

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

**As we approach the end of the second full year of our fourth five-year term as a BID, this is the perfect time to look back at all we have achieved here on Brackmills Industrial Estate.**

Our four objectives continue to provide the cornerstones of all our activity: infrastructure, crime prevention and safety, environment and sustainability, and supporting businesses and people.

This year we have made significant progress on what will be the biggest infrastructure project we have ever undertaken, with plans for the redevelopment of Caswell Road due to be shared with businesses in Spring 2026.

Our ongoing investment in safety and security continues to pay dividends, with our dedicated Police Community Support Officer Paul Hurst continuing to work tirelessly for our community – turn to page 4 to read some case studies of the impact his work is having. At the end of 2025, I was also proud to sign the Northamptonshire Women's Charter on behalf of the BID, reaffirming our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment for everyone who works on or visits Brackmills.

In September, community spirit was on full display with more than 250 employees coming together for World Clean Up Day, and a record-breaking 180 bags of rubbish collected.

We were also delighted to announce a new approach to supporting local charities this year, with five charity partners selected by BID members across the estate. The Brackmills food bank, created in partnership with Northamptonshire Police, has already made a real difference to people in crisis. Turn to page 7 to read more.

In 2025 we also launched a new Brackmills website, featuring an interactive map to aid wayfinding, a business directory, all your BID resources, plus a news and event section to keep you up to date with happenings across the estate. I hope you find it a useful resource.

**As ever, we value your interaction and feedback and our door is always open if you would like to talk to us - please do not hesitate to get in touch - enquiries@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk**

*Sara Homer, Chief Executive, Brackmills BID*



# INFRASTRUCTURE

To 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.



## Winter Gritting

To keep the estate moving during the colder months of the year, at the time of writing we have funded 36 precautionary gritting applications and 3 adverse salting actions.



## Emergencies

The BID team are often called upon in emergencies to provide practical support needed to keep the estate moving. One such incident took place in October 2025 when a lorry crashed on Caswell Road, not only blocking the road but mounting the curb and destroying an internet cabinet. Our CEO was on hand coordinating the response efforts alongside Northamptonshire Police – which included sending out emergency alerts to avoid the area, erecting barriers and sealing off the area with incident tape to keep the estate moving while ensuring the safety of everyone on site.



## Major project

The planning of a major infrastructure project on Caswell Road progressed during the reporting period. This programme of road improvement works including new safety measures, is the biggest infrastructure project ever undertaken by the BID. Plans are due to be shared with Brackmills business via an event and public consultation period in Spring 2026, with work commencing later that year.

## Voi scooters

Voi scooters continue to prove very popular with 77,000 rides – 37,500 ride starts and 39,500 ride ends - clocked up across the estate in 2025

Flood prevention remedial works were carried out on the balancing pond. Significantly less flooding was seen as a result, despite heavy rainfall over the winter months..



# 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 in the estate.**

Alongside our BID-funded PCSO Paul Hurst and his colleagues at Northamptonshire Police, we work incredibly hard to keep crime to a minimum on Brackmills.

## Crime rates

There were **50 incidents** from April 2024 to March 2025

Over the Christmas 2025 period – often a peak time for break-ins – there were no reported offences at all.

## CCTV

We are constantly updating and adopting new surveillance technology to ensure we stay at the cutting edge of crime detection and prevention across the estate. Our static, stealth and mobile CCTV cameras, including those equipped with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), continue to demonstrate a real impact on combating crime.



# CRIME PREVENTION

## AND SAFETY

### Theft of property

A key focus in 2025 was tackling pallet theft. A coordinated approach was developed, beginning with crime prevention visits to provide tailored advice and guidance. The issue was also raised at the BID security forum to increase awareness across the estate and encourage businesses to review security measures.

The BID funded crime prevention notices and dedicated patrols were introduced. ANPR cameras played a vital role in gathering evidence, leading to banning notices being issued to suspect vehicles. This intelligence also helped identify where stolen pallets were being sold. Since implementing these measures, we have seen a significant reduction in reported incidents and crimes related to pallet theft.

### Anti-social behaviour

In Spring 2025, Tungsten Business Park was seeing repeated car cruises causing antisocial behaviour. The BID invested £10,000 in a remote camera specifically positioned to monitor the area. As a result of the footage, more than ten notices of intended prosecution were issued and two drivers were arrested and charged with dangerous driving. Both were subsequently found guilty and sentenced.

The evidence gathered also supported a successful application for a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the area. As a result of this comprehensive approach, car cruises no longer take place on the estate.

### Personal safety

Our dedicated PCSO Paul Hurst and his team have continued their focus on personal safety for those working on the estate, with a particular emphasis on violence against women and girls. Many employees walk or cycle to and from work, and whilst crime remains low on the estate, it is vital that people feel safe on their commute. Through a series of safety events hosted by Paul, the BID has funded and distributed over 150 personal attack alarms, more than 50 sets of bike lights for cyclists commuting in the darker months, and 350 anti-drink spiking tools. Paul's targeted early morning patrols along the footpaths and cycle routes connecting the estate to Northampton town centre have enabled him to interact directly with employees on their way to work, offering advice and free practical safety tools.

# 1

# 2

# 3

This proactive approach reflects the BID's ongoing commitment to creating a safe and secure environment for everyone who works on or visits Brackmills.



**Maintained** cycle ways and footpaths



**350 anti-spiking tools distributed**



**Security Group meetings** & additional security patrols



Over 150 personal **safety alarms funded** and distributed by our PCSO



Over **50 sets of bike lights funded** and distributed to cycle commuters



**Security and safety briefings**, as well as business continuity support



**Dedicated PCSO** on the beat – with over **1,330 miles covered** on foot across the estate and surrounding areas



**A Business Watch Scheme** in partnership with Northamptonshire Police, Action Fraud and Neighbourhood Watch



**An estate management team** providing incident support and a central point of communication

**If you have any security concerns and would like to speak to Paul or arrange a time for him to visit your business, please contact him on 07557 778096**

In December 2025 our CEO, Sara Homer, signed the Northamptonshire Women's Charter on behalf of Brackmills BID.



I was proud to stand in solidarity with women across our region. Women's safety in the workplace and building a culture that does not tolerate harmful language, behaviour and attitudes is fundamental to creating thriving, inclusive communities.

# ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Provide a smart, tidy and safe environment with a focus on sustainability, exploring options for electric vehicle charging points - supporting businesses on their low carbon journeys.

Our Environmental and Sustainability Group brings Brackmills businesses together to share best practise and receive updates about helping the environment.

In 2025 the BID invested in a series of Net Zero Workshops held in partnership with Electric Places – a Community Interest Company (CIC) with a mission to reduce CO2 emissions and reinvest surpluses for the benefit of the local community. These sessions were designed to support businesses, people and places in their transition to net zero and were free to all BID members.



To keep the estate environment clean and smart we have:



**Invested in the control and management** of verges, grass, shrubs and trees & in estate property maintenance



**Driven litter control and cleanliness initiatives** in partnership with some of our BID members



**Continued to invest in street cleaning** and landscaping



**Improved cleanliness and signage** on cycle ways and footpaths

## Charity Partnerships 2025/6

This year we were delighted to announce a new approach to supporting local charities and good causes. Brackmills BID members voted for causes close to their hearts, resulting in five charity partners being selected: Motor Neurone Disease Association (Northamptonshire branch), The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, Creating Tomorrow Partnership, Northampton Supports Ukraine Appeal, and a new Brackmills-based food bank created in partnership with Northamptonshire Police.

Each charity received a donation, and throughout the year we have promoted their causes, invited them to BID events and given them a platform to drive awareness and connect with more people across the BID community.

We have already made a real difference. On Christmas Eve 2025, when all other food banks were closed, the Brackmills food bank was able to support an individual in need. Working together with the local policing team, who also secured donations from a local toy shop, they were able to provide vital support at a time when it was needed most.



**Being selected as a charity partner has been amazing for our community work. It's allowed us to fund monthly lunches for people living with MND and their carers, including adapted taxi transport. For many, it's their only day out – a chance to share tips, find friendship and lighten the load in a warm, supportive environment. Heartfelt thanks to Brackmills.**

*Jan Warren, Chair, MND Association  
Northamptonshire*



## World Clean Up Day

World Clean Up Day saw community spirit at its best, with more than 250 employees from across the estate coming together for a day of litter picking. Organised in partnership with Wickes and Northants Litter Wombles, the event more than doubled the turnout from the previous year and collected over 180 bags of rubbish.

For the first time, we also welcomed our youngest volunteers as children from Totstop Day Nursery joined the clean-up efforts. The day demonstrated the incredible power of collective action and showed once again what can be achieved when Brackmills businesses work together.



# SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE

**Continue to support businesses on Brackmills to grow and develop, ensuring a great working environment in which people can thrive.**

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are most successful when member businesses work together with the BID leadership team to maximise benefits for the whole community.

**Here are some of the many ways we support our BID members on the estate:**

## Business leadership

- Our dedicated Chief Executive, Sara Homer, represents the best interests of Brackmills at all times

## Voluntary Board

- Our voluntary Board of Directors are responsible for ensuring good value for levy payers and effective delivery of our objectives

## Support businesses

- We circulate regular bulletins and e-newsletters as well as providing an alert system to communicate directly with BID Businesses in the event of an incident, adverse weather conditions, security issues etc

## Events

- We host a regular programme of business and networking events – in 2025 we hosted over 20 sessions throughout the year and had over 300 attendees across these events. Our schedule includes; BID Breakfasts, Health, Safety & Wellbeing

Forums, Environment & Sustainability Groups, HR Groups, Net Zero Workshops, Apprenticeship events and Security & Safety Workshops

## Marketing

- We invest in professional PR and marketing support to raise our profile and highlight important issues
- We provide a dedicated website – newly launched in 2025 - complete with a business directory, events, news and an interactive estate map

## Partnerships

- We have partnered with Aquarius to help businesses support staff affected by alcohol, drugs and gambling





The  
**BID provides**  
 our colleagues with real  
 reassurance that Brackmills is  
 a safe environment, particularly  
 when commuting to and from work.  
 Having the BID as a point of contact is  
 invaluable for raising concerns about  
 anything that could affect our staff,  
 from potholes and traffic incidents



**to site security.**  
*Keith Dorril, Facilities  
 Operations Manager,  
 GXO Wickes*



## Making the most of your BID

We are passionate about helping you to make the most of your BID and we would love to see participation and engagement from all our members.

### Ways you can get involved include:

- Follow and engage with us on social media
- Attend one of our frequent business and networking events
- Openly communicate any concerns or feedback with the BID team
- Sign up to receive our eNewsletters and encourage your staff to do the same
- Open your doors to your neighbours by hosting a Brackmills event
- Share your latest and upcoming news with us
- Sign up for some free promotion by becoming one of our Business Spotlights

**BID Alert System:** Are you and your team signed up to receive safety and security alerts from the BID? Up to 10 colleagues can be registered to receive alerts about crime prevention, safety, adverse weather, flooding, fire or any other risks. Sign-up by emailing [enquiries@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk)

**Sign up**  
 to receive our  
**eNewsletters**



# PLANS FOR 2026

## Our Vision

Through a business-led programme of investment our vision is for Brackmills Industrial Estate to be recognised as the premier business and logistics park in the country.

We have a host of projects and initiatives planned for the year ahead, including the biggest infrastructure project we have undertaken to date as redevelopment work gets under way on Caswell Road.

## Your BID Team

At the AGM in September 2025, we were delighted to welcome two new Directors to the BID Board: Gemma Osborne, HR Associate at igus UK and Keith Dorrill, Facility Operations Manager at GXO/Wickes.



**I was delighted to be appointed to the Board. The BID is a great community to be part of, and I am keen to contribute to actionable change that benefits everyone on the estate.**

*Gemma Osborne,  
HR Associate, igus UK*



## Would you like to get involved?

If you are interested in becoming a Board Director we would love to hear from you. Please email

[sara.homer@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk](mailto:sara.homer@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk)



## Meet our Board of Directors

**SARA HOMER** *Brackmills BID CEO*

**JON MORGAN** *Brackmills BID Chair, In N Out Autocentres*

**CHARLOTTE PATRICK** *Brackmills BID Vice Chair, Northamptonshire Logistics Awards*

**ALISTAIR SHEPHERD** *Baxter Healthcare Ltd*

**GEMMA OSBORNE** *HR Associate, igus UK*

**JOHN HARLEY** *Honorary Director*

**KEITH DORRILL** *GXO Wickes*

**KEVIN MCALLISTER** *Bechtle Ltd*

**MARK MEADOWCROFT** *Signs Express*

**MICK CUPOLI** *Walkerpack Ltd*

**RICHARD BAKER** *Prop-search.com*

As a reminder the BID levy for this five-year BID term has been reduced from the previous term's 1.13% down to 1% of rateable value (RV). We have also carried funds over from the last BID term (2019-2024).

Read all about our plans for the next five years:

[www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk](http://www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk)

# 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.

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 1267000**

(Select the option for Business Rates)

E-mail: [businessrates@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:businessrates@westnorthants.gov.uk)

## 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 and the more activities opportunities you take advantage of, the better value for money you will receive from your BID levy.

## You can pay the levy in the following ways:

1. Pay by debit or credit card on 0300 126 7000
2. Online payments  
[www.westnorthants.gov.uk/PayBusinessRates](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/PayBusinessRates)
3. By bank transfer, using the bank details below:

Sort Code: 20-17-68

Account No.: 03538028

Account Name: West Northants Council,

Payment Reference: BID account reference

Objective	2025/26
Infrastructure	243,756.72
Crime Prevention & Safety	193,099.77
Environment & Sustainability	18,732.02
Supporting Business & People	30,890.74
Central Management & Overheads	163,780.85
Levy Collection Costs	6,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>656,760.10</b>

*Unaudited accounts including estimated accruals as of February 2026.*

## BID Financials 2025/2026

In 2025/2026 the BID worked with a budget of £504,176 based on levy contributions plus £533,098 retained income from the previous BID period. The actual and committed expenditure for the current financial year to 31/03/2026 is shown in the table above. The BID has ringfenced monies from the previous BID for significant infrastructure projects across the estate in the coming year.