

PAYING YOUR BID LEVY

Businesses in the Brackmills Industrial Estate BID area are required to pay a levy, which is in addition to Business Rates and needs to be paid separately (regardless of how you pay your Business Rates).

Prompt payment will help ensure that the objectives that were voted on in the BID Business Plan come to fruition.

You can pay the levy in the following three ways.

Please always quote your BID account reference. This is a nine-digit number starting with a 7.

If you have any questions regarding your levy payment, please contact the Business Rates office at West Northamptonshire Council. Telephone 0300 126 7000 (Option 1 for Business Improvement District) E-mail: businessrates.nbc@westnorthants.gov.uk

YOU CAN PAY THE LEVY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

- Pay by debit or credit card on **0845 3721745**
- Online payments www.westnorthants.gov.uk/PayBusinessRates
- Online creating a new payee "West Northamptonshire Council" and using the following Acc details, Barclays Bank Sort code **20-17-68** account number **70509035**.
- If you have any questions regarding your payment, please contact the Businesses Rates Office at West Northamptonshire Council.
- Telephone number **0300 126 7000** (Option for Northampton Business Rates)
- **E-businessrates.nbc@westnorthants.gov.uk**

BID FINANCIALS 2021/2022

Businesses in the Brackmills Industrial Estate BID area pay a levy which is used to pay for the projects and services provided by Brackmills Industrial Estate Ltd.

In 2021/22 the BID has worked with a total budget of £735,757 based on levy contribution in 2021/22 and £307,844 retained income from 2020/21. The split of actual and committed expenditure for the current financial year to 31/03/2022 is shown in the table on the right.

Unaudited accounts including estimated accruals as of January 2022.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR BID

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are driven by participating businesses working together to maximise benefits for the BID area and those businesses within it.

Business hereditaments with a rateable value of £12,000 or more are liable for a BID levy to contribute to the costs of projects and activities undertaken by the BID*.

The greater your involvement or the more activities and opportunities you take advantage of, the better value for money you will receive from your BID levy. For further information please email sara.homer@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk

Objective	Actual & Committed Expenditure
Infrastructure	£220,680
Crime prevention	£110,277
Environment	£19,444
Business growth & investment	£15,251
Central admin & overheads	£79,744
Levy Collection costs	£6,000
Contingency	£22,569
Total	£473,966

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

Sara Homer, Chief Executive, Brackmills BID



Covid restrictions at the start of the year meant physical meetings were again put on hold, so instead we continued to embrace all things virtual. We held regular business surgeries – for staff to log on and ask questions. Our programme of workshops included a host of business support information, including much needed updates about business grants and other support available to organisations.

It was a challenging year in terms of tarmac and concrete shortages which meant we had to put our ambitious road improvement project on hold. The good news is that the funds were put aside and the work will start in the coming months – read on to find out more.

Our online jobs fair continued to be crammed with recruitment opportunities and in October we were delighted to hold our first face-to-face event, the hugely successful one day Jobs Fair. More than 1,000 jobs were promoted, masses of companies came along to meet job hunters – and we even secured some TV attention, with a headline story being broadcast on BBC Look East about jobs on our estate.

Other good news: Every year our directors meet to discuss and review the annual levy payment which you, our Brackmills businesses, pay and pool to fund all the improvements and initiatives outlined in this Annual Report.

I'm delighted to confirm that it was agreed that the BID will freeze your annual levy fee for the second year running – despite increased inflation in the UK. We recognise how important it is to support businesses.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our directors, who volunteer their time to steer the estate, and support me as I continue to lead the BID. Brackmills is recognised as the UK's premier transport and logistics estate.

The BID is committed to ensuring we meet the objectives our estate businesses voted for and at the heart of this is supporting businesses and staff on the estate, providing a great infrastructure, a safe and secure environment and a smart and tidy estate.



Brackmills Industrial Estate Ltd

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Provide a great infrastructure and a smart working environment for businesses to operate and people and services to access and move around – safely and effectively.

HIGHLIGHTS
AND
ACHIEVEMENTS
2021/2022

Roads

Due to a shortage in tarmac our plans to improve the estate's roads were put on hold until this year. This means the BID has reserved £100,000 and this will be used over the coming months to patch, concrete and resurface roads across the estate.

A damaged drive on Scotia Close will be concreted and white safety lines will be repainted at mini roundabouts and junctions across the whole estate.

We will also be removing one set of damaged road humps on Gowerton Road and replacing these with a tarmac alternative, which has the added benefit of reducing damage to vehicles.



Bus shelters

Due to a concrete and tarmac shortage our bus shelter plans were put on hold but we have reserved £110,000 and over the next few months we will be installing six new bus shelters.

Where will they be situated?

- Two on Salthouse Road (between Travis Perkins and Asda)
- One outside Startech.com on Gowerton Road
- One outside James and James on Rhosili Road
- Another outside C Butts on Buryport Road
- One outside Clipper Logistics on Liliput Road.



Scooters

Electrical scooters continue to be popular on Brackmills, a scheme run by Voi in connection with West Northants Council.

Winter Gritting

We funded and performed 84 applications of gritting, all designed to keep the estate moving during cold and frosty periods.

CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY

Work closely with the Police and others to maintain a safe and secure working environment for freight transport, all vehicles, customers, and the people who work on the estate.



PCSO

In September our PCSO, Paul Hurst, celebrated a year on Brackmills – and what an incredible job he is doing.

Helping Paul to keep the estate safe and secure has been the BID's investment in police support, additional security, business alerts, CCTV and ANPR cameras.

On top of this, additional security, funded by the BID, has been provided by Etiquette Security, a Northamptonshire based company with more than 80 highly trained employees. We invest in this additional security to slot around the times our PCSO is not on shift – to ensure we have 24/7 security cover on the estate during particularly vulnerable times (typically bank holidays, Easter and Christmas).

Low recorded crime rates

There were 75 incidents recorded on the estate, which compares to 135 in 2008 the year prior to the BID commencing.

Business Watch alerts

A new Business Watch scheme was also launched this year - all part of our commitment to cracking down on crime and anti-social behaviour. This BID scheme is in partnership with Northamptonshire Police, Action Fraud and Neighbourhood Watch. In the event of an incident on the estate our BID CEO Sara sends out an electronic alert.

Our cameras

The BID continues to maintain the 21 cameras, which are strategically placed across the estate. One of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras on the Bedford Road entrance to Brackmills was faulty and has now been repaired and replaced.

Our ANPR cameras are state-of-the-art – placed at all entrances and exits to the estate - and in 2021 they proved more valuable than ever. Our cameras helped Northamptonshire Police – who were gathering intelligence - detect and locate a suspicious vehicle on the estate. This resulted in a multi-million-pound drugs haul - the second largest ever recorded in the UK.



Life-saving defibrillators

New life-saving defibrillators have been installed, with training sessions set to be run by the First Responders imminently. The BID has invested in five defibs and the first two have been placed outside Proaction Martial Arts & Fitness in Osyth Court and outside Startech.com on Gowerton Road.



ENVIRONMENT AND IMAGE

Provide a smart, tidy, and safe environment and project an image which is consistent with the high-quality values and standards of the businesses which operate on Brackmills.



Seasonal landscaping

The BID has funded additional landscaping on the estate, which has included roundabout maintenance, the lopping of overhead branches and general planting and mowing.

To enhance our landscaped roundabouts the BID funded Christmas lights on the estate's main roundabout, off the A45. This is something we hope to extend to all roundabouts in 2022.

A load of rubbish

The BID has more than 50 bins on the estate that are collected once or twice weekly. The BID's dedicated PCSO monitors bins to ensure they are not overflowing. Where they are, he reports these issues to the council, to ensure they are promptly emptied.

Cycleways and paths

Brackmills has an impressive network of footpaths and cycleways, which the BID is committed to keeping clear and clean.



A bench for Chris

As most of you will know, our former BID project manager Chris Barker tragically passed away in 2020 after a battle with cancer. Chris worked as part of the BID team for more than 10 years and we all continue to miss him greatly. This year we have invested in Chris' commemorative bench, placed in our lovely Brackmills Crescent Lake Country Park (off Salthouse Road). A place to relax, enjoy the estate and to appreciate all of Chris' hard work.



BUSINESS GROWTH AND INVESTMENT

Support businesses on Brackmills to grow, develop and invest by creating a great working environment.



Businesses - ILG Logistics, GXO Logistics and Belgrade all moved on to the estate this year – big players in the European logistics world.

The old Howdens site, on Liliput Road, has now been demolished and will make way for three large units totalling around 900,000 sq. ft. These will be up for let in due course. The BID continues to work closely with landlords, developers and the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) to entice new businesses on to our estate.

Website - The BID website www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk has been refreshed throughout the year and is a first point of call for business and BID information. If you want to see who the BID directors are simply visit www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk/meet-our-team.

Updates - Businesses hear about incidents on the estate, traffic congestion, extreme weather, roadworks and other breaking news via our much-valued e-bulletins. We also keep everyone connected via our social media channels – Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Partnerships - Businesses needed support more than ever in 2021 is why we chose to partner with Aquarius Life, an organisation which supports people affected by alcohol, drugs and gambling and offers support to employers. Thanks to this partnership our businesses have been able to access free policy advice and make the most of training and workshops.

Another support partnership was with employability specialists Career Catapult, a Northampton based organisation that has been providing our businesses with LinkedIn training and support.

Promoting our units - The BID continues to work with several partners, including property developers, to promote newly built and vacant units.

DISCOVER BRACKMILLS



The BID's vision is

To create a highly effective and functional operating environment on Brackmills Industrial Estate which supports and attracts businesses and inward investment



MAKING HEADLINES

Brackmills continued to secure TV and radio coverage throughout 2021, as well as heaps of headlines.

Businesses on Northampton industrial estate pledge support for Afghan Resettlement Scheme

Brackmills Business Improvement District (BID) has donated an initial £1,000, which will support refugees in the county

By Katie Wheatley



Chronicle

More than 1,000 jobs on offer in Northampton at Brackmills 'virtual jobs fair'

What do you do when seasonal vacancies are coming but Covid puts a damper on recruitment? Hold a virtual jobs fair.

By Aislinn O'Leary



AWARD WINNING

At the 2021 Northamptonshire Logistics Awards Brackmills BID proudly sponsored a category and also celebrated a number of winners.

C Butt Ltd scooped two awards ('Logistics Company of the Year – Above 50 Employees' and the 'Health Safety & Wellbeing' award) while Kirsty Lancaster from Travis Perkins also left with two awards, winning the 'Emerging Talent Award' and the 'Apprentice of the Year Award'.

Our very own awards scheme – the Brackmills Above and Beyond the Call of Duty awards – continued to celebrate talent and innovation, with Miswa Chemicals winning the very first team award.

CHARITY

Giving back has been important to the BID and to so many of our resident businesses. Towards the start of the year, with Covid restrictions still in place, the BID and many estate businesses supported a local #TechTogether campaign, launched by Brackmills business ACS Office Solutions and the team from All Things Business. The campaign provided donated and unwanted laptops and devices to support parents with home schooling.

Other charity highlights include the BID's donation to support new arrivals from Afghanistan and the appointment of our BID Chief Executive, Sara Homer, to The Hope Centre trustee board.

PLANS FOR 2022

At our first board meeting in 2022 we discussed projects for the year ahead – to include additional resurfacing, pot holes and refreshing the safety white line markings across the estate.

We will be holding a second jobs fair this year, in March, which will be held for the first time inside Delapré Abbey – Northampton's historic home, just a few minutes from Brackmills. We're really excited about this partnership and, as well as promoting hundreds of job opportunities we will be offering CV writing and interview skills support to attendees and also supporting local homeless charity The Hope Centre.

We also have a programme of events – just visit www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk/news and scroll to the bottom of the page.