

BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

A NEW TERM 2024 - 2028



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EXCITING TIMES

After a decade of delivering successful projects and services to improve Blackburn town centre and support businesses, Blackburn BID is looking forward to the next five years. Your YES vote will mean a further £1.5 million invested in Blackburn town centre which will compliment and strengthen Blackburn with Darwen Council's transformational investment plans for the town centre.





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VOTING YES FOR BLACKBURN BID MEANS:

If the majority of BID area businesses (by number AND rateable value) vote 'Yes' Blackburn BID will:

- Invest a further £1.5m in Blackburn town centre and deliver the objectives detailed in this Business Plan to benefit BID members.
- Create more town centre trails to highlight and engage people with town centre heritage, green spaces and businesses.
- Continue to deliver and support high quality, accessible, innovative, fun and free town centre events which attract huge numbers of visitors from the local community, regionally and nationally.
- Deliver regular BID member updates with news, information, guidance and support.
- Deliver BID marketing and promotion campaigns for town centre businesses and the wider town centre.
- Be part of a national BID network of over 300 BIDs giving a strong national voice to lobby government on issues affecting the future of town and city centres.
- Arrange more training or support for BID businesses with marketing, using social media and creating social media videos.
- Communicate regularly with other BIDs across the North of England to share best practice.
- Continue to work in partnership to deliver projects and services which help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the town centre.
- Listen and respond to the needs of Blackburn BID levy payers and the changing economic climate.
- Fund more projects which design out crime and ASB.
- Provide a single point of contact for town centre issues.
- Provide security patrols to support businesses and ensure the safe and professional delivery of town centre events.
- Aim to secure external funding to enhance the value for money provided to Blackburn BID members.
- Continue to support BID members, community groups and charities to deliver environmental improvements and planting projects in Blackburn.
- Continue to provide the best support possible to Blackburn BID levy payers.



VOTING NO FOR BLACKBURN BID MEANS:

If the majority of BID area businesses (by number or rateable value) vote 'No', Blackburn Town centre Blackburn BID would cease operation and all the above benefits to town centre businesses will be lost.



“With your ‘YES’ vote
Blackburn BID will
continue for the next
5 years and secure
a further £1.5m
investment in the
town centre.”



HOW TO VOTE

The vote will be via a postal ballot which will take place between 7 October 2023 and 3 November 2023. Results will be announced by 5.00pm on Friday 10 November 2023.

All defined business ratepayers with a rateable value of over £10,000 in the BID area will be given the opportunity to vote during the formal ballot period.

Each ratepayer will be entitled to one vote per hereditament (levy paying premises) on which a BID levy would be paid. It will be possible to appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf and information on how to do so will be included with the ballot information sent to you. The ballot will be a confidential postal ballot managed by Civica Election Services.

Look out for the ballot papers coming through your door and make sure you place your vote to be certain that your voice is heard.

Any ballot queries or missing ballot papers should be brought to the attention of Blackburn BID as soon as possible at:

catherine.price@newground.co.uk
07860 952 352.



**HAVE YOUR SAY:
LOOK OUT FOR
YOUR VOTING
PAPERS FROM 4
OCTOBER 2023**



**£1.5m
INVESTMENT**





WHAT IS A BID AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

A Business Improvement District (BID) is a business-led and business-funded body formed to improve a defined commercial area.

Within the defined area a levy is charged on all business rate payers in addition to the business rates bill.

The levy is based on a small percentage of a business' rateable value for business rates and is used to deliver projects and services which benefit the businesses in the BID area.

There is no limit on what projects or services can be provided through a BID. The only requirement is that they should be something that is in addition to services provided by local authorities, providing additionality.

Improvements are aimed at driving footfall to the BID area because research proves that the more people who visit an area, the more they spend in local businesses.

Projects and services often include events programmes, extra safety/security, cleansing and environmental improvements.

BIDs were first introduced in the UK in 2005 and there are now over 300 BIDs across the UK, as more and more business communities see the benefit of taking a greater control over driving footfall into their commercial district.

Some BIDs are set up as Private Limited Companies and others have an accountable body.

Newground CIC are the accountable body for Blackburn BID and are responsible for employing the BID Manager, financial management of the BID, administrative support, and producing audited statements of expenditure and progress reports.



THE STORY SO FAR...

Blackburn BID covers Blackburn town centre and three retail parks – Townsmoor, Blackburn and Peel.

It has approx.

360
levy paying members

Since 2013 Blackburn BID has had
4 main objectives:

MARKETING AND PROMOTING

Blackburn as a vibrant town centre

Creating a SAFER, MORE SECURE

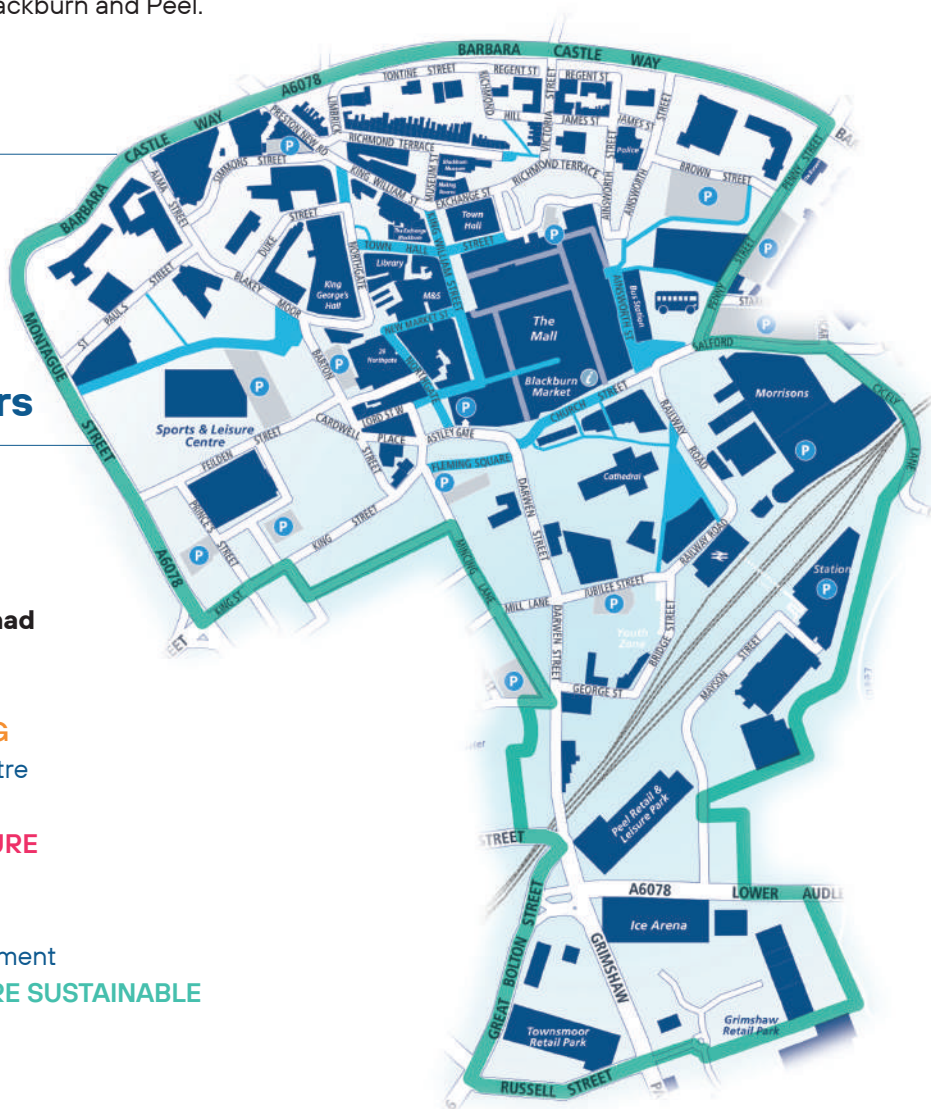
Blackburn town centre

Making the town centre environment

CLEANER, GREENER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

with information and advice



The BID is managed by an Executive Board consisting of representatives of businesses and key stakeholders operating in the BID area.

The Executive Board meets a minimum of 4 times a year. BID levy payers are eligible to vote at annual general meetings and nominate individuals for elected board positions.

Blackburn BID is now asking you to **VOTE YES** to plans for a third BID term of five years commencing 1st January 2024.



WHY WE MUST SUPPORT BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE BID

I have been proud to be the Chair of Blackburn BID for nearly 10 years, and I have seen Blackburn town centre go from strength to strength as a result of the investment in improvements from Blackburn BID, alongside the strong partnership working with key partners including Blackburn with Darwen Council, The Mall Blackburn, Blackburn Cathedral and Lancashire Police.

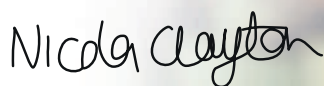
With your support Blackburn BID has delivered and supported nationally recognised events, been nominated for and received regional and national awards, invested in town centre policing, provided targeted security patrols and crime reduction initiatives, and supported Blackburn town centre businesses through the Covid-19 pandemic.

I'm confident that Blackburn BID has demonstrated that we can make a positive impact on our town centre and without the BID our exciting programme of events and marketing, our investment in safety and crime reduction initiatives and environmental improvements will end, at a time when businesses need it the most.

You are now being asked to vote to renew Blackburn BID for five more years. Only by securing a majority 'YES' vote in the third term ballot, can we continue to build on our achievements to date and make Blackburn town centre the best place to do business. We would like to count on your support.



Thank you



Nicola Clayton
Chair, Blackburn town centre BID



PROUD TO MANAGE BLACKBURN BID

I've managed Blackburn BID throughout its second term and I hope to see it being successful in continuing for a third term.

I've been privileged to work with amazing BID Executive Board members who are committed to supporting town centre businesses and making improvements to the town centre which will benefit our businesses.

One of my key priorities has been to ensure businesses feel that the BID is working hard on their behalf, and for BID members to feel they are seeing a return on their investment with their BID levy.

Your Blackburn BID Manager is here to listen, help, support, respond and deliver on behalf of Blackburn town centre's brilliant businesses. With your 'YES' vote this will continue for the next 5 years and secure a further £1.5m investment in the town centre.



Catherine Price
Blackburn town centre BID Manager



ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE 2019



✓ **£1.5m**
INVESTMENT

£630,000 INVESTMENT in marketing and promoting Blackburn town centre


11 MILLION VISITORS
TO BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE IN 2022

+27.6% more footfall
than in 2021

6.1 MILLION PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH WIDER MEDIA AND PRESS COVERAGE

57 TOWN CENTRE
EVENTS
DELIVERED
& SUPPORTED

35,000+ PEOPLE
ATTRACTED TO THE TOWN CENTRE THROUGH BID EVENTS

 **2.3 MILLION**
SOCIAL MEDIA REACH
18,000+ SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS 

£344,000+
INVESTMENT
IN CREATING A SAFER, MORE SECURE
BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE 

 INC. **£268,000**
INVESTMENT
IN TOWN CENTRE POLICING

250+ REGULAR USERS
DISC CRIME INFORMATION
SHARING SYSTEM

 **28.9% DROP**
IN RECORDED CRIME
COMPARED TO 2019

5,000 HOURS
of security
patrols delivered 

£62,900
INVESTMENT
IN PLANTING,
MAINTENANCE
& ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENTS


4 NORTH WEST IN BLOOM
GOLD AWARDS
+
1 BRITAIN IN BLOOM
SILVER GILT AWARD
FOR BLACKBURN IN BLOOM PARTNERSHIP


12 PLANTING AREAS INSTALLED OR REFURBISHED,
DESIGNED, PLANTED & MAINTAINED BY COMMUNITY GROUPS

£139,200
ADDITIONAL INCOME
FROM GRANTS, PARTNERSHIP FUNDING & SPONSORSHIP

ADOPTION OF
BLACKBURN TRAIN STATION

 **66**
VOLUNTEERS
INVOLVED IN
PLANTING PROJECTS



"You guys at Blackburn BID are doing an amazing job. Keep it up."

MARCUS GANNON, DIRECTOR
Hobkirk Sewing Machines

"I think the response to the [BID's] trails has been great! Children have been coming in with their parents to look at the sculpture, taking pictures and looking around the store while they're here."

NATALIE, MANAGER
Blackburn Primark

"Blackburn BID's security patrols have been fantastic to say the least and is really supporting the teams to feel safe when working on the retail park."

ADAM LORD, STORE MANAGER
TKMaxx

"We think Blackburn BID are awesome and always doing a great job to support the town!"

ROXY, MANAGER
The Works Blackburn

"We really welcome and value the support [Blackburn BID] provides to the library as a town centre venue. The BID led installations, campaigns, promotions are always fun, exciting and importantly bring in footfall. I know the promotional activity is just one element of your overall work and we're grateful for everything else the BID contributes to."

ADELE KARWAT, SERVICE MANAGER:
LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES
Blackburn Central Library

"Your [BID member update] emails were so helpful all the way through the lockdown and after."

VICTORIA O'BRIEN, GENERAL MANAGER
Specsavers

"The activities create something special for the town. They give families something to do together and we've seen lots of new faces coming in to the shop as a result. The BID should be proud of itself."

MOSS, MANAGER
Rhode Island

"All the engagement as a result of the trails has been absolutely amazing. We have doubled our footfall over the week. We can see all the smiles on the children's faces and we're definitely going to get involved in anything organised by Blackburn BID in the future."

UWAIS
Utilita Energy Hub

"Thanks for letting us be a part of the Sand Sculpture trail - the kids have all loved it!"

PAUL WILDING, PARTNER
Grays Schoolwear

"We had a really good event and lots of footfall. I feel the events will create us some new regular visitors, as a few did stay to play. We also had some who said they didn't know what we did but will be back, which is amazing!... all in all the event was brilliant and we will definitely be more than happy to take part in this kind of event again."

LINDA, MANAGER
Blackburn Geek Retreat

BLACKBURN BID'S SUCCESS SINCE 2019



MARKETING AND PROMOTING BLACKBURN AS A VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE



Blackburn BID has delivered:

- A dedicated digital marketing and PR service, generating content showcasing Blackburn town centre and its brilliant businesses, promoting town centre events, and providing information to BID businesses.
- Marketing campaigns to attract visitors to the town both day-to-day and for events.
- Webinars and Breakfast Workshops to support businesses to promote themselves through digital marketing.
- An innovative, creative and unique to Blackburn programme of town centre events including annual Christmas Lights Switch Ons, exciting trail events, the Future Makers Market as part of the National Festival of Making and Blackburn Pride.
- Welcome Back campaigns, entertainment and events to encourage visitors back into Blackburn town centre after the pandemic.
- A brand new website for Blackburn BID members to provide clear information about the BID and resources to support levy payers.
- Sponsorship and support for town centre events including the Blackburn Flower Festival, People's Parade event, National Festival of Making, Morphgate and Blackburn Pride.
- Town centre promotional films, 'Spotlight On...' and Advice Shop style social media videos and social media competitions to showcase and promote town centre businesses.

- The town centre's first ever Drive In show and 'Christmas 2020 Reimagined' light projections on Blackburn Town Hall during the pandemic.
- Believe in the Magic of Blackburn town centre illustrated children's book to engage children with the heritage and magic of Blackburn town centre.
- Creative Spaces project in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Council to commission artists to create community themed artworks for town centre spaces including Ainsworth Street planters and the Northgate / Town Hall Street community sign.



BLACKBURN BID'S SUCCESS SINCE 2019



CREATING A SAFER, MORE SECURE BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE



Blackburn BID has delivered:

- Funding for two town centre police officers in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Council.
- In partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Council and Lancashire Police, work to target and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the town centre through high visibility patrols, plain clothes operations, Community Protection Notices, and enforcement of the town centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).
- Over 5,000 hours of security patrols in partnership with Blackburn Businesses Against Crime (BBAC) to support businesses, prevent crime and ASB, and provide reassurance and confidence to town centre visitors.
- Projects to 'design out' crime and ASB including two town centre alleygating schemes and bespoke planters.
- Security support for town centre events to ensure they are delivered safely and professionally.
- Funding to BBAC to support businesses with the shopwatch and pubwatch radio schemes, provide crime prevention advice and support, and to facilitate information sharing about persistent town centre issues and offenders.

- Funding for the DISC crime information sharing system, enabling people to submit reports of incidents, share and view information about offenders, and manage exclusion schemes.
- Partnership working with agencies including Blackburn with Darwen Council, Lancashire Police, BBAC, and Substance Misuse Support Services to deal with ASB and crime issues in the town centre.
- A Retail Crime Guide in partnership with Lancashire Police and BBAC to help town centre businesses prevent and deal with retail crime.
- Joint membership with BBAC of National Business Crime Solution (NBCS), a not-for-profit initiative that works with the police and business community to tackle business crime.
- Support for businesses to reopen and operate safely after Covid lockdowns including advice, updates, Covid safety signage, barriers to manage queues and gazebos for outdoor seating.
- Safe & Secure Newsletters to highlight partnership crime reduction and prevention initiatives.
- The installation of a defibrillator in McDonalds to increase the availability of life saving equipment in Blackburn town centre.
- Regular BID member updates and Breakfast Workshops to support businesses in dealing with retail crime and cyber crime.



BLACKBURN BID'S SUCCESS SINCE 2019



CREATING A SUSTAINABLE, CLEANER AND MORE ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT



Blackburn BID has delivered:

- Community planting projects as part of the Blackburn in Bloom partnership which has been awarded four North West in Bloom Gold Awards and a Britain in Bloom Silver Gilt Award.
- Support for BID members, charities and community groups including Age UK, Blackburn Foodbank, BwD Adult Learning, BwD Council, Child Action North West, Morrisons, Nightsafe, Purple Patch and The Mall Blackburn to create community planting areas across the town centre as part of the Growing Places project.
- Deep cleans of the town centre including King William Street and Darwen Street.
- The Tree Buddy project, working with volunteers to identify and research town centre trees, then develop and lead urban tree walks around the town centre.
- An Open Spaces map by local illustrator Ursula Hurst to showcase the natural environment and green spaces in the town centre.
- In partnership with Re:refresh BwD, town centre walks showcasing Blackburn's heritage, green spaces, public art and the BIDs Growing Places planters.
- Blackburn Train Station adoption – working with Nightsafe, St Michael & St John Primary School, Purple Patch and IMO to plant and look after new and existing planters around the station. Plus patchwork making workshops to create patchwork displays to decorate the train station.



- Bespoke planters to improve the environment and help to 'design-out' crime and anti-social behaviour.
- New Christmas lighting for Darwen Street, Salford and Town Hall Square.
- Sustainability – pumpkin pulp and waste from pumpkin carving workshops went to BID member Nightsafe to turn into meals and snacks for residents. LED lamp post mounted Christmas trees, which were rented each year, have been replaced with low energy lighting units which can be reused every year. Energy saving measures introduced at Blackburn Glitterball Christmas Lights Switch On event reduced the event's energy consumption by 75% and Blackburn BID was nominated for a national award for making the change.
- Town centre litter picks in partnership with Blackburn Businesses Against Crime (BBAC).
- A community-themed mural created and installed in partnership with The Mall Blackburn. The mural was designed by local artist Alexandra Gallagher and was pictured in The Times newspaper.



BLACKBURN BID'S SUCCESS SINCE 2019



SUPPORTING BUSINESSES WITH INFORMATION AND ADVICE



Blackburn BID has delivered:

- Regular BID member updates via email, social media, monthly e-newsletter and the Blackburn BID website.
- Business Breakfast workshops with speakers on relevant topics to support BID members and provide networking opportunities.
- Social media webinars to support businesses to use digital marketing to promote their organisation and services.
- Support for BID members through Covid-19 including information, advice and guidance about government regulations, funding, expert Q&A sessions, security patrols to look after closed businesses and support essential open businesses, Covid-safety posters, gazebos to support use of outdoor space and barriers to help with managing queues.
- Social media workshops provided by accountable body Newground CIC.
- Promotion and marketing support for new and existing town centre businesses.
- 'Spotlight on...' social media videos showcasing Blackburn's brilliant town centre businesses.
- Better links between King George's Hall and the town centre's food and drink businesses.
- Advice, support, training and networking opportunities in partnership The Hive BwD Business Network, Blackburn with Darwen Council and BwD Adult Learning.

SUPPORTING INVESTMENT IN BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE'S FUTURE

Blackburn with Darwen Council is carving out a strong reputation for the borough as a place to invest and do business and Blackburn town centre is a big part of that. Another five years for Blackburn BID enables the BID to further support the Council's £1bn investment vision for the borough.

LARGEST TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION IN THE REGION PLANNED FOR BLACKBURN

Blackburn with Darwen is on the cusp of a major economic revolution. A £1bn vision for the future has the potential to transform the economy – making it one of the most important economic centres in the North.

Central to that is the £250m Blackburn Town Centre Masterplan – believed to be the biggest town centre regeneration scheme of its type planned for the region.

The ambitious scheme will boost town centre footfall through:

- **New town centre living opportunities**
- **A £60m Skills & Education Campus with Cyber Zone (see below)**
- **New business workspaces**
- **Revitalised/repurposed historic buildings**
- **Improved public realm and increased cycle/ pedestrian routes**

The 15 acre site includes the existing Morrisons store, which could move as part of the proposals, and the former Thwaites site.

£60M SKILLS & EDUCATION CAMPUS WITH CYBER ZONE

This impressive scheme will deliver a skills and education campus of national significance in Blackburn town centre.

Part of the £250m Blackburn Town Centre Masterplan, it boasts a cluster of university, training and education leaders with the potential to attract 3,000 students to the town centre every year.

BLACKBURN'S £50M NEW CULTURAL QUARTER

Blackburn's brand new Cultural Quarter is really starting to take shape.

Set around the historic King George's Hall, work is already well underway on transforming Blakey Moor Terrace into a new restaurant and bar space and construction has started on Blackburn College's landmark Victoria Building too.

New life is also being breathed into the area with the opening of Reel Cinema and hundreds of thousands of pounds invested into brand new restaurants. Soon to join them will be Akbar's which already has successful Indian cuisine restaurants in major cities, including Manchester, Leeds and Birmingham.

And, the Council is looking for funding opportunities for King George's too – a true gem in the crown of the area – last year hosting Liam Gallagher, Florence + the Machine, Paul Weller and more as it celebrated its 100th year as an impressive music venue.



THE NEXT CHAPTER: 2024 – 2028



**VOTING YES FOR
A THIRD TERM OF
BLACKBURN BID
MEANS A FURTHER
£1.5M OF
INVESTMENT
IN BLACKBURN TOWN
CENTRE TO BENEFIT
BUSINESSES OVER
THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.**



WHAT WILL BLACKBURN BID DELIVER IN ITS THIRD TERM?

In our recent town centre surveys of Blackburn town centre businesses, you told us which of our projects and services you value the most and which initiatives should be prioritised over the next five year term.

We have used this information to develop our four key objectives for the 2024 – 2028 Blackburn BID term:

MARKETING & PROMOTING

Blackburn as a vibrant town centre

Creating a SAFER & MORE SECURE

Blackburn town centre

Making the town centre environment

CLEANER, GREENER & MORE SUSTAINABLE

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

with information and advice

BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE BID'S OBJECTIVES 2024 - 2028



MARKETING & PROMOTING BLACKBURN AS A VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE

What does this mean?

- Delivering and supporting events which drive footfall to Blackburn town centre and its businesses.
- Delivering impactful marketing campaigns and initiatives to promote the town centre, businesses, and events.
- Providing support and resources to enable businesses to promote themselves and gain maximum impact from marketing campaigns.
- Continuing to improve the visitor experience including information and wayfinding.
- Facilitating an events and marketing working group to strengthen the town centre offer and deliver a combined and consistent approach.
- A new Blackburn BID website providing clear information, news and resources for BID members.



CREATING A SAFER & MORE SECURE BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE

What does this mean?

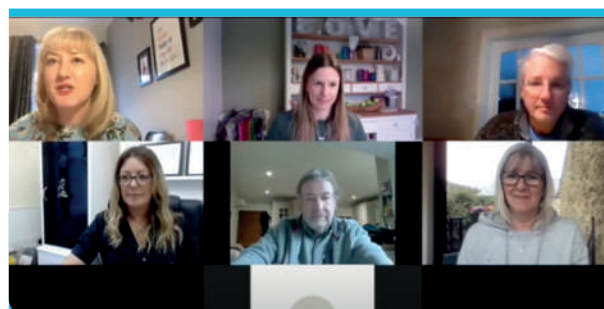
- Working in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Council and Lancashire Police to tackle and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the town centre.
- Providing security support to ensure safe town centre events and to deter and reduce ASB and retail crime.
- Funding the DISC crime information sharing system.
- Working in partnership with other agencies to tackle and reduce town centre crime and ASB.
- Supporting the delivery of the Blackburn Businesses Against Crime (BBAC) crime reduction partnership.
- Providing advice, support and information to businesses to help them prevent, reduce and deal with crime and ASB.



CREATING A CLEANER, GREENER & MORE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

What does this mean?

- Delivering environmental improvements, tackling grot spots and helping to create a more attractive environment.
- Continuing to develop community greening projects which increase community engagement and pride in the town centre.
- Supporting the multi award-winning Blackburn in Bloom partnership project.
- Carrying out deep cleans and litter picks of the town centre to support and enhance the Council's cleansing service.
- Developing more town centre trails showcasing its heritage, businesses and greenspaces.



SUPPORTING BUSINESSES WITH INFORMATION AND ADVICE

What does this mean?

- Free business workshops, webinars and face-to-face training and support sessions.
- Regular BID member updates with information, guidance and advice about BID activities and anything which might be relevant and useful to town centre businesses.
- Signposting to available business support services.
- Working with partner organisations including The Hive BwD Business Network, East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and Community & Business Partners, and BwD Adult Learning to support town centre businesses.
- Providing free recruitment support through the BID's accountable body and Blackburn town centre based Newground Together.
- Supporting new businesses to the town centre with promotion and marketing.

A NEW TERM 2024 – 2028

There are some changes proposed to Blackburn BID for its third term, to ensure that Blackburn BID can continue to make a difference in the BID area.



WHO IS IN THE 2024 – 2028 BLACKBURN BID AREA?

There are 336 'hereditaments' (levy paying premises) within the Blackburn BID area for the third term. This includes the former Thwaites site which will be redeveloped as part of Blackburn with Darwen Council's Town Centre Masterplan, and the wider Grimshaw Retail Park.

As has been the case with the first two terms of Blackburn BID, only those businesses with a rateable value of over £10,000 will be charged a BID levy.

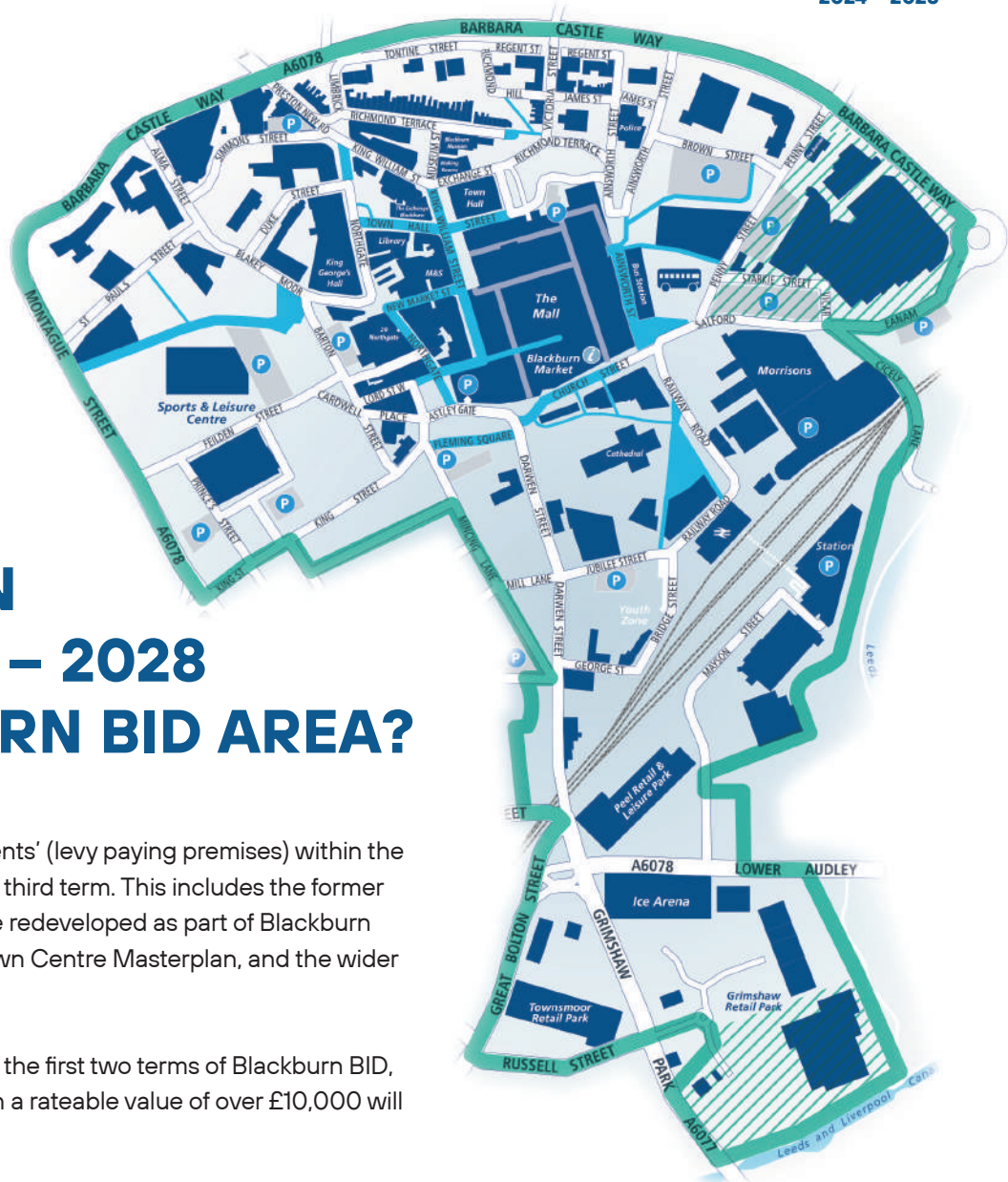
Streets Included:

AINSWORTH STREET
HIGHER CHURCH STREET
PENNY STREET
ALMA STREET
HIGH STREET
PILKINGTON STREET
ASTLEY GATE
JAMES STREET
PRESTON NEW ROAD (part of)
BARBARA CASTLE WAY (Part of)
JUBILEE STREET
PRINCE'S STREET
BARTON STREET
KING STREET (Part of)
RAILWAY ROAD
BLAKEY MOOR
KING WILLIAM STREET
REGENT STREET
BRIDGE STREET

LIMBRICK (part of)
RICHMOND HILL
BROWN STREET
LORD STREET
RICHMOND TERRACE
CARDWELL PLACE
LORD STREET MALL
RUSSELL STREET (Part of)
CATHEDRAL SQUARE
LORD STREET WEST
SALFORD
CICELY STREET (Part of)
LOWER AUDLEY STREET (Part of)
SIMMONS STREET
CHURCH STREET
LOWER COCKCROFT
SPRING HILL
COBDEN COURT
MARKET STREET LANE

STARKIE STREET
CORPORATION STREET
MARKET WAY
STONYBUTTS
DANDY WALK
MAYSON STREET
ST PAUL'S AVENUE
DARWEN STREET
MINCING LANE (Part of)
ST PAUL'S STREET
DUKE STREET
MILL LANE (Part of)
SUDELL CROSS
EANAM (Part of)
MORTON STREET
TACKETT STREET
EXCHANGE STREET
MUSEUM STREET
THE BOULEVARD

FEILDEN STREET
MONTAGUE STREET (Part of)
TONTINE STREET
FLEMING SQUARE
NAB LANE
TOWN HALL STREET
GEORGE STREET
NEW MARKET STREET
UNIVERSITY CLOSE
GREAT BOLTON STREET (Part of)
NORTHGATE
VICAR STREET
GRIMSHAW PARK ROAD
PARK ROAD (Part of)
VICTORIA COURT
HEATON STREET (Part of)
PARADISE STREET
VICTORIA STREET



FAQs

How much will the BID levy be?

The BID levy will be set at 1.5% of your rateable value for non-domestic (business) rates. This is a slight increase from the 2019 – 2023 BID term because the 2023 Business Rates Revaluation has led to a reduction in the annual income for the BID, which means if there was no change to the BID levy, the projects and services the BID is able to deliver would be reduced.

When will I have to pay?

The new five year term will commence on 1st January 2024 and the occupier (or owner if the property is empty) on the 1st of January each year will be the liable party for the BID levy. Invoices will be sent out at the beginning of February each year. If the responsibility for business rates changes during the year, no pro-rata refunds will be given and the new occupier will only be liable from the next year of the term.

How much will I pay?

A small business with rateable value of £10,250 would pay £153.75 per year, less than the cost of a weekly takeaway coffee. A bigger business with a rateable value of £29,250 would pay £438.75 per year, or about three takeaway coffees a week. The average levy payment will be around £923 per year, which is about £17.75 per week, or about five takeaway coffees. Just over 76% of businesses will pay less than this.

Any questions?

To check if you are included in the Blackburn BID area 2024 – 2028, to find out the amount of levy you will pay, or if you have any questions about Blackburn BID or the third term ballot, please contact the Blackburn BID Manager at:

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07860 952 352



BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE BID... ADDING VALUE

The projects and services delivered by Blackburn BID will be additional to statutory services already delivered by Blackburn with Darwen Council and other public service organisations.

Your money will not be used to pay for any services that the Council has a statutory duty to provide. BID funding may be used to work in partnership with the Council or any other public service organisation to add value and enhance existing initiatives to provide improvements and benefit both the town centre and its businesses.

Blackburn BID Budget 2024 – 2028*

	ANNUAL	FIVE YEAR TOTAL
BID Levy income	£313,000	£1,565,000
Management Costs	£70,000	£350,000
Marketing & Promotion	£110,000	£550,000
Safer, More Secure	£95,000	£475,000
Cleaner, Greener	£18,000	£90,000
Supporting Businesses	£5,000	£25,000
Contingency	£15,000	£75,000
Total Expenditure	£313,000	£1,565,000

* The income is estimated based on information at the time of publication. Expenditure headings are a guide and the BID Executive Board have authority to vary actual expenditure according to business need.

HOW WILL THE BID BE MANAGED?

The governance arrangements for Blackburn BID 2024 – 2028 are set out in the Blackburn town centre BID 2024 – 2028 Constitution and the Blackburn town centre BID 2024 – 2028 Operating Agreement.

Newground CIC is the accountable body for Blackburn BID and is responsible for employing the BID Manager, financial management of the BID, administrative support for the Executive Board, and producing audited statements of expenditure and progress reports.

The BID is overseen by an Executive Board, with a minimum of seven positions made up of one permanent and a minimum of 6 elected positions (maximum of ten elected positions). The Board consists of businesses and key stakeholders operating in the BID area.

The Executive Board meets quarterly, with five members required to be present for a meeting to be quorate. The role and responsibilities of Executive Board members is set out in the Blackburn town centre BID Constitution. BID levy payers are eligible to vote at annual general meetings and nominate individuals for elected board positions.

Blackburn with Darwen Council, as the local authority for the area, manages the billing and collection of the BID levy, which is then passed to the BID.



BID LEVY RULES 2024 – 2028



- This will be the third term of Blackburn BID and will run from 1st January 2024 for five years until 31st December 2028.
- Blackburn BID levy is fixed at 1.5% of rateable value on 1st January 2024 for the full five year term.
- The BID levy will be applied to all business ratepayers of occupied or unoccupied property with a rateable value of over £10,000 within the Blackburn BID area at any time that the BID is in operation. No relief is to be given to any class of non-domestic ratepayer irrespective of whatever relief or exemption they may currently enjoy in respect of Non Domestic (Business) Rates.
- Primary schools are exempt from the levy.
- The BID levy will be used to fund the delivery of initiatives as outlined in this Business Plan or other activities of benefit to Blackburn town centre which are responsive to emerging priorities and approved by the Blackburn BID Executive Board.
- The liable party for Blackburn BID levy is the business rate payer for the property in the BID area on the 1st January of each year of the BID term.
- Where a hereditament is vacant on the 1st January, the liability to pay the annual BID levy will fall upon the person or organisation entitled to possession of the property in accordance with the national non domestic rate regulations.
- Businesses leaving the BID area during the time that the BID is in operation will not be entitled to a refund of the BID levy on a pro rata basis.
- The existing recovery procedures for the standard Business Rates bill will be utilised for any non-payment of the BID levy.
- There are no costs relating to the development of the new BID term which will need to be repaid during the term.
- Notice of the intention to hold a ballot has been given to the Secretary of State and Blackburn with Darwen Council.
- The BID arrangements may be altered without an Alteration Ballot in the following instances:
 - Alterations do not alter the geographical area of the BID
 - Alterations do not alter the BID levy payable
 - Alterations do not conflict with the Local Government Act (2003) or The Business Improvement District Regulations (2004)
- Any new hereditaments added to the Non Domestic Rating List during the initiative will be liable to pay the levy from 1st January of the following year.
- Any valuation adjustments, successful appeals, new or removed hereditaments will be adjusted annually on 1st January of the following year.



For more information about Blackburn BID
please get in touch.

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