

Dear Stratford Businesses

Welcome to our October edition of the newsletter.

As we enter a new season and the days feel slightly shorter, we are acutely aware of the ongoing challenges businesses and families in our community face. We continue to be actively involved in the **Business SOS campaign** by suggesting a series of solutions to **help tackle the cost-of-living crisis**. We also recently held our business networking event where we talked through the **projects and initiatives** we are focused on as a team to help you, our BID members.

Our focus this month turns to our **Christmas community event**, promoting the wonderful things happening in our town centre across the festive season, circulating the **winter edition of our free Stratford Thrive magazine** and moving forward with our **creative lighting plans**. Our **AGM is also coming up on November 23rd** - keep your eyes peeled for an invite coming soon.

Feel free to personally contact me if you would like to take a more active role in your business community by joining the Board.



Gianluca Rizzo
Stratford Original
BID Manager

MAKING TAX DIGITAL FOR VAT

If your business is registered for VAT you must follow the Making Tax Digital rules.

This means you must keep your VAT records digitally and submit your VAT returns to HMRC using compatible software.

Making Tax Digital for VAT Webinar

HMRC's webinar of Making Tax Digital includes how to sign up, what is meant by compatible software, digital record keeping, and submitting VAT returns directly from the business.

Register for the webinar taking place on **28th October** at: stratfordoriginal.com/news



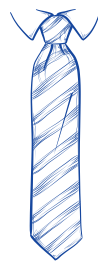
NEW MEMBER



Wenoc

41 Broadway, London E15 4BQ, UK

Wenoc Beauty Space is an environmentally friendly and conscious business using natural products to enhance natural beauty. With a wide selection of beauty services including hair colouring, nail art, facials, waxing and much more.



AMBASSADOR FACTS FOR AUGUST

270 LOCAL BUSINESSES VISITED

500 BID MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

95 MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HELPED/INTERACTED



TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

Recently, we collaborated with the council to have the **broken bollards replaced** that sat along Stratford High Street, opposite Burford Road, making the area more visually pleasing and a safer place to walk. **The pocket garden on Burford Road have also had a refresh** with tree branches trimmed and new greenery planted allowing space for rest and lunch breaks.

We are **looking into the ongoing littering issues** on that street of Stratford High Street and continue reporting overgrown trees and bushes that obstruct pedestrians and cyclists' movement whilst advocating for more greening. You can always reach out to us by emailing us at: info@stratfordoriginal.com.



DR BIKE & MARK YOUR BIKE SERVICES

After high demand we expanded our bike services for the following dates:

Dr Bike : **Friday 21st October & Friday 18th November, 4-7pm**

Mark Your Bike: **Friday 21st October**

To register, visit:
stratfordoriginal.com/whatson



SAFER STRATFORD BCRP UPDATE

Safer Stratford BCRP continue to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour by **growing in numbers with a total of 56 businesses as part of the scheme**. Businesses are asked to share intelligence and incidents happening within their premises; this allowed us to issue a total of **7 Exclusion Notices to prolific offenders**, 1 of which has been escalated by the court to a Criminal Behaviour Order thanks to MPS work.

Our **Security intelligence meetings** occur every other week in Stratford Mall; it was first initiated for the mall security team however now we have opened the forum to all security officers working in the mall and Broadway. Discussion on most prolific and recent offenders, crime trends and local issues along with the local policing team. The briefings are very well received and we are pleased to have been given the opportunity for businesses and police to discuss what matters the most to them.

We have continued our **monthly joint patrols** to address the look and feel of the town Centre, more hot spots areas are getting reported to the outreach team and cleansing team. We are in the process of setting up a follow up meeting after the patrol to track actions, results and keep monitoring the area.



Alessandra Valencic
Safer Business Network
Manager

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07342 882 161

BUSINESS ESSENTIALS



WASTE & RECYCLING

THIS MONTH OUR MEMBERS
HAVE SAVED:

This September, we recycled
4,710kg of recyclable material,
1,755kg of food recycling and
6,735kg of general waste.

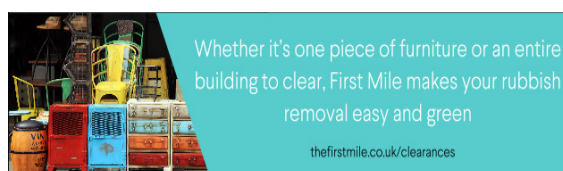


45 TREES



6 TONNES OF CO²

We have partnered with First Mile to provide members with a heavily subsidised and discounted waste and recycling service. Call First Mile on 0800 612 8984 - and quote 'Stratford Original' to start saving today.



first mile
easy recycling

KEY DATES



UPCOMING TRAINING

25

OCT 2022

Mental Health First Aid

Us&Co
11 Burford Road

29

NOV 2022

FIRST AID

Us&Co
11 Burford Road

To book your place visit:
stratfordoriginal.com

GENTLE REMINDER

We understand plans can change and we would appreciate you cancelling your reservation if you cannot attend so that other people can book a ticket.

If you do have any issues attending, please email us as soon as you can at:
info@stratfordoriginal.com

BUSINESS SOS

We are backing the #BUSINESSSOS campaign, alongside other BID's across the UK. Calling on the Government to deliver support to our retail, hospitality and leisure businesses so they have every chance to survive following the rise in energy costs.

The three-point-plan:

Reduce VAT

- Headline rate reduced from 20% to 12.5%
- Business energy bills reduced from 20% to 5% to match domestic billing

Business Rates Relief

- 100% rate relief until 31st March 2023

Energy Rate Relief

- A discounted kwh price on all business energy bills

For more information visit: stratfordoriginal.com/news

NOVEMBER AGM

You are invited to our AGM

When: **November 23rd between 5-8pm**

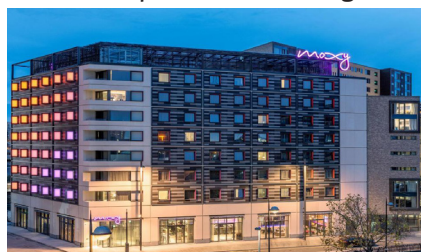
Where: **The Moxy Hotel**

Come and ask your important questions while hearing about the work we are doing as your BID to support the business community.

Light refreshments and drinks will be served throughout the evening.

RSVP via Eventbrite: stratfordoriginal.com

Eventbrite password: movingforward





WINTER MAGAZINE

As many of you will know, we produced our very first **community magazine** this year - which was **distributed to over 20,000 local residents** at the end of May.

The good news is, we're about to start producing our **winter edition**! Our goal is to tell local stories and promote businesses in our community. The opportunity to **feature in the magazine is free for our members**, so please get in touch if you have a story to tell, an event to promote or any Christmas offers to shout out.

Email: info@stratfordoriginal.com

View the latest magazine: stratfordoriginal.com/news

FEATURED BUSINESS: THE WESTBRIDGE HOTEL



335-337 High Street
London E15 2TF

Stylish 4* boutique hotel a few minutes' walk from Westfield Stratford City, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

CALL TO ACTION FOR BUSINESSES

Is your business holding an **event for the World Cup** or **showing the games** this winter? We would love to **promote your event** to shine a light on your business and increase awareness of your event.

We are also working on our **2023 schedule for our events**. If you have any suggestions or if there are any events you would like to see in your town centre, please email us.

Please email us at: info@stratfordoriginal.com

REAL LIVING WAGE INCREASES IN UK & LONDON

Real Living Wage increases to £10.90 in UK and £11.95 in London as the cost-of-living rises.

Almost **400,000** people working for over **11,000** real Living Wage Employers throughout the country are set for a **vital cost-of-living pay boost**, as the new Living Wage rates rise, supporting workers and families.

Find out more: stratfordoriginal.com/news



NATIONAL INSURANCE INCREASE REVERSED

- April's National Insurance increase to be **reversed from November**
- Health and Social Care Levy will be cancelled – Chancellor has confirmed funding for health and social care services will be protected and will remain at the same level as if the Levy were in place
- Almost **28 million people** will **keep an extra £330 of their money on average** next year, whilst **920,000 businesses** are set to save almost **£10,000 on average** next year thanks to the change

Find out more at: stratfordoriginal.com/news



020 8555 7065



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