



JEWELLERY QUARTER BID
Life in the Quarter

**JEWELLERY QUARTER BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (JQBID)**

Statutory Explanatory Notes
APRIL 2018



Overview

The Jewellery Quarter BID (BID) commenced its first five-year term on 1st September 2012.

In July 2017, businesses voted 88% in favour of a second five-year term in the Renewal Ballot. The second term commenced on 1st September 2017 and runs until 31 August 2022.

The Jewellery Quarter BID is funded by a fair and transparent levy on all eligible properties.

The BID levy is an annual amount payable each year until the end of this five-year term on 31st August 2022

The Jewellery Quarter BID Team

The Jewellery Quarter BID Team works hard to deliver projects and initiatives that will benefit the businesses in the local area. BID levy payers' views and ideas are regularly sought to improve the BID team's service. Regular project updates are provided via offline and online communication including the dedicated website (see link below).

For biographies and responsibilities of the JQBID Team and further information, visit www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid

FAQs

What is the Jewellery Quarter BID?

A Business Improvement District (BID) is a geographically defined area within which businesses pool their resources to invest in projects and services that improve the local environment and the experiences of visitors, workers and other users. The Jewellery Quarter BID is one of 12 BIDs in Birmingham.

Who manages the BID?

The Jewellery Quarter BID is operated by the Jewellery Quarter Development Trust (JQDT), an independent Community Interest Company (CIC). The JQDT undertakes a range of activities for the benefit of all who live, learn, work, invest and visit the area. The Board of Directors consists of BID levy payers and community representatives who manage the budget and oversee the BID team's activities. Day-to-day, the BID is managed by a small team led by the BID Director.

Why am I eligible to pay the BID levy?

All non-domestic properties within the Jewellery Quarter BID area that have a Rateable Value (RV) of over £10,000 are eligible to contribute to the BID via a levy. To view a map of the BID area, please visit the BID website www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid.

Birmingham City Council is responsible for the administration and collection of the levy before the funds are transferred to the Jewellery Quarter BID team. These funds are invested on behalf of the community in line with the approved Jewellery Quarter BID Proposal. To view this document, please visit the BID website www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid.

How is the BID levy calculated?

The levy is calculated at 2% of RV as at 6th April 2017. The following conditions apply:

- The annual levy will be apportioned on a daily basis where properties are taken out or brought into the rating list.

- No exemptions will be granted for void or partially empty premises.
- The levy will be discounted for charitable organisations at the same level as their mandatory rate relief, currently 80%.
- Hereditaments (properties) with rateable values below £10,000 will be exempt from the levy.
- The maximum levy payable will be £10,000 per hereditament.

Do I need to pay the BID Levy?

The person(s) or organisation liable to pay the non-domestic rates for the property is also liable to pay the BID levy. Where a property is occupied this falls to the occupier. If the property is vacant, undergoing refurbishment or being demolished, the registered business ratepayer will be liable to pay.

In 2017, I received two BID levy bills. Why have I received another one?

Birmingham City Council normally issues one BID levy bill per financial year which is an annual compulsory contribution. This new bill covers the billing period 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019. No other bills will be issued this year.

Last year's bill was split across two payments. The initial bill covered the last five months of the BID's first five-year term 1st March 2017 – 31st August 2017. After a successful Renewal Ballot where businesses voted 'yes' for the BID to continue for another five years, a second bill was issued covering the seven-month period from 1st September up to 31st March 2018.

Since September 2017, I have started to receive a BID levy bill. Why is this?

From 1st September 2017, the Jewellery Quarter BID welcomed new levy payers based on the following changes:

- The BID area was expanded for its second-term to reflect the natural footprint of the

Jewellery Quarter. To view a map of the BID area, please visit the BID website www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid.

- A revaluation of Rateable Values (RV) was undertaken by the Government and it came into effect on 1st April 2017. Some businesses are now eligible when previously they may have been exempt from payment.

What happens to the money that is collected through the levy?

All money collected is invested back into the Jewellery Quarter. The Jewellery Quarter BID outlined in its BID Proposal a strategy to deliver projects, events and initiatives to raise the profile of the area making it a safer, cleaner and more vibrant place to do business. To view the Proposal, please visit the BID website www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid.

Aren't some of these services provided by the Council?

The services provided by the Jewellery Quarter BID are additional services not provided by the Council or enhancements to existing Council services.

Can I opt out of the BID?

No. The BID arrangements are legally binding for non-domestic ratepayers in the BID area who meet the criteria set out in the Jewellery Quarter BID Proposal.

What is the estimated total revenue to be raised from the BID levy in 2018 / 2019?

The estimated total revenue to be raised from the BID levy in 2018 / 2019 is £485,000 (for a full financial year). The team will work hard throughout the BID's term to lever in further funding from other sources.

The BID's work themes

The Jewellery Quarter BID proposal outlines the key areas of focus for the next 5 years of projects, events and initiatives. The document incorporates views and comments received from consulting with the BID levy payers. The agreed work themes are:

More Attractive, Tidier & Cleaner

- Dedicated JQ Clean Team
- Annual floral displays across the area
- A focus on bringing back into use derelict buildings/improve aesthetics and planning policy

Safer & More Welcoming

- Jewellery Quarter Ambassadors
- Greater partnership working with local bodies eg the local Neighbourhood Police Team
- Expansion of JQ CCTV coverage

Promoting & Marketing

- Targeted media campaigns and promotions
- JQ Festival, punctuated with regular events
- Annual JQ Bespoke Christmas Light scheme
- Management of Jewellery Quarter website and production of a regular magazine

Encouraging Investment, Growth & Networking

- Sponsorship of business networking events
- Organising regular B2B events

Making the Quarter Sustainable & Green

- Public realm enhancement projects and de-cluttering of JQ streets
- Co-ordinating a JQ recycling service for local businesses

Maintaining the Quarter's Heritage & Legacy

- Refurbishment of the Chamberlain Clock
- Supporting JQDT projects e.g. Townscape Heritage, JQ Cemeteries uplift

Need more information?

Enquiries about BID levy payments and accounts can be made by contacting:

Birmingham City Council
Chief Executive's Directorate
Resources Department
Revenues and Benefits Division
PO Box 6637
Birmingham
B4 7AB

Telephone: 0121 303 5509

Fax: 0121 464 0554

Email:

business_rates@birmingham.gov.uk

Enquiries about the Jewellery Quarter BID and its services can be made by contacting:

Luke Crane
JQBID Director
Studio 508F
The Big Peg
120 Vyse Street
Birmingham
B18 6NF
Telephone: 0121 233 2814

Email: info@jqdt.org
www.jewelleryquarter.net

Thank you.