



Protected Characteristics Study

Introduction

Background

A group of local residents and workers are submitting Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Forum applications to Hackney, Haringey and Islington Councils to enable them to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for Finsbury Park and Stroud Green, under the Localism Act 2011.

Policy context

The Equality Act 2010 places a “General Duty” on all public bodies to have “due regard” to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity for those with ‘protected characteristics’ and those without them
- Foster good relations between those with ‘protected characteristics’ and those without them

The Equality Act defines the nine protected characteristics as: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Under Section 61F(7)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, in determining an application for a neighbourhood forum, the Councils must have regard to the desirability of designating that organisation or body:

- whose membership is drawn from different places in the neighbourhood area concerned;
- whose membership is drawn from different sections of the community, and;
- which has taken reasonable steps to ensure its membership is inclusive.

Introduction

Purpose of this document

Neighbourhood Planning officers from Hackney, Haringey and Islington Councils have directed that an Equalities Assessment should be submitted with the Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Forum applications, using a template prepared by Hackney Council.

The purpose of this Protected Characteristics Study is to understand the baseline for the Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Area (FPSG), as a starting point to ensuring that equality is embedded into the Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Plan. It is effectively Appendix 4 of LB Hackney's *'Equalities Assessment Form for an Application for a Neighbourhood Forum'*.

Methodology

The study focuses on the nine protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010 (see previous page). For each of the protected characteristics, the study compares estimated residential population of the Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Area (FPSG) to the London and England averages.

The study makes use of the best data available from four existing datasets:

- ONS (2017) Census, 2011
- ONS (2016) Births by mothers' usual area of residence in the UK, 2015
- ONS (2017) Annual Population Survey, 2013, 2014 and 2015
- Gender Identity Research and Education Society (2009) Gender Variance in the UK: Prevalence, incidence, growth and geographic distribution

However, the data varies in terms of how often it is collected and the geographical scale at which it is collated and released (e.g. ward level, local authority level). The London Borough of Hackney was subject to a boundary review in 2014, which has also been taken into account.

Introduction

In order to estimate the population of the Neighbourhood Area from the data at ward or borough level, an assessment was made of the geographic area of FPSG in relation to the statistical boundaries, with data adjusted on a pro rata basis. These assumptions are available at Appendix A, as well as an estimate of discrepancies arising through measurement techniques.

This methodology is considered proportionate to support the determination of the Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Area applications.

Towards a Neighbourhood Plan

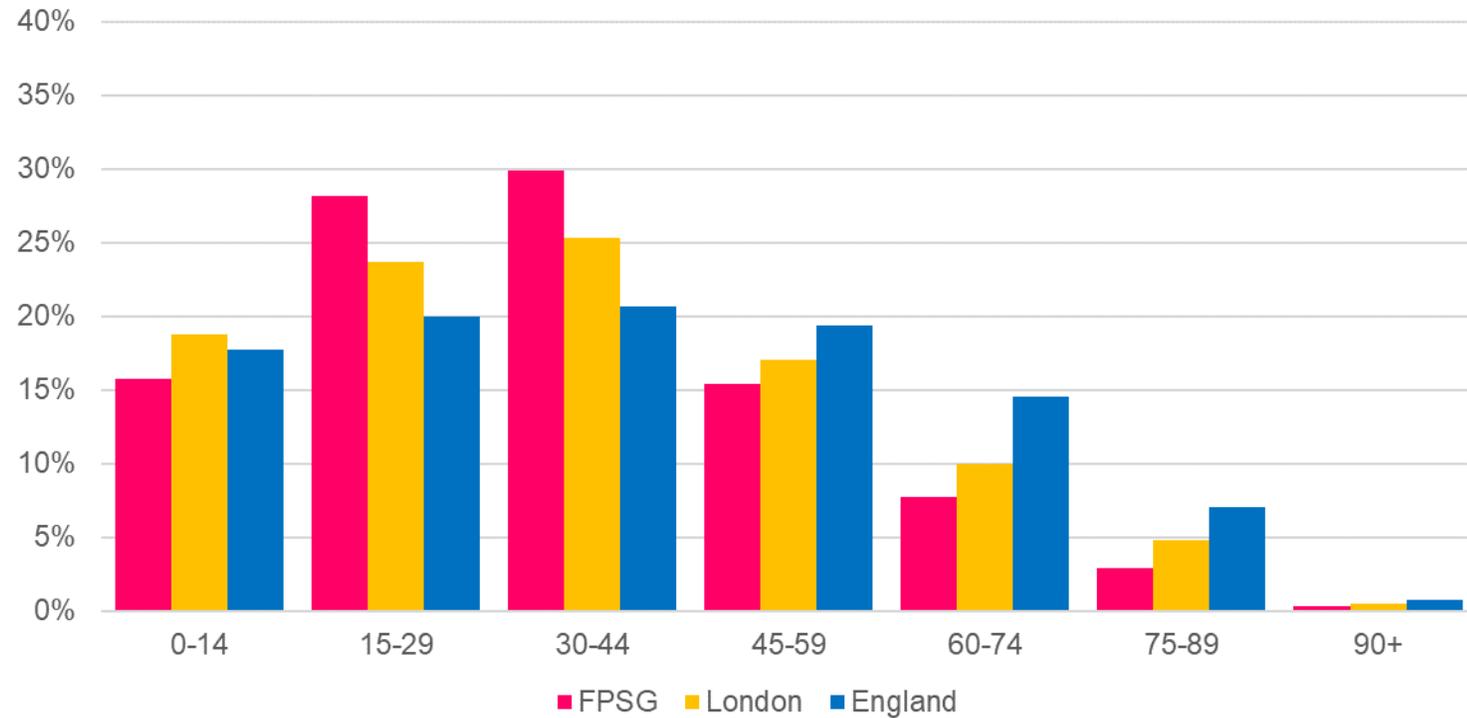
The Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Plan will also eventually need to comply with the 'Public Sector Equality Duty'.

The proposed constitution for the Neighbourhood Forum engrains equalities and diversity into its structure, principles and decision making process. Further research and analysis into socioeconomic characteristics of the population will be carried out in due course.

Further information is available in the Equalities Impact Assessment form submitted as part of the Neighbourhood Area and Neighbourhood Forum applications.

Age - Data

Age	0-14	15-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	75-89	90+
FPSG (%)	15.7%	28.2%	29.8%	15.4%	7.7%	2.9%	0.3%
London (%)	18.7%	23.7%	25.3%	17.0%	10.0%	4.8%	0.5%
England (%)	17.7%	20.0%	20.6%	19.4%	14.6%	7.0%	0.8%



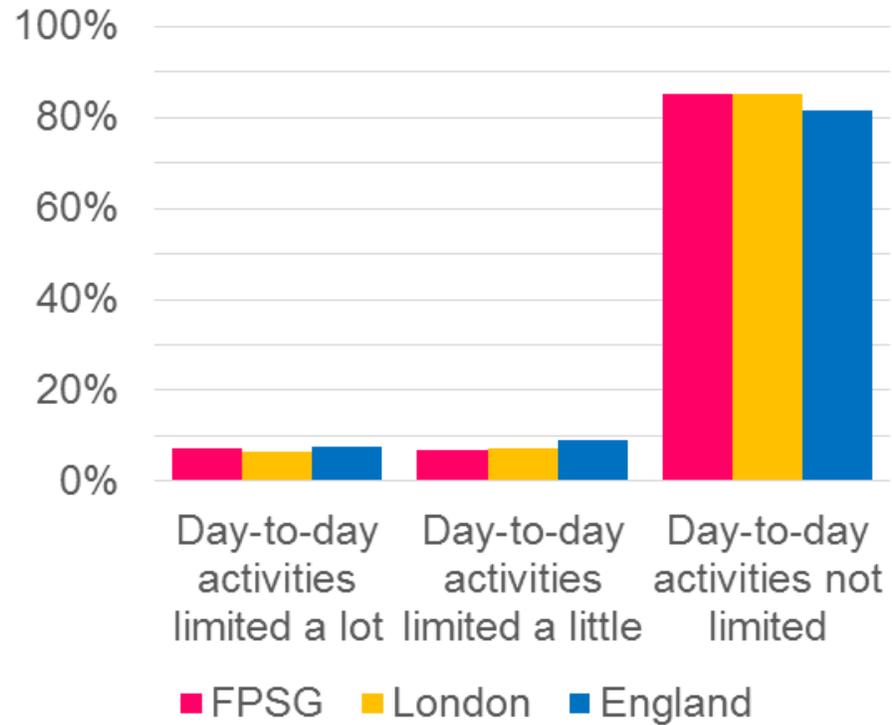
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011

Age - Key findings

- FPSG has a lower proportion of children and young people (0-14) than both London as a whole and England.
- The area has a significantly higher proportion of young adults (15-44), with an estimated combined proportion of 58%, compared with 49% for London and around 41% for England as a whole. Correspondingly, there are lower proportions of older adults (45+) in FPSG
- Around 11% are estimated to be aged 60 or over in FPSG, compared to over 22% across England.

Disability - Data

	Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Day-to-day activities limited a little	Day-to-day activities not limited
FPSG (%)	7.2%	7.0%	85.2%
London (%)	6.4%	7.3%	85.1%
England (%)	7.7%	9.1%	81.3%



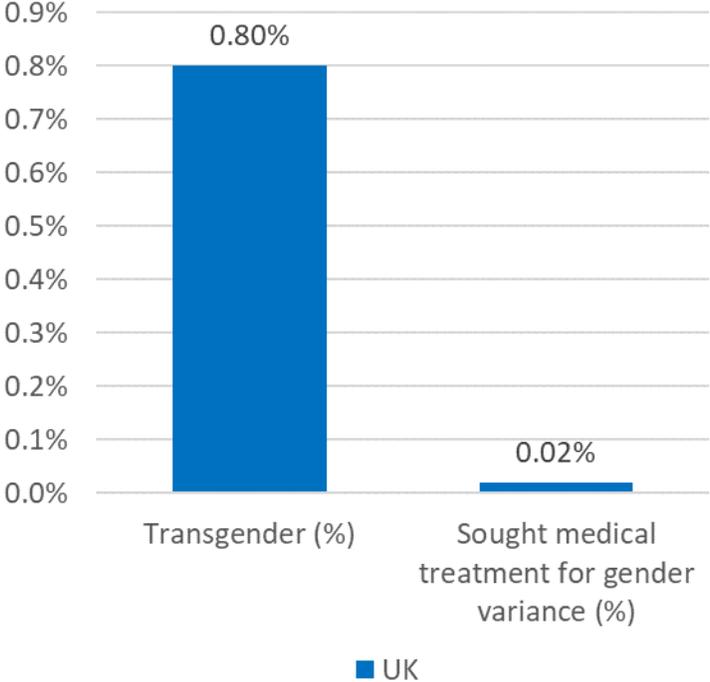
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011

Disability - Key findings

- Overall, disability levels in FPSG are broadly similar to the London average.
- A higher proportion of those in FPSG are more limited in day-to-day activities than across London (an estimated 7.2% compared with 6.4%).
- The area has lower disability levels than England as a whole.

Gender Reassignment - Data

	Transgender	Sought medical treatment for gender variance
UK (%)	0.60-1.00%	0.02%



Source: Gender Identity Research and Education Society (2009) Gender Variance in the UK: Prevalence, incidence, growth and geographic distribution

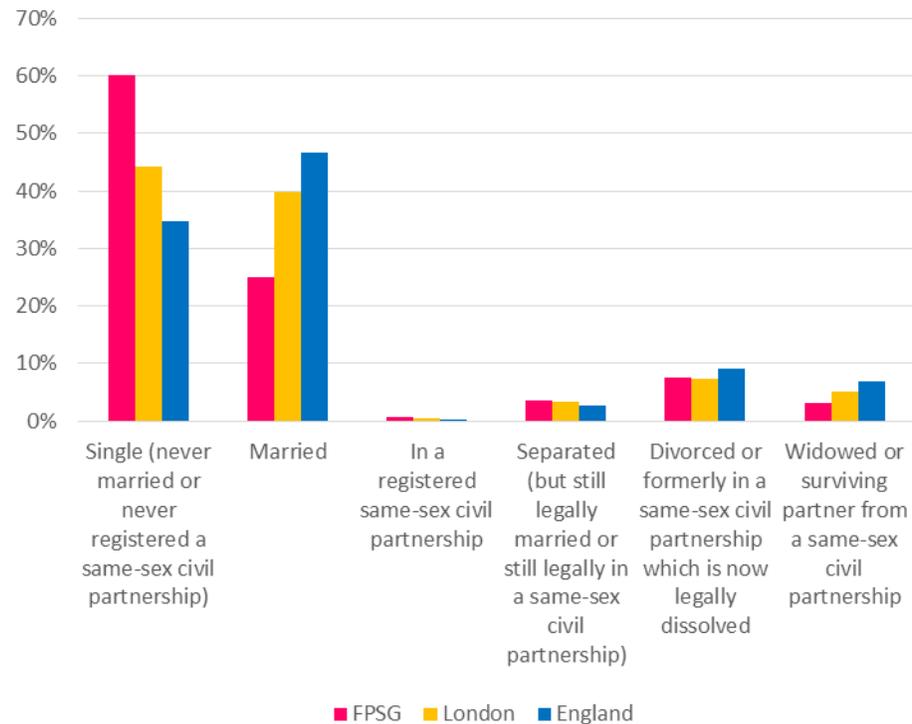
Gender Reassignment - Key findings

- The Office for National Statistics does not currently collect data on gender identity or gender reassignment. There is therefore little reliable data which exists on a local level. ONS has consulted on the option of including a new question on gender identity as part of the 2021 Census.
- A Home Office-funded study published in 2009¹ estimated 300,000-500,000 people identifying as transgender in the UK - equivalent to 600-1,000 per 100,000 population. Applying this ratio to the population of the Neighbourhood Area suggests a transgender population of around 180-300.
- The proportion of those who have sought medical treatment for gender variance is much lower than this, at around 20 per 100,000 population. This would equate to around six people within the Neighbourhood Plan Area. However, the report notes that this ratio may be expected to increase as more transgender people feel able or compelled to seek medical treatment.

¹ *Gender Identity Research and Education Society (2009) Gender Variance in the UK: Prevalence, incidence, growth and geographic distribution*

Marriage and Civil Partnership - Data

	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership)	Married	In a registered same-sex civil partnership	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership)	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership
FPSG (%)	60.1%	25.0%	0.8%	3.5%	7.5%	3.2%
London (%)	44.1%	39.8%	0.4%	3.2%	7.4%	5.0%
England (%)	34.6%	46.6%	0.2%	2.7%	9.0%	6.9%



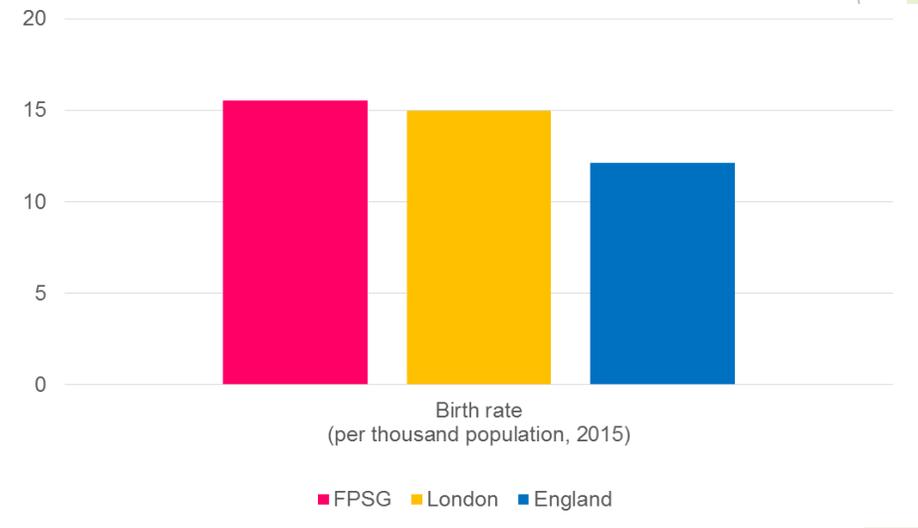
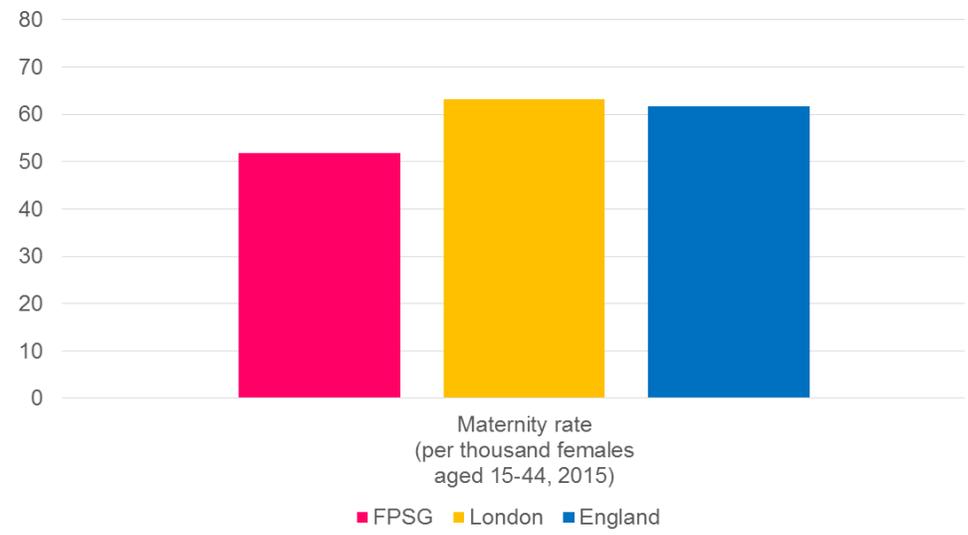
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011. Note: Data only covers population aged 16 and over.

Marriage and Civil Partnership - Key findings

- FPSG has a significantly larger proportion of people reporting as single - around 60% of the population are estimated to be single, compared with around 44% across London and 35% in England. Correspondingly, there is a lower proportion of those reporting as married.
- The area has around double the proportion of people in civil partnerships (at 0.8%) than London, and four times as many across England as a whole.
- FPSG has a much lower level of widowed or surviving partners than across the country as a whole. This may be, in part, a function of the younger population profile of the area.

Pregnancy and Maternity - Data

	Maternity rate (per thousand females aged 15-44)	Birth rate (per thousand population, 2015)
FPSG (%)	51.8	15.6
London (%)	63.1	15.0
England (%)	61.7	12.1



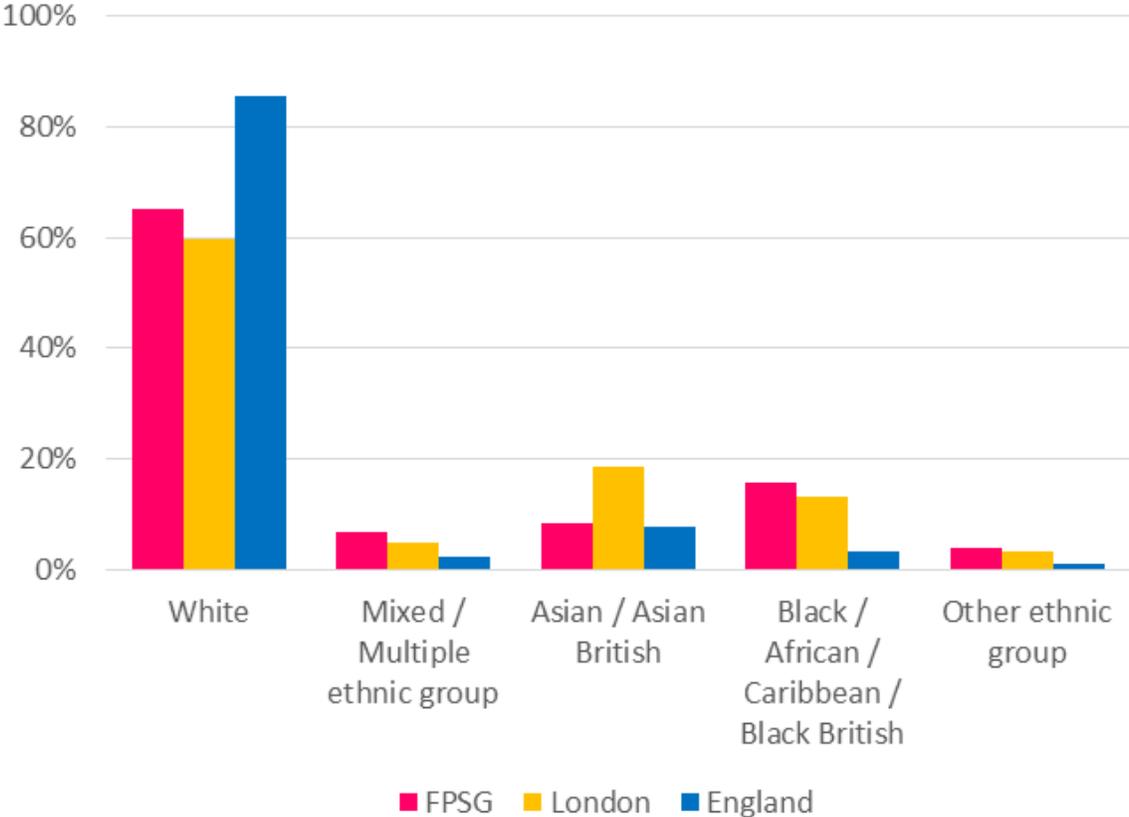
Source: ONS (2016) Births by mothers' usual area of residence in the UK, 2015

Pregnancy and Maternity - Key findings

- FPSG has a lower maternity rate than London and England, with around 52 estimated maternities per thousand females aged 15-44, compared with 63 for London as a whole and 62 across England.
- FPSG does, however, have a higher birth rate (measured in terms of births per thousand population). This is likely to be result of the differences in measurement metric (females aged 15-44 versus total population), reflecting the particular age profile of the area.

Race - Data

Race	White	Mixed / Multiple ethnic group	Asian / Asian British	Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Other ethnic group
FPSG (%)	65.2%	6.8%	8.4%	15.6%	4.0%
London (%)	59.8%	5.0%	18.5%	13.3%	3.4%
England (%)	85.4%	2.3%	7.8%	3.5%	1.0%



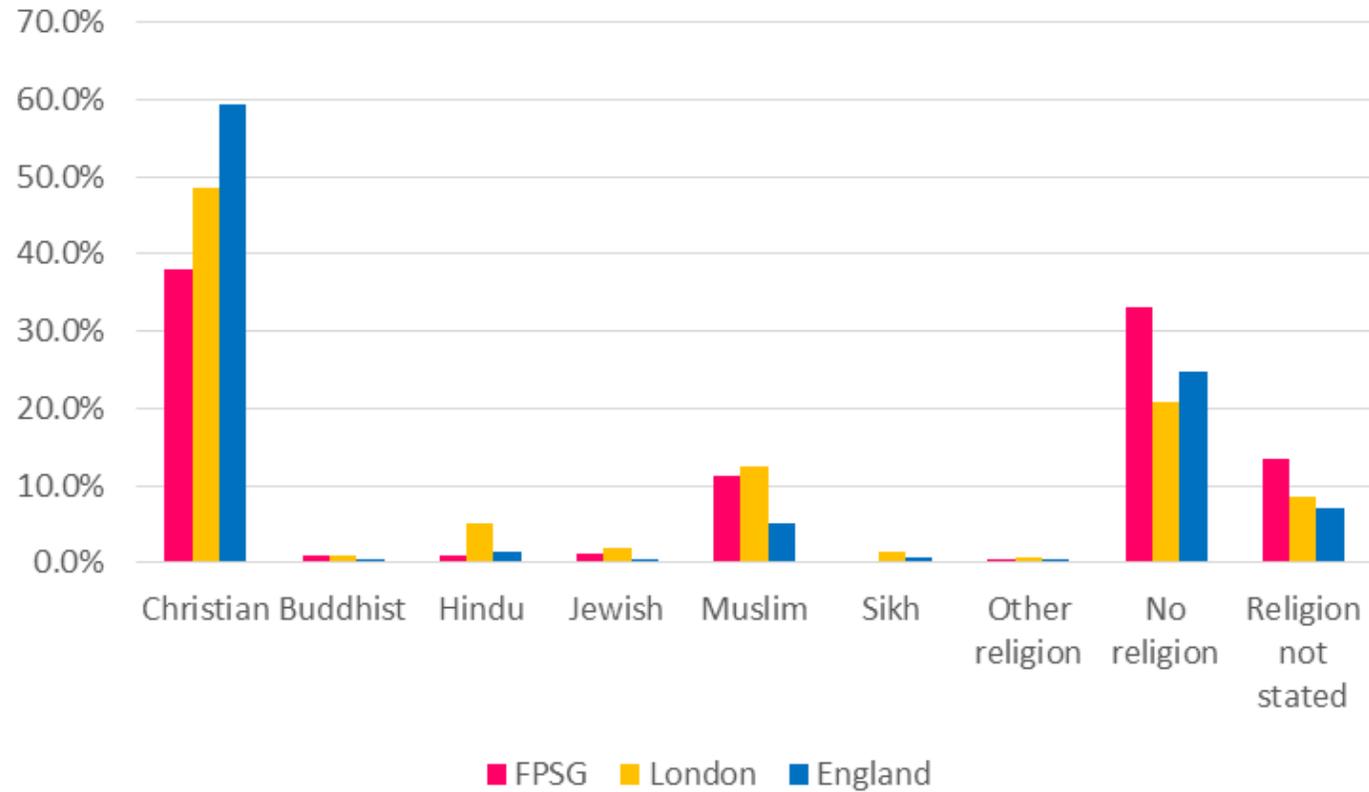
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011

Race - Key findings

- FPSG is more racially diverse than England, with a lower proportion of the population reporting as white - an estimated 65%, compared with 84% across the country. However, the area is slightly less diverse than London as a whole, with around 60% of population reporting as white.
- The area has a higher proportion of Black / African / Caribbean / Black British population than the London average, and a lower proportion of Asian population.
- A higher proportion of people are of mixed / multiple ethnic groups in FPSG (almost 7%) than both the London and England averages (around 5% and 2%, respectively).

Religion or belief - Data

Religion / Belief	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Religion not stated
FPSG (%)	38.0%	1.0%	0.9%	1.3%	11.4%	0.3%	0.5%	33.0%	13.5%
London (%)	48.4%	1.0%	5.0%	1.8%	12.4%	1.5%	0.6%	20.7%	8.5%
England (%)	59.4%	0.5%	1.5%	0.5%	5.0%	0.8%	0.4%	24.7%	7.2%



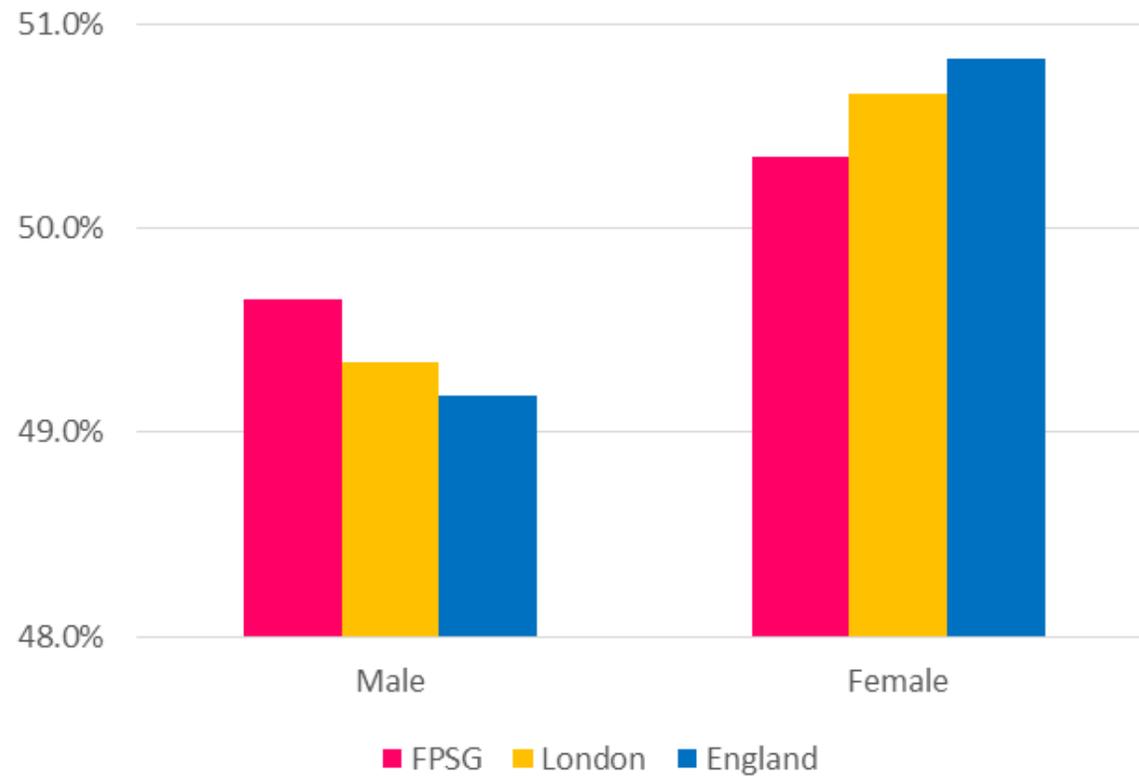
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011

Religion or belief - Key findings

- FPSG has a much higher proportion of people reporting as no religion, or where religion has not been stated. In combination, around 47% of the population is estimated to fall into these categories, compared with 29% across London and 32% for England.
- FPSG has a lower level of Christians (38%) than the London and England averages (48% and 59%, respectively).
- The area also has smaller proportion of Muslim, Sikh and Hindu residents than the London average, and a similar level of Buddhist residents.

Sex - Data

Sex	Male	Female
FPSG (%)	49.7%	50.3%
London (%)	49.3%	50.7%
England (%)	49.2%	50.8%



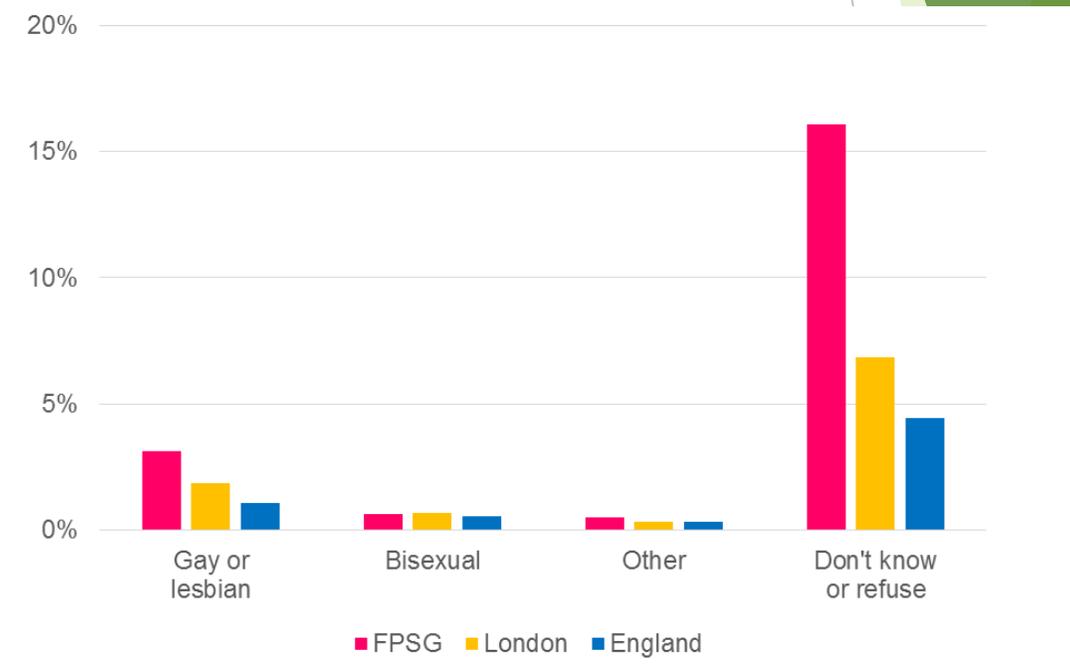
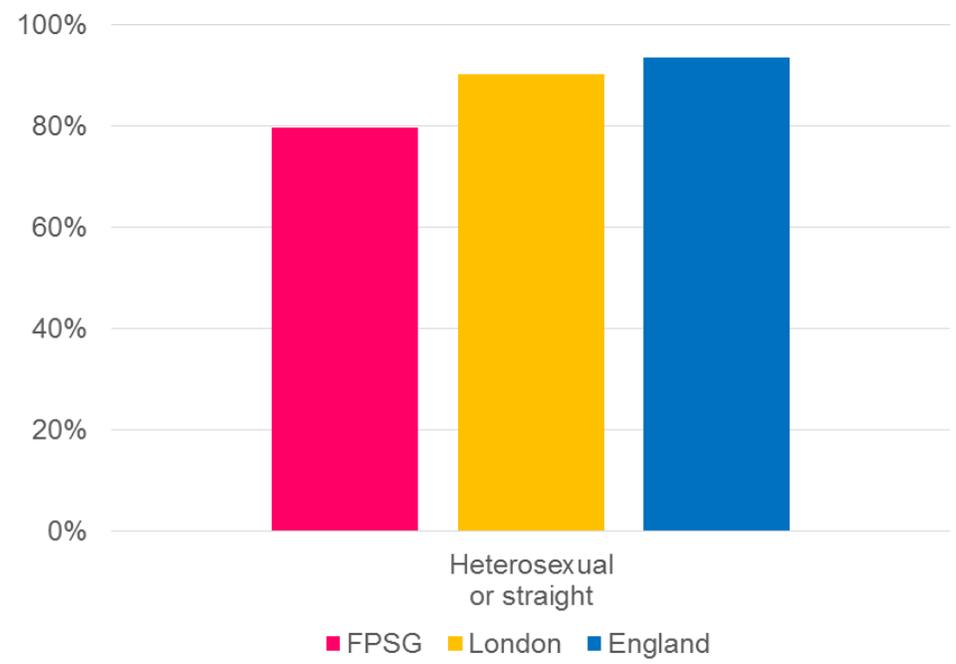
Source: ONS (2017) Census, 2011

Sex - Key findings

- There is a slightly higher proportion of females than males in FPSG - an estimated 50.3% compared with 49.7%.
- However, the population is more evenly split than both London and England, which are more weighted towards females.

Sexual Orientation - Data

Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual or straight	Gay or lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Don't know or refuse
FPSG (%)	79.6%	3.1%	0.6%	0.5%	16.1%
London (%)	90.2%	1.9%	0.7%	0.3%	6.9%
England (%)	93.6%	1.1%	0.6%	0.3%	4.5%



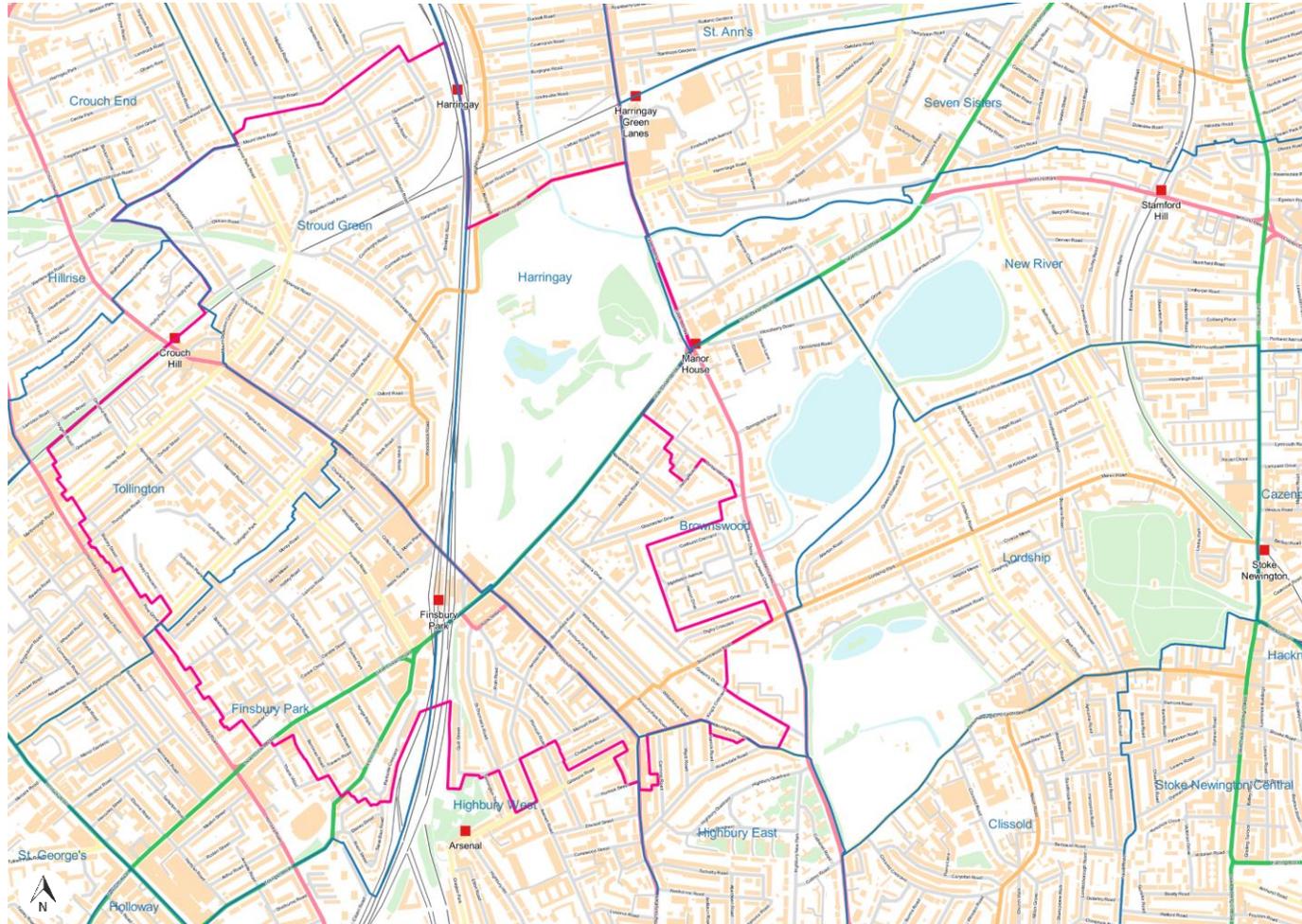
Source: ONS (2017) Annual Population Survey, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Note: Data constructed using estimates from a 3 year pooled Annual Population Survey (APS) dataset, of self perceived sexual identity from the household population aged 16 and over in the UK.

Sexual Orientation - Key findings

- FPSG has a lower proportion of those reporting as heterosexual or straight - estimated at around 80%, compared with around 90% for London and 93% for England as a whole.
- The area has a higher proportion of people who report as gay or lesbian or other sexual orientation than London and England, and a similar proportion of people who report as bisexual.
- At over 16%, a significantly higher proportion of people in the area are categorised as 'Do not know or refuse' than England as a whole (4.5%).

Appendix A - Assessment of statistical boundaries

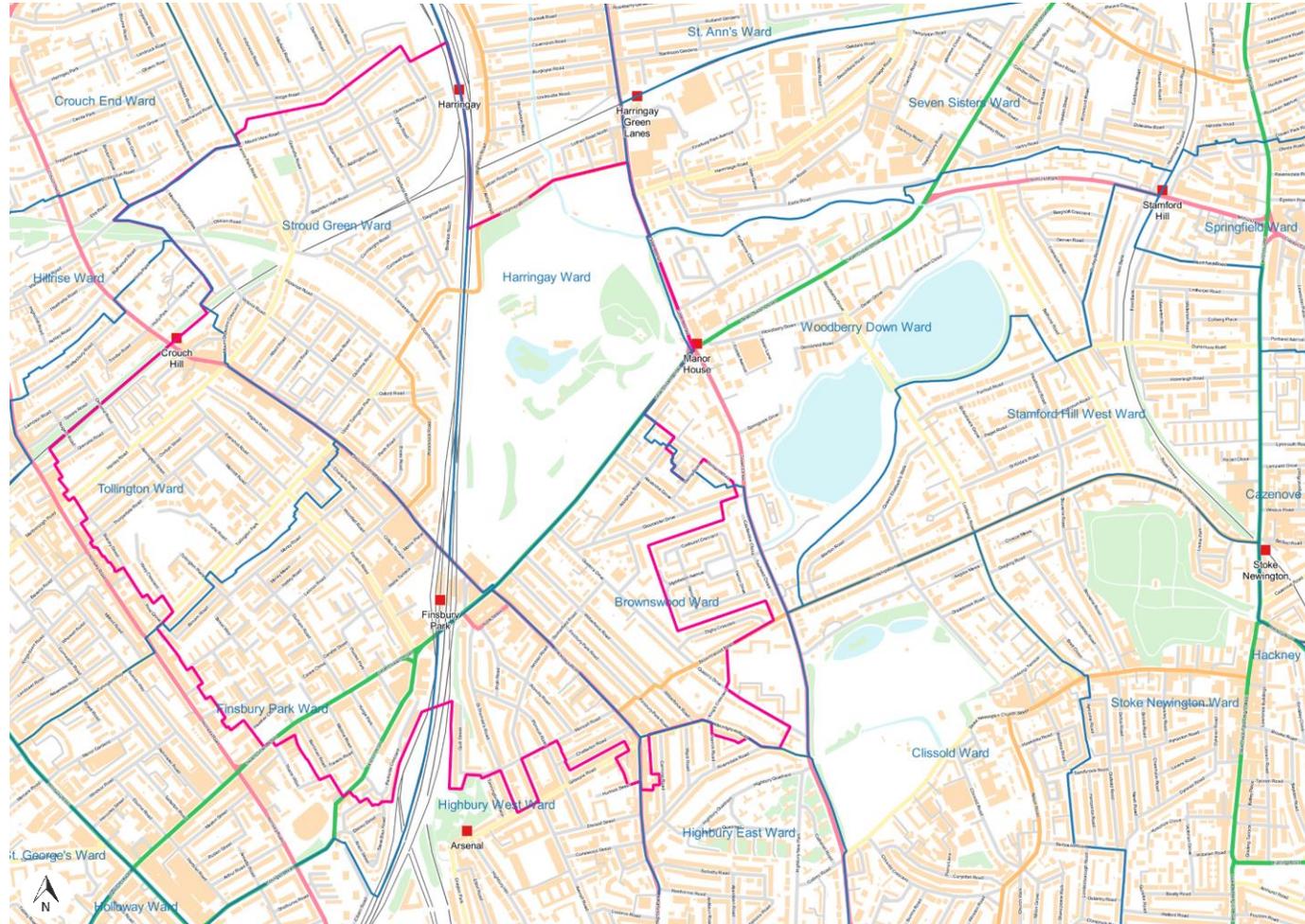
Electoral wards (Pre-2014)



NB - All boundaries approximate. Contains Royal Mail data © Royal Mail copyright and database right 2015, Contains National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2017

- Electoral ward (Pre-2014)
- Proposed Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Area

Electoral wards (Post-2014)



NB - All boundaries approximate. Contains Royal Mail data © Royal Mail copyright and database right 2015, Contains National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2017

- Electoral ward (Post-2014)
- Proposed Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Area

Electoral wards

Pre-2014

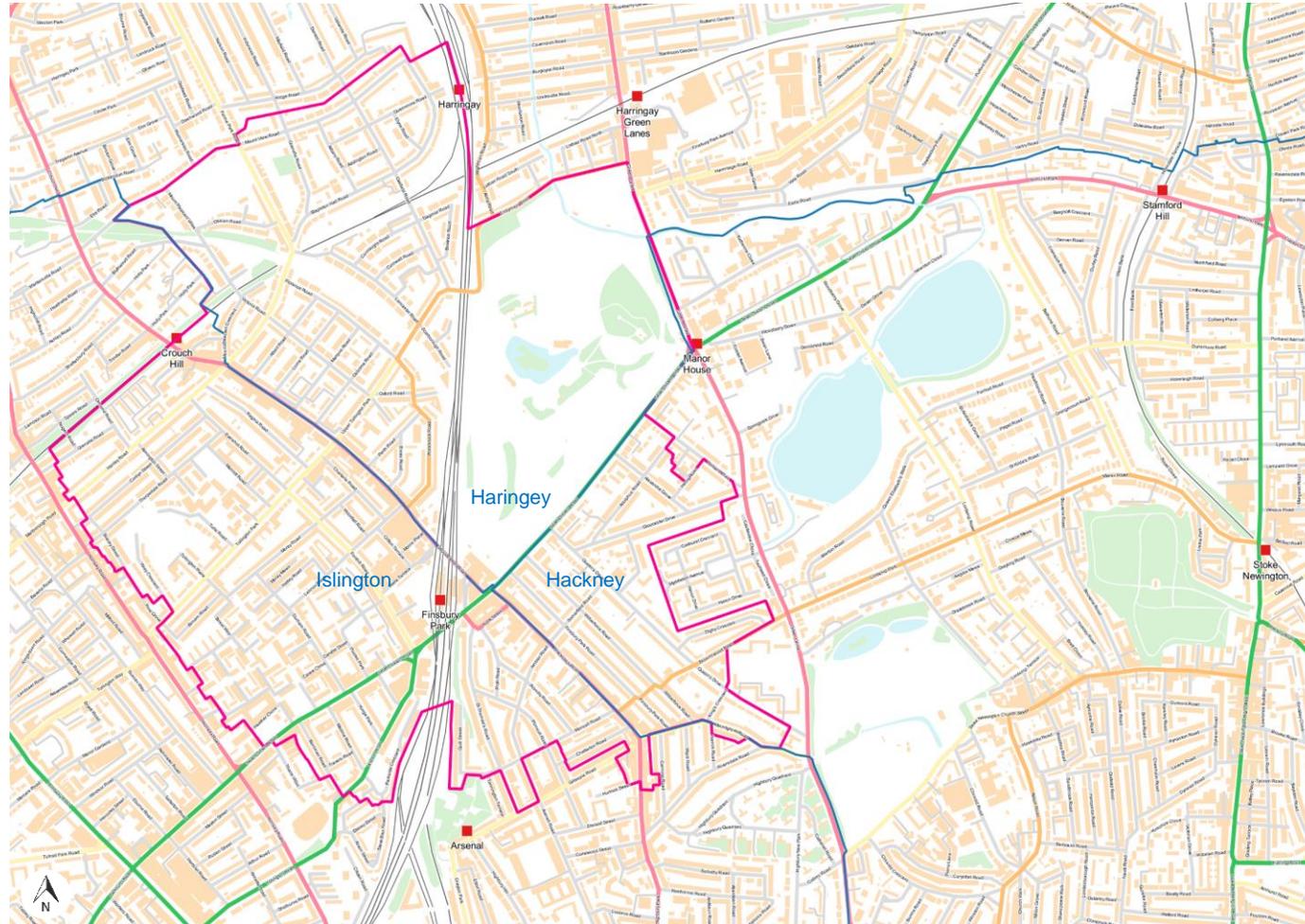
Borough	Ward (2011)	Area (ha)	Resident population	Households	Area within FPSG* (ha)	Area within FPSG (%)	Estimated resident population within FPSG	Estimated number of households within FPSG
Hackney	Brownswood	83.126	11,091	4,882	35.105	42.2%	4,684	2,062
Islington	Finsbury Park	91.626	14,358	6,251	47.380	51.7%	7,425	3,232
Haringey	Harringay	156.609	13,272	5,471	0.712	0.5%	60	25
Islington	Highbury East	100.809	11,634	5,240	0.884	0.9%	102	46
Islington	Highbury West	108.254	15,030	6,975	19.290	17.8%	2,678	1,243
Haringey	Stroud Green	109.374	11,758	5,207	76.356	69.8%	8,208	3,635
Islington	Tollington	84.866	13,311	6,056	38.416	45.3%	6,025	2,741
Hackney	New River	97.801	12,551	4,541	-	0.0%	-	-
TOTALS		832.465	103,005	44,623	218.143		29,183	12,984

Post-2014

Borough	Ward (2014)	Area (ha)	Resident population	Households	Area within FPSG* (ha)	Area within FPSG (%)	Estimated resident population within FPSG	Estimated number of households within FPSG
Hackney	Brownswood	48.049	8,195	n/a	34.173	71.1%	5,828	n/a
Islington	Finsbury Park	91.626	14,358	n/a	47.380	51.7%	7,425	n/a
Haringey	Harringay	156.609	13,272	n/a	0.712	0.5%	60	n/a
Islington	Highbury East	100.809	11,634	n/a	0.884	0.9%	102	n/a
Islington	Highbury West	108.254	15,030	n/a	19.290	17.8%	2,678	n/a
Haringey	Stroud Green	109.374	11,758	n/a	76.356	69.8%	8,208	n/a
Islington	Tollington	84.866	13,311	n/a	38.416	45.3%	6,025	n/a
Hackney	Woodberry Down	87.848	8,758	n/a	0.672	0.8%	67	n/a
TOTALS		787.435	96,316	n/a	217.883		30,394	n/a

* Excluding Finsbury Park open space. Discrepancies due to measurement: FPSG area \pm 0.12%; FPSG residents \pm 4.15%

Local authorities



NB - All boundaries approximate. Contains Royal Mail data © Royal Mail copyright and database right 2015, Contains National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2015. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right 2017

- Local authority
- Proposed Finsbury Park and Stroud Green Neighbourhood Area

Local authorities

Local authority	Resident population (Census 2011)	Estimated resident population within FPSG	Estimated resident population within FPSG (% of local authority)	Estimated resident population (% of FPSG)	Area within FPSG (ha)	Area within FPSG (% of Neighbourhood Area)
Hackney	246,270	5,895	2.4%	19.4%	34.845	16.0%
Haringey	254,926	8,269	3.2%	27.2%	77.068	35.4%
Islington	206,125	16,230	7.9%	53.4%	105.970	48.6%
TOTALS	707,321	30,394	13.5%	100.0%	217.883	100.0%

* Excluding Finsbury Park open space