



This report aims to answer some of the key questions in respect of BID's. Undertaking a BID is a complicated process, therefore this provides only a brief outline and introduction to what a BID involves.

Key Questions about BIDS

1) What is a 'Business Improvement District' (BID)?

A BID is a partnership between local businesses, the community and the local authority. It seeks to develop and deliver added value services that will benefit the trading environment and the public realm. A BID is funded through a levy approved by a ballot and enables stakeholders to invest money to achieve common goals.

2) Why are BID's needed?

They are a mechanism for enabling the public and private sector to work together towards a common goal of improving the trading environment.

3) How is a BID funded?

Non domestic rate payers within a BID area (Bargoed town centre) pay a levy which becomes the core funding for the BID, though other funding may also be available to supplement this. The levy is charged as a supplement on the rates bill.

4) How does an area (Bargoed town centre) become a BID?

The BID proposals are voted on by all nondomestic rate payers who would be responsible for paying the BID levy. To be successful a BID needs to meet two tests:

- 1. More than 50% of the votes cast must be in favour of the BID**
- 2. The positive vote must represent more than 50% of the rateable value of the votes cast**



5) How long does a BID last for?

A BID has a mandate for a maximum of five years. To continue beyond five years the mandate must be reaffirmed through another ballot, based on a further proposal.

6) How long does a BID take to develop?

Experience shows that it takes between 18 months and two years to get a BID up and running.

7) Who runs a BID?

BID's are operated by not-for-profit partnership organisations through the appointment of a designated BID's officer.