



# Learning Disabilities in Hammersmith and Fulham

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Report  
2023

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## ABBREVIATIONS

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CLCH	Central London Community Healthcare
CNWL	Central and North West London
CQC	Care Quality Commission
eFI	Electronic Frailty Index
EHC	Education, Health And Care
GP	General Practitioner
LBHF	London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
LLDD	Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities
LSOA	Lower Layer Super Output Area
LTC	Long-Term Condition
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
PCN	Primary Care Network
RBKC	Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SPR	Standardised Prevalence Ration

# 1 INTRODUCTION

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This report examines residents with Learning Disabilities living in Hammersmith & Fulham borough. This report describes people with learning disabilities who are known to local GP practices, health services, local adult and child social care services, prison services, those who attend local schemes and the estimated population who are not known to local services.

There is no one clear definition of a learning disability, and in practice the diagnoses of learning disabilities vary. For the purposes of this report, we used the definition of learning disabilities as described by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) [1]. NICE defines Learning Disabilities through three core criteria:

1. A lower intellectual ability, which is usually defined by an IQ of less than 70
2. A significant impairment of social or adaptive functioning
3. And onset in childhood

Learning disabilities can vary from mild (approximate IQ range of 50 to 69) to severe (IQ under 34). People with mild learning disabilities may have learning difficulties at school but are likely to be able to work, maintain good social relationships and contribute to society as adults. However, people with more severe learning disabilities are more likely to be severely limited in their ability to care for themselves and are likely to require continuous support. Learning disabilities are lifelong disorders.

## 2 POPULATION

### 2.1 NUMBER OF RESIDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

In England, it is estimated that there are approximately 956,000 adults and 301,000 children with a learning disability. This accounts for approximately 2.2% of the adult population and 2.5% of the child population in England. [2]

However, the number of people known to Learning Disability services is much smaller; in 2021/22, 338,195 people of all ages were known to services in England, which equates to a prevalence of 0.6%. [3]

In Hammersmith & Fulham, 663 residents are known to their GP as having a learning disability. This equates to a prevalence of 0.3%. [4]

The estimated number of people with a learning disability is much higher; around 3,702 adults are estimated to have a learning disability in Hammersmith and Fulham borough in 2023. Of these adults, 22% are predicted to have moderate or severe learning disabilities. [5] [6]

### 2.2 FUTURE PREDICTED POPULATION

While it is estimated that there are currently 3,702 adults living with a learning disability, this number is expected to increase to 3,866 adults by 2030 and to 4,072 by 2040. This equates to a 10% increase over the 17 years from 2023 to 2040. It is expected that the number of people with moderate or severe learning disabilities will increase by 7% over the next 17 years, from 802 (in 2023) to 855 people (in 2040), and that the number of people with mild learning disabilities will increase by 11%, from 2,900 (in 2023) to 3,217 people (in 2040) (Figure 1). [5] [6]

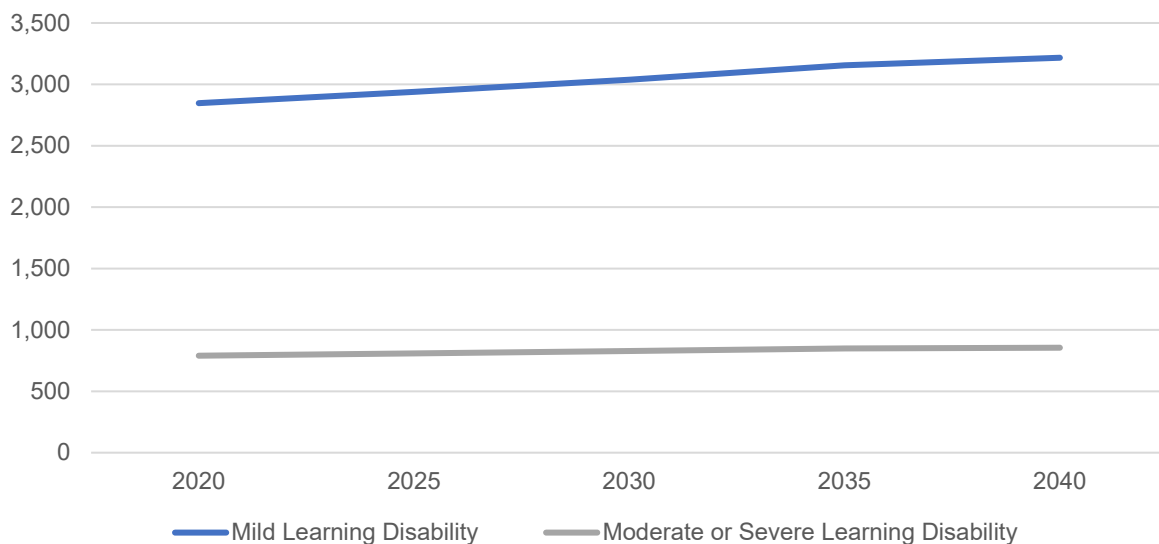


Figure 1: The predicted number of people with Mild and Moderate or Severe Learning Disabilities in Hammersmith & Fulham between 2020 and 2040.

### 2.3 AGE AND GENDER PROFILE

In Hammersmith & Fulham, 60% of residents with a learning disability are male, and 40% are females (Figure 2). [4]

In Hammersmith & Fulham, the majority of residents with a learning disability are aged between 18 and 64 (76%). In total, 17% of residents with a learning disability are under 18, and 7% are over 65 (Figure 2). [4]

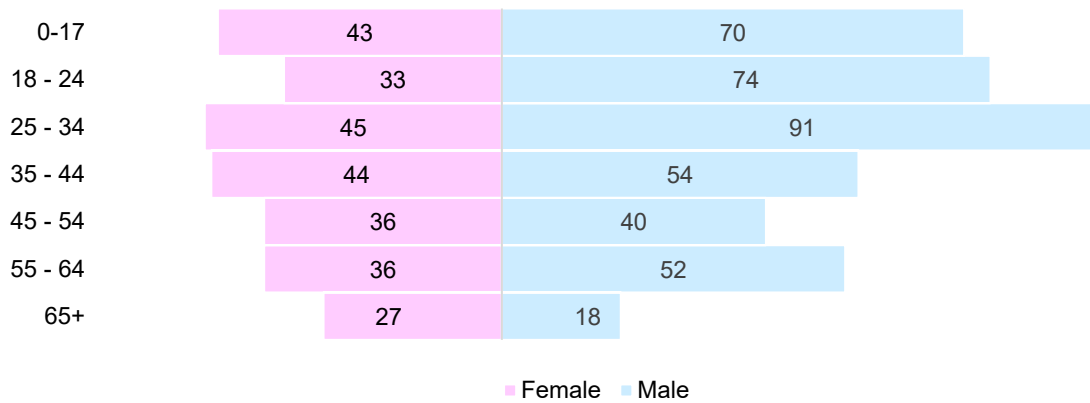


Figure 2: The number of female and male residents in Hammersmith & Fulham who are diagnosed with a Learning Disability by Age Group.

In Hammersmith & Fulham the prevalence of residents with a learning disability per 1,000 population is 2.8. There is significant variation in the prevalence of learning disability by age group in Hammersmith & Fulham. The highest prevalence is 4.8 per 1,000 residents aged 18 to 24, and the lowest prevalence is 2.0 per 1,000 residents aged over 65 (Figure 3). [4]

This lower prevalence of learning disabilities among residents aged over 65 could be explained by the lower life expectancy among people with a Learning Disability. On average, the life expectancy of women with a learning disability is 18 years shorter than for women in the general population. The life expectancy of men with a learning disability is 14 years shorter than for men in the general population. [7]

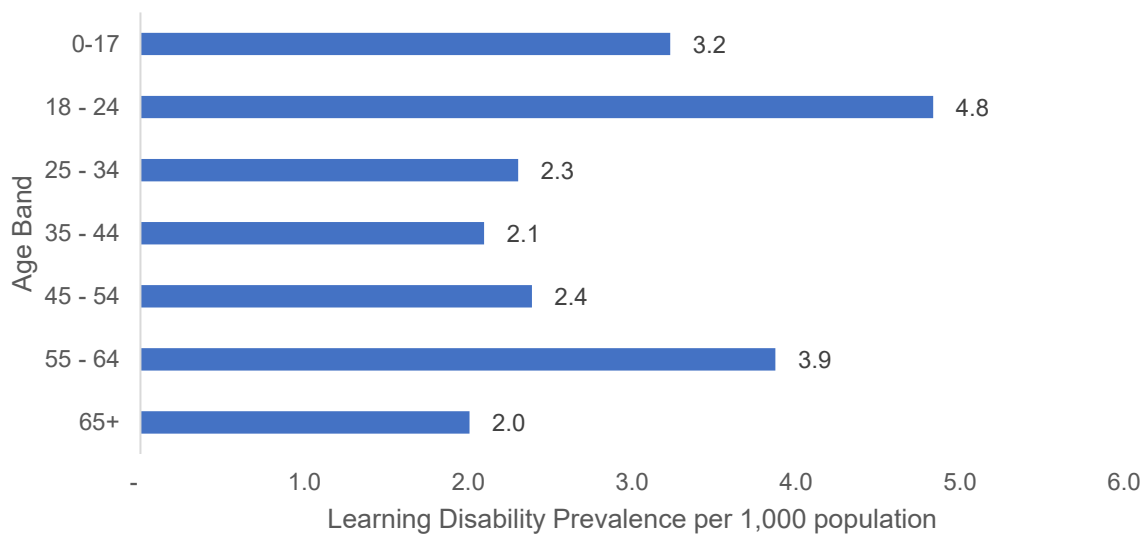


Figure 3: The prevalence of Learning Disability by Age Band in Hammersmith & Fulham. The prevalence is shown as Learning Disability Prevalence per 1,000 total population.

## 2.4 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

According to GP records, there are 113 residents with a learning disability aged below 18. This accounts for 17% of all GP-registered residents with a learning disability and is equal to a rate of 3.2 residents with a Learning Disability per 1,000 residents. [4]

Children and young people with special educational needs (SEN), including those with a learning disability, have a right to receive special educational provision. In Hammersmith & Fulham there are 3,221 pupils receiving SEN Support (12% of Hammersmith & Fulham's population aged under 25) and 1,511 children and young people with an Education, health and care (EHC) plan (3% of Hammersmith & Fulham's population aged under 15). It is not recorded as to how many children who receive SEN support or have an EHC Plan have a learning disability. [8] [9]

Hammersmith & Fulham has seen a consistent rising trend in EHC plan numbers in recent years; between 2015/16 and 2021/22 the number of pupils with an EHC Plan increased by 48%. If the current EHC plan and Statement of SEN trend continues, we would expect there to be 2,042 pupils with an EHC Plan or a Statement of SEN by 2030/31. This would account for 7.4% of pupils in LBHF. [9]

However, the number of pupils receiving SEN support has remained relatively stable; between 2015/16 and 2021/22 there has been a 3% decrease in the number of pupils receiving SEN support. If the current SEN support trend continues, we would expect there to be 2,923 pupils with SEN support by 2030/31. This would account for 10.7% of pupils in LBHF. [8]

## 2.5 ETHNICITY PROFILE

In Hammersmith and Fulham, just over half (54%) of all residents with a learning disability are from a white ethnic background. Following this, 22% of residents with a learning disability are from a black or black British Background, 9% are from a mixed ethnic background, 8% are from an Asian ethnic background and 12% identify as being from other ethnicities (Figure 4). [4]

In Hammersmith & Fulham, learning disabilities are more prevalent among residents from a black or black British ethnic background or a mixed ethnic background. Learning disabilities are less prevalent among residents from a white ethnic background and other ethnicity residents (Figure 4). [4]

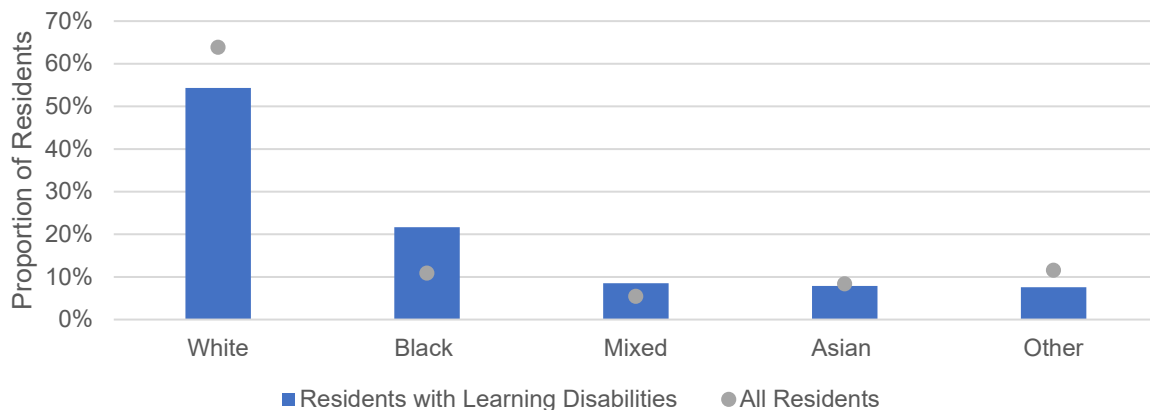


Figure 4: The Proportion of All Patients and Patients with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham Borough by ethnicity.

## 2.6 LOCATION AND SOCIAL DEPRIVATION OF LEARNING DISABILITY POPULATION

Within Hammersmith & Fulham, residents with a learning disability live across the entire borough. However, the proportion of residents with a learning disability is higher in the North and West of the borough (Figure 5). [4]

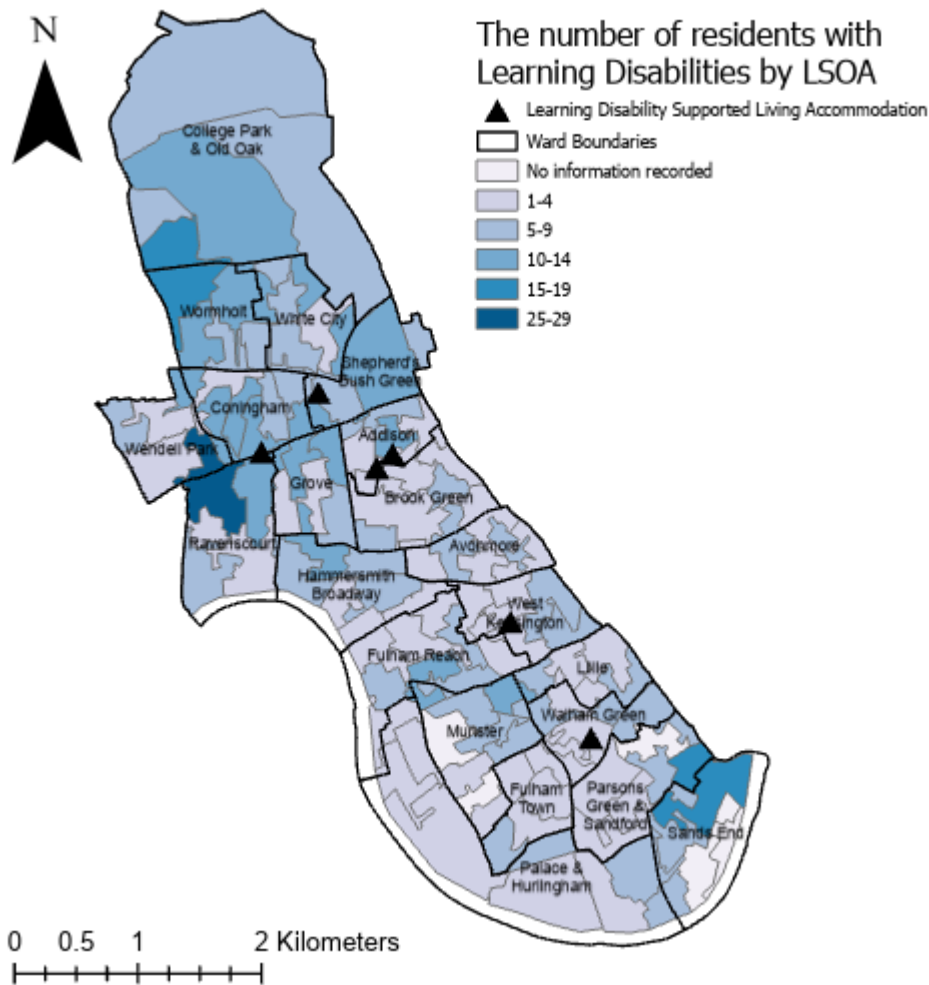


Figure 5: Map of the Number of Residents with a learning disability within each LSOA in Hammersmith & Fulham. The location of Learning Disability Supported Living Accommodation is also shown.

Across England, it has been found that people living in the most deprived areas are 65% more likely to have a Learning Disability compared to people living in the least deprived areas [10]. This association can also be observed in Hammersmith & Fulham; 53% of residents with a learning disability live in the 30% most deprived Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) (Figure 6) [4].



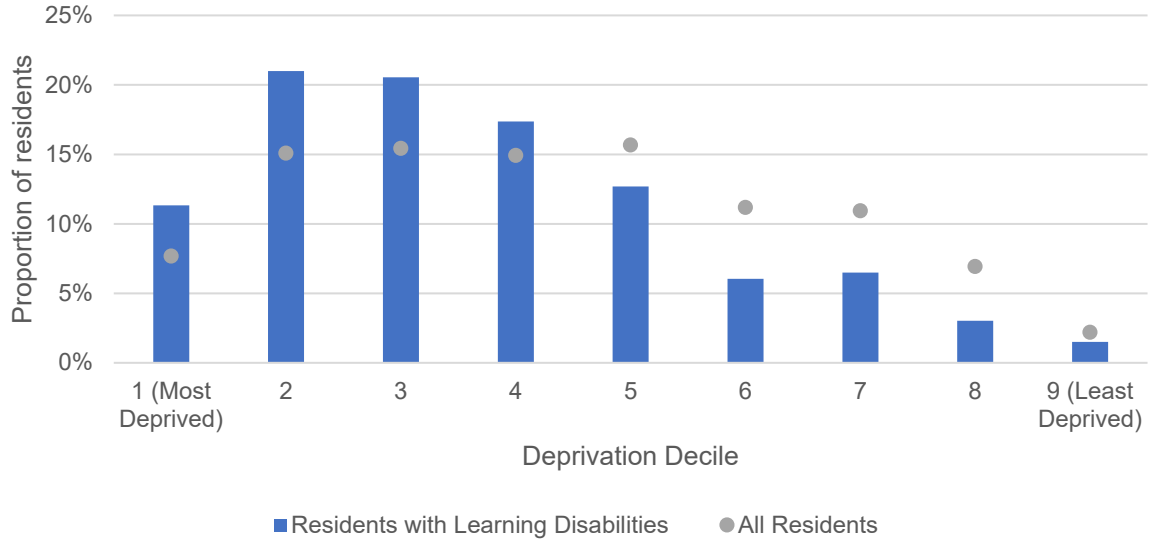


Figure 6: The Deprivation Decile of the accommodation of residents with Learning Disabilities in Hammersmith & Fulham.

### 3 EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

#### 3.1 THE MACBETH CENTRE

The Macbeth Centre is an adult education hub located in Hammersmith, which provides a huge range of classes and courses aimed at helping people with special education needs, including people with a learning disability, to develop new skills, find employment, gain a qualification or simply attend for personal enjoyment. [11]

In 2021/22, there were 97 learners at the Macbeth centre. The Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LLDD) department is predicted to validate £67,330 of ASB funding in 2021/22. This is £2,330 more than the target validation of £65,000. The LLDD department's Achievement, Pass and Retention Rates have all been above 90% since 2017/18. Attendance rates improved from 83% in 2017/18 to 92% in 2020/21 (Figure 7), due in part to attendance improvement initiatives including themed Learning Walks and email reminders. The service target for attendance rate is 85%. [11]

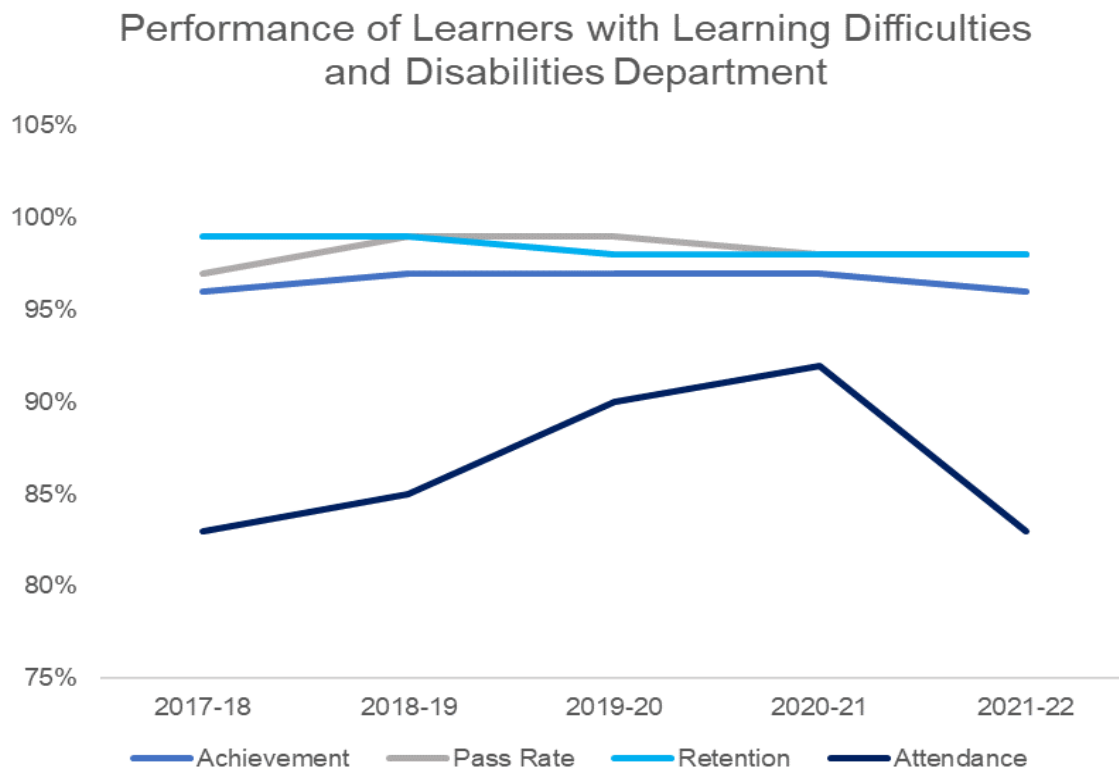


Figure 7: The Performance of Learners in with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Department since 2017/18. Performance is determined by Achievement, Pass Rate, Retention and Attendance.

During the national COVID-19 lockdown the Macbeth@Home course was created where members of staff ran Zoom sessions, preparing a weekly pack of activities and worksheets and supporting learners with phone calls. In total, 56 learners completed this course and learning aim with 100% retention, attendance and pass rate. The Macbeth@Home course validated £11,760 of funding and generated £980 in fee income. [11]

### **3.2 SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS**

West London Boroughs, including Hammersmith & Fulham, are proud to work with many employers and education providers across West London to facilitate the establishment and development of supported internships and supported employment initiatives. There are 33 programmes open to Hammersmith & Fulham residents with a learning disability. Following completion of these programmes there is a 70% success rate of young people gaining paid employment. [12]

Supported internships are designed to develop transferrable skills, knowledge and attitudes in preparation for paid employment. Through training and direct work experience, young people will develop employability skills, self-confidence, job-specific skills and Maths, English and ICT skills whilst working alongside employees in a real employment setting. [12]

Supported internships are open to all applicants with a moderate learning disability who are aged between 18 and 24, and who are keen to be offered paid employment at the end of the programme. Programmes last for 10 months. [12]

## 4 HEALTH

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### 4.1 ELECTRONIC FRAILTY INDEX

The Electronic Frailty Index (eFI) is a measure of frailty, and is calculated from a range of clinical signs, symptoms, diseases, disabilities and abnormal test values which are collected using electronic health record information. The eFI score can be used to identify and predict adverse outcomes for residents. The eFI score can be categorised into 4 groups; Fit, Mild, Moderate and Severe, with Fit being the least frail and Severe being the most frail.

Among people with a learning disability registered at the five Primary Care Networks (PCNs) in Hammersmith & Fulham (Babylon GP at Hand, Hammersmith & Fulham Central, Hammersmith & Fulham Partnership, North Hammersmith & Fulham, South Fulham), 49% have a fit eFI score, 26% have a mild eFI score, 17% have a Moderate eFI score and 9% have a Severe eFI score. [4]

In comparison, 89% of all people registered at the five PCNs in Hammersmith & Fulham have a Fit eFI score, 6% have a Mild eFI score, 3% have a Moderate eFI score and 2% have a Severe eFI score. Therefore, patients with a Learning Disability are 4.8 times more likely to have an eFI score of Mild to Severe than the general population and are 4.5 times more likely to have a 'Severe' eFI score. [4]

### 4.2 CO-MORBIDITIES

Learning disabilities often occur in conjunction with other disorders or conditions. Among residents with a learning disability in Hammersmith & Fulham, 62% have another long-term condition (LTC). The majority of residents with a learning disability who also have another LTC, have between 1 and 3 other LTCs (88%). The other 12% of residents have between 4 and 10 other LTCs. [4]

Certain conditions are more common among people with a learning disability. To make a comparison against the general population, a standardised prevalence ration (SPR) is used. A figure of less than 100% means the condition occurs less often than expected in people with a learning disability, a figure of more than 1 means the conditions occurs more often in people with a learning disability. For example, an SPR of 0.5 indicates that the condition is half as common in people with a learning disability, and an SPR of 2 indicates that the condition is twice as common as expected in people with a learning disability.

Within the NHS North West London Integrated Care Board, epilepsy is 34 times more common as expected in people with a learning disability, autism is 29 times more common as expected in people with a learning disability, and mental health conditions are 11 times more common in people with a learning disability. The only condition which is less common among people with a learning disability in the NHS North West London Integrated Care Board is Coronary Heart Disease. Other LTCs can be seen in Figure 8 [13].

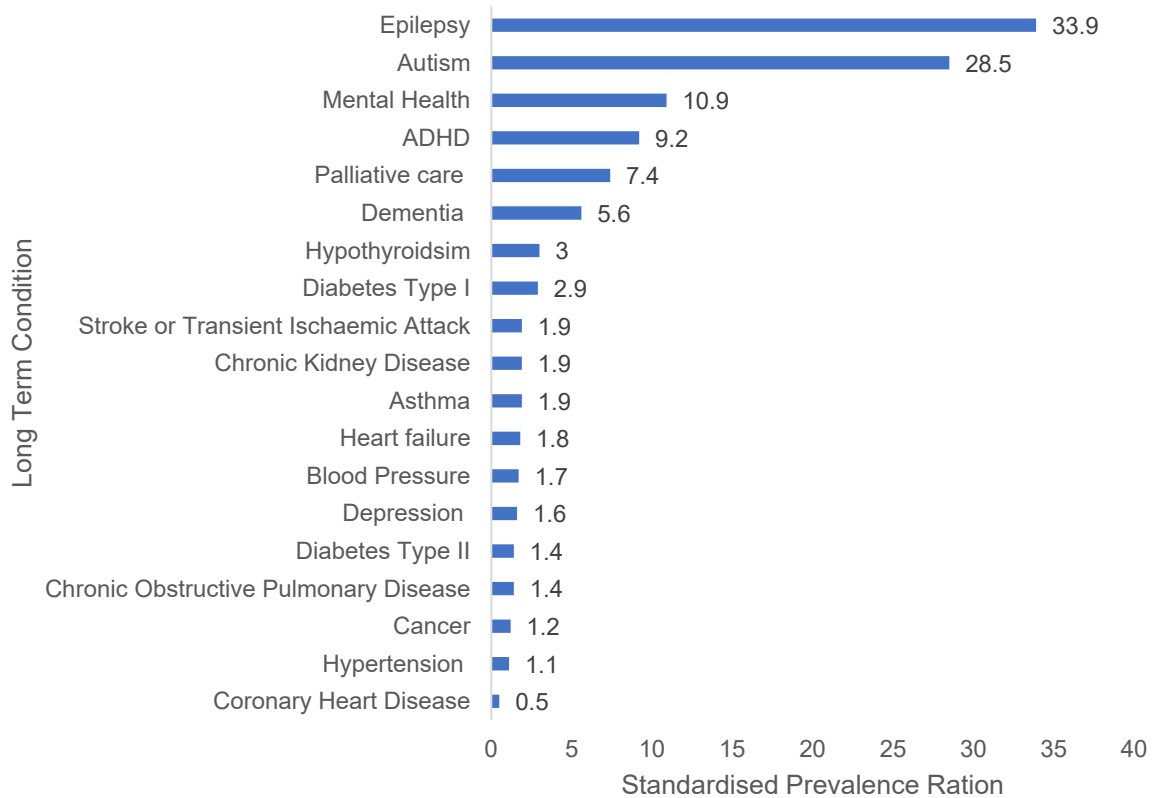


Figure 8: The Standardised Prevalence Ratio of selected Long Term Health Conditions among people with a learning disability in NHS North West London Integrated Care Board.

### 4.3 PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

In Hammersmith & Fulham, residents with a learning disability can receive support from the community team which consists of a multidisciplinary health team and a local authority social care team. The team consists of social workers, 4 community learning disability nurses, a speech and language therapist, a physiotherapist, one full-time and one part-time psychologist, an occupational therapist, a part-time consultant psychiatrist, a health team manager and a social work manager, business and admin support. The health and local authority social care team are co-located, but not integrated. The health team is provided by Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) NHS Trust, the Consultant Psychiatrist is employed by Central and North West London (CNWL) NHS Trust. [14]

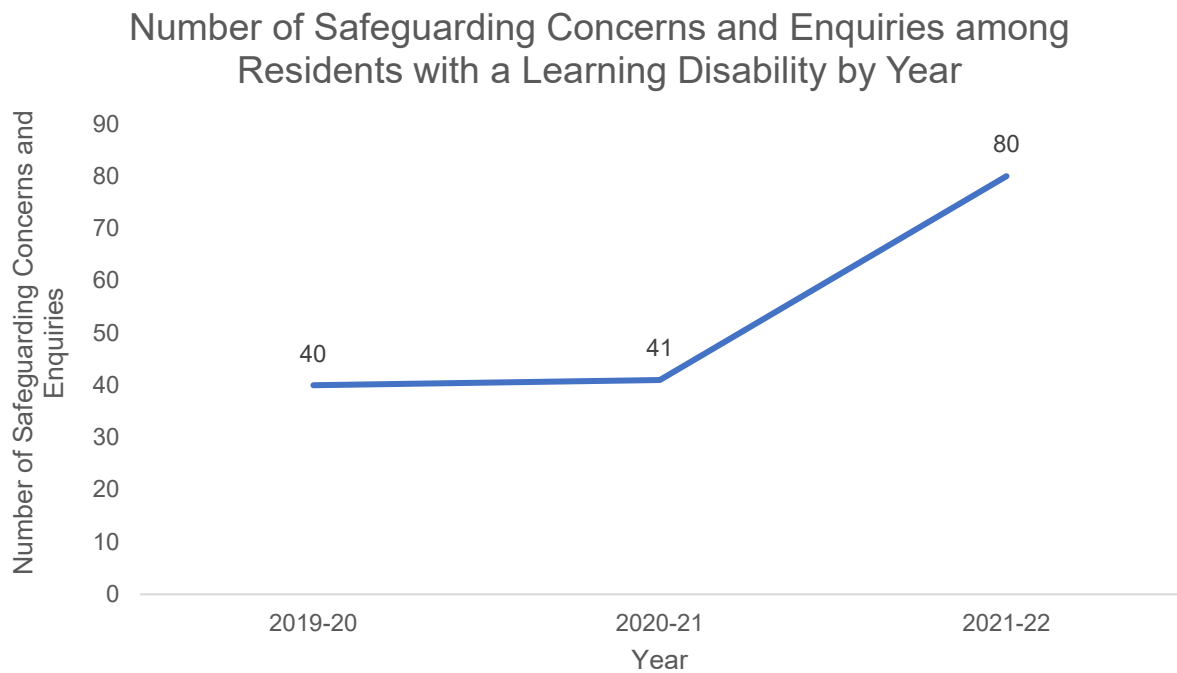
The exact number of people with a learning disability who access mental health services in Hammersmith & Fulham is unknown. However, as of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020, the Learning Disability Psychiatric case load was 97 patients. Over the course of 2020, 4 adult Hammersmith & Fulham residents with a learning disability were placed in In Patient settings and 1 resident required an admission to a mental health unit. [14]

In 2019/2020, the referral rate into the Learning Disability Psychiatric service was on average 2 to 3 per month. In terms of the patients who utilise the Learning Disability Psychiatry service, 30-40% have either a Learning Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorders or behaviours that challenge, 20% of patients have a diagnosis of a psychotic illness and the remainder have a diagnosis of either an affective disorder, a personality disorder or dementia. [14]

The age of patients treated by the Learning Disability Psychiatry service ranges between 18 and 77 years. As of the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020, 65% (64/97) of the patients were male and 35% (34/97) patients were female. [14]

## 5 SAFEGUARDING AND ABUSE

Since 2019/20, there have been 161 safeguarding concerns raised which have included a resident with a Learning Disability and have been assigned to the Learning Disability Team. This averages 53.7 concerns per year and 4.5 concerns per month. The number of safeguarding concerns has increased in 2021-22 compared to the previous two years (Figure 12). Since April 2023, there have been 414 safeguarding concerns for 245 unique people. Of the 414 concerns, there have been 27 (7%) safeguarding concerns for 19 unique people with a Learning Disability. Therefore, residents with Learning Disabilities are more likely to have a safeguarding concern compared to the total population. [15]



*Figure 9: The Number of Safeguarding Concerns assigned to the Learning Disabilities Team in Hammersmith and Fulham, between 2019-20 and 2021-22.*

Between 2016 and 2022, from the 364 safeguarding concerns assigned to the Learning Disabilities team, 485 abuse types were reported. The most frequent alleged abuse was Psychological or Emotional Abuse (32%), followed by neglect Act of Omission (25%) and Physical Abuse (17%) (Figure 10). Compared to the general population in Hammersmith & Fulham, people with Learning Disabilities reported higher levels of physical abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, and sexual abuse. [15]

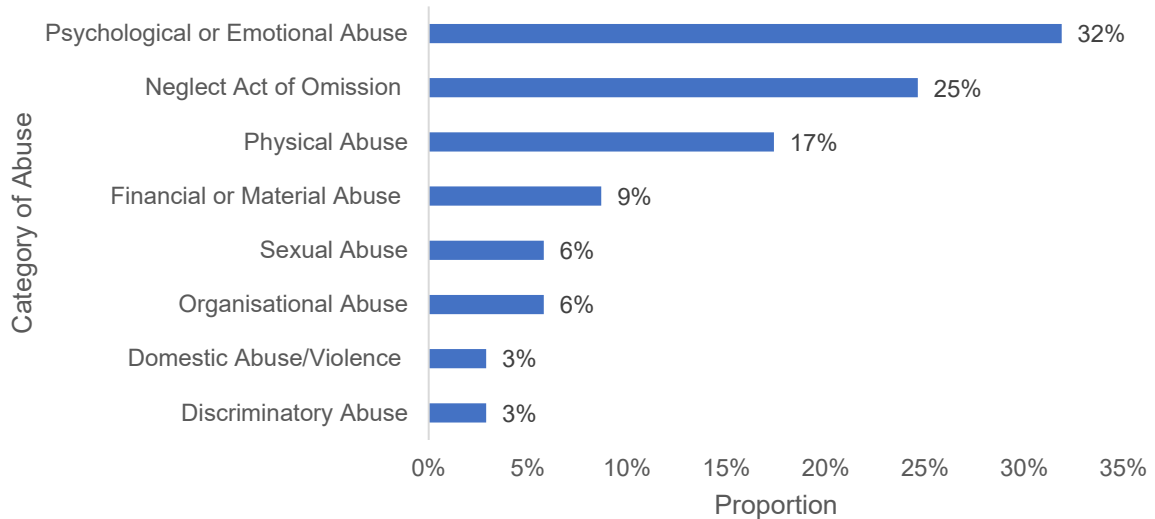


Figure 10: The Proportion (%) of Safeguarding Concerns by category of abuse assigned to the Learning Disabilities Team in Hammersmith & Fulham between 2016 and 2022. [15]

### Cuckooing

Cuckooing is a type of crime in which drug dealers control and occupy the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base to store drugs, from which to sell drugs or for county line drug trafficking. Commonly, the people who exploit the vulnerable person establish a relationship with the vulnerable person in order to gain access to their home and are then able to control the victim either through debt, as part of the relationship or through threats. People with a learning disability are at an increased risk of being a victim of cuckooing.

Since 2016, at least 3 safeguarding concerns assigned to the Learning Disabilities team have mentioned cuckooing behaviour. These reports mention others bringing drugs into the accommodation of a client with a learning disability, drug dealers living in the accommodation of a client with a learning disability and forcing a client with a learning disability to store and sell drugs. The reports mentioned that the clients with learning disabilities were put under a lot of pressure, forced to leave their accommodation at times, were financially exploited and were assaulted and spoken to aggressively.

In order to tackle cuckooing behaviour, residents with learning disabilities should be made aware of the indicators of cuckooing and discuss any known concerns. A multi-agency response is needed in order to tackle cuckooing. This is likely to include Adult Social Care, the Police, Housing, Social Workers, Health Workers, Substance abuse support agencies, the voluntary sector and care providers.



## 6 ADULT SOCIAL CARE

### 6.1 POPULATION

In March 2023, there were 289 adult residents receiving Learning Disability Support. In total 334, services were being provided for residents with Learning Disabilities. Since, March 2018, there has been an 8% increase in the number of adult residents receiving Learning Disability Support, and a 14% increase in the number of services for residents with a Learning Disability being provided. [16]

Using previous years' data, we are able to predict the number of services and service users that Adult Social Care will be providing. It is expected that by 2027, Adult Social Care will be providing 388 services to 315 residents with a Learning Disability. However, the number could be as high as 440 services to 352 residents with a Learning Disability. More detail can be seen in Figure 11 and Figure 12. [16]

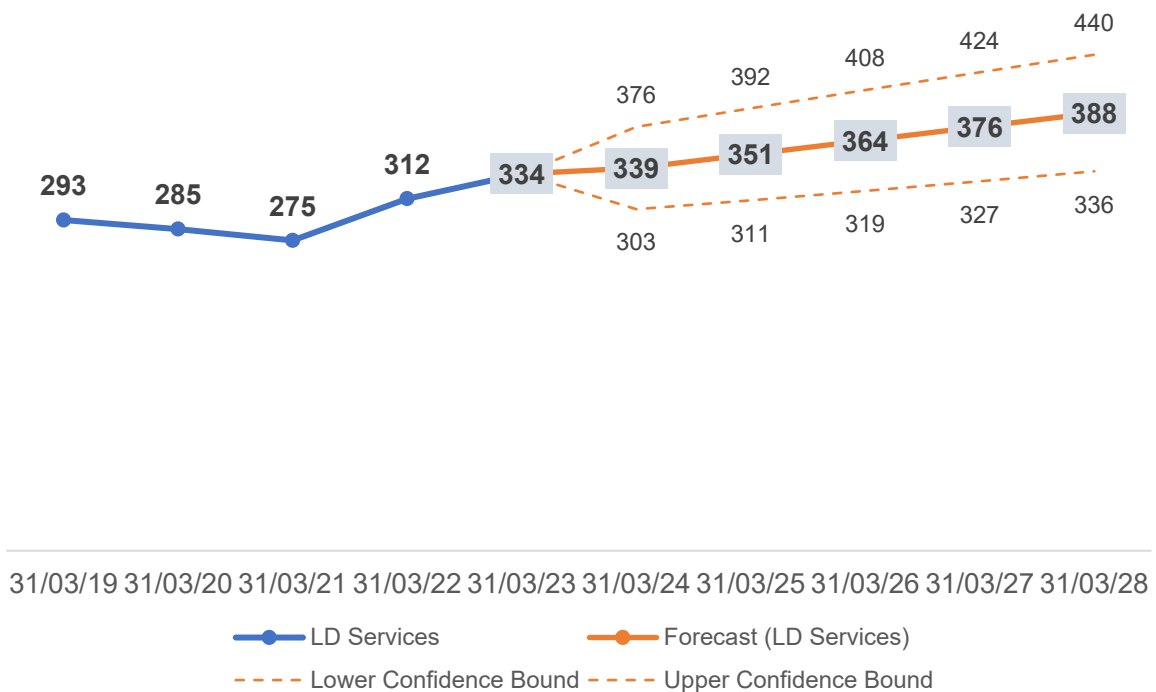


Figure 11: A forecast model predicting the total number of services for residents with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham. Data is available from 2019 to 2023. Data is predicted from 2024 to 2028.

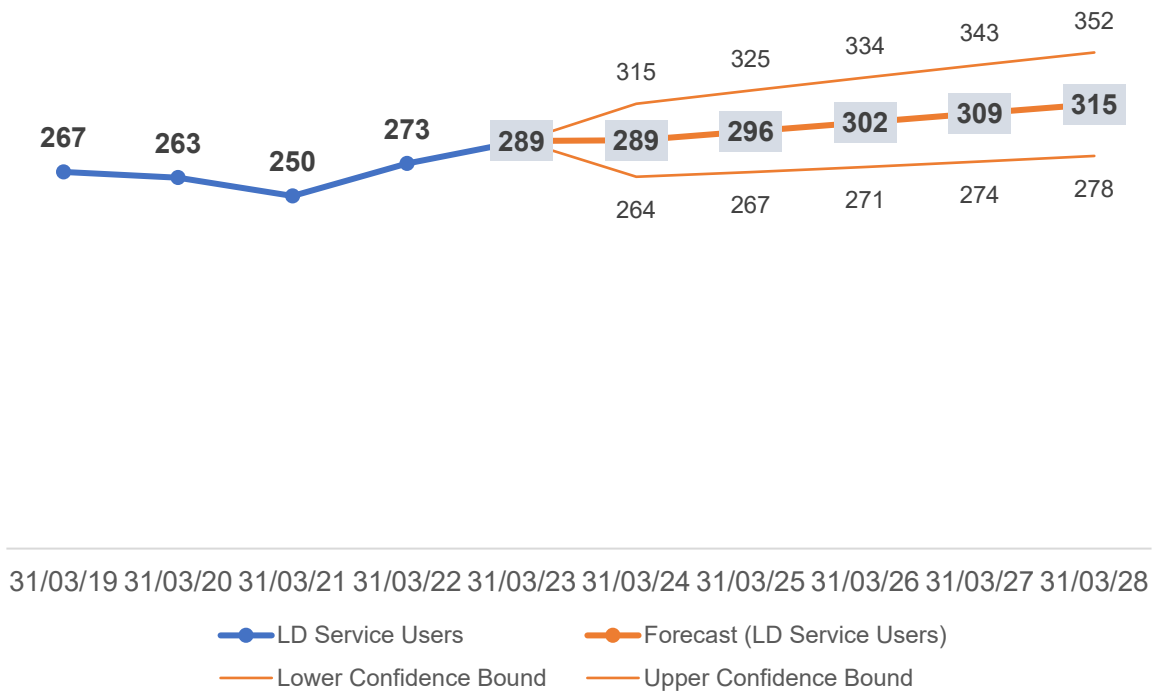


Figure 12: A forecast model predicting the total number of service users with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham. Data is available from 2019 to 2023. Data is predicted from 2024 to 2028.

## 6.2 SERVICES

As mentioned in Population, in March 2023 there were 289 adult residents who across them are in receipt of 334 individual services. [16]

The most common service in March 2023, was Direct Payments which accounted for 29% of all services. This was followed by Residential services which accounted for 24% of all services. Further detail can be found in Figure 13. [16]

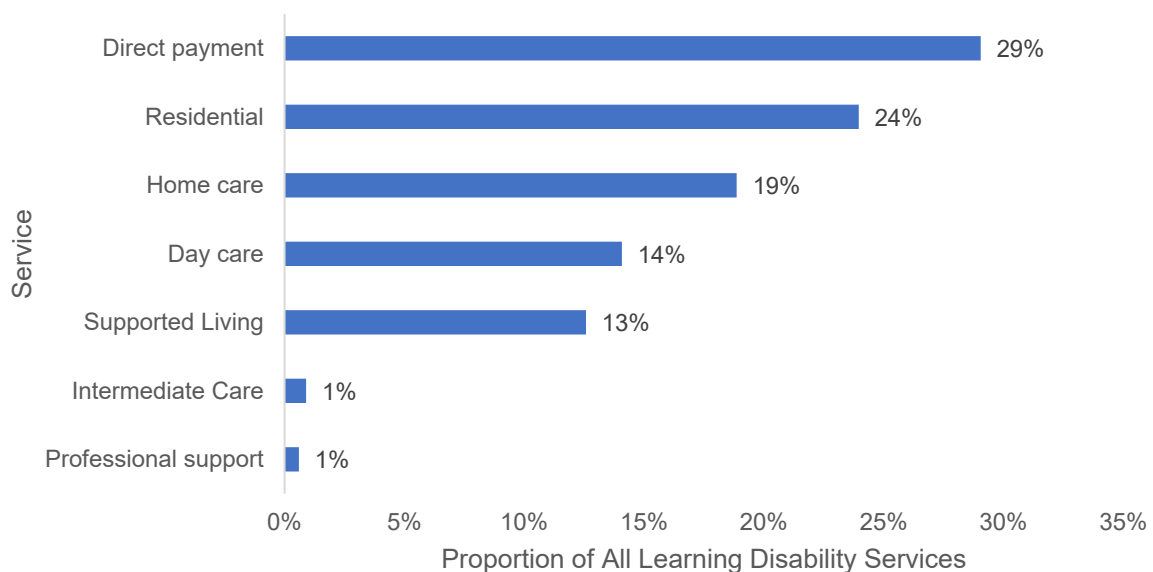


Figure 13: The Proportion of services provided by Hammersmith & Fulham Adult Social Care to residents with Learning Disabilities in March 2023, by service type.

In 2022/23, the estimated total cost of services provided to residents with a Learning Disability by Hammersmith & Fulham Adult Social care was £13,813,520. Residential services accounted for the largest proportion of spending: 45%. This is followed by supported living services which account for 25% of all spending (Table 1). However, the highest cost per person per element of service is for supported living services, with the average annual cost per person being £578,003 – 14 times higher than the average cost across all services provided to residents with learning disabilities (Table 2). This is followed by intermediate care, which costs an average of £41,144 per person per year (Table 2). [16]

Residents aged 25 to 34 accounted for the highest proportion, 22%, of spending which is proportional to the number of residents aged 25 to 34 with a learning disability. This is followed by residents aged 35 to 44 and residents aged 55 to 64 which both accounted for 21% of spending. Residents aged 65 years and above account for the smallest proportion of spending: 10% (Table 1). However, in terms of the average annual cost per person, the highest cost group was residents aged between 55 and 64 with average annual cost of services being £64,131 per person (Table 2). Residents aged between 18 and 24 incurred the lowest annual cost per person at £36,760 (Table 2). [16]

Examining total service cost by age group, residential services among residents aged 55 to 64 accounted for the largest proportion of total cost, followed by residents aged 25 to 34 receiving supported living services (Table 1). However, the highest annual cost per service element per person was supported living amongst residents aged 18 to 24, followed by the same services among those aged between 35 and 44, and between 25 and 34. [16]

Table 1: The Total Cost of Hammersmith & Fulham Adult Social Care Services provided to residents with a Learning Disability by Service Type and Age Band. These prices represent the estimated cost for April 2022 to March 2023. Red indicates a higher total price, and green indicates a lower total price.

Service	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Residential	£124,197	£637,439	£1,296,165	£1,141,200	£1,910,284	£1,081,796	£6,191,181
Direct Payment	£229,181	£730,098	£567,120	£245,336	£169,577	£24,639	£1,965,950
Supported Living	£859,369	£1,331,221	£716,800	£172,954	£308,838	£78,837	£3,468,019
Home Care	£250,125	£166,832	£133,330	£21,289	£528,825	£72,091	£1,172,492
Day Care	£226,459	£124,315	£141,423	£192,716	£32,410	£10,234	£727,558
Intermediate Care	£122,857	£93,336	-	-	-	£71,818	£288,011
Professional Support	-	-	-	-	-	£310	£310
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,812,188</b>	<b>£3,083,249</b>	<b>£2,854,838</b>	<b>£1,773,495</b>	<b>£2,950,034</b>	<b>£1,339,725</b>	<b>£13,813,520</b>

Table 2: The cost per person of Hammersmith & Fulham Adult Social Care Services provided to residents with a Learning Disability by Service Type and Age Band. These prices represent the estimated annual cost per element from April 2022 to March 2023. Red indicates a higher cost per person, and green indicates a lower cost per person.

Service	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Cost per person
Residential	£62,098	£53,120	£40,505	£34,582	£34,114	£43,272	£38,695
Direct payment	£25,465	£33,186	£22,685	£24,534	£33,915	£24,639	£27,305
Supported Living	£859,369	£665,610	£716,800	£172,954	£308,838	-	£578,003
Home care	£35,732	£27,805	£19,047	£10,644	£88,138	£10,299	£33,500
Day care	£9,058	£17,759	£14,142	£24,090	£8,103	£5,117	£12,992
Intermediate Care	£122,857	£23,334	-	-	-	£35,909	£41,144
Professional support	-	-	-	-	-	£155	£155
<b>Cost per person</b>	<b>£36,760</b>	<b>£49,699</b>	<b>£42,025</b>	<b>£42,633</b>	<b>£64,131</b>	<b>£49,725</b>	<b>£40,868</b>

Between 2019 and 2023, there has been a 280% increase in the total cost of services provided by Adult Social Care to residents with a Learning Disability; the total cost of

services has increased from £3,657,563 in 2019 to £13,813,520 in 2023 (Figure 14). In comparison, since 2018 there has been an 8% increase in the number of service users and a 14% increase in the number of services provided in this time period. [16]

Using previous years' data, we are able to predict the cost of Adult Social Care services provided to residents with a Learning Disability. It is expected that by 2028, Adult Social Care learning disability services will cost almost £25,000,000. However, the cost could be as high as £28,500,000 (Figure 14). [16]

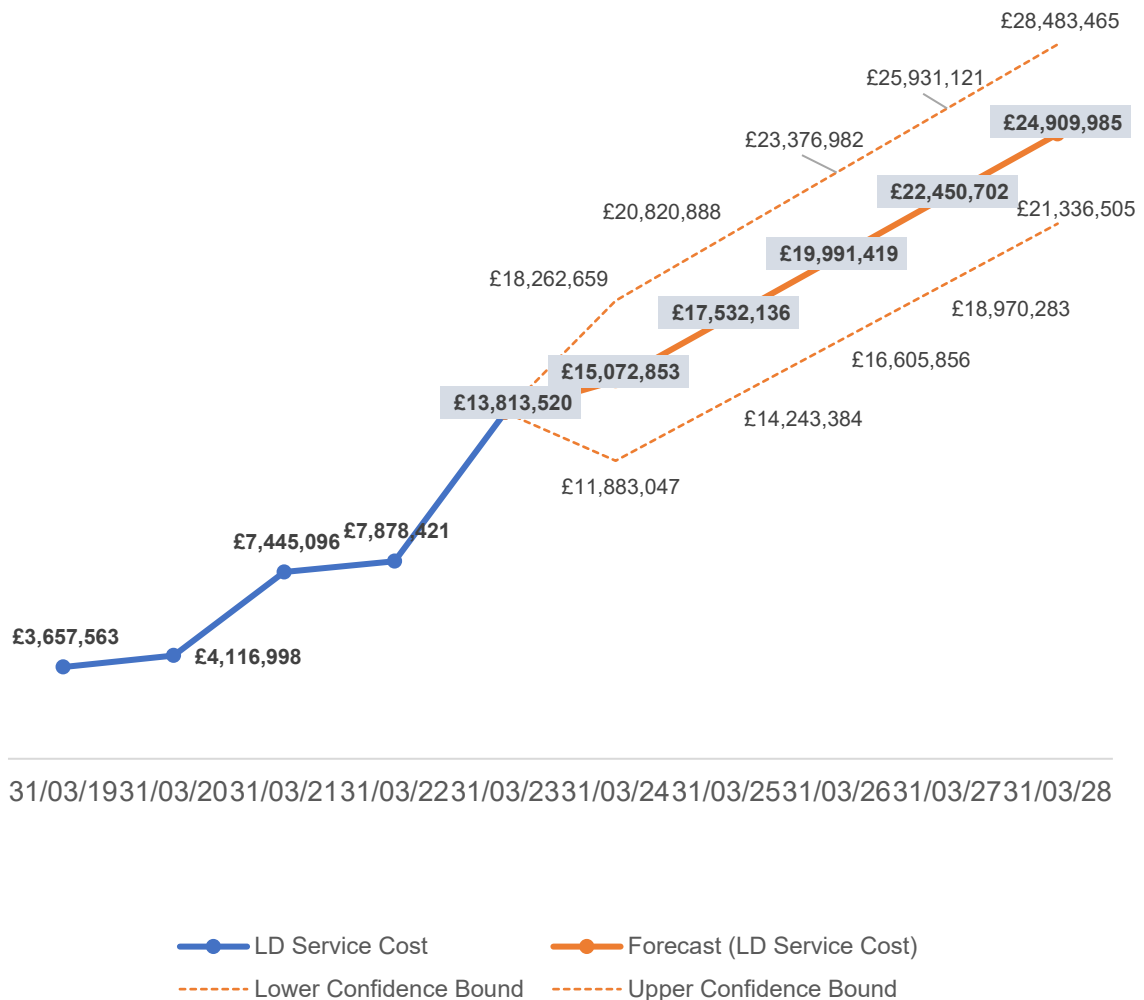


Figure 14: A forecast model predicting the total cost of services for residents with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham. Data is available from 2019 to 2023. Data is predicted from 2024 to 2028.

### 6.3 AGE & GENDER PROFILE

In Hammersmith & Fulham, 62% of residents receiving Learning Disability support are male, and 38% are female [16]. This is similar to the total proportions of males and females among the total population of residents with Learning Disabilities; 60% are male and 40% are female [4].

In Hammersmith & Fulham, the majority of residents receiving Learning Disability support from Adult Social Care are aged between 18 and 64 (91%) [16]. This is a similar age distribution as the total age distribution of all residents with Learning Disabilities in Hammersmith & Fulham (Figure 15) [4].

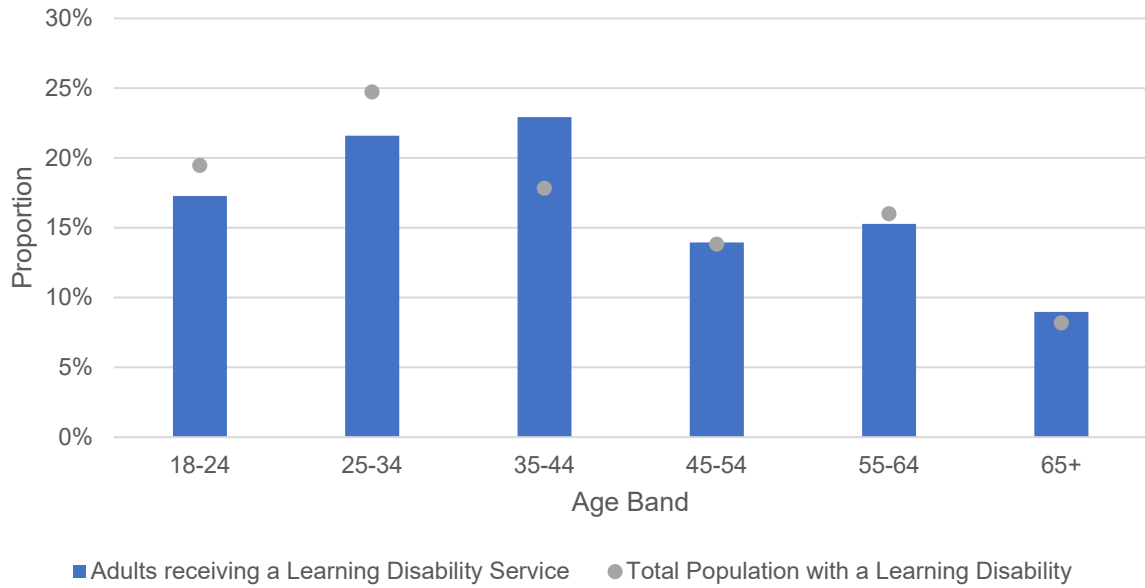


Figure 15: The proportion of adults receiving a learning disability service and the total population with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham by Age Band.

### 6.4 ETHNICITY PROFILE

In Hammersmith and Fulham, half (50%) of all adults receiving a Learning Disability service from Adult Social Care are from a white ethnic background. Following this, 29% of adults receiving a Learning Disability service are from a black or black British background, 9% are from a mixed ethnic background, 9% are from an Asian ethnic background and 4% are from other ethnic backgrounds. This is a similar ethnic distribution as the total Learning Disability Population in Hammersmith & Fulham – however residents from a white ethnic background are less likely to receive a Learning Disability Service, and residents from a black or black British ethnic background are more likely to receive a Learning Disability service. [4] [16]

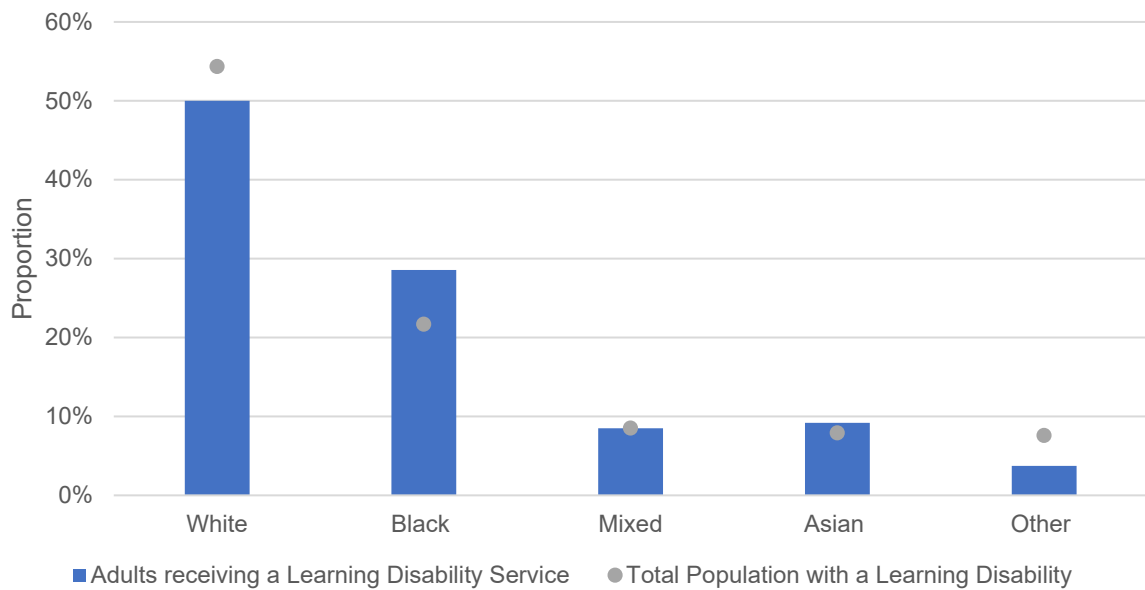


Figure 16: The proportion of adults receiving a learning disability service and the total population with a Learning Disability in Hammersmith & Fulham by Ethnicity.

## **6.5 OUT OF BOROUGH PLACEMENTS**

On occasion, it may be agreed with the local authority, client and/or their representatives that their needs are best met in a placement outside of the borough. As of May 2023, 40% of Hammersmith & Fulham residents with a Learning Disability were placed out of the borough. Of these 50% were placed in another London borough, and the other 50% of residents were placed outside of London.

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## 8 APPENDIX

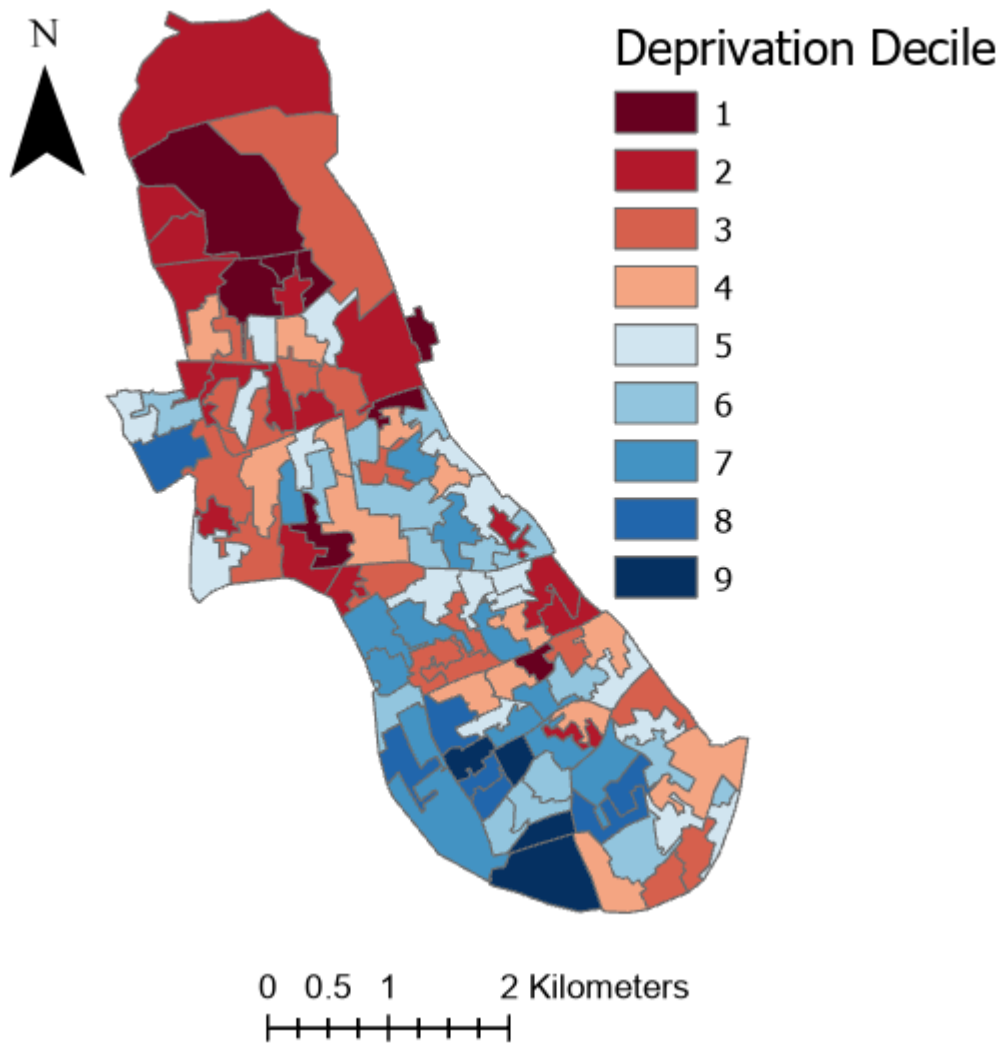


Figure 17: The Deprivation Deciles of LSOAs in Hammersmith & Fulham. 1 indicates the most deprived areas, and 9 indicates the least deprived areas.