



WORKING FOR YOU

In the lifetime of Blue Bermondsey BID our aim is to establish a strong business network that can find innovative and lasting ways to benefit our member businesses. In addition to this, we want to play a positive role in improving the environment in which we operate and to help shape the area into a place where businesses are able to flourish, customers choose to visit and there is a productive relationship with the local community and strategic bodies.

To enable this, the BID proposal outlined eight key aims, detailed below:

TO HELP TACKLE STREET CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We have introduced Southwark Safe Business Crime Reduction Partnership, enabling Twenty Businesses to have their own Radio and Intranet system connecting them directly with Police and CCTV networks which has proved highly effective in helping combat Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. We are an active voice on the Safer London Steering Group and play a crucial role at South Bermondsey Police Ward panel meetings helping to identify and set Policing priorities that better reflect the issues faced locally.

TO OFFER ACCESS TO FREE RECYCLING SERVICES TO MEMBER BUSINESSES

After attempts to initiate a scheme through local sources proved difficult to deliver, leading waste recycling specialist First Mile were engaged to provide free cardboard recycling and discounted waste services, with member businesses receiving waste collections relative to BID levy contribution. The partnership additionally offers discount on prices for other First Mile services such as food, general waste and mixed recycling.

TO ENGAGE THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO REPORT ON AREAS OF GRIME

In March 2015 Blue Bermondsey set up Commonplace, an online survey to collect input from all local stakeholders on how they feel about the area and what they would like to see improved. The information gathered has better informed us in shaping our future plans for the remainder of the BID term and assisted us in lobbying our local councillors to prioritise issues identified.

TO WORK WITH BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS TO TRY TO GET LOCAL PEOPLE INTO LOCAL JOBS

We have partnered with Southwark Works to offer access to free employment recruitment and support services. We have worked with Southwark Council to promote their employment initiatives, most notably the SEEDS programme and Apprenticeship schemes. We have been instrumental in the bringing Big Local Works, a new business Training and Enterprise centre to an longstanding empty unit at 4 Market Place.

TO WORK WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE IN APPRENTICESHIPS AND WORK SCHEMES

We work closely with Bermondsey Community Kitchen, a free training facility providing City and Guilds Professional Cookery qualifications to unemployed 16 to 24 year olds, leading to regular work placements for graduates. We have worked on projects with Cherry Garden, Galleywall and City of London Academy.



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TO MARKET THE AREA THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA, LOCAL PRESS

We have a website at www.bluebermondsey.co.uk and have established highly active and well supported Facebook and Twitter accounts that have collectively gained almost 4,000 followers by profiling a range of projects, relevant news, local activities and events. We advertise regularly in local press when relevant opportunities to maximise marketing arise. In addition 10,000 copies of our bi-annual promotion booklet 'Down the Blue' are distributed throughout the surrounding area.

TO IDENTIFY AND ATTRACT FURTHER FUNDING

We have attracted 70k in external funding to date for a range of projects and initiatives. This has come chiefly from Southwark Council with additional funds and in-kind support from local businesses and funders.

TO INTRODUCE A CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Working in partnership with a range of local organisations we have delivered over fifty events to date which have attracted thousands of visitors. These include the annual Blue Christmas Market event, Bermondsey Folk Festival and the Summer Fete plus smaller events such as Rock and Roll extravaganza, Circus Skills, Clowning, Colouring Competitions, Musical Performances, Guided Walks and more.

IN ADDITION TO OUR KEY AIMS

- We wanted to take an active role in promoting local heritage and have completed three projects to date. The Larder of London gathered recipes at ten workshops held at local shops and community events to help create six murals in locations around the area. Made In Bermondsey celebrates the rich manufacturing heritage in the form of history graphics installed in the public car park. In addition the iconic Bermondsey Lion sculpture in the Market Place has been renovated with the plinth to be remodelled in the coming months.
- We wanted to help with youth unemployment, a long standing issue and aimed to help establish a cookery school for young people. Through our connections with local support agencies we were able to assist in helping to gain the initial funding and connections to make the vision become a reality and in September 2015 the Bermondsey Community Kitchen officially opened.
- We wanted to provide opportunities for local businesses to network and exchange valuable ideas. We set up an interactive business directory on our website to help businesses promote goods and services and engaged a business liaison assistant to hold regular meetings with retailers which has resulted in production of our bi-annual promotion booklet.



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- We wanted to work with the council and the new owners of the Biscuit factory to ensure access from the proposed development via railway arches into the Blue and this has now been included in the developer's plans.
- We wanted to contribute to the transformation of the public realm with the creation of new and innovative design solutions for green and open spaces and have held preliminary planning meetings. The addition of the murals and graphics, have helped to get some movement in the right direction and we aim to set up a theme group to take our plans further.
- We wanted to work with the council and local business to bring more traders and events onto the marketplace. There have been many diverse events and happenings within the market place. Funding has been granted from the council to support our vision to bring more traders and strategy plan has been submitted with the goal to make the market place a hub of community activity.

WHAT ELSE DO WE DO

- We meet quarterly with our neighbouring Southwark BIDs to network and exchange ideas.
- We attend Southwark Business Forum; a consortium who campaign passionately for local business.
- We proposed a lettings strategy with our Council rep to find suitable candidates for vacant council units.
- We attend Community Council meetings and have made many presentations on the work of the BID.
- We have established good links with local tenants associations and community groups.
- We attend relevant meetings with Grosvenor, owners of the Biscuit Factory to help shape their plans.

WHAT NEXT

Blue Bermondsey BID is helping to make the area an even better and much safer place to work and do business and all of the above would not have been possible without your BID levy contribution and support.

The BID board consisting of voluntary business owners like you are doing our best to make a positive impact and act as ambassadors for local business within the community and we can and will do better with more effective engagement and constructive input from our businesses and are always pleased to meet with you to discuss your ideas, needs and concerns. We are working for you and want to ensure that the BID is an organisation that you feel part of and are able to be involved in.

We are seeking to establish theme groups to be keenly involved in helping to deliver the BID business plan. If you feel you would like to take a more active role, board meetings generally take place every 6-8 weeks and your input would be instrumental in shaping future initiatives, developing and delivering existing projects and further advancing our influence and impact to better benefit your business.

Please contact: info@bluebermondsey.co.uk



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SUMMARY OF BID LEVY INCOME SPEND 2016-2017

| | AMOUNT |
|--|--------------------|
| MARKETING Press Advertising, Retail Brochure, Commonplace Survey, Christmas Decorations, Market Place Planting. | 18,030.00 |
| EVENTS Summer Events Schedule, Folk Festival, Summer Fete, Rock & Roll Extravaganza, Blue Christmas & Market, Events Infrastructure. | 20,743.00 |
| BUSINESS LIAISON Website, Networking Meetings, Business Crime Reduction Partnership, Free Recycling, | 21,144.94 |
| CORE COSTS Management Services, Office Costs | 24,255.96 |
| ADMIN Bank Charges, Collection Costs, Stationary, Postage, Photocopying, Printing, Insurance, Legal Fees, Accounting | 12,739.97 |
| REFUNDS For Businesses Vacating Premises | 8,819.72 |
| TOTAL | £105,733.59 |

BID LEVY COLLECTED 2016-2017

| | AMOUNT |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| BID LEVY PAID | £115,230.79 |
| TOTAL | £115,230.79 |

The levy income was supplemented by £8,405.00 in external cash funding in 2016 - 2017

Any underspend from 2016-2017 is allocated for projects and services in progress

The BID Vision and Strategy plan for 2017-2018 and beyond is available at: www.bluebermondsey.co.uk

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