

SOUTHSIDE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Statutory Explanatory Notes - March 2020

What is the Southside BID?

The Southside Business Improvement District (BID) is a precisely defined geographical area within Birmingham City Centre where businesses have voted (in accordance with the Local Government Act, Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations, 2004), to invest collectively in local improvements to enhance their trading environment.

Between the 12th October and 19th November 2015, a postal ballot of eligible business ratepayers in the proposed BID area was conducted. A total of 43% of eligible businesses voted and of those, 87% voted by number and 95% by rateable value in favour of the BID to renew for a further five year term. Having secured the necessary mandate therefore, the BID formally renewed on 1st April 2016 until 31 March 2021. Further information can be found at www.southsidebid.co.uk

What does the Southside BID do?

The Southside BID provides a range of new and additional services and projects designed to improve the business environment. Details of our five year programme, focused on delivering our 10 new pledges for Southside, are to be found in our BID 2 Proposal Document at www.southsidebid.co.uk/downloads/ (hard copies can be requested by calling our BID office on **0121 643 3720**).

Our new 10 pledges to deliver for Southside are:

1. Improve the public realm in Southside by investing in new and existing public spaces
2. Maintain a safe and welcoming environment
3. Uphold standards of street cleanliness and where possible improve them
4. Sustain additional investment and added value
5. Make Southside greener and more environmentally friendly
6. Build on local events and their legacy
7. Establish a sense of place in Southside with on street branding
8. Collaborate with other Birmingham BIDs
9. Bring local people and businesses together with a Southside Loyalty Scheme
10. Promote 'local first' procurement

How is the Southside BID funded?

The BID's activities are principally funded via a BID levy charge of 2.18% of rateable value as at 1st April 2016. This charge is payable by business ratepayers with properties over £12K in rateable value and is collected by Birmingham City Council on behalf of the Southside BID.

The funds are then passed to Southside Business District Limited, which is an independent and private sector led 'not for profit' company, to invest on behalf of the business community, in line with the approved BID Proposal.

The estimated total revenue to be raised from the BID levy in 2020 and 2021 is between £300,000 and £350,000. The Team also works hard throughout the BID's term, to secure further funding from other partners and funding streams and aims to raise between £30K to £80K every year in private and other public sector contributions. We also work hard to sign post our businesses to grants and rates relief, so do get in touch especially if you are a new business to ensure you are getting all you are entitled to in terms of support.



How is the Southside BID delivered?

The BID's activities are delivered by Southside Business District Limited, with a Board of Directors directly accountable to the BID levy payers. Find out more at www.southsidebid.co.uk/southside-bid-board/ All levy payers are invited to become members of the BID Company. Please contact us if you would like to become a member.

The Southside BID Manager is responsible for directing all projects and services and representing the District for the benefit of levy payers.

How has the BID levy liability been calculated?

The BID levy is charged at 2.18% of rateable value as at 1st April 2016 on all non-domestic properties within the BID area that are listed on the Local Non-domestic Rating List.

The following applies:-

- The annual levy will be apportioned on a daily basis where properties are taken out or brought into the rating list.
- No exemptions will be granted for void or partially empty premises.
- Charitable organisations in receipt of mandatory charitable relief from rates will receive an 80% allowance.
- Hereditaments with rateable values below £12,000 will be exempt from the levy in the BID's second term.

The BID levy is payable for the whole year on the 1st April of each year and will be increased each year by the annual inflationary/deflationary factor for local non domestic rate bills as calculated by the Government.

What is the duration of the Southside BID?

The BID arrangements commenced on 1st April 2016 and will operate for five years until 31st March 2021. Before the end of this period, the Southside BID Board of Directors can promote a further 5 year extension of the BID. This would require a 'Renewal Ballot' to be held.

Enquiries about payments and accounts can be made by contacting:-

Birmingham City Council
Revenues Services
PO BOX 5
Birmingham
B4 7AB
Telephone: 0121 303 5509
Email: business_rates@birmingham.gov.uk

Enquiries about the Southside BID and its services can be made by contacting:-

Southside Business District Limited
Wynner House
143 Bromsgrove Street
Southside
Birmingham
B5 6RG
Telephone: 0121 643 3720
Email: information@southsidebid.co.uk

If in the event you cannot contact Birmingham City Council re payments and accounts for any reason please contact the BID on 0121 643 3720 and we will do our best to help you.

