

Manchester Jewish Community Project

Executive Summary Phase One

By the Centre for Voluntary Action Research

Introduction

This is an Executive Summary of the Centre for Voluntary Action Research Final Report on Phase One of the Manchester Jewish Community Project (MJCP).

The principal aim of Phase One of the MJCP was:

To identify current and future demographic trends (including social needs) within the Jewish community in key local authority areas in and around Manchester¹ and to consider current and future voluntary sector provision.

The majority of the data presented in the report is taken directly from the standard tables of the 2001 Census datasets published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The analysis of relevant Census data for the Manchester area was carried out specifically for the MJCP and has not been published up to now. Other information in this report is derived from earlier relevant research work and was taken from the Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR) database and data held by the Board of Deputies. Where relevant, reference is also made to findings from JPR's sample surveys of Jews in London and the South-east, and in Leeds.

Population estimate for the Manchester Jewish Community

The 2001 UK decennial Census asked, for the first time, about people's religion through a voluntary question. This yielded the most accurate, thorough and comprehensive dataset regarding UK Jews ever assembled. It gives, in unparalleled detail, a sharp and authoritative socio-economic image of the Greater Manchester Jewish Population (GMJP). However, as it was the very first opportunity to gather comprehensive data about the Jewish population of the Greater Manchester (GM) area, we can only speculate about trends; that is, how the community has changed in recent years and, therefore, what the future is likely to hold.

The data presented in this report only cover the population of those Jews who identified themselves as Jews in response to the voluntary question in the Census form on religion. On this basis the Census recorded the Greater Manchester Jewish Population to be 21,733, living in 8,615 households.

It should be noted that this figure needs to be treated with a degree of caution. First, there have been concerns about the level of enumeration which took place for the Census within the Manchester area. The Office for National Statistics, which was responsible for overseeing the exercise, has undertaken further work with some local authorities, including Manchester, resulting in a revised population estimate for Manchester some 26,000 higher than the Census figure. This upwards revision would add a maximum of 500 Jews to current figures. Second, not all Jews who were enumerated would have decided to disclose their religion; although we do not know the characteristics of Jewish non-respondents to the question on religion nor whether non-respondent Jews were equally distributed by geography, gender and other characteristics.

Therefore, while the Census has provided the most detailed information yet about the profile of the Jewish community and is incapable of being improved upon without undertaking a specially commissioned survey of the GMJP (which itself could not guarantee more reliability), it probably gives an under-count of the Jewish population.

¹ Manchester, Salford, Bury, Trafford and Stockport

The judgement which needs to be made is the *extent* to which the Census undercounts the size of the GMJP. Surveys carried out by JPR in London and Leeds subsequent to the Census indicate that a more accurate figure for the Greater Manchester Jewish Population would be between 23,100 and 27,200.

We recognise that even an adjusted figure of 27,200 may fall short of some people's expectations and their impressions of the actual size of the GMJP. However, other approaches to population estimates - some of which have had to be used in the past in the absence of census data - would be very unlikely to yield a more accurate figure. For example:

- School rolls can only provide figures for the number of school-age Jewish children attending Jewish schools; they do not cover all the number of school-age Jewish children attending non-Jewish schools. Consequently, school rolls can only provide, at best, incomplete data.
- Earlier research by JPR into the use of synagogue records for population estimates revealed that the available data were generally patchy and unreliable². Membership itself can be fluid and records are not consistently maintained and updated. Therefore, the use of synagogue records to determine estimated population size for the GMJP is inadvisable.
- Other non-Census sources of data on the GMJP have their own shortcomings. For example, although the household size of the (small) sample used in the Broughton Park survey³ tallies reasonably well with the relevant Census data, the age distribution of the population studied does not. In the study sample, there is not a single person over the age of 60; yet in the three wards in which it is agreed that most of the strictly orthodox Jews live, the Census found several hundred people over 75. Projections based on this sample are therefore unlikely to be reliable given how unrepresentative it is.

In sum, whilst an adjusted upper estimate of 27,200 for the Greater Manchester Jewish Population may fall short of some people's expectations, it is based on the most reliable and complete dataset currently available.

² Waterman S and Kosmin B (1986) *British Jewry in the Eighties: A Statistical and Geographical Guide* (London) Board of Deputies of British Jews

³ Holman C and Holman N (2003) *The Orthodox Jewish community in 'Broughton Park'*

Parts One and Two: Overview

In Parts One and Two of this report we present an analysis of data on the GMJP from the 2001 Census and other sources.

The image of the Jewish population of Greater Manchester portrayed by the Census is a 'snapshot' of the population as it was on 29 April 2001. Like all snapshots, its frame is frozen in time. All the same, it provides a picture which is unparalleled in its detail and scope. Until now, demographic data about British Jews has had to be based on local sample surveys and estimates extrapolated from partial data collected for administrative purposes such as school enrolment or synagogue membership. The 2001 Census was the first to include a question on religion and to provide, therefore, an opportunity to analyse the characteristics of the whole Jewish population of specific geographical areas such as Greater Manchester.

The emerging overall picture for the Manchester area is one of a successful, vibrant Jewish population. Compared with the ambient population of GM, it is healthier, better educated, and better housed. Stable, 'traditional' family structures are the predominant household type. There are more students, more professionals and more white-collar workers, as well as more people in senior employment positions than among the ambient population. Geographically, it is tightly knit and it is well served by a plethora of voluntary organisations.

However, within this bright positive image, the data indicate the potential incidence of poverty and dependency within some significant pockets of vulnerable or deprived households and individuals (particularly the young and the elderly).

For example:

- There are 1,692 Jewish pensioners living in single-person households in GM; proportionately, this is 12 percentage points higher than the equivalent figure among the general population
- Almost one in five (4,026) people have a limiting long-term illness; 54 per cent of this group are aged 65 and above
- Compared with the general population, the proportion of Jews in residential care homes is far greater (22 per cent versus 37 per cent, respectively).
- There are 764 Jewish dependent children living in households that lack access to at least one car.
- There are 300 Jewish dependent children living in overcrowded accommodation.
- There are 461 Jewish dependent children living in households in which no adults are in employment.

Two-thirds (14,215 people) of GM's Jewish population live in just 10 contiguous wards, which straddle the boundaries of the three local authority districts of Bury, Salford and Manchester. The data suggest a significantly higher concentration and "clustering" of social need in this Northern part of Greater Manchester than in the relatively more affluent Southern districts of Trafford and Stockport. This point is reinforced by the socio-economic class categorisation which shows a clear divide between the Northern districts (in particular Salford which has the lowest proportion of 'higher managerial' people) and the two Southern GM districts of Stockport and Trafford, both of which have three times the regional average proportion of 'higher managerial' positions, considerably more than the other LADs.

Parts One and Two: Key Findings

Inventory of organisations and trusts

- An estimated 414 financially independent organisations constitute the Jewish voluntary sector of Greater Manchester (GM)
- An estimated 44 of these organisations are grant making trusts of which half were founded during the 1990s
- Of the remaining c. 370 financially independent organisations, (where data were available), 93 are related to social/recreational activities and a further 88 to educational/welfare activities.

Geography

Geography – the Jewish population distribution

- The 2001 Census recorded the GM Jewish population to be 21,733, living in 8,615 households
- Subsequent surveys carried out by JPR in London and Leeds indicated that 21,733 Jewish people is probably an undercount and that a figure of between 23,100 and 27,200 is closer to reality
- We do not know the characteristics of those who chose not to answer the question on religion.

Geography Level 1 – Metropolitan County Level

- GM's Jews are 8.2 per cent of the total UK Jewish (Census) population of 266,740 people
- GM's Jews form less than 1 per cent of GM's general (Census) population of 2,482,328 people.

Geography Level 2 – Local Authority Districts

- Over 97 per cent of the Jews in GM live in five out of the ten local authority districts in GM: Bury, Salford, Manchester, Trafford and Stockport
- Jews do not exceed even 5 per cent of any local authority district's total population.

Geography Level 3 – Wards

- Only 24 out of the 214 wards in GM recorded 100 or more Jewish residents
- More than half of GM's total Jewish population lives in only five of the 214 wards; three quarters live in only 13 wards
- Despite this overwhelming concentration, the Jewish population does not approach a majority in any single ward. There are only four wards (Kersal, Sedgley, Pilkington Park and St. Mary's) in which Jews reach even 10 per cent of the ward total population.

Geography Level 4 – Output Areas

- There are 8,358 Output Areas (OAs) in GM (each with around 125 households); over a quarter of all GM's Jewish population lives in just 23 of these Output Areas
- Half of GM's Jewish population lives in just 0.81 per cent of its 8,358 Output Areas. In comparison, half the Jews in Greater London live in 3.55 per cent of the OAs, in Leeds they are in 1.93 per cent. The Jews in GM are thus more highly concentrated.

The Manchester-Salford-Bury core concentration

- Two-thirds (14,215 people) of GM's Jewish population live in just 10 contiguous wards, which straddle the boundaries of the three local authority districts of Bury, Salford and Manchester
- The administrative/political boundaries rarely coincide with the actual Jewish population distribution 'on the ground'. This could potentially be detrimental to the ability of Jewish community organisations to attract funding and make strategic decisions, especially when their remit straddles several administrative boundaries.

Demographic Indicators

Age analysis – Metropolitan County Level

- The age profile of GM's Jewish population is relatively young; 23 per cent of Jewish people are aged 0 to 15, compared with 21 per cent for GM's general population. This is particularly unusual, as only 17 per cent of all Jews in England & Wales are in this age group
- There are 5,685 Jewish dependent children in GM comprising 26 per cent of the Jewish population. Of these, 1,515 are aged 0 to 4 years and 3,564 aged 5 to 15
- Compared with the general population of GM aged between 20 and 44 years old, there are 22 per cent fewer Jews of that age group
- The Census recorded 2,526 Jewish people in GM aged 75 years and older, representing 12 per cent of the population; this compares with 7 per cent for the GM general population in this age group.

Age analysis – LAD level

- Half the Jewish population of Salford is aged under 25; Salford has by far the largest proportion of GMJP children aged 0 to 4 and 5 to 15
- Nearly a quarter of the total Jewish population of Broughton ward is aged under 5.

Social indicators

Ethnicity

- Around 1 in 10 (1,797) people recorded by the Census as 'Jews by religion' in GM also wrote 'Jewish' to describe their ethnicity
- 16 per cent (844 people) of Salford's 'Jews by religion' also identified themselves as 'Jews by ethnicity'
- 560 Jews reported that they were not 'White'.

Country of birth

- Of the 2,323 Jews who were non-UK born, almost half are of European origin; a quarter are from the Middle East; 10 per cent are from one of the USA, Canada or South Africa
- 471 Jewish dependent children in GM were born outside of the UK, proportionately, this is 2½ times more than equivalent for the general population of GM.

Household composition

- There are 1,692 Jewish pensioners living in single-person households in GM; this is proportionately 12 percentage points higher than the equivalent figure among the general population
- Compared with the GM general population, GM's Jews are much *less* likely to live as either:
 - cohabiting couples (14% versus 5%, respectively), or
 - as lone parents (19% versus 9%, respectively)They are much *more* likely to live as married-couples with two or more dependent children (30% versus 42%, respectively)
- Compared with the general population, Jewish dependent children are six times less likely to live in 'Cohabiting couple family' households and three times less likely to live in 'Lone parent family' households; however, there are 463 Jewish households with dependent children not conforming to the 'traditional' nuclear structure.

Household tenure

- Compared with the GM general population, Jewish households in GM are:
 - much *more* likely to own their own property (53 per cent versus 80 per cent, respectively), and
 - nearly three times *less* likely to live in 'Social rented' accommodation (24 per cent versus 8 per cent, respectively)
- The home ownership data suggest general affluence, however within the population important differences emerge: for example, in both Trafford and Stockport home ownership levels are 90 per cent or more; but in Salford, by contrast, the proportion is 68 per cent and in Manchester LAD it is less than 60 per cent.

Mobility - Access to private transport

- Compared with the general population, Jewish households in GM are much *more* likely to have access to at least two private cars (24 per cent versus 39 per cent, respectively)
- Nevertheless, one in five (1,839) Jewish households in GM lack access to even one car. Of these, 485 live in social rented accommodation, and 327 live in private rented accommodation
- There are 764 Jewish dependent children living in households that lack access to at least one car.

Overcrowding – the occupancy rating

- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM are much *more* likely to live in the least overcrowded households (42 per cent versus 65 per cent, respectively)
- Nevertheless, there are still 945 Jewish people living in overcrowded households. Two out of five of these live in Salford. In proportionate terms, people living in Manchester LAD are the most likely to experience overcrowding
- 300 Jewish dependent children live in overcrowded accommodation.

Communal establishments

- The census recorded 710 Jewish people living in communal establishments (such as care homes) in GM, more than twice the proportion in the general population. Of these, 413 people were in 'Medical/care establishments'

- Compared with the general population, the proportion of Jews in residential care homes is far greater (22 per cent versus 37 per cent, respectively).

State of health

- Compared with other religious groups, the state of health of Jews in GM is above average. Even so, almost one in five (4,026) people reported having a limiting long-term illness; 54 per cent of this group were aged 65 and above
- Only 41 per cent of Jews, aged 65 and above, living in Stockport or Trafford experienced a limiting long-term illness; the equivalent figure in Bury and Salford was 55 per cent and for Manchester LAD it was 60 per cent.

Economic Indicators

Economic activity

- Compared with the GM general population aged 16 to 24, the 2,430 Jews in GM of this age group are much more likely to be economically *inactive* (37 per cent versus 63 per cent, respectively); of these Jewish people, 90 per cent are students (1,361 people). There are a further 237 economically *active* students
- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM aged 25 and over are:
 - three times more likely to be self-employed (12 per cent versus 30 per cent, respectively) and
 - much less likely to be 'Employees' (83 per cent versus 66 per cent, respectively)
- Compared with the GM general population aged 25 and over, Jews that are economically *inactive*
 - are more likely to be so because they are 'Looking after family/home' (32 per cent versus 46 per cent)
 - are much *less* likely to be 'Permanently sick or disabled' (46 per cent versus 31 per cent, respectively)
- There were 461 Jewish dependent children living in households in which no adults were in employment.

Educational achievement

- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM:
 - aged 16 to 24, are 1.6 times more likely to have gained two or more 'A' Levels
 - aged 35 or above, are twice as likely to have achieved post-graduate and professional qualifications; overall 30 per cent of Jews and 17 per cent of non-Jews have achieved this level
 - are, in every age cohort, *less* likely to have 'No Qualifications' than non-Jews. The mean gap is 13 percentage points per age cohort.

Occupation

- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM aged 16 to 74 are:
 - 2½ times more likely to work in 'Professional Occupations' (accounting for 25 per cent of all 'Jewish' jobs)
 - twice as likely to work as 'Managers and Senior Officials' (accounting for 24 per cent of all 'Jewish' jobs)
 - more likely to work as 'Corporate Managers' (10 per cent versus 18 per cent, respectively)
 - 5½ times more likely to work as 'Health Professionals'
 - almost four times more likely to work as 'Business and Public Service Professionals'

- Conversely, Jews are over 6 times less likely to be 'Process, Plant and Machine Operatives' and 5 times less likely to be in 'Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations'.

Industry

- Almost half of the entire Jewish working population (aged 16 to 74) in GM work in one of two industries: 'Wholesale and retail trade, repairs' or 'Real estate, renting and business activities'
- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM are almost twice as likely to be working in 'Real estate; renting and business activities'.

National Statistics Socio-economic Classification

- 3,355 Jews (25 per cent) in GM are in NS-SeC Category 2⁴ (lower managerial and professional occupations)
- Compared with the general population, Jews in GM aged 16 to 74 are:
 - twice as likely to be in NS-SeC Category 1
 - more than twice as likely to be in 'Higher professional occupations'
 - more likely to be 'Full-time students' (1,721 people) (8 per cent versus 12 per cent, respectively)
- The number of Jewish dependent children living in homes where the household head is in:
 - Category 8 ('Never worked and long term unemployed') is 141
 - Category 7 ('Routine occupations') is 127
 - Category 6 ('Semi-routine occupations') is 190.

Part Three: Key Implications

In Part Three, we draw out some of the possible implications of the data presented in Parts One and Two for the future planning and organisation of welfare and youth services for the GMJP.

Implications for the understanding of social need and for provision of welfare and youth services

The community can be described as existing in a 'social welfare squeeze' because comparatively high proportions of the total population of GMJP are at the two extremes of the age spectrum. The young and elderly are particularly likely to have needs for welfare services. At the same time there are relatively low proportions of the population in the middle age ranges who can support the young and the elderly socially and economically.

In addition, the data indicate pockets of poverty, deprivation and dependency in some geographical areas. In particular, there are wards, especially within Salford LAD, in which there are high 'scores' on a number of indicators of deprivation. Anecdotal evidence (there is no conclusive evidence either way from the Census) suggests that the individuals and households concerned are mainly members of the strictly orthodox community.

The high geographical concentrations of Jews generally (in certain wards and smaller areas) and Jews with specific characteristics, suggest a number of opportunities and challenges for providers of welfare and youth services including:

⁴ See page 81 for NS-SeC definitions

- The provision of very locally-based, customer-focused services
- The development of 'distance' services to meet the needs of those Jews living outside the areas of population concentration
- Local authority funding and government special initiative funding to respond to specialist and concentrated local need
- Closer collaboration amongst voluntary and community organisations (particularly in light of the relatively high numbers of very small organisations).

Implications for the social capital of the Greater Manchester Jewish population

There are several positive indicators for the consolidation and growth of social capital and community cohesion within and across the GMJP, including:

- The high proportion of children currently in the community which bodes well for the sustainability of the community in the future, provided they can be encouraged to stay within the GM area as they grow up and to move away from geographical areas where there is currently a high incidence of overcrowding amongst Jewish households
- The very high numbers of Jewish students currently living in the centre of Manchester and equidistant from a number of other areas of Jewish concentration which presents opportunities to provide some innovative responses which could draw short-term residents into the long-term resident Jewish community
- The generally high levels of education and the high proportion of people who are economically active in managerial and professional occupations which provides enormous benefits to the community in terms of expertise
- The tendency of Jews to live close to other Jews
- The high number of associations and communal organisations.

Against these very positive opportunities for further developing social capital and community cohesion, other key findings in this report are cause for concern and challenge assumptions that the indicators of success within the community will automatically continue in the future. These include:

- The comparatively low proportion of the GMJP in the middle age ranges reflects a high 'dependency ratio' which could be a threat to the sustainability of the community.
- The high 'scores' on a number of indicators of deprivation in certain wards, apparently principally amongst members of the strictly orthodox community.

Implications for Policy within the Jewish Community and Local Authorities

There are a number of key questions that will need to be explored by both the Jewish community and local authorities with an interest and responsibilities in this area, including:

- How to facilitate the development of cross-authority consortia/partnerships that can address needs which are clustered geographically but which are not clustered within single local authority areas?
- How to take a lead on initiatives which address the needs of the high proportion of older people amongst the GMJP?
- How to develop innovative policies aimed at keeping young people within the GM region once they migrate inwards for their higher education?
- How to develop processes and structures for the commissioning and delivery of services that can balance meeting the emerging, specific needs within the strictly orthodox community alongside achieving economies of scale in services provision for the remainder of the Jewish community?
- How the Jewish community can work with local authorities and other public agencies to improve the sustainability of neighbourhoods, particularly in the Salford LAD, and what priority the public sector attaches to this task?

Implications for future research

Finally, there are a number of areas that might benefit from further research. In particular, consideration might be given to looking into:

- The reasons why people in the 25 to 44 age group appear to be leaving the Greater Manchester area and to see if new ways of encouraging these people to stay could be found/provided by the community
- The previous place of residence of current Jewish residents of Greater Manchester (for example, 5 and 10 years previously) to enable migration trends to be monitored
- The characteristics of new migrants into the Jewish community in the Greater Manchester area, for example: country of birth, place of residence, employment status
- The distribution of Jews across the religious spectrum (in particular, people from the strictly orthodox community) within those wards and smaller areas identified as having relatively high indicators of deprivation or social needs. This could enable a judgement to be made about what kinds of services would be acceptable to local communities
- The characteristics and distribution of existing voluntary and community organisations and grant-making trusts.