



## **BUSINESS RATES REFORM AND EVENTS**

The current Government has recently announced changes to the business rates system set to take effect from April 2026. These reforms aim to address the long standing imbalance that has penalised ‘traditional businesses’, especially those on the high street, while giving a comparative advantage to large online retailers and warehouses.

From April 2026, the Government will introduce two lower multipliers for retail, hospitality, and leisure (RHL) properties with rateable values under £500,000. Larger properties above that threshold will face a higher multiplier—shifting more of the tax burden to big warehouses.

These changes are designed to provide long-term relief for smaller, high street businesses like the majority of Stratford based businesses. For many local businesses these changes might mean lower bills and a fairer system.

We will continue to stay informed about the upcoming reform and share with you the latest news and details, with the hope that lower business rates bills will provide much needed relief to many.

Stratford Original BID members are warmly invited to “Managing Mental Health in Your Business”, a focused training session on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (09:30–13:00) at Mary Ward Centre.

Join us to deepen your understanding of mental health challenges in the workplace, explore resilience-building techniques, and develop practical self-care strategies.

We’re also hosting “Housing Futures”, a seminar on the same day, (16<sup>th</sup> July 2025, 10:00–12:00) exploring key housing and mixed-use developments in Stratford & Newham. Highlights include an update on the Carpenters’ Estate by Populo Living and a panel chaired by Hugh McEwen of Office S&M Architects.

Enjoy refreshments and a light breakfast while hearing about the latest community-shaping projects.

Ready to join our events? Visit [www.stratfordoriginal.com](http://www.stratfordoriginal.com) and register — and please spread the word to fellow BID members. We look forward to seeing you there!

# NEWHAM BUSINESS CONFERENCE 2025

We're delighted to sponsor the Newham Business Conference 2025!

This year's theme will focus on Newham being the primary business destination across East London for Innovation, Investment and Inspiration. Jack Sullivan, West Ham Utd FC Director, Entrepreneur & Investor will deliver the keynote speech.



**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025**  
**UAL London College of Fashion**  
East Bank, 105 Carpenters Road, Stratford E20 2AR

## STRATFORD: EAST LONDON'S THRIVING HUB FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

Over the past years, Stratford has rapidly transformed into a vibrant centre for education, offering a diverse range of learning opportunities for individuals at all stages of life. Gianluca Rizzo, the manager of Stratford Original BID, shares with the Newham Recorder how the educational scene has evolved and what it is centered around. Visit our website to read the full article.



## ZERO CARBON COMPANY OFFERS FREE CARBON AND ENERGY SAVING TRIAL

Register your interest now for the free carbon footprint and energy saving support scheme trial, for small to medium size hospitality businesses. The scheme is funded by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. For more information and how to register please follow this link: [www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/carbon-and-energy-saving-trial/](http://www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/carbon-and-energy-saving-trial/).

**10<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**BI-WEEKLY  
INTEL BRIEFING**

Stratford Centre  
11.30am - 11.40am

**16<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**MANAGING  
MENTAL HEALTH IN  
YOUR BUSINESS**

Mary Ward Centre  
9.30am - 13pm

**16<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**HOUSING FUTURES**

Us&Co  
10am - 12pm

# A SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL FOOD BUSINESSES

We're delighted to announce a new collaboration with Too Good To Go, helping Stratford's food businesses cut waste, attract new customers, and generate extra income—all while making a positive impact on the planet.

With Too Good To Go, your business can offer 'Surprise Bags' filled with surplus, short-dated, or discontinued food and drinks that might otherwise go to waste. Customers order through the app and collect the bags at a time set by you - making it simple, flexible, and sustainable.

As part of this special campaign, Stratford

Original BID members can sign up and delay the Annual Fee until month 6 — giving you plenty of time to try it out risk-free and see how it works for your business. Why join?

- Reach new, local customers
- Generate additional revenue from surplus
- Make a difference in reducing food waste

Get started now using this exclusive QR code to take advantage of the 6-month fee-free period.



## CREATIVE COMMUNITY DAY 2025



This year, we're excited to once again partner with UEL to host a new community event on 6th September. The event will take place at St John's Churchyard from 12:00 to 16:00, and the theme this year is Wellbeing.

We're planning a range of activities throughout the day, led by our members.

If you'd like to get involved — whether by offering a fun activity or giving away a freebie — please get in touch at [agne.teisseire@stratfordoriginal.com](mailto:agne.teisseire@stratfordoriginal.com).

## HIGH STREETS BEYOND WASTE

Getting on top of the materials and ingredients you buy, use and throw away can help you cut costs, tap into new revenue opportunities, and get ready for upcoming waste regulations. The high streets beyond waste, launched by ReLondon and funded by the UK Government, support aims to help you do just that, with tailored advice from a business advisor and the opportunity to apply for a grant.

If you run a high street food and drink business, you can book a dedicated one-to-one session with a business advisor to explore how 'beyond waste' ideas could benefit your business and the environment. Follow this link: [www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/high-streets-beyond-waste/](http://www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/high-streets-beyond-waste/).

# SAFER STRATFORD UPDATES

In June, we hosted two bi-weekly intelligence briefings at Stratford Centre, open to all BID members. These sessions continue to serve as an essential platform for sharing intelligence, with strong attendance from local businesses, the Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police, and Newham Council teams. Discussions focused on known offenders operating in the area, helping to strengthen our collective response to crime.

Our monthly Joint RS Partnership Patrol also took place, targeting key hotspots in Stratford town centre for rough sleeping and fly-tipping. Thanks to the impact of previous joint efforts, many of the original hotspots had been cleared. However, two new hotspots were identified. Outreach partners engaged directly with rough sleepers in these areas, collecting their details and referring them to the appropriate support services.



With ongoing support from local businesses reporting incidents through our intelligence-sharing platform, Alert!, we've continued to build strong case files. We collected six business impact statements related to an organised crime group, along with three additional statements concerning prolific offenders reported by multiple businesses. These statements will play a huge role in supporting the Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) applications.

In a positive outcome, two CBOs were recently issued to prolific offenders; neither of them has been seen in the area since then.

This collaborative work highlights the power of shared intelligence. By continuing to report incidents, local businesses are helping us collate intelligence on the most prolific offenders and take meaningful action to keep Stratford safe.

## OUR AMBASSADOR STATS

49

MEMBERS OF THE  
PUBLIC ENGAGED

126

MILES COVERED

87

ISSUES REPORTED  
THROUGH THE LOVE  
NEWHAM APP

**STRATFORD  
ORIGINAL**  
YOUR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



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