



I. B. R. G.

IRISH IN BRITAIN REPRESENTATION GROUP

Press Statement. 29th May 1995.

LONDON IRISH WINNING BATTLE FOR ETHNIC RECOGNITION.

The Irish community in London are winning the battle for ethnic recognition with the majority of boroughs in North London and within Inner London recognising the Irish as a separate category within their ethnic monitoring program. In North London 13 of the 21 boroughs recognise the Irish (65%), while 9 of the 14 boroughs within Inner London (64%) recognise the Irish. Progress has been slower in South London with only 2 of 12 boroughs recognising the Irish (17%), and in Outer London with only 6 boroughs recognising the Irish (32%). Lambeth Council in South London have officially recognised the Irish but have failed to implement their policy. Overall 15 of the 33 London boroughs recognise the Irish (45%), with 17 failing to recognise the Irish (52%) with Lambeth in no mans land.

The battle for ethnic recognition has been a 10 year battle led by the IBRG, to persuade local councils to monitor the Irish within Town Hall employment and within service Delivery particularly to elders within the community. Town Hall employment monitors have revealed that the Irish are the least likely of any ethnic group to be employed within London town Hall, and where employed to have the worst jobs. Service delivery monitors have shown a poor service to the Irish community in care for the elderly and for Irish children in care. In some cases the monitors have led to improvement in service eg recruitment of Irish foster parents.

The London position adds weights to the demand for the Irish to be included within the 2001 Census and within the National Health service. The Commission for Racial Equality in Britain now recommend that that the Irish be included in the 2001 Census and within the NHS and also within employment monitoring and service delivery.

The IBRG calls on the remaining London boroughs to include the Irish within their ethnic monitoring and equal opportunities program, and believes that the 1976 Race relations act places a duty on local authorities to make their services available equally to all local residents. The 1991 Census revealed that 256,470 of London's population were born in Ireland, or one in every 26 Londoners was born in Ireland. There is an estimated total Irish population including second generation Irish of 589,881 living in London, one of every 11 Londoners is either Irish born or second generation Irish. The Irish in London cannot be ignored, nor can the needs of the largest ethnic community in London be ignored. our contribution to London over the past two hundred years has been immense, from the Docks to buildings sites, from hospitals to schools. In many cases the Catholic contribution has been recognised to the exclusion of the Irish contribution.

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THE IRISH COMMUNITY IN LONDON.

The following London boroughs now recognise the Irish with their ethnic monitoring and equal opportunities program.

HACKNEY, HARINGEY, HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM, NEWHAM, SOUTHWARK, CITY OF LONDON, WALTHAM FOREST, ISLINGTON, HOUNSLOW, CAMDEN, TOWER HAMLETS, BARNET, MERTON, BRENT, ENFIELD.

The following boroughs do not recognise the Irish within their Ethnic Monitoring and equal opportunities program.

EALING, WESTMINSTER, SUTTON, CROYDEN, WANDSWORTH, RICHMOND, LEWISHAM, BROMLEY, KENSINGTON & CHELSEA, BARKING & DAGENHAM, GREENWICH, HARROW, REDBRIDGE, HILLINGDON, KINGSTON, BEXLEY, HAVERING.

LAMBETH has yet to implement their policy passed by full council over 5 years ago.

THE IRISH IN LONDON. IRISH BORN AND ESTIMATED TOTAL IRISH POPULATION.

BOROUGH	BORN IN IRELAND (%)	ESTIMATED TOTAL IRISH (%)
BRENT.	21,936 (9%)	50,453 (20.7%)
EALING.	16,374 (5.9%)	37,660 (13.6%)
ISLINGTON.	11,723 (7.1%)	26,963 (16.3%)
LAMBETH	11,648 (4.8%)	26,790 (11%).
BARNET	11,458 (3.9%)	26,353 (9%)
CAMDEN	11,027 (6.5%)	25,362 (15%).
WANDSWORTH	10,575 (4.2%)	24,323 (9.7%)
HARINGEY	10,536 (5.2%)	24,233 (12%)
HAMMERSMITH	10,117 (6.8%)	23,269 (15.6%)
HARROW	9,875 (4.9%)	22,713 (11.3%)
SOUTHWARK	9,792 (4.5%)	22,522 (10.4%).
WESTMINSTER	9,334 (5.3%)	21,468 (12.2%).
CROYDEN	8,468 (2.7%)	19,496 (6.2%)
ENFIELD	7,803 (3%)	17,947 (6.9%).
HOUNSLOW	7,799 (3.8%)	17,938 (8.7%).
LEWISHAM	7,788 (3.4%)	17,912 (7.8%).
HACKNEY	7,180 (4%).	16,514 (9.2%)
HILLINGDON	7,178 (3.1%)	16,509 (7.1%)
REDBRIDGE	6,698 (3%)	15,405 (6.9%).
WALTHAM FOREST	6,134 (6.7%)	14,108 (6.7%).
MERTON	5,772 (3.4%)	13,276 (7.8%).
GREENWICH	5,759 (2.8%)	13,246 (6.4%).
KEN 7 CHELSEA	5,528 (4%)	12,714 (9.2%).
BROMLEY	5,342 (1.8%)	12,287 (4.1%).
RICHMOND	4,722 (2.9%)	10,861 (6.7%).
NEWHAM	4,531 (2.1%)	10,421 (4.8%).
TOWER HAMLETS	4,193 (2.6%)	9,444 (6%).
SUTTON	3,818 (2.3%)	8781 (5.3%).
HAVERING	3,745 (1.6%)	8,614 (3.7%).
KINGSTON	3,597 (2.7%)	8,273 (6.2%).
BEXLEY	3,194 (1.5%)	7346 (3.5%).
BARKING	2,809 (2%)	6,461 (4.6%).
CITY OF LONDON	151 (3.6%)	347 (8.3%).
INNER LONDON	113,989 (4.6%)	262,175 (10.6%)
OUTER LONDON	142,481 (3.4%)	327,706 (7.8%)
GREAT.LONDON	256,470 (3.8%)	589,881 (8.7%)