Peckham Settlement

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SE15

# IMPACT REPORT 2024-25







peckhamsettlement.org

# CONTENT


| | |
|---|---|
| Who We Supported in 2025 | **1** |
| Letter from The Chair | **2** |
| The Peckham Settlement | **3** |
| SE15 | **4** |
| Our History | **5** |
| Activities and Objectives | **6** |
| Case Studies | **7-8** |
| Who We Fund | **9** |





**Cover Images:** Theatre Peckham, Westminster House Youth Club and Southwark Travellers Action Group | **Report compiled by** Peckham Settlement Trustees
**Impact Report Design:** Tracey Francis

# WHO WE SUPPORTED IN 2025

## SUMMER AND WINTER GRANTS

### WINTER

- Salem Academy of Music
- East Dulwich Estate Tenants
- Mental Wealth London CIC
- Share The Cost Global
- Westminster House Youth Club
- This Won't End Me CIC
- Dream Believe Achieve (DBA) CIC
- Global Majority Copwatch
- Clinical Health Checks UK
- Destiny 2 Education
- Afro-Brazilian Arts & Cultural Exchange Institute
- Arts for Dementia
- Westminster House Youth Club

### SUMMER

- Arts for Dementia
- Westminster House Youth Club
- Theatre Peckham
- Southwark Travellors Action Group
- Nunhead's Voice
- Parents Skills 2 Go
- Steph Together
- Open Air
- Copleston
- Clear Community Web
- Run Walk Run
- Cosmos
- Family Space





Westminster House  Youth Club and Nunhead's Voice

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

## DAVID REID, CHAIR OF PECKHAM SETTLEMENT

**It is quite extraordinary how much of an influence Peckham Settlement has made on so many people's lives in Peckham. From its birth in 1896 as part of the settlement movement with its own vision created by a group of girls schools with a mission to support people affected by poverty in South London and to the present day as a grant-maker working across all the communities in Peckham – promoting equality and fairness to access of opportunity for Peckham residents.**

Understanding the difference that Peckham Settlement makes is crucial to assessing the progress we are making towards our vision of **'Every person in SE15 has equal access to opportunities for a fair and flourishing neighbourhood.'** Last year our priority focus was on our purpose as a grant-maker and how we go about our work and for the first time in Peckham Settlement's 10 year grant-making history we produced a strategy. But how did we get to realising that we needed a strategy? The fantastic board of trustees which are behind the Settlements grant-making, sat down together and decided that as a group we wanted to do things differently – challenging our current thinking.

We had been running our grant-making without a formal strategy, and realised that the biggest result everyone on the board wanted to achieve was very similar. They wanted a clear strategy of how their leadership as trustees would enable them to show how our work was making a measurable impact on people's lives in Peckham. We wanted focused decision making that would help our re-imagining of what the world would like with our investment.

So, our strategy was born after the trustees spent two days together of thinking, supported by an independent facilitator. The Settlement's trustees are now much clearer on the difference we want to make in Peckham, and as a result getting a much stronger picture of the issues – through grant applicants and grantee reports – that are being tackled by community engagement and the opportunities that arise. This motivates the Settlement to act and do something about the issues in the area.

Peckham Settlement is now more focussed and the world for us is no longer too big, because we were trying to support problems that have slipped through the cracks in the Peckham community. The Settlement's new approach means we express more clearly what we are trying to do and how we are planning to do it. We are committed to community with focused leadership and strategic collaboration we intend to continue delivering on our vision and mission to ensure that The Peckham Settlement has a positive impact on the lives of people in Peckham.

# THE **PECKHAM SETTLEMENT** IS A COMMUNITY-LED CHARITY, OPERATING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF SE15, SOUTH LONDON

## VISION:

Every person in SE15 has equal access to opportunities for a fair and flourishing neighbourhood.

## MISSION:

Through purposeful grantmaking to charities and community groups, we aim to make a difference in SE15, and enable everyone to feel involved and included in creating a flourishing neighbourhood.

## WE HAVE 5 GOALS:

1. To increase our annual grants spend in the community from **£26,000 to £40,000 by 2028.**
2. To become clearer about what we fund, shorten our application form, and reduce the time it takes from application to decision.
3. To build a board of trustees that reflects our neighbourhood, with a diverse set of skills, experiences and identities.
4. To seek out partnerships that help us increase our budget, step up our grantmaking and raise the voice of Peckham Settlement and who we fund.
5. To make it simple for anyone to find out about the Peckham Settlement, our purpose and our work.

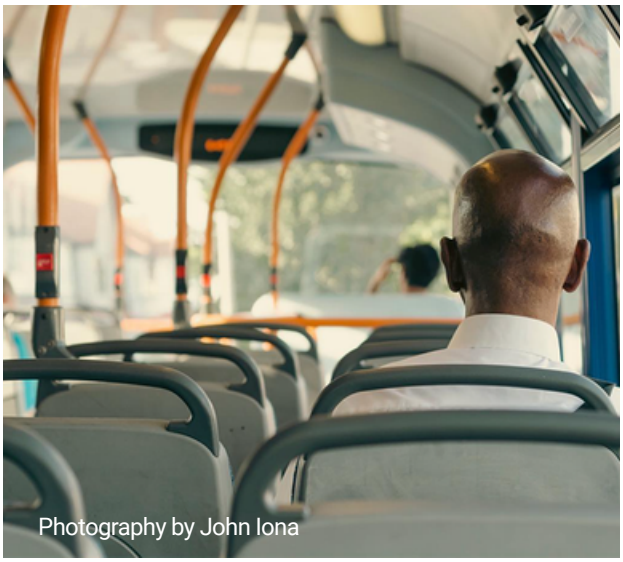
The Peckham Settlement would like to thank the Cranfield Trust, and Lilia Tira, whose pro bono support and expert facilitation helped us to develop our latest vision, mission and strategy.



# SE15

## THE PECKHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD

Text and data courtesy © Southwark Council



Photography by John Iona

**OVERVIEW:** The Peckham neighbourhood is comprised of the Peckham, Rye Lane and Nunhead wards. The area is characterised by a vibrant town centre known for its diverse activities both during the day and night. Rye Lane boasts amenities like a library, cinema, leisure centre, and a variety of independent shops while Bellenden Road offers a calmer atmosphere. The area has a strong community identity, active voluntary organisations and home to many faith groups. The town has a growing hub of SMEs, especially in the creative sector. Historically, Peckham is rich in heritage, particularly evident in its conservation areas. Peckham has good parks and leisure spaces as well as good connectivity via rail from both central and wider London. Some of the neighbourhood's challenges stem from its high levels of deprivation, quality of housing and access to opportunities.

**25,800**

RESIDENTS
8.4% OF SOUTHWARK

**52%**

HOUSEHOLDS ARE DEPRIVED IN MORE THAN ONE DIMENSION. NUNHEAD & QUEENS ROAD WARD IS ONE OF THE MOST DEPRIVED WARDS IN SOUTHWARK

**47%**

OF THE POPULATION IS BLACK, ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC, IN LINE WITH THE AVERAGE FOR THE BOROUGH. HOWEVER, THERE ARE VARIATIONS WITHIN WARDS.

NUNHEAD AND QUEENS RD WARD HAS **SIGNIFICANTLY LESSER** LIFE EXPECTANCY COMPARED TO SOUTHWARK

PECKHAM RYE HAS HIGH CRIME RATES

THE NATURE OF CRIME IS MAINLY, ASB, & VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, GIRLS AND IS CONCENTRATED AROUND RYE LANE WARD.

# OUR HISTORY



HILL STREET, PECKHAM. LONDON, S.E.

The Peckham Settlement was established in 1896 by a group of girls' schools spread across the country. This was part of the Settlement movement initiated by universities and schools to interact with the local community, relieve poverty and promote social change. For instance, the Peckham Settlement pioneered a savings scheme which led to the passing of the first national unemployment insurance Act in 1911; established the first nursery school in London in 1935; had the first government sponsored job club for the the long term unemployed within a charity in 1987; and in 2011 was awarded funding by NESTA for a pioneering experiment in community development known as SE Village.

In 1998 the Peckham Settlement took over the Pitt Street Settlement and the Camberwell Relief in Need charities. The Peckham Settlement first operated from a Mission House in Calmington Road, off Albany Road, and then opened the Settlement at 17/19 Peckham Road in 1906. In 1930 it moved to its well known building in Goldsmith Road, which was opened by Queen Mary. Princess Margaret became the Patron until she died and subsequently the Countess of Wessex was Patron until 2012. Unlike typical single purpose charities, the Peckham Settlement has traditionally had a wide range of differing activities which have varied from time to time as needs and resources have changed. Sadly in August 2012 the Peckham Settlement hit a financial crisis and had to be closed and put into administration. The sale of its buildings enabled all its debts to be paid in full and the surplus has now been invested, providing a source of income for the organisation to make grants to local charities and community groups.

# ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

**Peckham Settlement's mission is through purposeful grant-making to charities and community groups, we aim to make a difference in SE15 and enable everyone to feel involved and included in creating a flourishing neighbourhood.**


Photography by John Iona

We have achieved this by running a grant programme which has two rounds – a summer and winter round. This provides funding to community organisations that support people living in Peckham to have equal access to opportunities, that will enable them to live their best life and strengthen community life in the area. The Settlement in 2025 had an annual grants budget of £40,000.

Our business model so far has been very simple, to use the return on our investment with Rathbones, our investment manager to run our grants programme and to draw down from the capital amount held funds to top up our annual budget.

Our ambition is by 2028 we will increase our community investment to £40,00 per year by seeking partnerships with other investment partners . This would mean that we would have no need to draw down any money from our capital amount held by Rathbones.

# CASE STUDIES

## SOUTHWARK TRAVELLERS ACTION GROUP (STAG)

Southwark Travellers Action Group was awarded £1250 by Peckham Settlement to support:

- Work with STAG's Youth Worker and volunteers to support Youth Group members to develop their own projects that can be included in future STAG exhibitions celebrating Traveller history and culture in Southwark
- A contribution to the costs of staging such an Exhibition in the SE15 area to engage the wider communities in SE15 with the GRT communities that live there.

> **REALLY EYE-OPENING EXHIBITION. I LEARNED A LOT ABOUT TRAVELLER HISTORY OF SOUTHWARK. EVERYONE WARM AND WELCOMING. THANK YOU."**



Between October and November 20025, 11 members of STAG's Youth Group were engaged in producing a display for future STAG exhibitions celebrating Traveller history and culture in Southwark.




## WESTMINSTER HOUSE YOUTH CLUB

We gratefully received a grant of £3,000 of support to deliver a fruit and vegetable food bank day to help our families cope over the school holidays; Christmas parcels to older residents ; Provide a festive meal and celebration for young people; reward trips for young volunteers

- The project ran from 13 - 22 December and included evening and weekend work.

# CASE STUDIES

## THEATRE PECKHAM

We greatly appreciate Peckham Settlements' contribution of £3000 toTheatre Peckham's 2024 Festive production Pan! Peter's coming out to play. Your contribution supported our cast of young people to receive
2 training sessions each week for three months totaling 84 hours of training. They developed skills in singing, dancing, acting and steel pans becoming confident performers working alongside a professional adult cast.

> **THE REHEARSALS HAVE TAUGHT ME HOW TO CONTROL MY BREATHING WHEN SINGING AND DANCING AT THE SAME TIME"** – NASYA



**83%**

of young people achieved their goal to feel that they had improved most in their dancing abilities

- **33** Peckham residents benefited
- **12 r**esidents participated in weekly sessions
- **21** audience members at performances and events
- **100%** of beneficiaries were aged 60+
- **92%** identify as being from global majority backgrounds
- The Tea Break Theatre group shared their work with other residents and invited guests at an end of term celebration
- In addition, residents were also able to see a show by London Bubble Theatre's Older Adults' touring company, which visited Harry Lambourn House

## TEA BREAK THEATRE AT HARRY LAMBORN HOUSE

**During the 2023-24 financial year:**
We delivered **26 Tea Break Theatre sessions** in the communal lounge at Harry Lamborn House.



This grant enabled us to continue delivering Tea Break Theatre - a weekly, social, free theatre group for older adults - in the communal lounge at Harry Lamborn House in Peckham. Tea Break Theatre is the only theatre-based activity available in sheltered housing in Southwark.

# WHO WE FUND





Photography by John Iona

The Peckham Settlement offers project funding to small, local not for profit community organisations including grassroots groups , C.I.C's and charities who focus on community-driven initiatives that benefit Peckham and Nunhead residents (SE15) .

## WE PROVIDE CORE FUNDING

**Funding Amounts:** We provide grants of up between **£501- £3000 through our main grant programme** and **£100- £500 through our small grant programme**.

## ELIGIBILITY

- The Settlement funds organisations whose main work supports SE15 residents.
- You must be not for profit and have a minimum constitution which tells us what your purpose is and how you run your organisations.

## FOCUS AREA

The Peckham Settlement aims to support work **that addresses equal access to opportunities that helps to make SE15 a fairer and flourishing neighbourhood.**

Peckham Settlement

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SE15

**Website: peckhamsettlement.org | Instagram: peckhamsettlement**

A Registered Charity (215925) and a Company Limited by Guarantee (255374)