
Meeting of the Cabinet – 27th June 2018

Joint Report of the Strategic Director of Place and the Chief Officer Finance and Legal Services

Stourbridge Business Improvement District (BID)

Purpose

1. To advise Cabinet of the Stourbridge BID proposal and consider the BID creation timeline.

Recommendations

2. That Cabinet approve the BID proposal and timeline.

Background

3. BIDs are business led partnerships, created following a ballot, to deliver additional services to local businesses over a defined period, normally 5 years.
4. A BID is a defined area in which a levy is charged on all non-domestic ratepayers in addition to non-domestic rates. Such a levy can only be collected by the local authority and it is then passed on to the BID company less an amount for the cost of collection and administration.
5. A BID can only be established following approval of a proposal setting out what the BID will do. The levy will be used to develop such projects, which will benefit businesses in the local area. These should be things that are in addition to services provided by the local authority.
6. A BID proposer is required to develop a BID proposal / business plan and submit this to the local authority (**Appendix 1**). The proposal should set out the services to be provided and the size and scope of the BID. It will also set out who is liable for the levy, the amount of levy to be collected and how it is calculated. The BID proposal is legally binding but the business plan can be changed.
7. The Stourbridge BID includes work covering the following 5 main strands:
 - Marketing, Promotion and Events
 - Cleanliness and Safety
 - Accessibility
 - Backing Business
8. The timeline for this BID is attached (**Appendix 2**).
A formal agreement between The BID company and the local authority will be produced. A draft of this is attached (**Appendix 3**).
Once the BID is in place, a monitoring group will be established to monitor the

9. performance of the BID levy collection. This group will include the BID director, and representatives from the authority's Revenue & Benefit service, with Legal and Financial services representatives being called upon as required.

Finance

10. The only direct financial implications for the Council arising from this report is that business properties occupied by DMBC or empty business properties owned by DMBC in the BID area, will be liable for the levy, based on current projections this is estimated at £11,462 per annum

Additionally there will be the cost of administering the billing and collection of the levy the majority of which will be met by the BID company.

Law

11. The Local Government Finance Act 1988, part 4 of the Local Government Act 2003 ("the Act") and the Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 and or any subsequent regulations or enactment or consolidation of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 Act or the Act or the regulations which provide a legislative framework for the establishment and operation of a BID.

Equality Impact

12. There are no equality impact implications arising from this report.

Human Resources/Transformation

13. This report does not have any implications for human resources or service transformation across the Council.



.....
Alan Lunt
Deputy Chief Executive and
Strategic Director, Place

Contact Officers: Paul Mountford
Telephone: 01384 814186
Email: paul.mountford@dudley.gov.uk
Sean Beckett
Telephone: 01384 815281
Email: sean.beckett@dudley.gov.uk

.....
Iain Newman
Chief Officer Finance and Legal
Services

Background Documents

Appendix 1: Stourbridge Bid Business Plan/Proposal 2018-2023

Appendix 2: BID timeline

Appendix 3: Draft BID Levy Operating Agreement