

(Re)Engaging with Community Engagement in Redbridge

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Creativeworks London: Knowledge exchange project for the creative economy (2012 – 2016) based at Queen Mary, University of London

UP Projects: an arts commissioning organisation

Hefin Jones: London-based designer with a socially engaged design practice



What does community mean?

London Borough of
Redbridge





There's a history to this: Culture-led regeneration



The new Titanic Belfast is a symbol of the regeneration of Titanic Quarter and broader Belfast



GLASGOW
EUROPEAN
CITY OF CULTURE
1990



RIBA 

Guide to Localism
Opportunities for architects

Part two: Getting community
engagement right

Our communities today – are micro communities – require new tools of engagement



Redbridge:

According to the 2011 Census the population of Redbridge was recorded at 278,970 and projected to reach over 305,000 by the end of 2017.

The healthy life expectancy (HLE) at birth for Redbridge residents stands at 65.5 years for males and 62.4 years for females. 65% of the population are of working age (16-64).

In 2015 net migration into Redbridge was 2915 people where most were international migrants. Redbridge is one of the most ethnically diverse local authorities in the UK.

As of 2013, 62% of the population identify as Black and/or Minority Ethnic (BAME). 40.2% of the population of Redbridge were born outside of the United Kingdom, compared to the London average of 36.6% and the UK average of 13.3%.

In 2015/16 54.6 people per every thousand were registering for new National Insurance numbers.

According to the 2011 census the largest migrant population by country of birth was India, foreign born Indians represent 7.6% of the population; the second largest group was from Pakistan at 5.3%; and the third largest group was Sri Lanka who represent 2.1%. Large numbers of people from Poland, Bulgaria and Romania represent the next three waves of internal migration from the European Union into the area since the 2011 census.

Importantly as of 2015, the unemployment rate in Redbridge stands at 8% which is much higher than the outer London average of 5.9% and the UK average of 5.1%. In fact the only boroughs with higher unemployment rates are Newham, Tower Hamlets, Westminster, Barking, and Greenwich.

The female employment rate in 2015 was 57.6% which is much lower than the national average of 68.6%.

10% of working age people in Redbridge have no formal qualifications.

Socially Engaged Practice



Communities of Practice

What is a Community of Practice?



Five Strategic Roles for Intermediaries

- Help city governments shape their community development approach, investments, and strategies
- Help institutions and business organizations develop and maintain productive community engagement strategies and relationships
- Support ongoing work in place matters neighborhoods
- Expand comprehensive, place-based support network into new communities using custom tiered approach
- Align community development work with important local and regional initiatives

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