



The Blackburn EDZ BID

Economic Development Zone
Business Improvement District

EDZ BID - Your Vote Counts

Why have you received this important message?

Your business is located in the Blackburn EDZ BID area. Every 5 years businesses in the BID area are asked to vote on its continuation. In July you will be asked to vote once more. Unfortunately we are also asking for the first increase in the BID Levy for 10 years. We have driven down costs and overheads, where possible, to keep the increase to a minimum. Having successfully operated for 10 years, the BID provides effective services to your business. The BID's continuation requires a majority vote, so your vote is important to your business's needs.

If you vote YES to continue EDZ BID for a further 5 years

-  Your business will continue to be supported by the BID's CCTV and ANPR cameras which have seen crime reduced in the BID area by 66% from its peak in 2007/8. In contrast crime across Blackburn with Darwen has remained consistently high over the same period.
-  The BID team have managed both the maintenance and provision of your CCTV system, including the move last year to a state of the art 24/7 monitoring and recording facility in central Blackburn.
-  Your business will continue to benefit from the work done by BID wardens. Their role is to maintain and undertake environmental improvements. They respond to fly tipping and pick up on average 30 bags of litter every week from our streets. This is litter that wouldn't be collected by the council.
-  Your business will be able to concentrate on what you do best, leaving issues of ant-social behaviour, crime, criminal damage, litter and signage repair and maintenance to the BID team.
-  BID offers you a voice to share concerns and develop actions to problems in your neighbourhood.

If you vote NO the BID will cease to operate.

-  Without the funds your membership provides there will be no provision for the upkeep and maintenance of the CCTV system. Without it crime is likely to rise to the levels suffered before the BID was established; a threefold increase.
-  24 hour CCTV surveillance will end and the BID's CCTV cameras will be decommissioned and removed.
-  The work of the wardens will stop. They respond to Fly Tipping and collect an average of 120 bags of loose litter a month which will not otherwise be collected and will remain on our streets.
-  Issues such as fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and graffiti will have to be managed at your time and cost.
-  Without signage and landscape maintenance, the district will soon suffer from a decline in image.

Your vote is important if this service is to continue.

If you wish to know more please go to www.blackburnedzbid.co.uk Or contact the team at info@blackburnedzbid.co.uk

We hope you recognise the significant improvements made in the BID area over the last 10 years

IF THIS IS TO CONTINUE WE NEED YOUR YES VOTE



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What is a Business Improvement District?

The Business Improvement District regulations 2004 enable local businesses and other stakeholders to form partnerships to implement improvements which will benefit their local area.

Businesses decide on the issues they want to address and the services they want to implement in addition to standard council services.

The improvements are funded via a supplement to the business rates billed by the local authority. These funds are handed over to the BID company to deliver the improvements.

The Bid company is 'not for profit'; all your money is invested in the BID area. Simply put, you have a greater say in how your money is spent, and we make your money go further.

The Blackburn EDZ BID partnership includes the Police, the Local Authority, Newground and local businesses working together to improve the security and image of the BID area.

There will be a vote by postal ballot which will close on 28th July. You will receive your voting papers in the post. It's important that you vote and have your say.

Vote YES to continue with this successful and effective partnership.



Useful BID contacts:

More information on Blackburn EDZ BID: info@blackburnedzbid.co.uk

CCTV Monitoring Centre: **01254 585 987** Wardens: - Fly Tipping, Graffiti etc.: **01254 669 058**

www.blackburnedzbid.co.uk