

LONDON

RACE EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT BRIEFING

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Editorial

The latest Labour Market Release (15th November 2012) shows that the employment rate for 16 – 64 yrs olds increased on the previous quarter to 70.6 per cent, from 70.3 per cent and that the unemployment rate fell back by 0.2 per cent to 8.2 per cent of the economically active population. Though statistically the movements are small they nevertheless represent some shoots of hope that the economic downturn may be starting to show signs of turning the corner.

The latest data on London's labour market was equally positive and upbeat in that the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 per cent to 9.7 per cent; Jobseeker's Allowance benefit claims fell and London's employment rate rose in line with the general improvement with an increase on the last quarter by 37,000 (LSEO, November 2012)

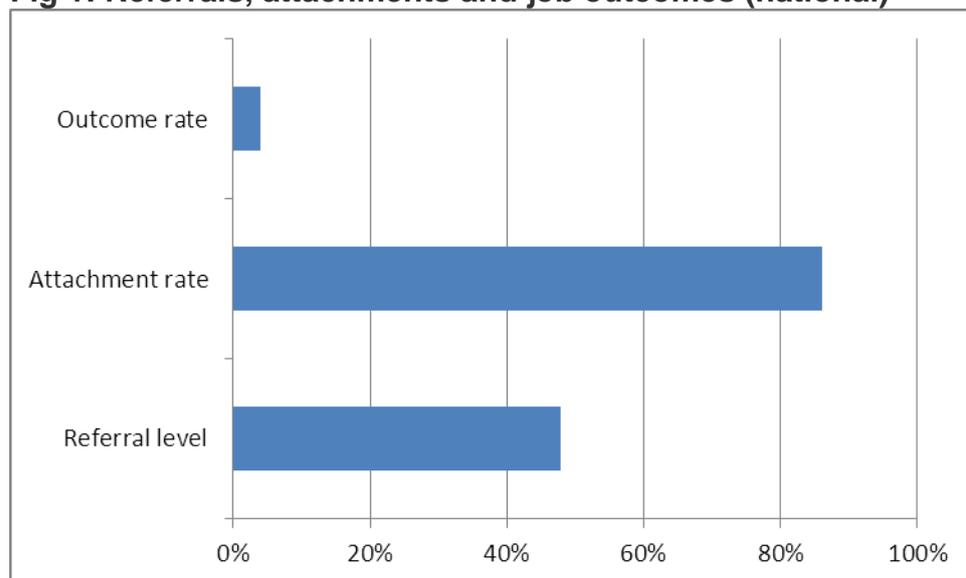
However, it is still worth making the point that these small ebbs and flows are not enough to sustain an argument that we are out of the woods. We are still concerned about the social and human impact on communities and in particular BME communities. Our work on targeted estates is beginning to highlight some worrying concerns (see Issue 6). In this *Issue* we want to highlight some of the emerging outcomes from the first year of the Work Programme; in particular, to highlight the impact on BME groups in London.

We welcome your comments on the issues presented in this *Briefing*. We are keen to include examples of good practice in promoting race equality in employment, so would particularly like to hear from you. For all enquiries about the Race Equality in Employment Briefing, please contact Karl Murray, Head of Employment and Research, Tel: 020 7843 6133 or email: karl@bteg.co.uk

The Work Programme: impact on London's BME communities

The overall picture is that the Work Programme has not delivered the amount of job outcomes as expected. The Centre for Economic & Social Inclusion (CESI) has produced a well referenced report on the data released on 27th November 2012 by the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP)¹. The key message is that, nationally “... 31,000 job outcome payments were paid to Work Programme providers” which represents “3.2% of individuals referred to the programme in the three main groups achieving a job outcome” while the figure for all participant groups is 3.5% (CESI, 27.11.12)². Fig 1 below provides an at a glance overview.

Fig 1: Referrals, attachments and job outcomes (national)



Source: DWP, Data Portal, November 2012

Work Programme job outcome is broadly consistent with their respective statistical presence across the ethnic groups in London as reflected in Fig 2 below. Job outcomes for Black and Black British claimants are higher than other ethnic groups (29%)³. In London, overall job outcomes for all

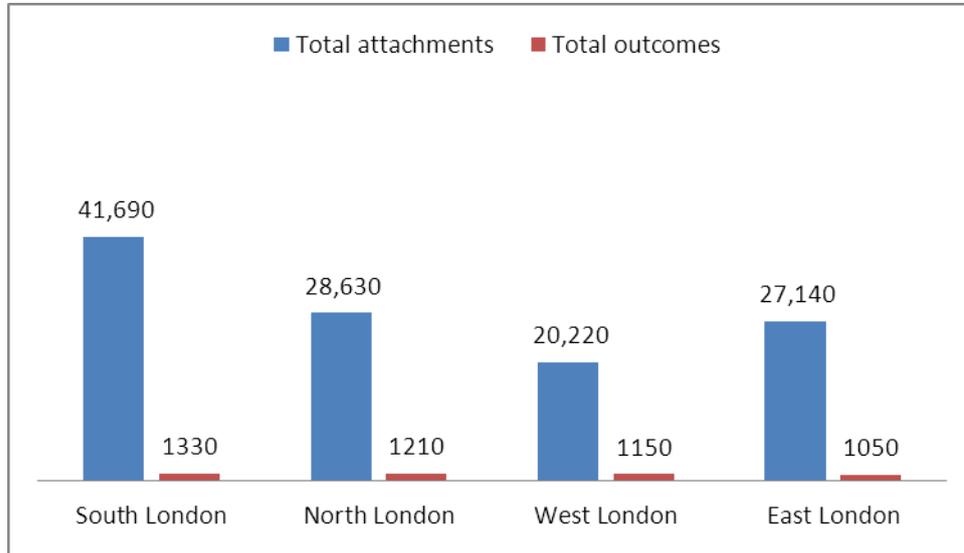
¹ The Department for Works and Pension data portal:
<http://83.244.183.180/WorkProg/tabtool.html>

² Work Programme Performance Statistics: Inclusion analysis (27 November 2012):
http://stats.cesi.org.uk/website_documents/initial_WP_Performance_InclusionComment.pdf

³ Work Programme outcomes for Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic groups in London, LVSC, November 30, 2012

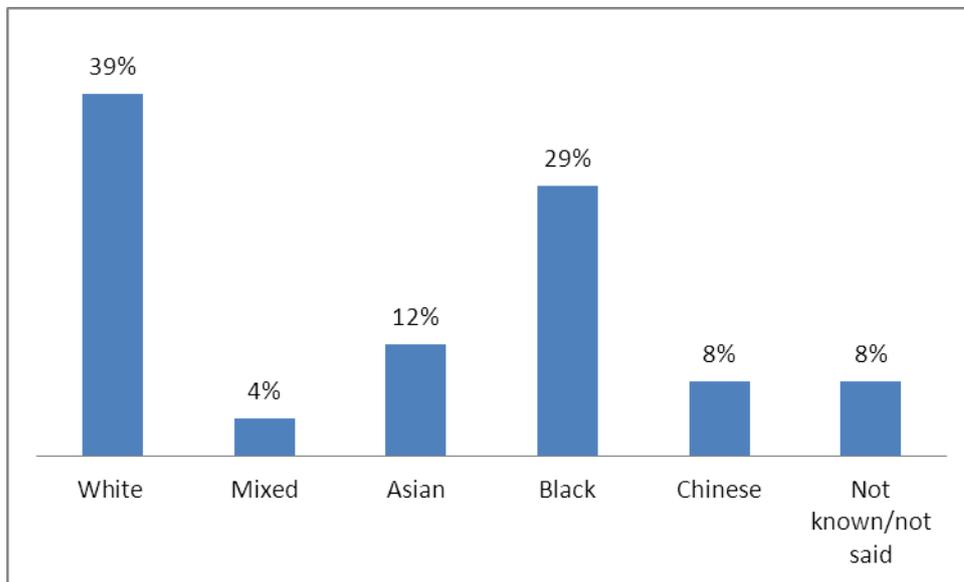
BAME groups are proportionately better than for White claimants, which reflect the proportionate share across the capital with respect to the unemployment claimant figures (see Fig 3).

Fig 2: Work programme outcomes across the London JCP Districts



Source: DWP, Data Portal, November 2012

Fig 3: Outcomes by ethnicity across London



Source: DWP, Data Portal, November 2012

Race Equality in Employment (London) Monthly Briefings

BTEG's *Race and Equality in Employment (London) Briefing* is for all those whose work focuses on employing people, supporting them into employment or creating jobs. Supported by the *Trust for London*, the *Briefings* aim to show how London's BME communities are faring in the labour market. Each month the *Briefing* brings the latest figures on employment, unemployment and claimant rates; keeping you up to date with the labour market trends impacting on London's BME population and so help those working for a more inclusive and productive society the opportunity to identify best practice as well as pointers to what actions might be needed in local areas.

The *Briefing* is FREE and to receive your copy each month please go to the '*Newsletter sign up*' box on the BTEG home page, where you will be able to register your details: www.bteg.co.uk

Back copies of RACE EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT BRIEFING (London) can be obtained by contacting karl@bteg.co.uk

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