Best Community-Driven BID 2025

Based in the London Borough of Bromley, Penge has a rich history and its own Business Improvement District. Penge SE20 BID is a not for profit organisation led by a group of volunteer directors. It exists to promote the town centre and all it has to offer. We had the pleasure of hearing from Manager Zoe Carr as the BID was recently awarded Best Community Driven BID in our Greater London Enterprise Awards 2025.

Zoe Carr commented: “Since its inception in 2018 we continue to work to market Penge, attract footfall with events and maintain cleanliness, safety and security for our businesses, our residents and our visitors.”

Recently adding the Penge SE20 app, the organisation helps individuals to find events, offers and groups across the community. It encourages the businesses to promote their offers and products too. The Penge SE20 BID app is available across Google Play and the App Store so that we can all learn more about what Penge has to offer. Zoe added: “The Penge SE20 app is easy to find, search in your app store and there, you will see the variety of offers from our businesses and the many events taking place in the area.”

Penge SE20 BID ensures that Penge is safe for shoppers and visitors alike and its Street Rangers work tirelessly with the businesses, the police, and the greater community to ensure good communication to keep everyone aware of what is happening on the ground. They maintain a database of the businesses and visit members regularly.

Zoe told us more about Penge SE20 BIDs most recent developments. She said: “The most recent challenge is the proposal of a large development that may take place in the High Street. It is proposed that our shopping centre be redeveloped along with the addition of flats which will change the skyline. Understandably, there is local dissatisfaction with this and it will cause disruption to the High Street, local businesses and indeed our BID levy will suffer.

“Those businesses going as a result of the redevelopment will not be paying their levy. There is currently no further news as to when or if the proposal will pass planning and commence. The opportunities for growth from the development, should it take place may well come sometime after completion which is likely to be when the BID is in its third term.”

This not for profit enterprise is made up of dedicated individuals with one thing in common: a love for the community of Penge. Always looking to improve daily life for the residents and visitors.

Speaking of the organisation’s commitment to its community, Zoe said: “We are one of the smaller BIDs in the country with approximately 240 hereditaments and an annual income of around £150k so we run a tight ship, we have to. Penge, prior to the BID being established had a strong business and volunteer community. The BID encompasses both. Our Board are all volunteers, some are Penge business owners and we work with other community volunteers supporting their events and inviting them to help us run ours for a small donation in return.”

Penge SE20 BID is currently in its second term — ending the March 2028 — and currently

it enjoys strong support from the people and businesses of Penge. We are pleased to say that this organisation is worthy of its award in this year’s Greater London Enterprise Awards as its commitment to its community roots. continues to keep it looking out for Penge

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