

September/October 2024

Peckham Business Forum

Autumn Newsletter

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of the Peckham Business Forum (PBF) Newsletter - The Place to find out all that's going on in the business community

Since our last newsletter the Peckham Business Forum has been working hard behind the scenes to develop a manifesto and constitutionalise the organisation.

We are moving forward with the formalisation of the Peckham Business Forum, which is chaired by Gloria and vice-chaired by Josephine. But we are looking to expand our committee members to help shape the next steps. If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch.

To get involved please email - info@peckhambusinessforum.co.uk

Primark joins the Peckham Business Forum

We're delighted to share that Primark has joined the Peckham Business Forum.

It is the first national brand to join and we look forward others following their footsteps.

The forum has been created to represent businesses big and small as well as solopreneurs to influence decision making and make Peckham the best place for all. Apply to join the forum today!



**There are approximately
2,100 businesses on the
high street**

Peckham Festive Market

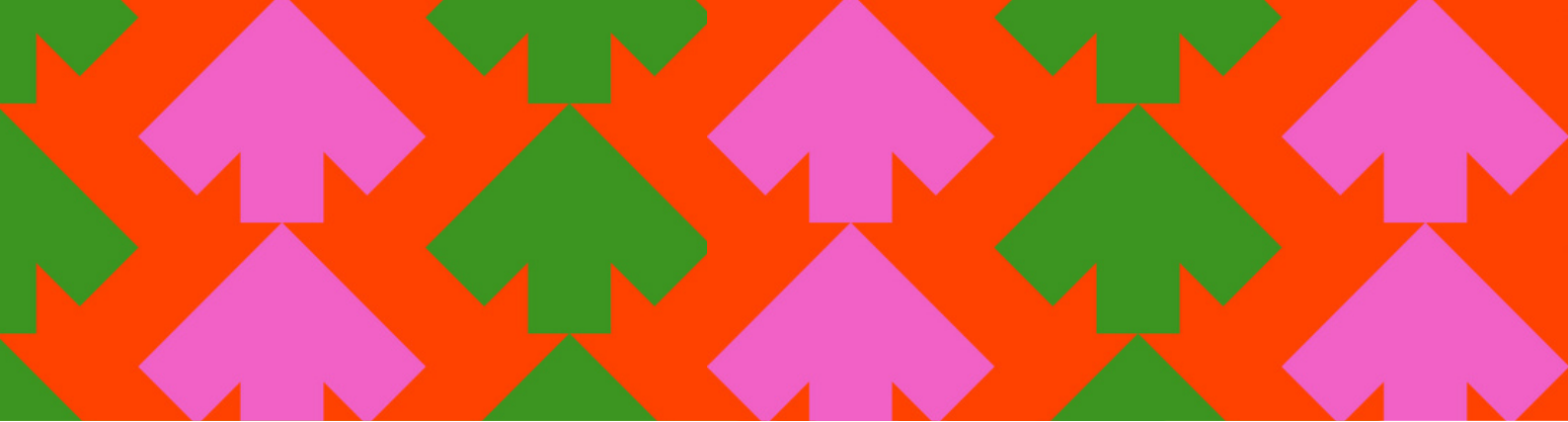
The Peckham Business Forum has started planning the first Peckham Festive Market on Saturday 7th December 2024, and is working with Southwark Council to do this.

All businesses, community groups and organisations in Peckham are invited to take part, and there are a number of sponsorship opportunities available. We'll be putting on festive activities up and down the high street, alongside additional entertainment - we're looking for businesses to take part in. We also welcome ideas from businesses about how they can take part, which we can also advertise.

To get involved please email - info@peckhambusinessforum.co.uk

Call out to Landlords

One of our missions is to clear up unwanted graffiti on the high street and we are working with Southwark Council to do this. However, because of the chemicals and workload required to remove the graffiti - we explicitly need Landlord permission. If you are a landlord, please get in touch so we can arrange this, alongside the cleaning required.

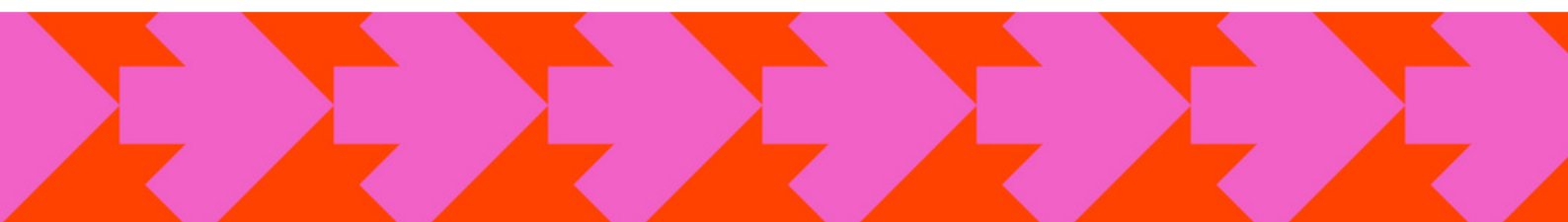


Peckham Business Forum Manifesto 2024

Key Challenges Identified by Business Owners in Peckham:

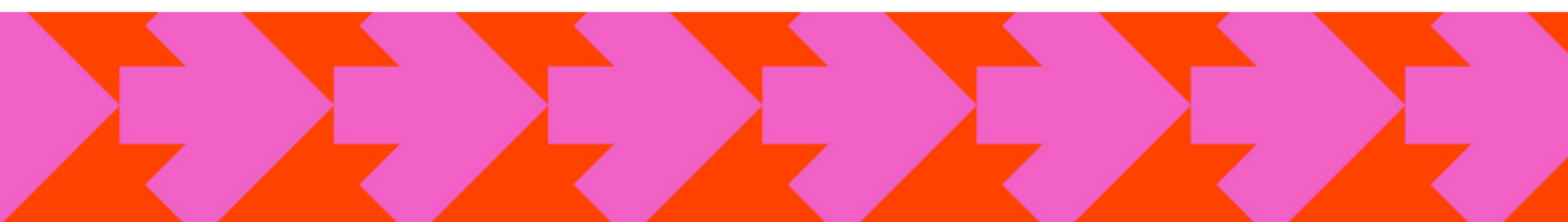
1. Lack of footfall on the high street
2. Lack of access to finance for growth
3. Lack of marketing experience for growth
4. Issues with finding good quality staff
5. Businesses don't feel investment ready
6. Safety concerns
7. Slow/Lack of Graffiti removal
8. A need for more Street Cleaning
9. Need to revive Choumert Road Market
10. Lack of customer parking
11. Lack of environmental sustainability efforts
12. Many impacted by the Cost-of-Living crisis

Solutions:

1. Strategic planning, marketing efforts, and community engagement to improve footfall
 2. Accessing resources from Local Authority, GLA, funding organisations, and low-cost loan options
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3. Supporting businesses on social media platforms and networking opportunities
 4. Helping businesses create jobs and grow the local economy
 5. Providing support with accounts, bookkeeping, and business planning
 6. Working with the Police, Local Authority and Safer Business Network on business crime reduction partnerships
 7. Collaborating with the Local Authority for graffiti removal
 8. Advocating for street cleaning presence and waste management throughout the day
 9. Partnering with the Southwark Markets team to enhance markets on the high street
 10. Collaborating with the council and local developers for customer parking solutions
 11. Partnering with organisations like Southwark Climate Collective for environmental sustainability efforts
 12. Providing information, knowledge, and support for businesses to adapt and diversify

Together, we can overcome these challenges and build a thriving business community in Peckham. Let's work together to create a brighter future for all small independent businesses in our vibrant neighbourhood.



Opportunities

Have you thought about signing up to London Living Wage?

Southwark Council have launched a grant scheme for businesses to support you with accreditation fees until March 2026!

Being a living wage employer is a great way to boost your staff retention, increase productivity and improve/build your business's reputation. An amazing 94% reported having benefited from their accreditation.



Eligibility criteria for the grant scheme:

1. Your business must have accredited with the Living Wage Foundation for the first time on or after 6 November 2023.
2. The scheme applies to all employers with up to 250 employees.
3. The scheme is open to businesses whose parent or ultimate holding organisation has headquarters within the London Borough of Southwark.

If you have any questions on the scheme or require further information please contact SouthwarkBusinessDesk@southwark.gov.uk and include "Southwark Living Wage Grant Scheme" in the subject heading.



Scan the QR code here for the application form.



Mental Health Training



Southwark Council offers regular, fully funded, mental health and suicide prevention training for all Southwark organisations who work with or come into contact with residents.

There are a range of courses available from Mental Health First Aider (MHFAider®) to Suicide First Aid intervention and refresher courses.



There are countless benefits of attending these courses, from improving employee wellbeing, being able to reduce absenteeism, increasing productivity to supporting a positive workplace culture and increasing confidence in crisis.



Scan the QR code to learn more.

Grow London Local Coffee Mornings - first Friday of every month

Join Grow London for an hour or two of conversation, knowledge sharing and coffee. These free in-person sessions take place on the first Friday of every month. It's the perfect way to connect with new people who share similar goals and challenges. Scan the QR code to learn more and book a space.



Keep up to date with all opportunities by following us on Instagram @peckhambusinessforum and if you'd like us to share any local news, opportunities and promotions drop us an email on info@peckhambusinessforum.co.uk

Standing together. Delivering growth.

