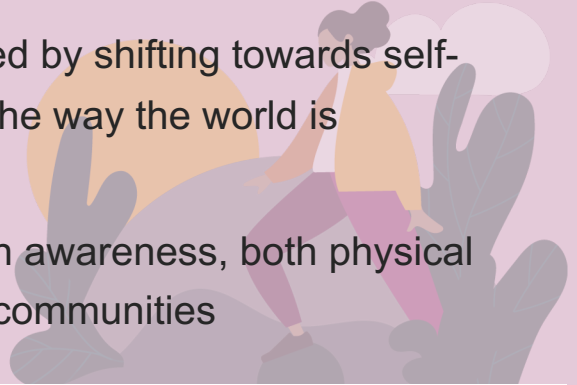


AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19: INSIGHTS FROM LAMBETH

We set out to understand the current experiences of Black people and what would be needed to support community-wide recovery in the aftermath of COVID-19. The first section of our report is called **THE “NEW NORMAL”** and this is what we found from the people we spoke to:

- COVID-19 has been a source of anxiety for most Black people
- While some people have adjusted by shifting towards self-care, some feel unprepared for the way the world is changing
- We also found heightened health awareness, both physical and mental health, within Black communities



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Local government and funders should:

- **Use the context of COVID-19 to support conversations about public health** within Black communities
- **Prioritise the voices of traditionally unheard communities** in broader discussions about environmental racism
- **Co-design community-led workshops to give residents the confidence to transition into the “new normal”**, targeting specific groups such as older people

AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19: INSIGHTS FROM LAMBETH

We set out to understand the current experiences of Black people and what would be needed to support community-wide recovery in the aftermath of COVID-19. The second section of our report is called **WHO CAN WE TRUST?** and this is what we found from the people we spoke to:

- Black people distrust the health and safety guidance delivered during the pandemic, particularly from the public sector
- The media has played a role in the racialisation of COVID-19, which has impacted Black people's experiences of overt racism
- We must rethink effective methods for the dissemination of information, particularly for those with lived experiences of racial injustice and non-English speaking communities

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Local government and funders should:

- **Co-develop strategies for effectively engaging and interacting with communities**, particularly those that speak English as a second language
- **Commission local independent research into COVID-19** that will be more credible within local communities
- **Co-design youth-led workshops on the social determinants of health** to ensure communities are having broader conversations about public health

AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19: INSIGHTS FROM LAMBETH

We set out to understand the current experiences of Black people and what would be needed to support community-wide recovery in the aftermath of COVID-19. The third section of our report is called **BACK TO BASICS** and this is what we found from the people we spoke to:

- People struggled to access to food, and those who did receive support from local organisations, the food they received was not culturally appropriate
- Some experienced challenges accessing relevant healthcare, which added pressure on younger family members
- Those with good access to technology found it to be a lifeline during lockdown, but people are experiencing digital fatigue

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Local government and funders should:

- **Provide more culturally appropriate food parcels** distributed across the community regularly
- **Co-design wellbeing support strategies for young carers**
- **Set up a digital Buddy scheme** to support wellbeing as technology use increases, to teach local people digital skills

AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19: INSIGHTS FROM LAMBETH

We set out to understand the current experiences of Black people and what would be needed to support community-wide recovery in the aftermath of COVID-19. The fourth section of our report is called **THE FUTURE OF WORK AND EDUCATION** and this is what we found from the people we spoke to:

- For Black people, working from home has been a welcome change, providing an escape from “toxic” work environments
- For some, this time has provided an opportunity to explore self-employment and other income streams
- Three factors influence the security of employment of people from Black communities – upskilling, access to opportunities and greater representation in decision-making
- There is a need to provide more in-work support rather than job-seeking support
- The education system has a role in correcting the employment system; educating *all* young people on biases and systemic racism is the first step towards tackling the problem

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Local government and funders should:

- **Re-design recruitment processes and job seeking support** to focus more on people’s values, skills and potential
- **Deliver in-work support that promotes wellbeing** by putting people at the centre of its design
- **Develop course content to be delivered in schools** to ensure that young people are prepared for work and living independently

