

**Economic development & Transport Policy &  
Scrutiny Committee**

**8 March 2017**

Report of the Assistant Director – Legal & Governance

**York Business Improvement District**

**Summary**

1. This report introduces a further update on the work of the York Business Improvement District.

**Background**

2. The York Business Improvement District (BID) is a city-wide partnership initiative led primarily by local businesses, with the Council as the accountable body. In November 2015, businesses in the city centre of York voted in favour of a new Business Improvement District by 76% of the number of hereditaments and 80% in overall business rates value. The intention was to raise more than £800,000 in BID levies to be invested in the city centre.
3. The York BID was launched in April 2016 with the aim of delivering improvements to the city centre and a focus on four identified areas:
  - Cleanliness and environment
  - Safety and security
  - Events and festivals
  - Business support
4. In September 2016 the Executive Director of York BID attended a meeting of the Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee to detail the work of the BID team and to answer Members' questions.
5. Members agreed that the Executive Director of York BID be invited to a future meeting to provide more information on:

- Whether the street cleansing that was carried out by the BID team overlapped with the work of the CYC street cleansing team.
- The democratic arrangements for the BID Board, including the voting arrangements.
- Any provision that had been made to ensure that signposting was in place to indicate the location of small independent businesses.
- Any action that was being taken to address the issue of street begging and chugging.
- A breakdown of costs in respect of the BID Rangers and the plans for them to have powers of enforcement.
- Any plans for improvements to flower beds and floral displays.
- Any plans to address the issue of litter within the BID, including the provision of recycling bins in the city centre.
- The relationship between the BID and Make it York in terms of planning for festivals and events.

### **Consultation**

6. The Executive Director of York BID will be in attendance at the meeting to further update the Committee and answer Members' questions.

### **Options**

7. After receiving an update report from the Executive Director of York BID Members can agree whether they require further information, or not.

### **Council Plan**

8. The work of the Business Improvement District is in line with the Council Plan objectives to create a prosperous city for all where local businesses can thrive.

### **Risks and Implications**

9. There are no risks or implications arising from the recommendation in this report. However, one of the key BID themes is to introduce initiatives to try and tackle anti-social behaviour and the culture of afternoon drinking in the city centre.

## Analysis

10. This report is for information only.

## Recommendation

11. Members are asked to note the information provided in this report and by the Executive Director of York BID and agree whether a further update is required, or not.

Reason: To inform the Committee on the progress of the York BID.

## Contact Details

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Report Approved  Date 21/02/2017

Wards Affected: Micklegate, Guildhall and Fishergate All

For further information please contact the author of the report