



LIMEHOUSE PROJECT

REALISING ASPIRATIONS | CHANGING LIVES

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Registered Charity No. 295857
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 1817676



**It is the prerogative of every man, woman
and child to have access to the
knowledge and tools they need to
participate in making the decisions that
affect their lives...**





...That's where we come in.





This review sets out Limehouse Project's progress towards our vision and mission between January 2010 and January 2011. We have referred to this period as '2010'.





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The Limehouse Project's vision is of a community in which all people – regardless of their ethnicity, religion or economic standing – are able to realise their full potential and contribute fully to their wider communities.

OUR MISSION

The Limehouse Project (LHP) has worked to respond to the needs of minority communities throughout the London Borough of Tower Hamlets for over 25 years. Our aim is to **empower marginalised individuals by identifying and alleviating the barriers to self-empowerment and realising the aspirations of the most disadvantaged members of local communities**. With an especial focus on women, all peoples of ethnic minority origin and those for whom English is not a first language, our successes and achievements stem from our ability to provide:

- Information, advice and advocacy support in clients' own languages;
- Education, employment training and supported volunteering opportunities for those seeking to gain the confidence and skills they need to play a full role in their social and economic environments; and
- A wide range of educational, recreational and sports experiences for women, families, young people and the elderly geared towards enhancing their life experiences and reducing social isolation or exclusion.

“

**Only by empowering
the vulnerable,
can any society
truly prosper...**

”





HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR YEAR

The Limehouse Project works across the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to provide those services most needed by a wide variety of local communities.

Our greatest achievements during 2010 include...



OVER 5 THOUSAND

RECEIPIENTS OF OUR ADVICE WORKS & PROJECTS

This year our Advice services have seen a 5% rise upon last year in the number of clients seen. Despite increasing demand for our services amidst financially challenging times, needs continue to be met by our existing and inspirational Advice Team.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS FORGED

WITH TESCO & CARRILLION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF LOCAL PEOPLE

The Limehouse Project's Training & Development Team developed a ground-breaking employment training programme during the course of 2010. Working with Tesco's and Carrillion employment agency we helped recruit and train local candidates for potential positions within new Tesco Express outlets. From a total of 350 clients who were helped into employment during the course of the year, 19 people gained employment directly with Tesco's.

OVER ONE HUNDRED

CLIENTS UNDERTAKE EMPLOYMENT SKILLS TRAINING

As demand for specific employment skills training continues to grow amidst a global economic downturn, the need for programmes which lead to real, viable and useful qualifications or formulate realistic pathways to employment opportunities has never been higher. To that end, our Training & Development Team have been busy engaging with families as well as individuals to find and encourage people in need of that extra help to come forward and take that first step to a career-orientated goal.





LHP RESEARCH LAUNCHED

INTO THE BARRIERS TO EMPOWERMENT FOR BAME LONE MOTHERS

With 9 out of 10 lone parents being women, the pressures of lone motherhood can sometimes be overwhelming. To understand the problems being faced by lone mothers of BAME backgrounds who must also deal with poverty, social exclusion, lack of employable skills and language barriers, the Limehouse Project is proud to have undertaken its first commissioned research project. Funded by the National Empowerment Partnership and the London Civic Forum, our report "The Lone Mother Equation" will be received by the Cabinet, Local government bodies and our partners and providers in early 2011.



80 PARENTS GAIN ACCREDITATIONS

IN ENGLISH AS A SECONDARY OR OTHER LANGUAGE

The LHP's Extended Schools Programme has most recently been working with schools throughout LAP's 7 and 8 to give the parents of local students an opportunity to gain much needed English language speaking and comprehension skills. To date, over 100 parents have successfully gained the much sought after ESOL accreditation: an achievement that will permit them to not only go on to undertake further learning courses or heighten their chances of gaining employment, but will help breach gaps in understanding between themselves, their children, and the wider community in general.

9 FEMALE FOOTBALL COACHES & 12 LIFEGUARDS TRAINED

HEIGHTENING THE INCLUSION OF LOCAL WOMEN IN LOCAL SPORTS

In recognition of the many barriers to sport which young BAME women continue to face – such as a lack of female coaches, training opportunities leading to qualified or recognised sports skills and sports programmes which are sensitive to their cultural and religious needs - the Limehouse Project partnered with Greenwich Leisure Ltd. (GLL), the Muslim Women's Collective and Tower Hamlets council to launch two sports training programmes specifically aimed at young BAME women. The LHP Football Coach Training programme immediately exceeded available places at the time of its launch and led to 9 qualified football coaches, whilst LHP's Lifeguard Training programme saw 48 women take part in assessment workshops and complete a 3-month training programme.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



“We continue to work on behalf of some of London’s poorest communities with the knowledge that long term commitment is needed if inequality is to be eradicated.”

The LHP is one of the few remaining free advice and training guidance services left in the borough of Tower Hamlets. The fact that we provide services in clients own languages ensures that we can reach out to communities who are often neglected or feel unable to access those programmes to which they have a right.

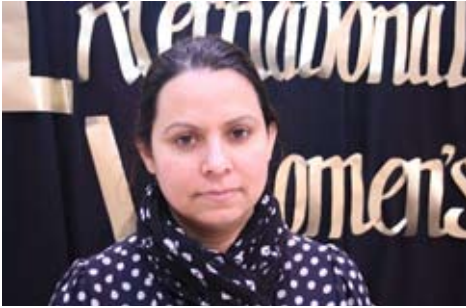
As co-founder of this exceptional charity and as active Chair, I am always surprised and astounded at how we continue to expand and grow, develop and adjust to meet the most pressing, timely and consistent needs of the local populace – whether it be helping the most disadvantaged peoples learn the English language, get out of debt, achieve family stability, receive health advice, certify their human rights or simply give them the tools to actively train and seek employment – we are able to help alter and re/shape the lives of individuals, families and in the long-term, entire communities for the better. Our aim is to provide the knowledge and guidance that will help empower people to act for themselves – and with an average of over 8,000 people accessing our wide array of both onsite and offsite support services per year both directly and through referrals by other local organisations including the Tower Hamlets council, thousands of members of the local community have been enabled to do just that in the course of the project’s 25 years.

Whilst we are all too aware of the tough times that lie ahead for people who are already placed at huge socio-economic disadvantages and the organisations which strive to serve them, the LHP’s works and the legacies it continues to create will help ensure we are able to meet these new challenges head on.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Twomey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Dennis Twomey,
CHAIRMAN**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



“By working with local partners, national providers and corporate bodies, we aim to ensure that the Limehouse Project can expand to meet other areas of pressing need.”

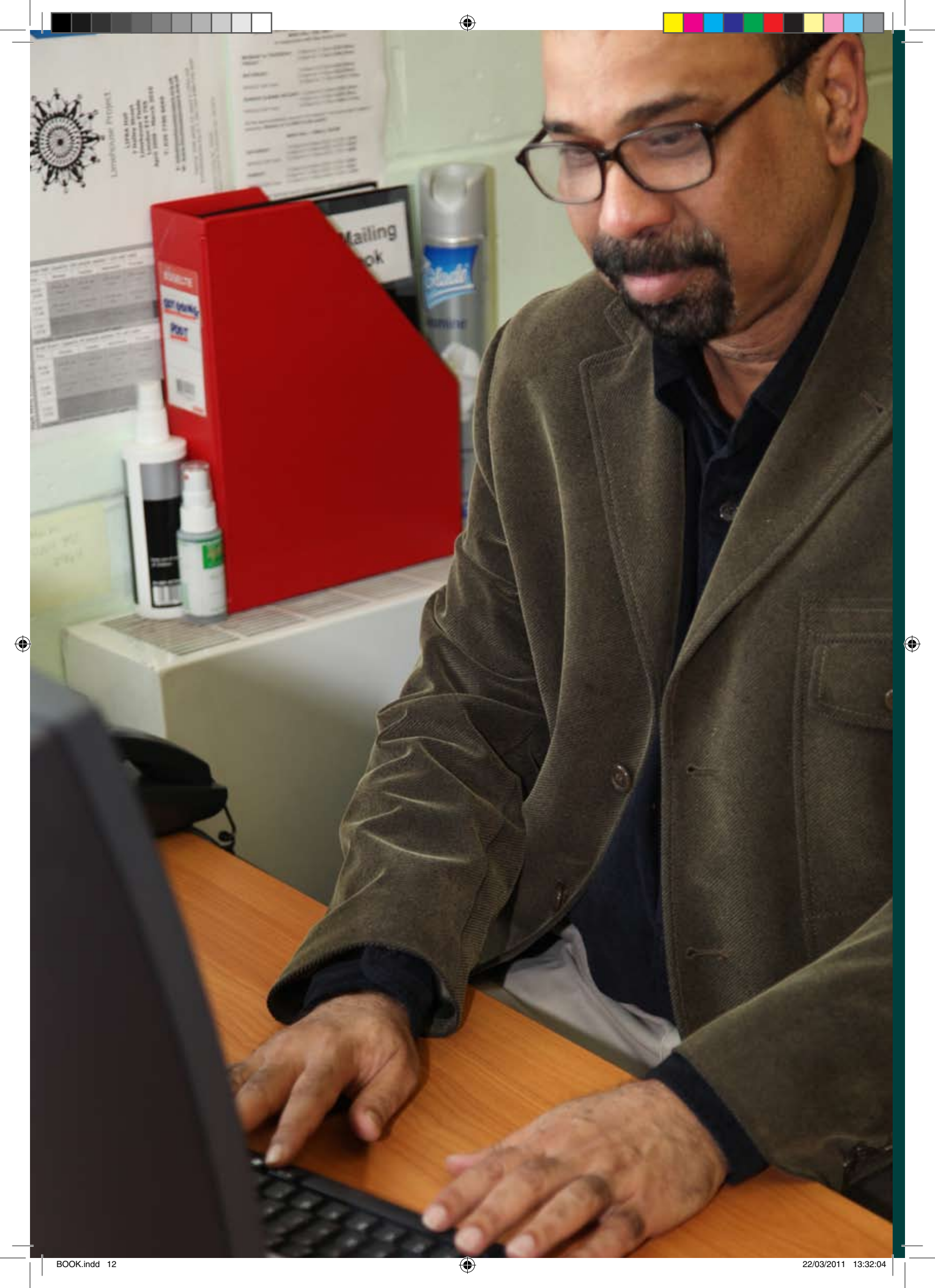
As public jobs, funds and resources are cut, as the cost of living continues to rise and the general instability of the global and national economic climates continue to hit the headlines, there is one all-resounding question which has become the central foundation upon which many of our lives are now based: “What will happen to me / us / my family?”

However, for those of us lucky enough to know of our rights, who are able to function in the wider community, who know who to call for help, who have family or friends who can assist or support us – or are even simply able to speak the English language adequately enough to formulate, fathom and answer this very question, prospects and chances to improve our lot nevertheless exist. But for those who find themselves at the opposite end of this spectrum, who find themselves trapped in unacceptable conditions of extreme poverty, socio-economic exclusion and who, due to their lack of skills, abilities and therefore pressing lack of confidence, feel unable to access the help to which they have a right, this same question can become an unbearable torment.

That is why organisations like the Limehouse Project continue to strive to help what are now growing pockets of hugely disadvantaged communities who live lives unseen, unheard and therefore often unfathomed by larger, mainstream organisations. Utilising the trust invested in us by the most hardest-to-reach communities and working alongside a wide range of local and national bodies, our aim is a simple one: to ensure we can supply local people with the tools they need to become active, flourishing members of our wider communities.

As Director of the Limehouse Project, I am immensely proud of the works this organisation continues to deliver upon year in, year out and look forward to meeting the challenges which lie ahead with those partners we continue to work with. I also look forward to forging new links with those bodies who, like us, believe that there is no greater investment to be made for the long-term socio-economic prosperity of this country, than investing in the potential of a human being.

**Farida Yesmin,
DIRECTOR**





OUR ADVICE SERVICE





ADVICE SERVICES

Our Advice Team works to ensure that people and families in extreme poverty have access to the advice, help and guidance they need to cope with the challenges they face in their daily lives.

OUR GENERAL ADVICE SERVICES

The Limehouse Project receives clients stemming from a wide spectrum of cultures and ethnicities from both the local and neighbouring London boroughs. The problems that are brought to us can therefore vary from simple requests for more information about local services, schools, legal and financial entitlements and general advice, to long-term cases involving highly vulnerable adults such as those with disabilities or the elderly, entire families or vulnerable adolescents. Our main areas of works thus encompass a wide scope of issues including:

- Welfare benefits
- Housing
- Immigration
- Education
- Debt
- Financial Inclusion
- Health and welfare
- Domestic Violence / Abuse
- Marital breakdown / Divorce
- Social care

“ Without my adviser, I would honestly be lost. It is thanks to her that I have the confidence I need to move on in my life, be a good mother and not be afraid anymore... ”

Anonymous client, December 2010





The Advice Service makes a significant contribution to the prevention and early intervention agenda. As a deliverer of holistic support, our advisers actively refer clients for training and employment initiatives to enhance the development of their skills and self-confidence so they may take the steps they need to progress out of poverty.



OUR STRENGTHS

TRUST

One of the strongest tools of communication the Limehouse Project has in ensuring local and wider communities hear of, and thus approach us for assistance independently, is **word of mouth**. Our presence in the Limehouse area of Tower Hamlets for over 26 years and our ongoing success in delivering projects and programmes through **bilingual staff** to thousands of members belonging to some of the hardest-to-reach communities in East London, ensures that we have the **trust** and thus the engagement capacities required to meet approaches made to us by those who rarely voice their struggles.

IMPECCABLE NETWORKS

For those of our clients who require **specialist services**, the Limehouse Project is also able to offer a wide network of **local partners and providers** with whom we work, as well as accept referrals from. From the Tower Hamlets Law Centre to local GP centres to schools and colleges and social solicitors, we work hard to ensure that the advice needs of our clients are accurately identified before being acted upon to be met.

EASY TO REACH

We know just how difficult it can be for less able or vulnerable people to access services which are deemed far or expensive to travel to. That's why as well as delivering our services through **three key locations** across Limehouse, our specialist debt and health advisors can be also be found at a number of **local GP centres** and **housing estates**.

TIME

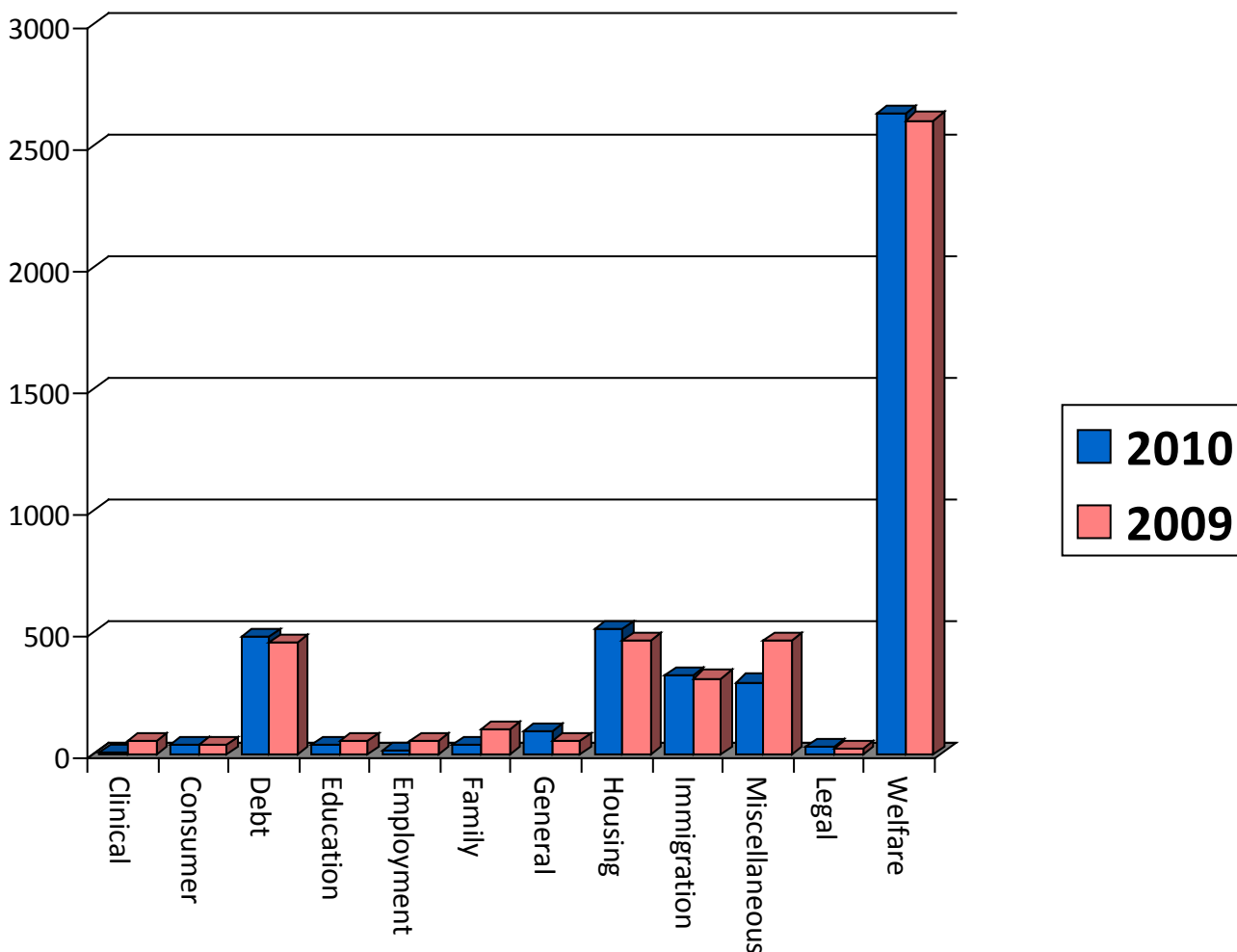
There is nothing worse when asking for help, than feeling as if you are being rushed through the door. At the Limehouse Project, **we do not set limits on how much help or guidance our clients are "permitted" to receive** – we are here for them for as long, or as short, a time as they need.



THE TRENDS AND STATISTICS FOR OUR GENERAL ADVICE SERVICE, 2010

It is unsurprising that during the course of two particularly turbulent financial years for many of our clients, our Advice Team has seen a steady growth in approaches made by clients experiencing financial difficulties. As well as facing obstacles in receiving those benefits to which they are entitled or being unable to pay debts due to recent unemployment, the most prominent concerns have centred upon finding aid and support unexpectedly withdrawn. In such circumstances, each of our trained adviser's work with clients on a one-to-one basis to help reinstate due benefits, help them understand their rights or simply enable them to make decisions for themselves. Where required, clients are also given the opportunity to join and partake of our Financial Inclusion or numeracy classes so that they may better manage their finances independently for the future, and in so doing, maintain long-term financial stability.

Cases Opened by LHP General Advice Service, 2009 and 2010



During the course of 2010, our Advice Services dealt with the queries of 5,500 clients, of which 2,637 enquiries related to Welfare Benefits advice, 513 related to housing and 484 concerned debt issues.

SOME OF OUR OTHER ADVICE PROJECTS...

As well as providing general advice services, our Advice Team work with neighbouring partners and providers to deliver the following programmes:

FAMILIES TOGETHER

AIM: To prevent the escalation of familial, financial and other problems that leads to the social exclusion of local peoples by helping local parents develop the skills, self-confidence and knowledge they need to effectively improve their lives.

METHOD: By making good quality, free advice easily accessible through extensive contact points, whilst also acting as a referral body to encourage parents into local training and employment initiatives.

PARTNERS: Key relationships in place with schools, community centres, local groups and providers such as the Children's Centre.

TO DATE: 57 families have been registered onto the project, from which:

- 31 have been referred to "ESOL Pathway to Childcare" at Bromley By Bow Centre (BBBC);
- 7 have been referred to Family Learning at BBBC;
- 7 have been referred to LHP's own Passenger Assistance Course;
- 4 have been referred to Open Doors; and
- 7 have been referred to Poplar Harca for Employment Advice.

1,250 clients helped through our Advice & Health Link project.

284 families assisted in dealing with complex family matters including domestic violence, through our Family Support Initiative.

210 individuals with long-term health problems assisted through our Persistent Pain Service.

TOWER HAMLETS HOME PROJECT

AIM: To aid and assist those facing rent and service charge arrears thus minimising the threat to their properties and maximising THH's ability to collect rent and service charge payments.

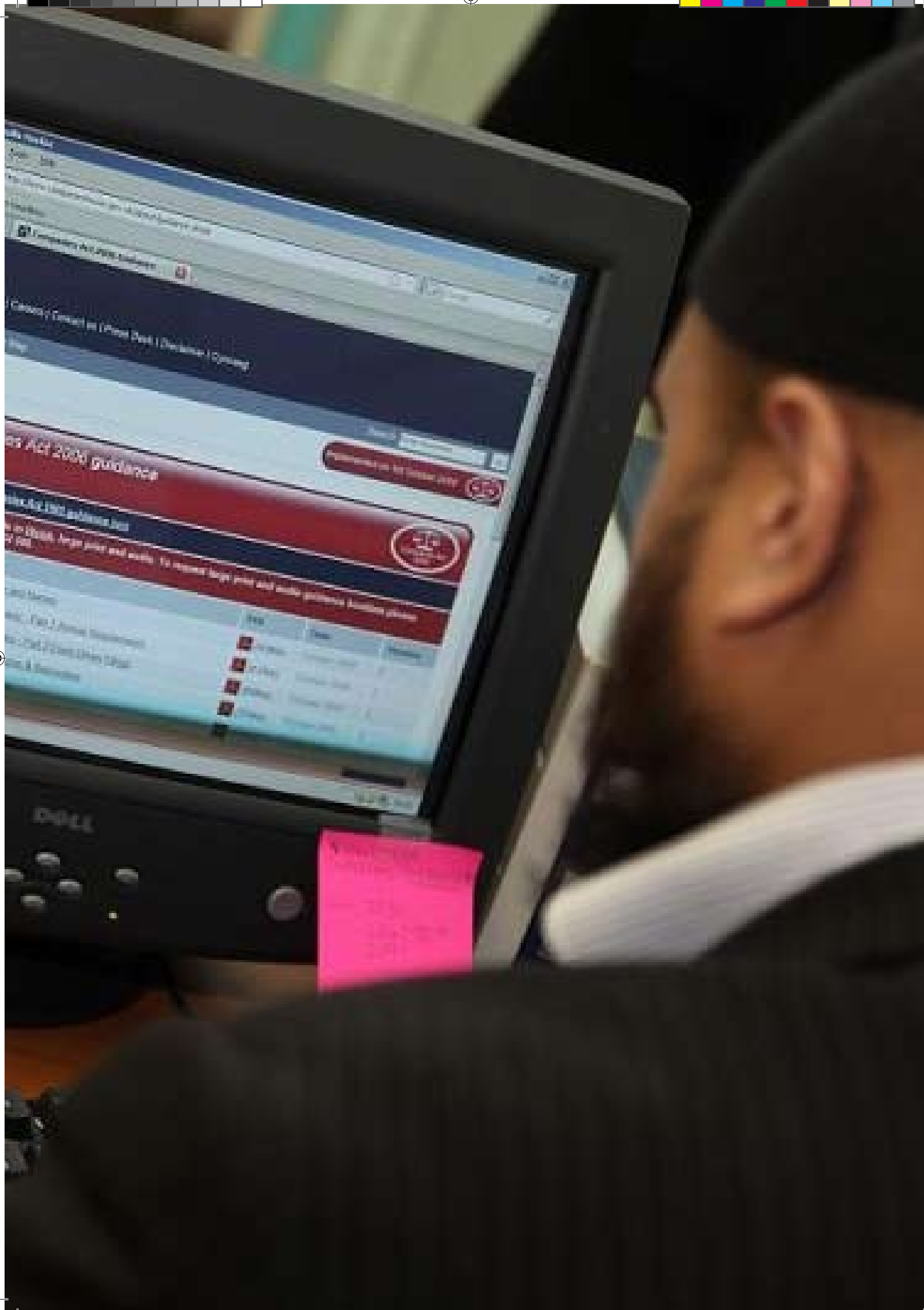
METHOD: Working with Tower Hamlets Homes for Rent Income Collection and leaseholder Team Officers, clients are referred to us for assistance with their arrears. Specialist advice/assistance is provided with a view to maximising tenants and leaseholders' incomes, making applications for relevant benefits and helping them deal with multiple debt problems.

PARTNERS: Tower Hamlets Homes.

TO DATE: 120 individuals have been assisted with their rent arrears which, in some cases, totalled over £4,000.

“I came here and found people who were willing to listen and help. It changed my life.”

M. Khanom, client, June 2010





**OUR TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES**

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT (T&D)

Our Training & Development Team support socially marginalised and economically inactive local people gain access to learning and work opportunities, whilst also delivering a wide range of essential life-skills and recreational projects aimed at enhancing active community participation.

OUR T&D SERVICES

Offering assistance with accessing mainstream training and employment opportunities to those who would otherwise feel incapable of doing so on their own, our T&D team have assisted hundreds of people aged 16+ to realise their personal ambitions and begin to make their way towards longed-for objectives. From helping entire families understand how to work together and support one another's aspirations, to helping individuals build up their skills, experiences and knowledge so as to heighten their chances of obtaining a paid and stable position of work, the T&D team are responsible for meeting some of the most complex and urgent skills needs of minority communities throughout Tower Hamlets and beyond.

Following the success and ongoing demand for its core projects, 2010 saw a continuation of many of the support services introduced by the T&D team in previous years, as well as the introduction of a number of new initiatives aimed at encouraging young people and women in particular, into new activities and community roles. These include:

POPLAR WORKS

This partnership initiative, led by the Limehouse Project and partnered by Poplar HARCA, the Bromley By Bow Centre (BBBC), East Potential and South Bromley Forum, delivered a number of engagement, job search, training, and employment services to families across the borough. Between its launch in April 2008 and its end in September 2010, the project achieved the following outputs:

- ▶ **1,094** Family Focused Engagements;
- ▶ **838** Action Plans completed;
- ▶ **761** IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) provided;
- ▶ **524** CV's completed;
- ▶ **473** Employability & Job Search support services given;
- ▶ **210** achieved a sustainable employment outcome.
- ▶ **119** Benefit Calculations/ Better- Off Calculation completed;
- ▶ **70** completed the Healthy Lifestyles Programme;
- ▶ **60** completed a three weeks course 'Open Doors';
- ▶ **29** completed the Health Promotion Volunteers Level 2;
- ▶ **15** individuals completed Construction Training (NVQ1); and
- ▶ **12** individuals completed ELBA Training Programmes.



PASSENGER ASSISTANT TRAINING (PAT) PROGRAMME

Having noticed an ongoing gap in the employment and training of BAME women for job opportunities within the Tower Hamlets Community Transport Services (THCTS), the LHP successfully delivered a tailor-made Training-to-Work Programme where, in partnership with THCTS, **15 local BAME women aged between 18-40, were trained over the course of 1 year for the role of Passenger Assistants.** Through this training programme, women progressed from learning the basic skills of how to speak and communicate with different

members of the public, write reports and handle manuals, to knowing how to assess job opportunities, conduct themselves in interviews and communicate with future / employers. Women on the course obtained a generic Care Work qualifications with which to progress into other caring professions of their choice. Following the successful training of 15 women, 9 of whom obtained employment with the THCTS, the LHP will be re-delivering this project to 30 women from September 2010.

WOMEN'S LIFEGUARD & FOOTBALL COACHING TRAINING PROGRAMMES

London's bid to host the Olympics games flamed hopes for BAME women desirous of participating in popular sports and gaining wider access to sporting activities. However, many young people and particularly young women with children, remain deprived of access to free sports activities after school leaving age – an unmet need which not only lowers morale and confidence particularly amongst BAME women, but which can also heighten feelings of social exclusion, boredom and lead to health problems in later life. In addition to this primary problem, the LHP became aware through a number of surveys of the very real difficulties young BAME women faced in training for the position of female coaches, whilst simultaneously, many young women felt barred from sports due to the lack of female coaches available. In addition to such concerns, there also appeared to be a glaring lack of sports

programmes sensitive to the cultural and religious needs of young BAME women. As a result of these findings, LHP partnered with Greenwich Leisure Ltd. (GLL), the Muslim Women's Collective and Tower Hamlets council to launch two new sports training programmes aimed at young BAME women specifically - the LHP Lifeguard Training programme and the LHP Football Coach Training programme. Registration for the football coaching programme immediately exceeded available places and **led to 30 qualified female football coaches, whilst LHP's Lifeguard Training programme, launched in October 2009, has seen 48 women take part in assessment workshops and complete a 3-month training programme.**



LHP clients partaking of an exam as part of employment training works with Carrillion,

EXTENDED SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Working across LAPs 3&4, 5&6 and 7&8, this programme delivered adult learning and engagement provisions for parents with children going to schools in these LAP areas. Working alongside local primary and secondary schools, it brought services directly into the schools so parents who would not normally visit community centres could easily engage with adult learning in a setting they were familiar

with and which were in easy distance to their homes. The programme has **assisted over 100 parents gain ESOL qualifications and move on to further training or employment opportunities.**

The success of this programme means that we continue to deliver classes despite funding for ESOL programmes having been substantially cut by national, and therefore local, government.

CCAP-JOB BROKERAGE SERVICE

Funded by the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF), this programme specifically aimed to reach out to long-term unemployed residents and hard-to-reach individuals who do not, or cannot, access mainstream services. A comprehensive package of information, advice and guidance was offered to each client inclusive of:

- ▶ **A full assessment** of the skills and experience already possessed;
- ▶ **Access** to impartial, realistic and up-to-date advice and guidance;

- ▶ **Identification and removal** of barriers faced prior to entering or accessing training or employment opportunities; and
- ▶ Development of a **comprehensive databank detailing local skills** for comparison with those required by the local labour market.

During the course of 2010, this service supported 25 unemployed residents into sustainable employment.

COMMUNITY HUB PROGRAMME

Established 5 years ago, this successful initiative encouraged local communities to actively participate in their skills development training with a view to progressing into employment. The LHP was allocated a Community Hub for the LAP (Local Area Partnership) 4 area in London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Working closely with a large number of service providers through the

establishments of a number of referral arrangements, the project helped:

- ▶ Support **53** people access further education and training opportunities;
- ▶ **18** people into employment; and
- ▶ **150** people complete a viable Action Plan.

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

In an effort to address the severe under-representation of older Bangladeshi and Somali women in public life, the LHP launched a two-year borough-wide women's Community Champions project. Funded by Esmeé Fairbairn and working in partnership with such voluntary sector organisations as Stitches in Time, Lay Magistrates, PCT non-executive Directors and other social leaders, the Community Volunteering Programme aims to **identify, support and develop 10 BAME women, aged 45+ to act as Community Champions and consequently increase the number of other BAME women aged 45+ involved in/partaking of volunteering activities across the**

Borough. The 10 women will be selected from the 24 women who are currently being provided with 260 hours of training through the form of weekly sewing classes; weekly ESOL classes held at a variety of sites across the Borough; workshop activities led by NGO managers and staff, Lay Magistrates, PCT Non-Executive Directors and School Governors; excursions to local community sites and attractions; Healthy Living classes; 'Female-friendly' sports activities; gardening activities; exhibitions of works completed and volunteering opportunities at local organisations and schools. Each Champion will be assisted further with the engaging and mentoring of a further 5 BAME women aged 45+ in volunteering throughout the Borough for each year of the Programme.

“The Limehouse Project's [works] with Carrillion and Tesco to help them recruit local people is an example of the value of the Third Sector in helping to tackle unemployment in the Borough.”

*Lutfur Rahman, Mayor of Tower Hamlets,
November 2010*





OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES



OUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

As well as training local people for specific career roles and helping to rejuvenate the wider economy, all profits generated by the Limehouse Project's three social enterprises are re-invested back into launching new projects which will support, strengthen and develop our local communities.

WHAT IS A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE?

The government defines social enterprises as *"businesses with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community, rather than being driven by the need to maximise profit for shareholders and owners."*

What this means in simpler terms, is that all profits made by our social enterprise companies goes directly back into creating, launching and delivering those projects needed most by our local communities. So, whether that means using the money to continue much needed education or training programmes, launching new projects, investing money in enhancing community spaces or simply ensuring that we give local families, children and the elderly new opportunities for personal development, we strive to make sure that every penny benefits the many different groups of people who make up our wider community.

During the course of 2010, the Limehouse Project has worked to develop the following of its social enterprises:



STAR ANISE

Star Anise is a gourmet event catering company offering simple, affordable catering solutions to both the corporate and private event sectors in East London. From relaxed family occasions and large-scale weddings to working lunch buffets and canapé receptions, it combines a healthy approach to food with exceptional service geared to meet the specific needs, visions – and pockets – of each and every client.

With a team comprised of trained chefs and local volunteers, Star Anise will soon be launching a cafe of its own at the Limehouse Project's new office premises in Harford Street.

www.staranise.org.uk



SILKWORKS

Creating one-of-a-kind couture Asian outfits for both men and women, SilkWorks is a tailoring company offering an array of traditional and contemporary styles, specifically cut and designed to clients needs and visions by locally trained tailors and seamstresses.

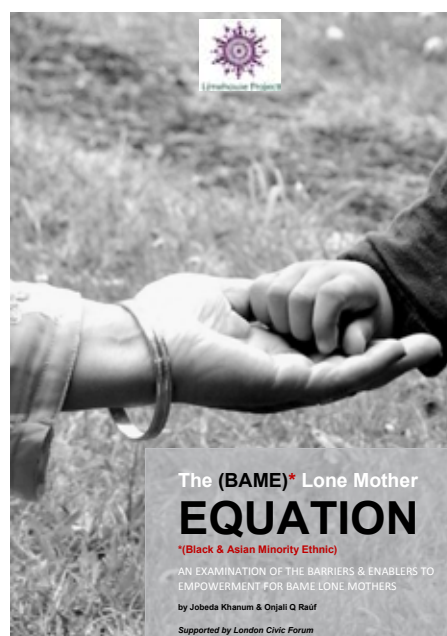
Its expert tailors and designers also offer a range of quick alteration and repair services as well as tailoring courses designed to help local women enhance their existing cutting, sewing and tailoring skills.

www.silkworks.org.uk

THE LIMEHOUSE PROJECT RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Research and analysis has always been an integral aspect of the Limehouse Project's works, development and growth, helping us to better understand the underlying causes of poverty, unemployment, substance abuse, domestic violence etc. which, whether individually or combined, serves to impede our clients from working towards their aspirations. As a result, both our Advice and our Training and Development (T&D) teams specialise in conducting primary and secondary research before and during the delivery of specific programmes to ensure the success of outreach works which target often hard-to-reach audiences.

During 2010, the Limehouse Research Agency took on its first official study investigating the barriers to empowerment for Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) lone mothers. Sponsored by the National Empowerment Partnership (NEP) and the London Civic Forum (LCF), the resulting paper entitled The (BAME) Lone Mother Equation is due or national release following Mother's Day in April 2011.





FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FOR 2010

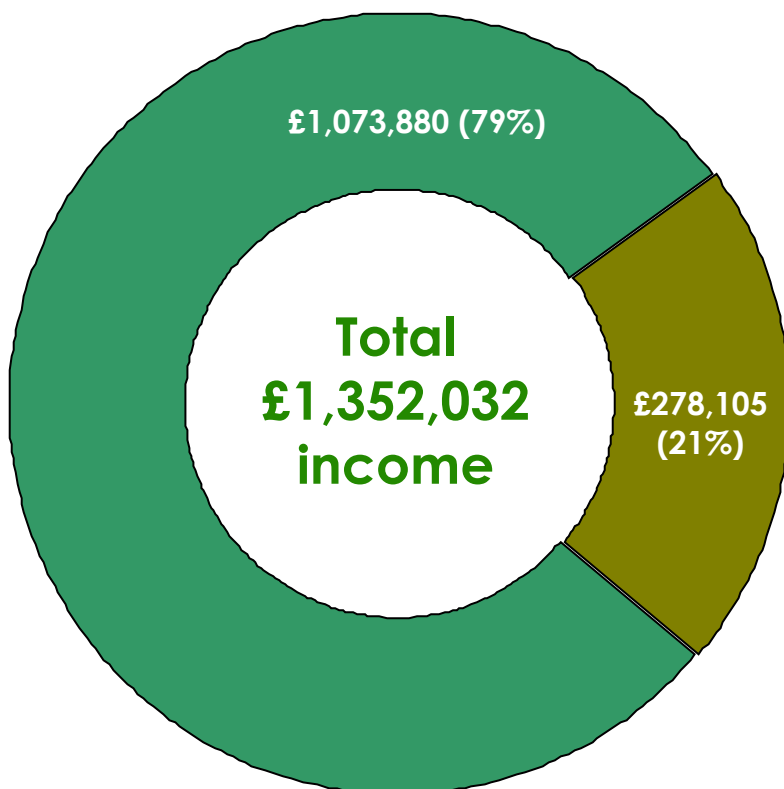
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Due to the difficult state of the national economic climate in which we now find ourselves, 2010 proved to be a challenging year for the Limehouse Project. Expenditure plans were adjusted to manage the impact of significant local budget cuts and constraints on income in relation to education and training programmes in particular. However, a continued and carefully managed surplus allows for the LHP to be able to move forward with its works in the knowledge that we are still able to deliver core services despite reduced resources.

BALANCE AS AT 31st MARCH 2010

With increasingly limited resources and funding insecurities experienced by grant-funded organisations such as the Limehouse Project, the planning and development of long-term services continue to pose challenges. However, with the aid of sound financial management and the support of our staff and volunteers, we have continued to generate a positive financial outcome over the course of 2010, seeing a net increase in funds of just over £100,000.

INCOME



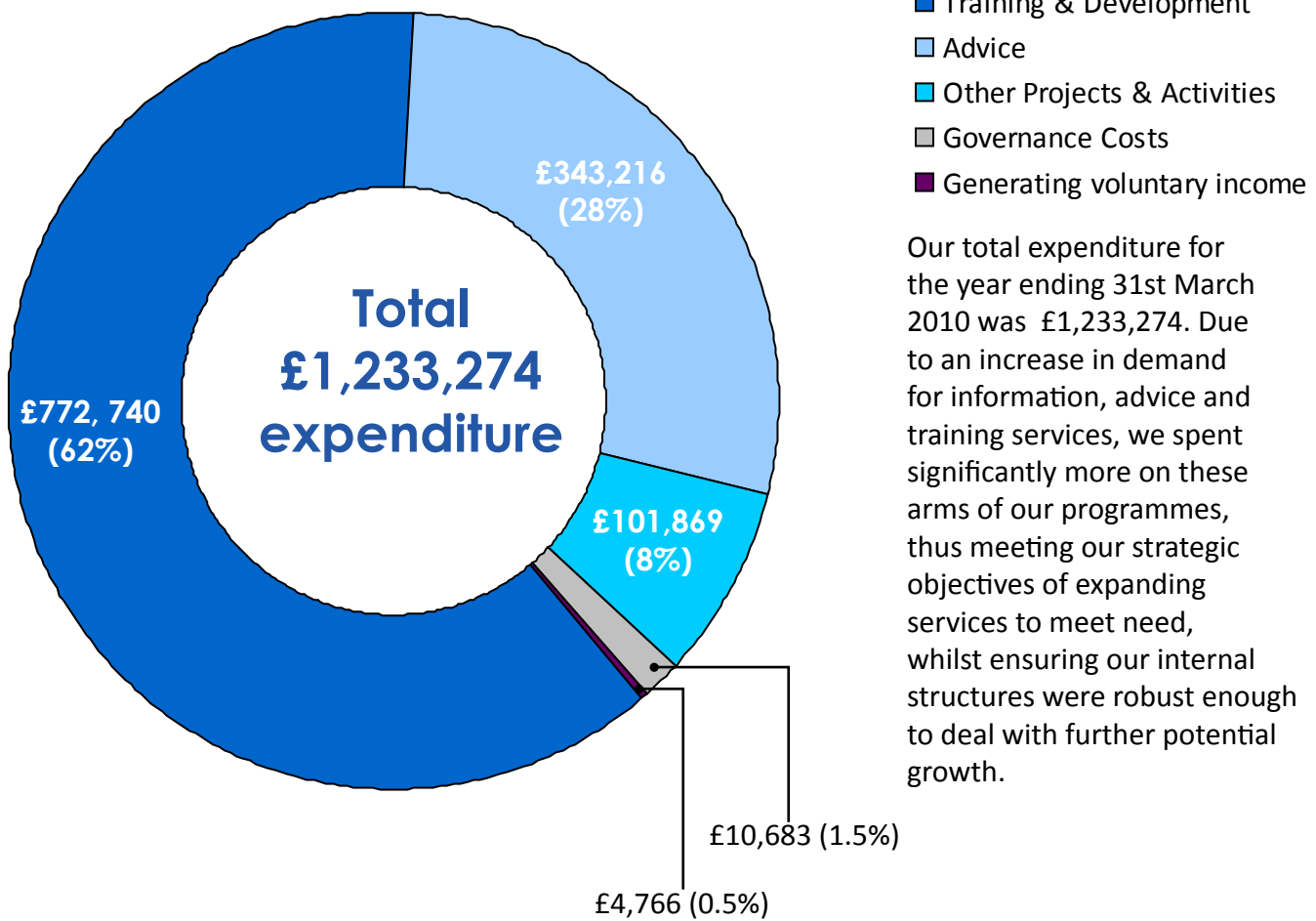
WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM

- Donations & Grants
- Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

Our total income for the year ending 31st March 2010 was £1,352,032. Our main source of income was through donations and grants awarded for set programmes by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets – our most generous funders, with smaller donations awarded by the Big Lottery, the City Parochial Foundation, the Esmee Fairbairn Trust and others.

EXPENDITURE

HOW WE SPENT OUR MONEY



Our total expenditure for the year ending 31st March 2010 was £1,233,274. Due to an increase in demand for information, advice and training services, we spent significantly more on these arms of our programmes, thus meeting our strategic objectives of expanding services to meet need, whilst ensuring our internal structures were robust enough to deal with further potential growth.

This financial information has been extracted from the full, published financial statements, which have been audited by John Green & Co Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors. The full financial statements are available from the Limehouse Project or from Companies House, www.companieshouse.gov.uk/compdetails.





OUR OUTLOOK FOR 2011 – 2012



OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2011

We will strive to ensure that the Limehouse Project remains a strong, agile and effective organisation by continuing to help marginalized communities across Tower Hamlets and beyond, overcome old and new challenges alike.

The Limehouse Project – like so many other organisations across the country, faces particularly challenging times ahead. From economic instability to the emergence of new problems being faced by more and more members of our communities, 2011 is a year in which the forging of new relationships with old corporate and government bodies, will prove crucial to the well-being of the thousands of clients we serve. Our priorities and strategic aims for both 2011 and 2012 thus include the following:

1. TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND REACH OF OUR PROGRAMMES

By strengthening our internal working frameworks and forging new partnerships with local and national partners and providers, the Limehouse Project will build upon its strong foundation of community development works to extend the outreach capacities of all our programmes. One key way we will action this aim will be to update our policy position in line with our research works around key areas including education, health, women's rights and basic economic security, thereby building a strong basis from which to advocate long-term change.

2. TO RAISE THE RESOURCES WE NEED TO EXPAND OUR WORKS

With sharp decreases in government funding already effectively ending many local and national community programmes, it is crucial that the Limehouse Project works to become as independently viable an organisation as is possible within the current economic climate. To do this, we have already begun work on clarifying the roles of our internal team members as well as our

Management Committee in relation to attracting new income streams and partnerships, whilst developing new and simpler ways to reach out to supporters through the utilization of new media and social networking opportunities. Throughout 2011, we will also be continuing to invest in our social enterprise arms so as to enable more substantial profits to be re-invested back into much needed local projects.

3. TO REACH OUT TO YOUNGER COMMUNITIES IN NEED

As welfare benefits, student grants and local assets such as libraries are cut, stripped and closed, new communities in desperate need of guidance and comprised of younger peoples have already begun to emerge. Taking into account the particular difficulties women and young people from BAME backgrounds face in voicing their worries, concerns and needs, the Limehouse Project will be launching special advice services in partnership with local schools and colleges, as well launching new employment training programmes to reach out to these particularly vulnerable members of our society.



4. TO UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL OF OLDER WOMEN

In an effort to address the severe under-representation of older Bangladeshi and Somali women in public life, the Limehouse Project launched a number of successful initiatives aimed at encouraging older women to contribute to local community works. Our borough-wide Community Champions project and our Community Kitchen initiatives, delivered in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations such as Stitches in Time, Lay Magistrates and other social leaders, have proven that there is a dire need and a willingness on the part of older women to play an active part in the well-being of their local communities. We therefore hope to continue these works as well as launch more long-term volunteer based skills training opportunities for the many elderly women who currently remain socially excluded and therefore severely isolated.

5. TO OBTAIN A PERMANENT LOCATION FROM WHICH TO DELIVER OUR SERVICES

It has long been one of the Limehouse Project's objectives to obtain a permanent location from which to deliver a wider

range of services and activities than is currently possible at our present restrictive premises. The pressing need for a long-term, secure community hub in the Limehouse area of Tower Hamlets is one which has long been voiced by both our clients and our local partners: to that end, during the course of 2011 and 2012, the Limehouse Project will be working alongside the Borough's council as well as national funding bodies, corporations and Trusts, to secure a location of adequate enough space and functionality from which to deliver our future works.

6. TO LAUNCH THE LIMEHOUSE DAYCARE CENTRE

With the call for parents to return to work or training earlier than anticipated, affordable, easy-to-reach and trusted childcare facilities are desperately needed by local parents. In order to meet this specific demand, the Limehouse Project will be working to open its very own DayCare Centre during the course of 2011 for local parents. As a new social enterprise, all profits will be re-invested back into our community projects, whilst offering a safe and entrusted environment for children up to age of 6.





AND FINALLY...



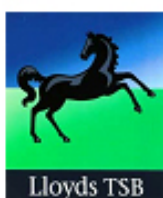
...OUR SINCEREST THANKS TO:

OUR FUNDERS

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Tower Hamlets Extended Schools Services
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OUR PARTNERS / PROJECT SUPPORTERS

Bromley By Bow Centre
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Community Matters
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East Potential
J-Go
London Civic Forum
Poplar HARCA
TH Ocean Housing Programme
National Empowerment Partnership
Stitches in Time
Tesco's





OUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Antonia Osborne
Shaiek Ahmed
Luthfa Miah
Shapu Miah

OUR TEAMS

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Anthony Kungu (Finance Officer)
Rohini Khanum

THE ADVICE TEAM

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Golam Ershad Ali
Rima Begum
Rita Begum
Fatema Talukder
Shahanara Chowdhury
Runea Rahman

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Sufia Begum
Jusna Ali

OUR VOLUNTEERS

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