

Overview of Southwark

1. Overview of the London Borough of Southwark

Southwark is a borough of contrasts: from the glass-walled towers and architect-planned paradise of the Riverside 'More London bubble', to the ancient splendour and almost rural idyll of Dulwich College and Dulwich Village, Southwark is topped and tailed by affluence. Sandwiched between these two extremes, however, are pockets of some of the worst poverty and deprivation in London; for example, areas in South Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, Livesey, Nunhead, Camberwell Green and Walworth which houses some of 'the most notorious estates in the United Kingdom'¹. But poverty and riches are not strictly defined by wards or areas, and live side-by-side on some of Southwark's streets.

Southwark's high levels of inequality lead to the conclusion that there are two Southwarks – one where people have better life chances and one where they have worse. The two Southwarks do not have a geographical basis. Rather than a dividing line,

Southwark has pockets of poverty and deprivation. Redevelopments and new businesses attract higher-salaried workers to some areas which lifts the local economy but leaves other areas stagnating. While average earnings in Southwark have risen with the influx of new industries, this has not benefitted all workers. Nearly one third of households in Southwark earn less than 60% of national median income after housing costs; this is the fifth largest proportion of households in inner London boroughs. Over 3.5 thousand individuals received help from the Southwark Foodbank in 2015/15 (roughly 1.2% of the borough's total population).

Poverty is not the only decider of life chances and opportunities. Other issues can divide Southwark's residents into 'two cities' based on: gender, age, ethnicity, income, housing, health, wellbeing, education, employment, and membership of a minority group.

It is not a static landscape however; Southwark is a product partly of its rich history, and partly of gargantuan regeneration and modernisation programmes.



Southwark's significant history ²

Southwark is one of the oldest parts of London, first settled by the Romans who

Local charities said:

"There is an increasing divide opening up in the Borough between the well off and those on low income".

built the first London Bridge. One of the oldest part of Southwark is Bermondsey, on the banks of the river Thames. Bermondsey's leather industry dates to the medieval period, while its famous docks were once known as 'London's larder', bringing goods from all over the world to feed a growing population. The first tinned food in Britain was canned in Bermondsey in 1811. This led to manufacturers setting up factories nearby, and Bermondsey became known as 'Biscuit Town' when Peak, Freaan & Co established a large plant there in 1857³.

1. Fletcher, Martin (2008-10-20). "Demolition of the Aylesbury Estate a new dawn for Hells waiting room". The Times (London).
2. With thanks to Southwark Council's history pages for much of the detail.
3. Peek Freaan's Biscuit Factory - The location of the old sweet smelling biscuit factory!". The Shady Old Lady. Retrieved 27 February 2012. Peek Freaan's Biscuit Factory in Bermondsey, London.

* Here and throughout quotes 'local charities' is used as shorthand for local voluntary and community organisations.

With modernisation, the docks were closed in 1970 and the biscuit factory closed in 1989 with a loss of many jobs. Many goods were sold in London's oldest market which still survives today in Borough.

Outside of the control of the City of London across the river for many years, Southwark, and particularly the Bankside area, became London's playground, with some of the oldest pubs in England, brothels, bear-baiting and theatres (including the Rose, Swan and, most famously, the Globe). 'At the same time Camberwell's clean air and water helped it develop as a middle-class suburb. Walworth, Peckham, Nunhead and East Dulwich developed in the 19th century, encouraged by London's inexorable demand for housing and improvements in transport. Dulwich has stayed aloof from these trends: the Dulwich Estate, which has the interests of Dulwich College and the other educational institutions it has spawned at its heart, has actively discouraged suburban development'⁴.

Southwark has been birthplace and/or home to many famous people: Michael Faraday, Charlie Chaplin, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Enid Blyton, Mary Wollstonecraft, Robert Browning, Charles Dickens, Charles Spurgeon, William Shakespeare, John Harvard, William Penn, Terry Jones and Rio Ferdinand. It is also, famously, the fictional home of Del Boy Trotter of 'Only

Fools and Horses'. Southwark council is currently Labour-led, with 76.2% of seats won in the 2014 election.

Philanthropy in Southwark

Some of Southwark's most famous residents also left philanthropic legacies. For example, Edward Alleyn, an actor contemporary of Shakespeare, founded a charitable foundation containing Dulwich Picture Gallery, Dulwich College, and Alleyn's School, with the original purpose of educating 12 poor scholars at 'The College of God's Gift' (it is now one of the largest independent schools in the UK).

Elizabeth Newcomen, a 17th century philanthropist, funded schooling for 'poor boys and girls from the parish' and clothing for poor women. Her legacy endures in the Newcomen Collett Foundation who work to help children with learning disabilities, and various efforts to promote education of Southwark under 25s.

Octavia Hill was a Victorian social reformer and campaigned for decent housing instead of slums, as well as green open spaces for the poor, particularly in London. She advocated and coined London's 'greenbelt' and eventually co-founded the National Trust.

Today Southwark continues to have a rich tapestry of philanthropy, with the City Bridge Trust (founded in

the 11th century), United St Saviours (15th century), St Olave's Foundation (16th century), and Wakefield and Tetley Trust (20th-21st century) all having deep roots in the borough.

Immigration

Immigration has always been a part of life in Southwark due to the busy docks, and Southwark's population multiplied by 300% due to immigration between the 16th and 18th centuries. Immigrants first came from Holland and Flanders in the 16th and 17th centuries, followed by German and Irish immigrants in the 19th century, and Cypriot, Caribbean, south Asian and African in more recent years. From the 1950s, people of African heritage from the Caribbean were encouraged to settle in Southwark as part of the post-war recovery. In more recent years people from various African countries like Sierra Leone, Liberia and Somalia have come to Southwark as

Southwark has one of the most diverse and culturally rich communities in the country. Nearly a third of the population of Southwark is from an ethnic minority and over a hundred languages are spoken by Southwark children.

Southwark Council

4. <http://www.ideal-homes.org.uk/southwark/assets/histories/southwark-history>

refugees, escaping war and conflict; as have refugees from Iran, Iraq and Syria in the last decade. Many economic migrants have also settled in Southwark, including a growing Latin American community, Polish communities and other Eastern Europeans.

Southwark today

Population

Southwark is the third largest inner London borough (Neighbouring Lambeth is the largest ⁵). Population estimates for 2016 put the population of Southwark at 310,642 (nearly 10% (8.9%) of the population of Inner London, (0.5% of UK population)⁶, and it's still expanding: Southwark has

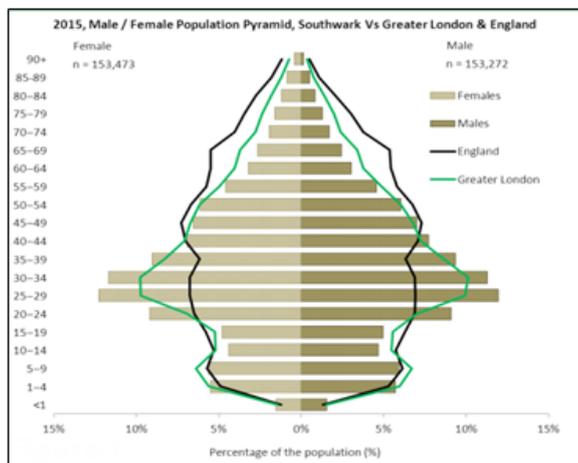
a particularly high birth rate and inflow of immigrants compared to the rest of London, combined with a lower death rate.⁷

The borough has a younger age-profile: 44% of Southwark residents are aged 20-29 (compared to 41% for London and 38% England-wide) ⁸. It has slightly fewer older residents: 11% are over 65 (compared to 15% for London and 22% nationally), although the proportion of over 65s may be increasing (since 2011 census). Southwark's average age is 34.2 years, compared to a London average of 35.9)⁹.

Figure 1: The age pyramid for Southwark ¹⁰

Southwark is extremely

diverse. Of the 306,745 people living in the borough in 2015, almost half the **community belonged to an ethnic minority** (48% in 2015 ¹¹). In contrast to areas such as Barnet, over 61% of the population define themselves as Christians ¹². Nearly one third (29%) of Southwark's population were born in non-EU countries ¹³. This is slightly higher than the London average and significantly higher than the national average of 9%. One quarter (25%) of households contain at least one member who does not have English as their main language (similar to London averages but higher than national at 9% ¹⁴). African, East Asian and Spanish are the most widely spoken other languages.



29%
of Southwark's
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born in non-EU
countries.

12. <http://www.whereislondon.co.uk/content/places/boroughs.html#data7> March 2011.

13. This is probably an under-estimate as this population may be less likely to fill in census forms. Southwark Council, Data and Policy Notes: Community Capacity programme 2016-17: Data and policy context.

14. Ibid.

The Borough of Southwark is home to the largest Black African population in the country (16.1%)¹⁵. Over one quarter (27%) of residents identify as 'Black'. Other BME communities in Southwark include: Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Eastern European, Indian, Irish, Pakistani, Turkish, Vietnamese, settled travellers and more. Recent arrivals include people from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Syria. There is also a significant and growing Latin American population (over 4,000 National Insurance Number (NINo) registrations were made in Southwark between 2002–2009¹⁶). In September 2012 Southwark became the

first local authority in the country to formally classify its significant Latin American community as Latin American¹⁷. Nevertheless, the largest migrant populations in Southwark in the 2011 census were: Nigerian (4.7%), Jamaican (2%) and Irish (1.7%)¹⁸; while the largest new migrant groups (arriving in 2014/15) were Spanish, Italian and Romanian¹⁹.

Figure 2: Where students live in London²⁰

Southwark has a large, transient, student population, attracted by London South Bank University, Lewisham Southwark College, Camberwell College of

Arts, London College of Communication, Morley College and neighbouring Goldsmiths University of London and King's College University. According to census data 37% of those who are economically inactive in Southwark are students (compared to a London average of 32.2%)²¹.

Of the 306,745 people living in Southwark in 2015, almost half the community belonged to an ethnic minority: 48%

The proportion of BME residents is increasing while the proportion of white residents is decreasing (the proportion of white British was 40% in the 2011 census, down from just over 50% in 2009 and 65% in 2001). The BME population is unevenly distributed across Southwark. Some areas have over two thirds of the population as BME. Peckham had the highest proportion of BME residents in 2011, at 71%. The lowest proportion in Southwark was in Village ward (Dulwich), with 20% (below the London average)²³.

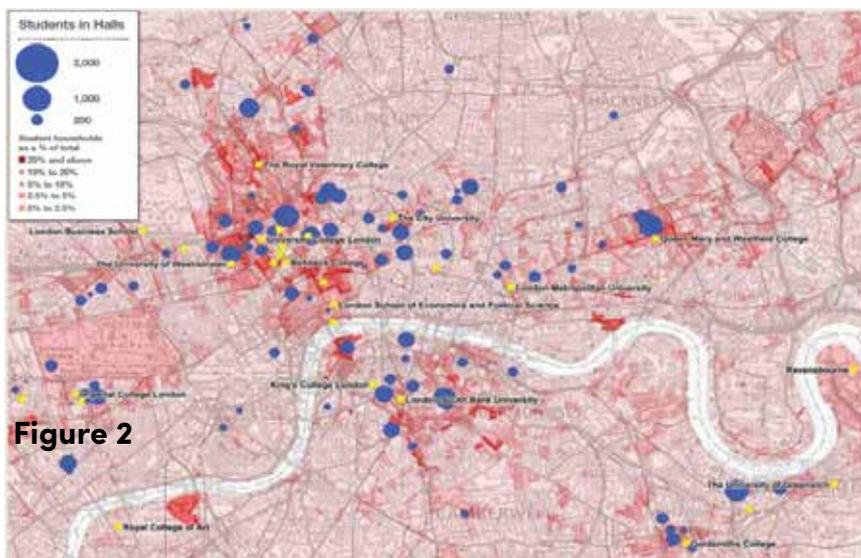


Figure 2

15. 'London in numbers'. Alex Bath (<http://www.whereislondon.co.uk/content/places/boroughs.html>)

16. McIlwaine, C. and Bunge, D. (2016) No Longer Invisible. The Latin American Community in London. Queen Mary University of London & Trust for London.

17. Southwark Council (2015) Community Capacity Programme 2016-17: Data and policy context.

18. ONS: 2011 census.

19. DWP: <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/national-insurance-number-registrations-overseas-nationals-borough>.

20. Savills World Research: 'Spotlight: UK Student Housing', Summer 2013.

21. nomis: Labour Market Profile – Southwark, Jan 2015 – Dec 2015.

New Policy Institute: Demography and deprivation in Southwark, Tower Hamlets and the City of London. A closer look at

22. local areas. May 2016.

23. Ibid.

Southwark is also home to a large number of refugees and asylum seekers, although official figures are hard to find as the population is relatively transient and some are below the official radar.

In terms of net internal migration (people moving in and out of the borough but staying in the UK ²⁴) Southwark has more people moving out than in (-11.9 per 1,000 compared to a pan-London rate of -8.2 per 1,000) meaning it has the 11th highest net outflow of people in the country and the second-highest of any Inner London borough after Hammersmith and Fulham ²⁵. The ONS comments that: 'Although we can't be certain what drove this increase, potential factors include changes in the employment and housing markets, as well as changes in the numbers of people moving for study. An important factor may be the 10% increase in house prices across the UK in the year ending June 2014, a much faster rate of increase than in the 3 preceding years (ONS, House Price Index, June 2014)' ²⁶.

Deprivation and inequality

As previously noted, Southwark is a very mixed borough when it comes to income and wealth. Nearly one third of households in Southwark earn less than 60% of national median income after housing costs; this is the fifth largest proportion of households in inner London boroughs ²⁷. This has not changed much in the last ten years (2001-2011), experiencing only a 3-4% reduction, while Hackney and Islington have seen a large reduction in poverty rates (poverty rates have generally increased (got worse) in outer London and decreased (got better) in inner London over the same period) ²⁸.

As with some other Inner London boroughs (e.g. Islington) Southwark is a borough of contrasts. Southwark contains 8 neighbourhoods (LSOAs ²⁹) classified as being in the bottom 10% most deprived in the country,

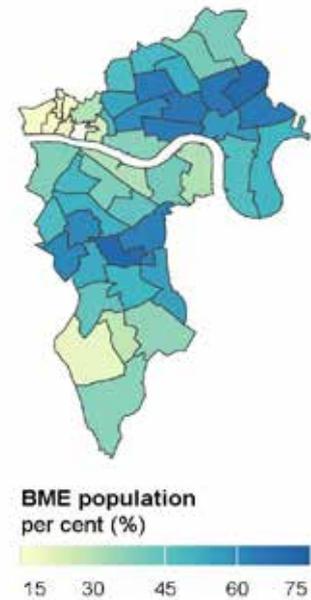


Figure 3: the BME population in Southwark and Tower Hamlets

Local charities said:
"The difference between affluent and deprived areas is becoming more prominent in Southwark, with areas on or near the river and in the south becoming increasingly unaffordable whilst the areas in the middle of the borough are becoming more deprived".

24. ONS: "we have defined internal migration as residential moves between local authorities and regions in England and Wales, as well as moves to or from the rest of the UK (Scotland and Northern Ireland). We have excluded moves within a single local authority, as well as international moves into or out of the UK."

25. ONS: 'Internal migration, England and Wales: Year ending June 2014'

26. Ibid.

27. Inside Out, 2015.

28. Ibid.

29. Lower Super Output Areas.

(in East Walworth, South Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, Nunhead, Livesey and Camberwell Green). It also contains some of the least deprived areas in the country (e.g. in Riverside, Surrey Docks and Dulwich Village) 30.

This has consequences for residents, such as differing life expectancies and large health inequalities. Southwark ranks amongst the five London boroughs with the highest inequalities in male and female life expectancy 31, with 10.4 years separating males in the best and worst areas (the fourth highest gap in London), and 8.6 years separating women (the second highest gap in London).

Despite these differences, pockets of poverty can be found almost everywhere in Southwark, with the distribution of benefit recipients across Southwark not being so polarised compared to other London boroughs 32.



Figure 4: Deprivation levels across Greater London (South London)

Figure 2(a) Number of years difference in male life expectancy (LE) between least and most deprived neighbourhoods of the five local authority areas with the greatest and the five with the smallest inequalities

Greatest inequalities	No. of years difference in LE	Smallest inequalities	No. of years difference in LE
Westminster	16.9	Hackney	3.1
Tower Hamlets	12.3	Newham	5.0
Camden	11.6	Barking & Dagenham	5.2
Southwark	10.4	Lambeth	5.3
Croydon	9.5	Kingston upon Thames	5.8

Source: London Health Observatory (1)

Figure 2(b): Number of years difference in female life expectancy (LE) between least and most deprived neighbourhoods of the five local authority areas with the greatest and the five with the smallest inequalities

Greatest inequalities	No. of years difference in LE	Smallest inequalities	No. of years difference in LE
Westminster	9.7	Brent	1.2
Southwark	8.6	Barking & Dagenham	2.4
Greenwich	7.0	Redbridge	2.4
Wandsworth	6.8	Kensington & Chelsea	2.5
Enfield	6.3	Bexley	3.4

Source: London Health Observatory (1)

Figure 5: Differences in male and female life expectancy between least and most deprived neighbourhoods

30. DCLG: English Indices of Deprivation, 2015. Although it should be noted that even in a single ward there can be areas of high and low deprivation. Riverside, for example, contains a number of social housing estates with less affluence than other areas.

31. UCL Institute of Health Equality, 2012: 'The Impact of the Economic Downturn and Policy Changes on Health Inequalities in London'

32. Trust for London, 2015.

Income deprivation is most likely to hit the elderly and the young in Southwark (with deprivation amongst older people being more widespread) ³³.

7 out of 10 (71%)
local Southwark VCS

Figure 6: Ranking of local authorities with the highest income deprivation affecting children and the elderly

representatives surveyed felt that levels of general poverty, deprivation and inequality are pretty poor in Southwark, with 30% feeling that things in this area are going 'really badly'. This was the third most-poorly rated issue area (see full results in the following section); while just over half of respondents (54%) felt that general poverty, deprivation and inequality had 'worsened'



Income deprivation is most likely to hit the elderly and the young in Southwark

Figure 8: Ranking of local authorities with the highest income deprivation affecting children and the elderly, 2015

RANK 2015	LOCAL AUTHORITY	PROPORTION OF CHILDREN LIVING IN INCOME-DEPRIVED HOUSEHOLDS (%)	RANK 2015	LOCAL AUTHORITY	PROPORTION OF OLDER PEOPLE LIVING IN INCOME-DEPRIVED HOUSEHOLDS (%)
1	TOWER HAMLETS	39.3	1	TOWER HAMLETS	49.7
2	MIDDLESBROUGH	35.7	2	HACKNEY	43.1
3	ISLINGTON	35.3	3	NEWHAM	41.0
4	NOTTINGHAM	34.5	4	MANCHESTER	36.3
5	MANCHESTER	34.3	5	ISLINGTON	36.1
6	KINGSTON UPON HULL	34.0	6	SOUTHWARK	34.3
7	KNOWSLEY	33.7	7	LAMBETH	33.2
8	LIVERPOOL	33.4	8	LIVERPOOL	32.7
9	BLACKPOOL	32.9	9	KNOWSLEY	32.6
10	HACKNEY	32.2	10	HARINGEY	31.8
11	BARKING AND DAGENHAM	31.9	11	LEICESTER	31.5
12	WOLVERHAMPTON	31.3	12	SANDWELL	29.2
13	ENFIELD	30.7	13	KINGSTON UPON HULL	28.4
14	HARTLEPOOL	30.7	14	BIRMINGHAM	28.2
15	BIRMINGHAM	20.5	15	BRENT	28.0
16	LAMBETH	30.4	16	BARKING AND DAGENHAM	27.9
17	SOUTHWARK	30.3	17	HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM	27.5
18	SANDWELL	29.9	18	NOTTINGHAM	25.9
19	LEWISHAM	29.6	19	LEWISHAM	25.7
20	NORWICH	29.0	20	CAMDEN	25.4

Source: DCLG, English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

33. DCLG, English Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2015.

2. How things are going in Southwark – a baseline measurement

As part of the analysis of Southwark’s current health and wellbeing, it is desirable to ‘take the temperature’ overall, in a way which can be monitored on an ongoing basis to measure the impact of local initiatives. ONS (the Office for National Statistics) measures wellbeing at local authority / London borough level, while the GLA (Greater London Authority) currently measures wellbeing across London, down to ward level.

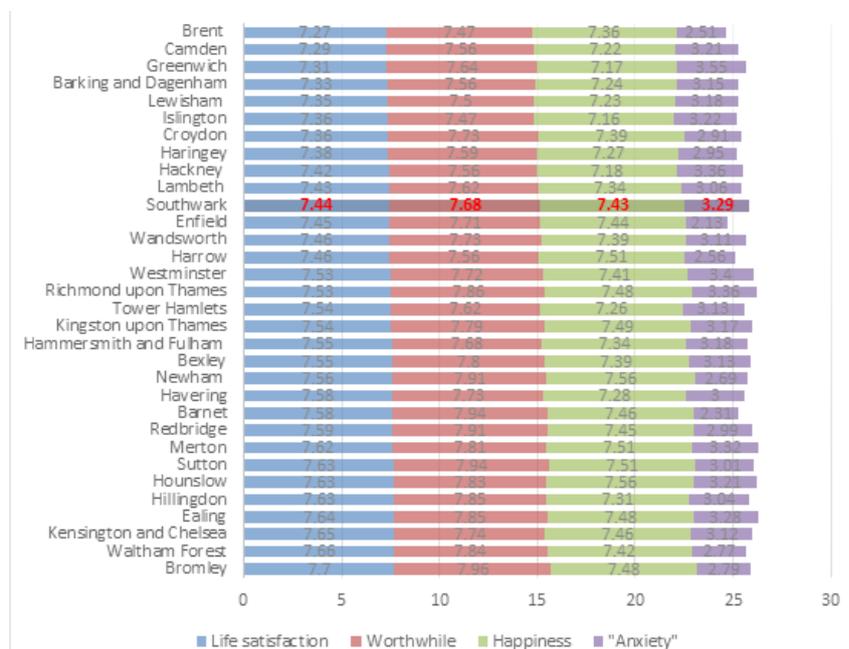
At borough level, Southwark scores generally low-mid-table in 2014/15, ranking twenty-second for ‘life satisfaction’ (fourteenth in 2012/13), twentieth for ‘worthwhile’ (ninth in 2012/13), sixth for ‘anxiety’ (seventeenth in 2012/13) and fourteenth for ‘happy’ (eighteenth in 2012/13).

As the scores from 2012/13 illustrate, things in Southwark have generally deteriorated in the last couple of years relative to other London boroughs, (except in relation to happiness). Average scores across the borough, however, don’t tell the full picture in such a diverse scores are also useful.

The ward well-being scores are carried out annually by borough, so ward-level the GLA.

These ward level wellbeing scores present a combined measure of well-being indicators of the resident population based on 12 different indicators. Where possible each indicator score is compared with the England and Wales average, which is zero, meaning that scores over 0 indicate a higher probability that the population on average will experience better well-being.

Figure 8: Subjective Personal Well-being (Happiness), by London Borough – life satisfaction, worthwhile, happy anxiety (average ratings ranked by life satisfaction) 34



34. Source: Annual Population Survey (APS) Subjective Well-being dataset, <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/subjective-personal-well-being-borough>. Rankings are from 0-10, where, e.g. 0 is 'not at all satisfied' and 10 is 'completely satisfied'. <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-ward-well-being-scores>

Unsurprisingly Dulwich Village scores most highly in overall wellbeing at 9.08 (ranked thirty-first across all London wards), then there's a large gap to the next ward (South Camberwell rating satisfaction at -.98), Surrey Docks -1.56, College -1.63, Riverside -2.06 to the lowest scoring ward – East Walworth -8.9 (ranked twenty-fourth lowest of all London wards).

In terms of change year-on-year over the last five years, the top three wards which appear to be getting 'better' are: South Camberwell, Livesey, and The Lane; while the bottom three wards which seem to be getting 'worse' are: Faraday, Chaucer, and East Walworth.

This demonstrates very graphically how the lived experience of those across the borough varies according to where they live as well as other factors.



Figure 9: Aggregate wellbeing scores 2013 – Southwark wards

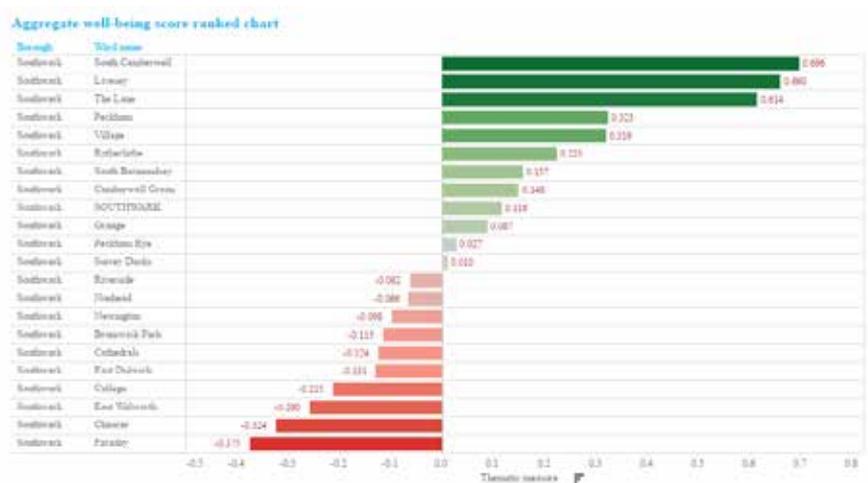


Figure 10: Aggregate wellbeing, Southwark wards, change year-on-year over five years (2009-2013)

Happiness in Southwark

When we look only at subjective 'happiness' scores by ward we get a completely different picture, however, and two distinct areas of Southwark emerge: 'happy valley' & 'the squeezed middle'.

Wellbeing indicators can be used to assess the impact of early action initiatives across the boroughs, steering local activity towards promoting wellbeing rather than fixing problems.

Aggregate well-being score ranked chart

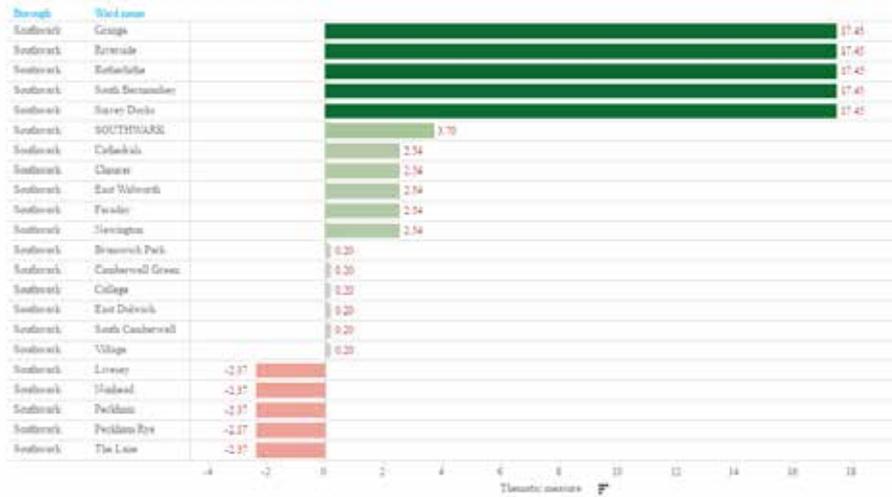


Figure 11: Aggregate well-being scores, Southwark wards, subjective happiness only

HAPPY VALLEY: Made up of Grange, Riverside, Rotherhithe, South Bermondsey and Surrey Docks this area scores highest in terms of happiness.

THE SQUEEZED MIDDLE: Made up of Livesey, Nunhead, Peckham, Peckham Rye and The Lane, this area scores lowest in terms of happiness. For those who know Southwark, in particular, it is perhaps not difficult to understand why the riverside area scores highest for happiness with its luxury riverside homes and vibrant business district, theatres, pubs and shops.



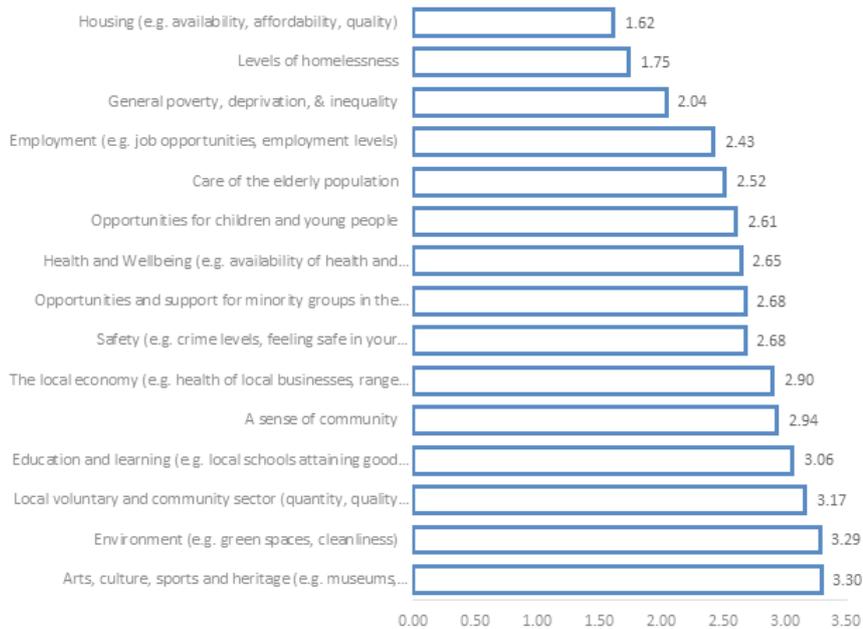
Figure 12: 'Happy Valley' and 'The Squeezed Middle'

Equally, it is not difficult to imagine why life feels more

difficult in areas which have high levels of multiple deprivation such as Livesey, Peckham and Nunhead. Of course there are many nuances underlying these two categorisations, which just serve to emphasise the 'two Southwarks'. See Appendix 1 for more details.

The voluntary and community sector view Another way to 'take the temperature' of Southwark is to ask local VCS organisations working in the borough to rate how they feel things are going in different issue areas. This not only provides a benchmark for future measurement, but also acts as a proxy measure for community needs, particularly needs which may be hidden, unmet or emerging. The local voluntary and community sector representatives felt that most things in Southwark were somewhere between 'about average' and 'really badly', and felt that most things in Southwark had 'stayed the same' or 'got worse' over the last twelve months. The rest of this report will explore why the local voluntary and community sector in Southwark feels this way ³⁶.

33. DCLG, English Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2015.

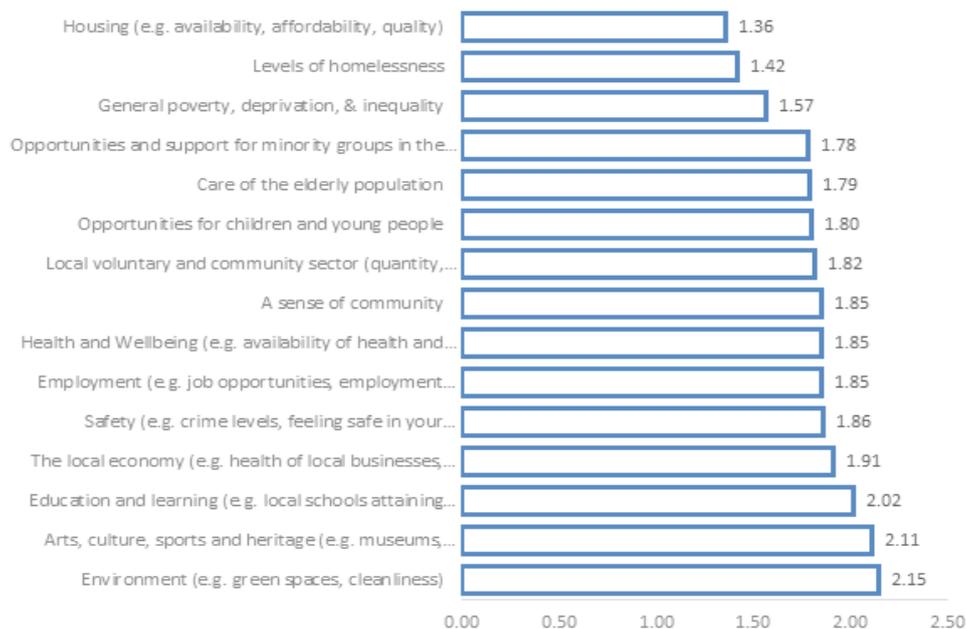


At borough level, Southwark scores generally low-mid-table in 2014/15, ranking twenty-second for 'life satisfaction', twentieth for 'worthwhile' and sixth for 'anxiety'

Figure 13: How do you think things are going in the borough of Southwark in each of these different areas?
 (Rating scale from 1 – 5; where 1 = 'really badly', 2 = 'badly', 3 = 'about average', 4 = "well' and 5 = 'really well')

The top ten areas where there are hidden, emerging or unmet needs for Southwark currently (i.e. the areas where Southwark is doing most poorly) were judged to be: housing; homelessness; general poverty, deprivation and inequality; employment/unemployment; care of the elderly; opportunities for children and young people; health and wellbeing; opportunities and support for minority groups; the local economy; and education and learning.

In terms of how things have changed over the last twelve months, the local VCS judged that the areas in which there were hidden, unmet or emerging needs which had worsened were: housing; homelessness; general poverty, deprivation and inequality; opportunities and support for minority groups; care of the elderly; opportunities for children and young people; health and wellbeing; employment/unemployment; the local economy.



Housing and homelessness are in the top 10 hidden/emerging needs in Southwark

Figure 14: Over the last 12 months in the borough of Southwark, do you think things have improved, worsened or stayed the same in each of these different areas?

(Rating scale from 1 – 3; where 1 = 'Worse', 2 = 'Stayed the same', 3 = 'Improved')

In the following sections of the report we will explore these areas in more depth to paint a picture of the current context in Southwark and any hidden, unmet and emerging needs.

i Questions asked were:

Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays? Where 0 is 'not at all satisfied' and 10 is 'completely satisfied'.

Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile? Where 0 is 'not at all worthwhile' and 10 is 'completely worthwhile'.

Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday? Where 0 is 'not at all happy' and 10 is 'completely happy'.

Overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday? Where 0 is 'not at all anxious' and 10 is 'completely anxious'.

ii The 12 measures included are:

Health

- Life Expectancy
- Childhood Obesity
- Incapacity Benefits claimant rate

Economic security

- Unemployment rate

Safety

- Crime rate
- Deliberate Fires

Education

- GCSE point scores

Children

- Unauthorised Pupil Absence

Families

- Children in out-of-work households

Transport

- Public Transport Accessibility Scores (PTALs)

Environment

- Access to public open space & nature

Happiness

- Composite Subjective Well-being Score (Life Satisfaction, Worthwhileness, Anxiety, and Happiness) (New data only available since 2011/12)

Satisfaction with life: The exact question posed to respondents was: 'Taking all things together, how happy would you say you are'. The scale for answers is between 1 (very unhappy) to 10 (extremely happy).