics to the general applicant population – over 60% female.
- This is distinct from the borough population, which is only 51% female, but it is also distinct from the known rough sleeper population.
- Chain (Combined Homelessness and Information Network) reports for Islington, show that the population observed sleeping rough in the borough is over 80% male. In 2019/20, 365 people were seen sleeping rough in Islington, 82% of whom were male. The most recent figures, for January to March 21, found 65 people sleeping rough, again 82% of them were male.
- This may indicate that the population supported through Everyone In was not representative of the population in need, however it may also indicate the differences between those sleeping rough and those who were using shared sleeping sites that were also identified as being potential infection risks at the start of the pandemic.
- It may also be indicative of the greater vulnerability of women while rough sleeping - and that they may take more steps to make themselves invisible to passers-by (and therefore also to those doing street counts), whether through using other temporary housing services or by finding concealed spaces to sleep in.

# Age groups

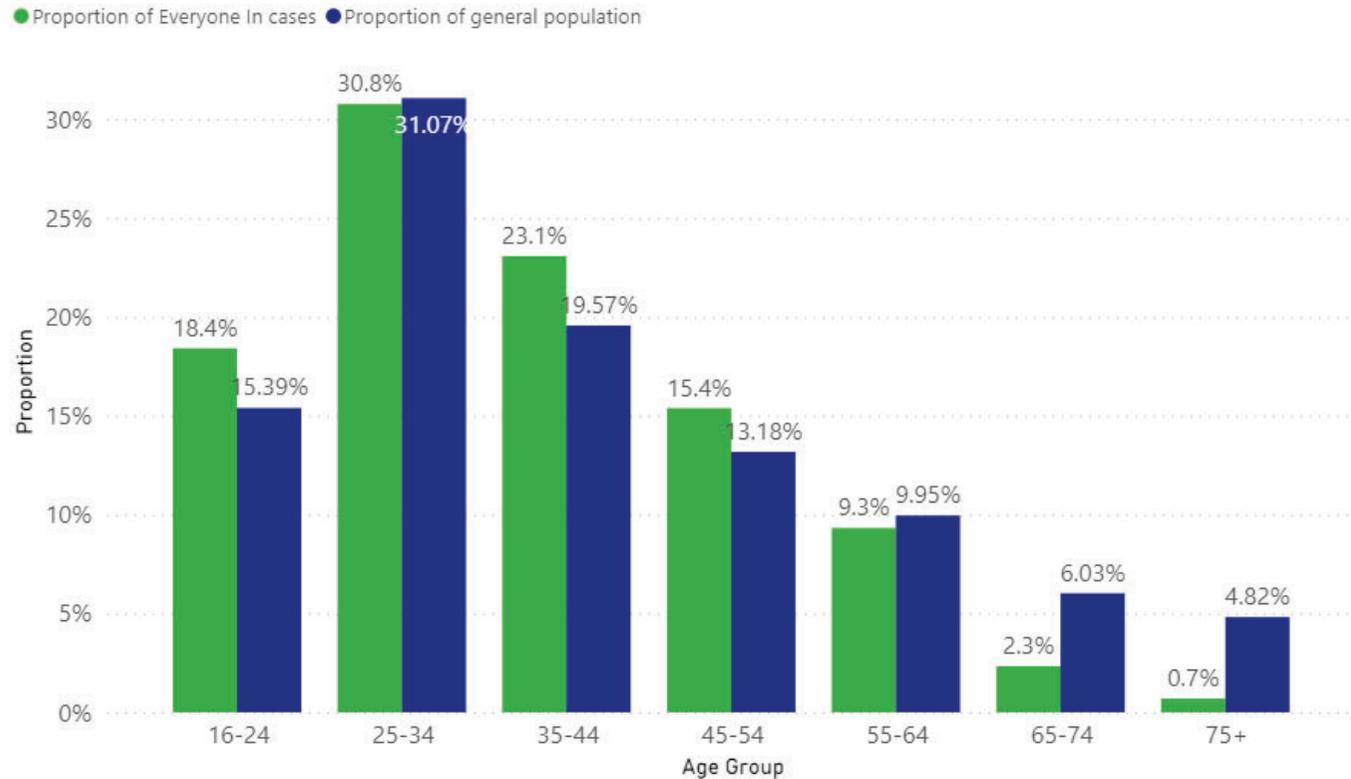
Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



- In general, those supported through Everyone In were slightly older than the borough's housing applicant population.
- The age breakdown of applicants supported through Everyone In is similar to those identified through the Chain reports, as well:
- Chain reports for the past two years identify 26-35 and 36-45 years as the two biggest age groups for people observed rough sleeping in Islington, accounting for over half of cases.

# Age groups

Comparison of people accommodated through Everyone In against the Islington population aged 16+



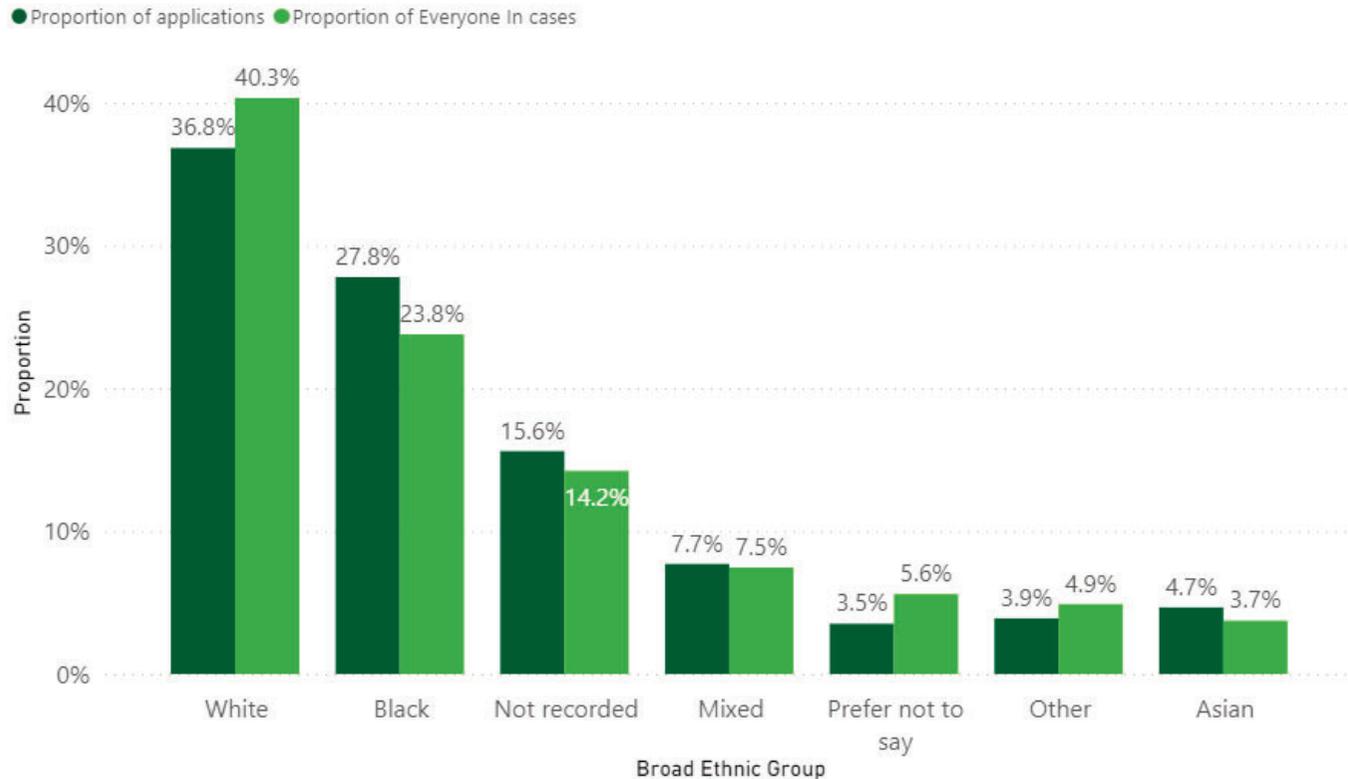
- Compared against the general population, the population supported through Everyone In was slightly younger than the general population.
- This is likely attributable to the lower life expectancy of people who are rough sleeping, as well as a clustering of home ownership among the older age groups in the general population.

## Age

- These slides have shown that people accessing support through the Everyone In programme were generally a little older than the average homelessness applicant, but younger than the general population.
- These are small but notable differences between population served by the Everyone In work and the general population, however they are likely to be logical differences because of the population being served.
- It is likely that some of the rough sleepers who have been supported will have been engaged with homelessness services in the past – this subset of the rough sleeping population will contribute to an older skew in the Everyone In population.
- On the opposite end of the spectrum, those aged 55+ accounted for a smaller proportion of the Everyone In population than the general population – again this is to be expected as this age group will likely have a more settled housing status, while rough sleeping has a substantial health impact which means that there are generally fewer rough sleepers in this age range.
- However, the age range supported through Everyone In is similar to the age range of rough sleepers observed by St Mungo's in the Chain reports for the past two years, which suggests that the Everyone In programme in Islington has not significantly disadvantaged a particular age group.

# Ethnicity

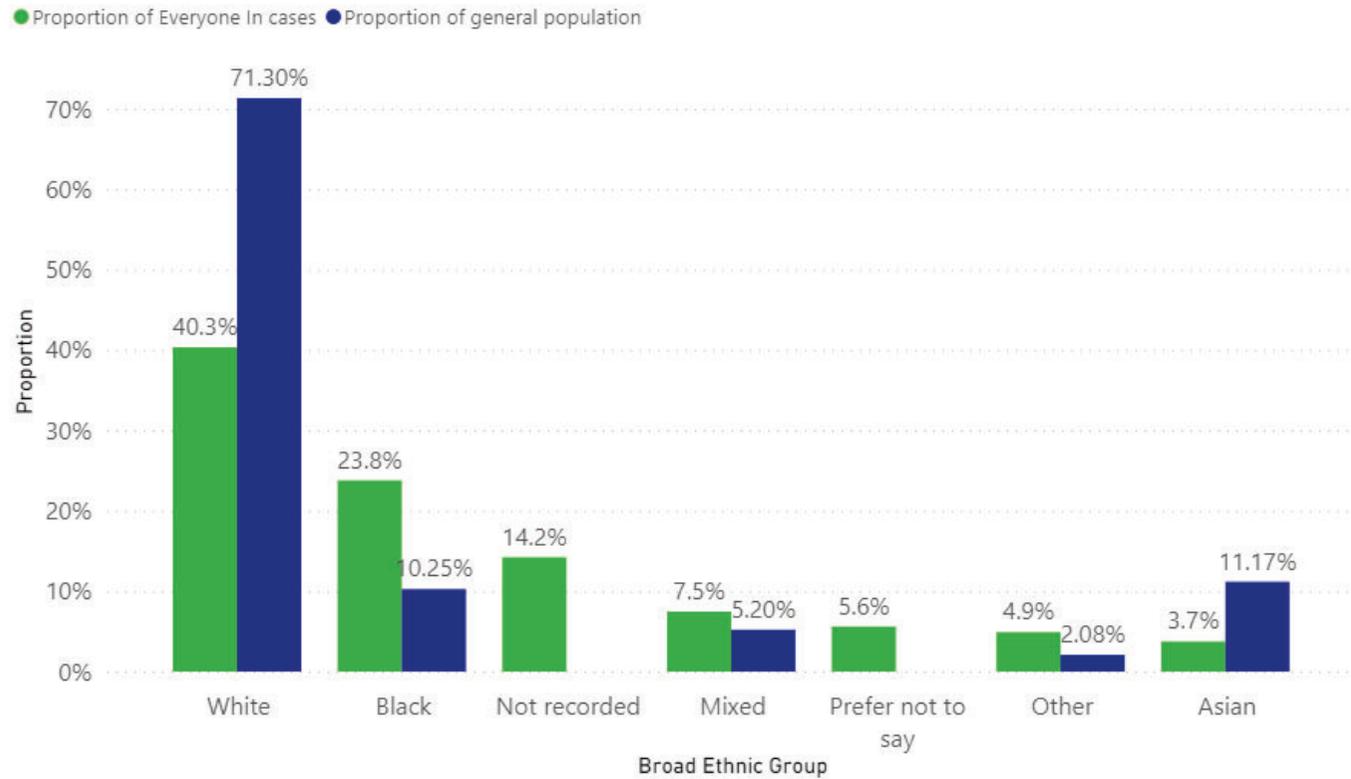
Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



- There was a slightly higher proportion of people from White ethnic groups in the pool of residents supported through Everyone In, when compared to the homeless applicant pool, and a slightly lower proportion of Black people.
- The Everyone In group also had a slightly higher proportion of people who preferred not to give their ethnicity, though this was not statistically significant.

# Ethnicity

Comparison of people accommodated through Everyone In against the Islington population aged 16+



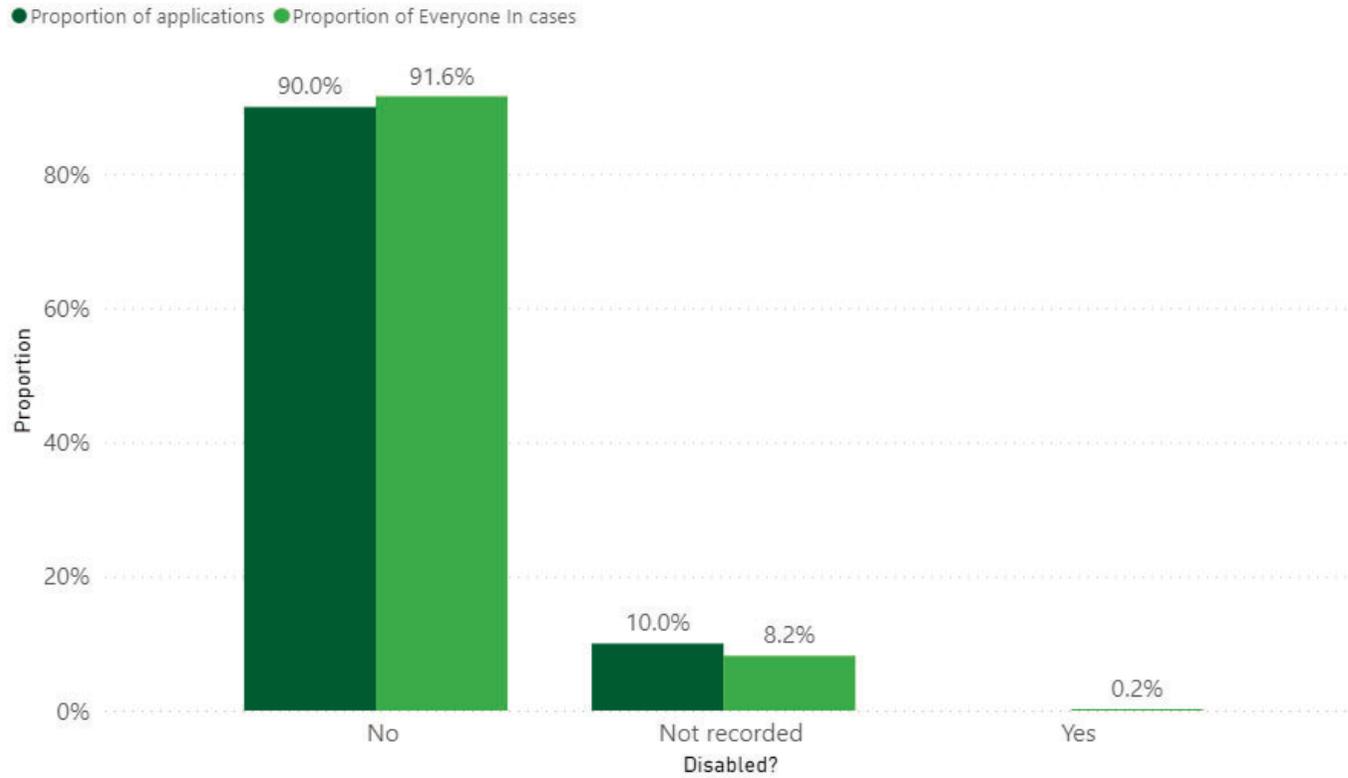
- Despite the differences with the applicant pool, those supported through Everyone In were still significantly more ethnically diverse than the borough's population.
- The borough's adult population, based on GLA estimates, is 71% White, compared to a 40% of those supported through Everyone In.

## Ethnicity

- These slides have shown that while the borough population is almost three-quarters White, this ethnic group only accounted for 40% of those supported through Everyone In.
- This is in keeping with other known factors, including the ethnicity of those applying for homelessness support, as well as the known clustering of other forms of disadvantage experienced by non-White groups.
- However, it is worth noting that the Chain reports document a significant proportion of rough sleepers in Islington from White European groups, particularly people from Romania, who are not present in the Everyone In data. In 2019/20 this group accounted for 31% of rough sleepers in Islington compared with 50% from a White British background, and in 2020/21 they accounted for just under a quarter. Within Islington's Everyone In population, the closest comparator for this group is the 'White Other' ethnic group. This population only accounts for 6.1% of Everyone In and 8.6% of all homelessness applicants.
- The number of rough sleepers from this ethnic group has remained stable throughout 2020/21 so it seems unlikely that they have not engaged with Everyone In because they found alternative arrangements, so it may indicate that these people were not aware of, or contacted by, Everyone In services, or it might indicate a reluctance to engage with public services, following the EU Referendum, for fear of being deported.

# Disability

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



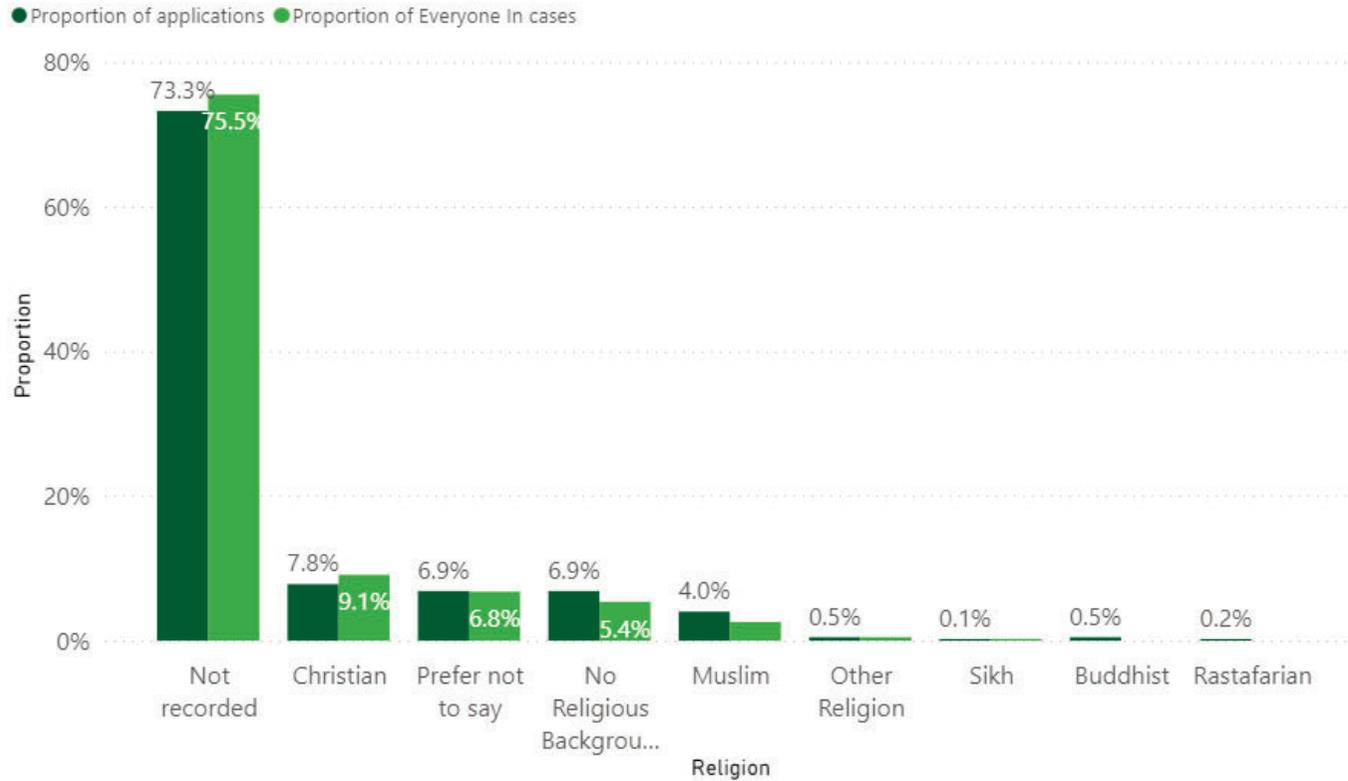
- This data shows that the Everyone In cohort has a fairly similar disability profile to the general applicant population.
- Around 90% of both groups have no disability, while almost all of the remainder have no disability status recorded.

## Disability

- This data shows that most people in both groups have no disability.
- The 10% of people in each group with no disability status recorded is a slight surprise – it would be expected that the rough sleeping population in particular would have some underlying prevalence of physical or mental health needs.

# Religion

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



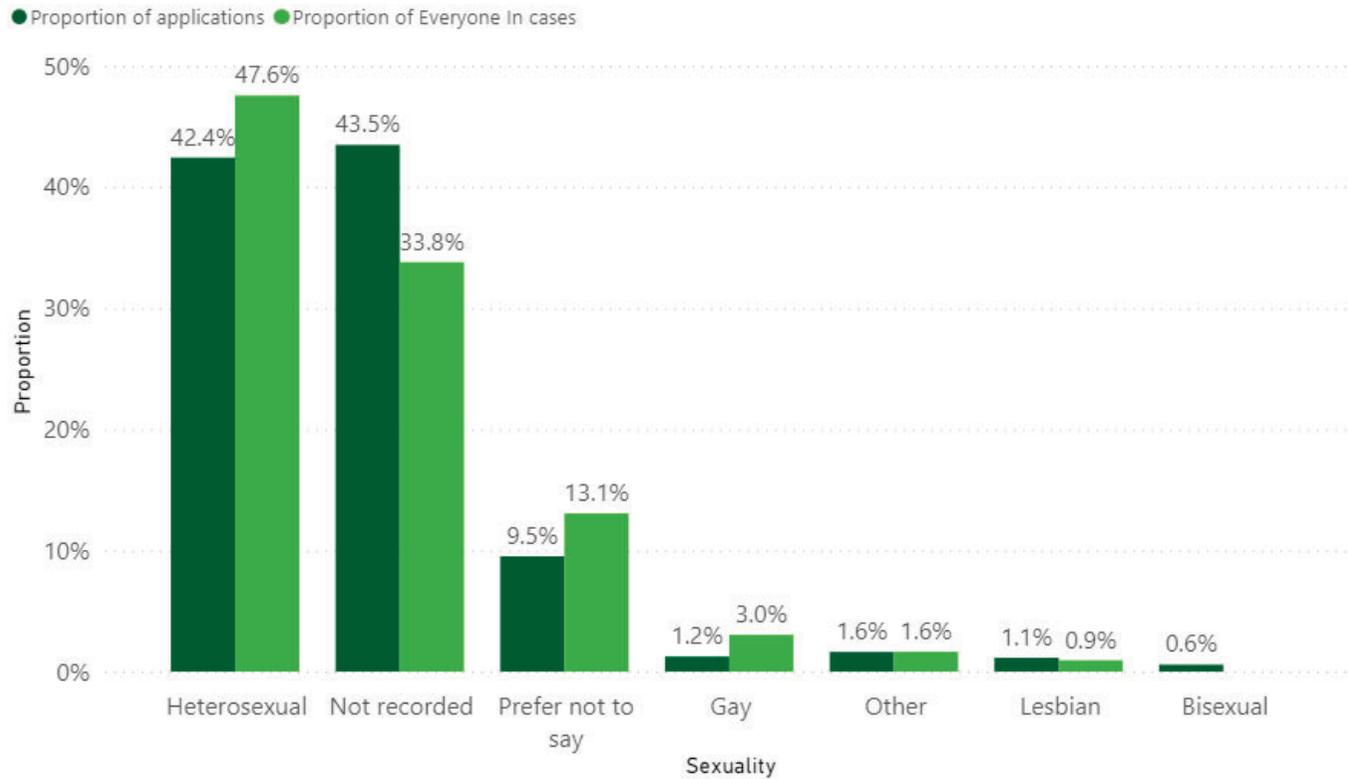
- A high proportion of people in each group have no religion recorded.
- Focusing on those with a recorded religion, the figures are similar, with no statistically significant differences.

## Religion

- The clearest pattern from this analysis is that there is a low level of data recording for religion.
- There is a logical explanation for this, given that religion is not a key determinant of a person's eligibility for housing support, though it does inhibit equity analysis.

# Sexuality

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



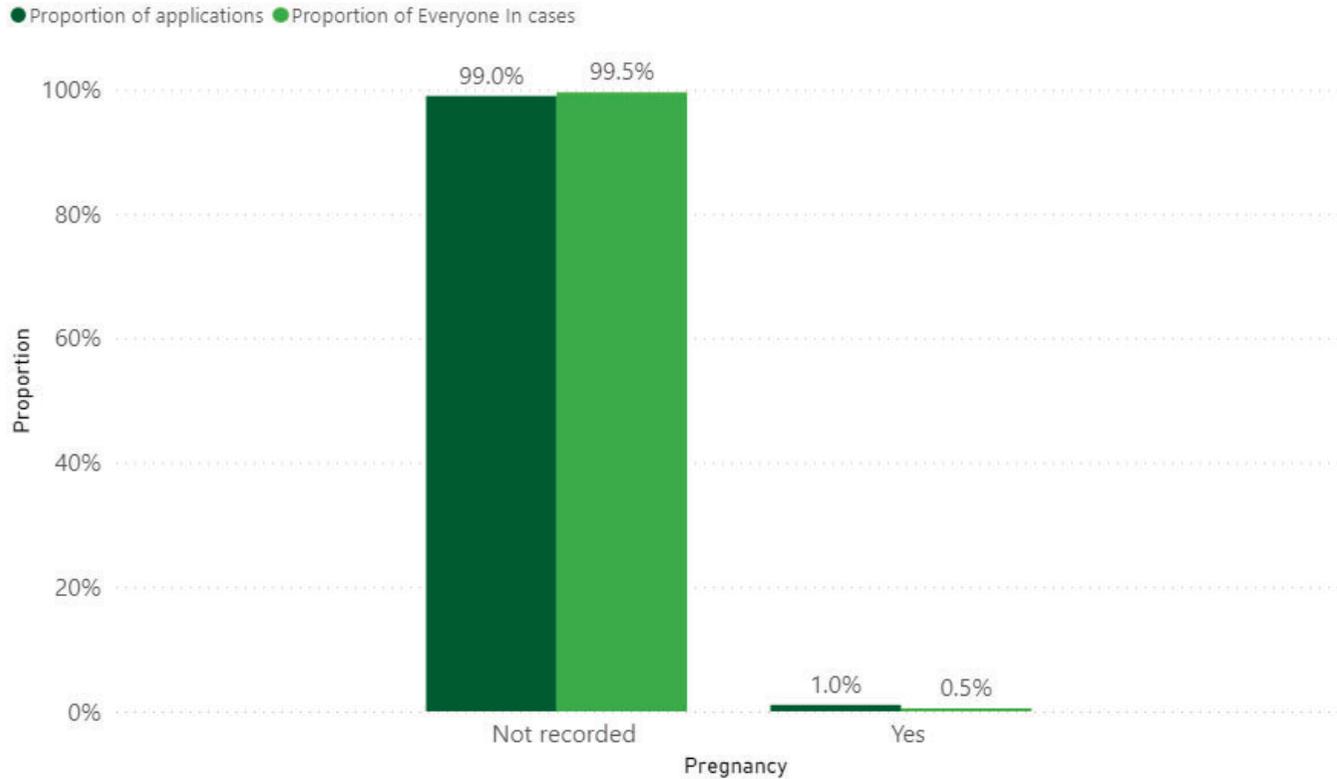
- Overall, the pattern between these two groups are similar.
- The level of data recording is slightly higher among the people supported through Everyone In.
- Once this group is removed, the proportions are broadly similar – most people supported identify as heterosexual, with small levels of people in each group identifying as gay, bisexual, or lesbian.

## Sexuality

- A substantial minority of cases do not have a recorded sexual orientation, and a further 10-15% of cases preferred not to share their sexual orientation when asked.
- As with religion, this is somewhat expected as the category in itself is not relevant to a housing application, however it slightly restricts analysis of equity in service delivery.
- When comparing only those cases with a recorded sexuality, over 90% identify as heterosexual, which is broadly in line with national figures for the general population: the ONS reported in 2018 that 94% of the national population identify as heterosexual.

# Pregnancy

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



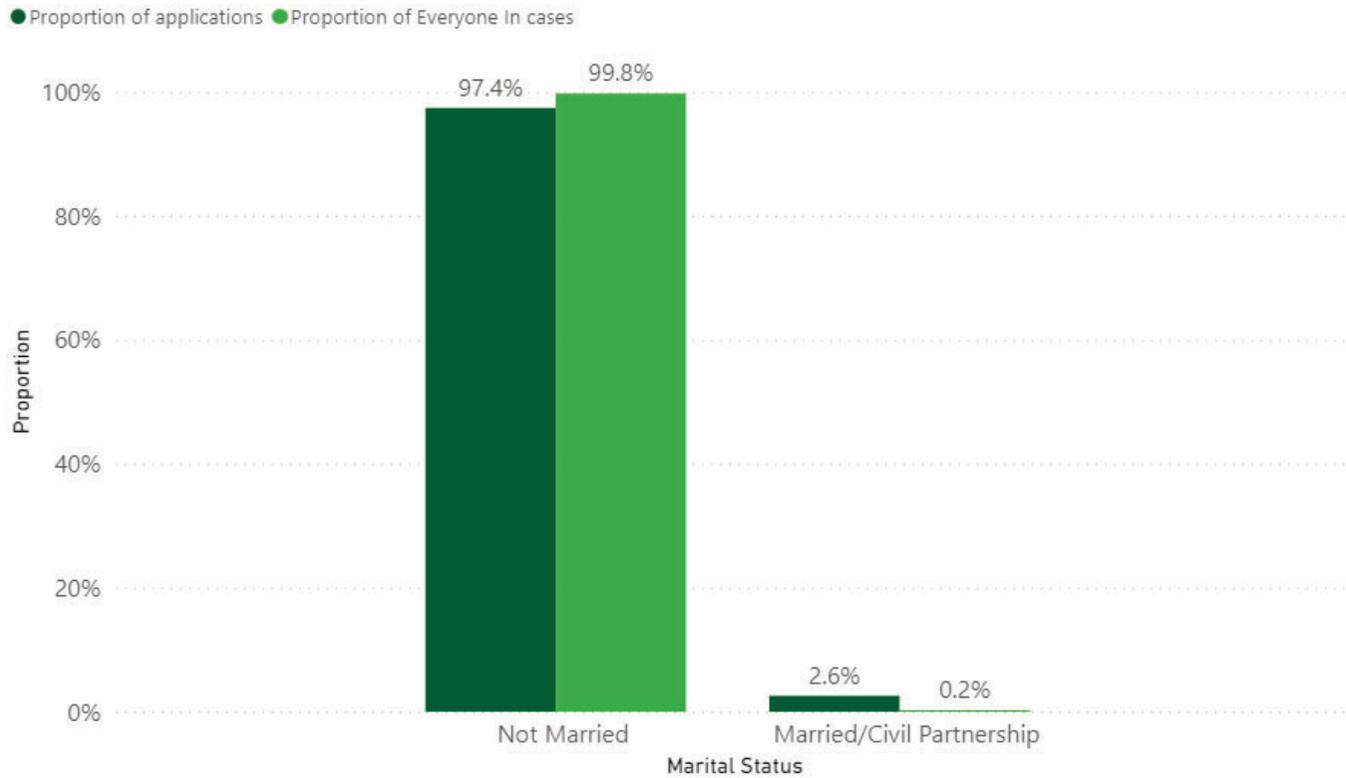
- Only 0.5% of those supported through Everyone In was pregnant, at the time of support.
- This is similar to the overall housing applicant population (1%).

## Pregnancy

- There is little difference between the level of pregnancy in the applicant pool and those supported through Everyone In.
- With no established national data on pregnancy among the homeless population it is difficult to determine whether this is in line with the expected prevalence. However, given that pregnancy is established as a priority need for homelessness applicants, we might expect that pregnant people would receive support before they reach the stage of rough sleeping, or at least shortly after they begin sleeping rough.
- Therefore, seeing that pregnancy to be lower in the Everyone In population than in the general population and the homelessness applicant population fits the expected pattern.

# Marital status

Comparison of those supported through Everyone In with those households applying as homeless in 2020/21



- This data shows that only 0.2% of the people supported through Everyone In was married or in a civil partnership.
- This is lower than in the homelessness applicant pool (2.6%), as well as much lower than the national average.

## Marital status

- The very low rate of marriage and civil partnership in the Everyone In cohort is in keeping with expectation - the proxy methodology for identifying people supported through Everyone In, developed through consultation with the service, included 'single person household' as a criteria. Therefore, it is to be expected that most of those supported were not married or in a civil partnership.

## Conclusions

- This slide pack explores the available data on the nine equalities strands for Islington's implementation of the Everyone In initiative, through comparison with the homelessness applicant population for 2020/21, as well as the borough population and data from the Chain reports, where possible.
- Broadly, it shows that those supported through Everyone In are:
  - Younger, more ethnically diverse, and more likely to be men than the borough population,
  - And slightly older than the homeless applicant population.
- There is a small question mark over the initiative's reach to the White-European population, particularly rough sleepers from a Romanian background. Beyond this, the differences by protected characteristic are, generally, in keeping with expectation given the various risk factors affecting a person rough sleeping.
- Overall, there is no obvious indication of inequitable processing in the Everyone In initiative.
- However, it should be noted that there may be gaps in the recording of disability, given the very low number of people with a recorded disability, and there is relatively little recording of religion and sexual orientation. There may be value in improving recording of these factors, to further inform future work in this area.

# FURTHER INFORMATION



## About Public Health Knowledge, Intelligence and Performance team

Public Health KIP team is a specialist area of public health. Trained analysts use a variety of statistical and epidemiological methods to collate, analyse and interpret data to provide an evidence-base and inform decision-making at all levels. Camden and Islington's Public Health KIP team undertake epidemiological analysis on a wide range of data sources.

All of our profiles, as well as other data and outputs can be accessed on the Evidence Hub at: <https://www.islington.gov.uk/about-the-council/islington-evidence-and-statistics>

## About the Equalities Impact Assessment: Everyone In

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We would also very much welcome your comments on these profiles and how they could better suit your individual or practice requirements, so please contact us with your ideas.

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