Migrant and Ethnic Economies and Urban Regeneration in Southwark

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Latin Elephant

• Latin Elephant is a charity that promotes alternative and innovative ways of engaging and incorporating migrant and ethnic groups with urban regeneration processes in London.

• We are working to increase participation of Latin Americans in urban regeneration initiatives in London.

  o Influencing Infrastructure
  o Business Readiness
  o Strengthening Communities
  o Research and Policy
Migrant & Ethnic Economies

• Why is it important to support migrant and ethnic economies in London?

• Why is it important to support migrant and ethnic economies in Southwark and more specifically Old Kent Road?
EMB’s & London’s Economy - Context

- EMBs an important feature of multicultural urban life - contribution to the UK economy and to community cohesion
- The economic downturn put pressure on retail spaces in local high streets and town centres
- Regeneration initiatives are putting more pressure on SMEs and particularly so for migrant and ethnic economies
EMB’s & London’s Economy

- EMBs contribute between £25 and £35 billion to the UK economy annually
- EMBs represent ‘between 6.7% and 9.3% of the total number of SMEs in the UK’ the greater proportion of which are in London
- EMBs employ 1.16 million people in the UK
- One in seven businesses in the UK are opened by migrant entrepreneurs
- In London most business start-ups are from ethnic minorities

Source: Regeneris, 2010 & CfE 2013
Urban Regeneration & Ethnic Economies

• London Plan - urban regeneration includes deprived inner city areas where the proportion of migrant & ethnic populations are one of the highest.

Southwark
• Ethnically diverse, with a high proportion of Black Africans and where a high proportion of Latin Americans
• White British population make up around 40%
• Highly unequal
• The 25\textsuperscript{th} most deprived borough in the country
Southwark’s Migrant & Ethnic Economies

Latin American Businesses as a case study
Latin American business clusters across London

Southwark

• Mapping
• Business Survey / Profile
• Research and engagement with retailers – to increase participation and influence policy

• Used this material as evidence to respond to alterations to London Plan - highlight the contribution that migrant and ethnic businesses make to London’s diverse economies and spaces.
Latin Quarter

A- Shopping centre
B- Eagles Yard
C- Drapers House
D- Elephant Road

Total: 80 businesses
New & Old Kent Road
(Nov 2014)

Total: 9 Premises
(housing approx 16 businesses)
### Latin Elephant Survey Data

<table>
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<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Reported by owner</th>
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<td>Spain</td>
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#### Nov 2014

### Nationality - Reported by owner

![Nationality Chart November 2014](chart.png)
Year of Shop Opening

(Nov 2014)
Latin Elephant Survey Key Findings

- 80% of respondents reported customers were mostly or entirely Latino.

- Majority of businesses are SMEs employing 1-5 people.

- Women play an active role in enterprise within the Latin community.

- Some businesses are husband/wife joint ownership.

**Comment from a business owner:**

*The Latin people will not want to leave the Elephant, we are a strong, supportive community here. I work hard all day, but I enjoy what I do and make sure that everything I make gets used, we give away what we can to the hungry when they ask for it. We help each other.*
Southwark’s Migrant & Ethnic Economies

Old Kent Road

Research for EWNF
Migrant & Ethnic Businesses Report

• Mapping, business directory and research for EWNF in collaboration with LE and UCL students

• Latin Elephant’s survey and methodology was used to secure consistency across data and make a stronger case about migrant and ethnic businesses in Southwark.

Old Kent Road
Independent Business Directory
April 2015

Research: Patricia Roman Velazquez
Map: Ilincu Diaconescu

135 Independent Shops out of a total of 146
Findings of MEB Report: Old Kent Road

42% of ownership African descent
Latin Elephant - Key Questions

• What is the impact of current urban regeneration for MEBs?

• What can be done to support settled migrant and ethnic economies and communities under regeneration?
Latin Elephant - Agenda

• Research that accounts for alternative ways of valuing the contribution of EMBs is needed.

• How to include and encourage the participation of MEBs in consultation processes

• Identify constraints and barriers to inclusion.

• Identify needs to support sustainability of EMBs throughout and after regeneration