

Outcomes from the Business Representation workshop

*Aiming for an engaged business community
with a strong and effective voice.*

22 January 2020

Context

- The aim of the session was:
 1. To give a brief update on the BID consultation to date
 2. To hear from speakers John Hirst and Victoria Matthews about how the BID would represent businesses and help them work together.
 3. To hear from Ian Townsend, former CEO of Bristol Green Capital Partnership, about “Responsible, sustainable business and BIDs”
 4. Give potential levy payers an opportunity to input into how the BID could represent them and create an engaged, effective business community

Workshop Exercise (1)

What would an engaged business community look like?

- Businesses working together
- Sharing best practice
- Knowing your neighbours
- Events for all businesses to participate in / after work drinks / summer events
- Having a strong digital network
- Active LinkedIn community
- Events for all employees (not just senior staff)
- More happening in the evening

Workshop Exercise (2)

What are your current main issues as a business?

Shared bike storage and showers

Lack of greening

Lack of food and drink premises

Transport and connectivity

Welcome / gateway via Temple Meads

Attracting talent

Impact of developments

Staff retention

Walking / cycling routes

Larger text signifies more mentions

Workshop Exercise (3)

How would you / your business like to be kept informed and consulted with?

- BID website members area (for events / information on what BID levy is spent on / planned policies like transport, etc.)
- Social media
- Newsletter with links to current council consultations
- Workshops and events to get updates from Bristol Council
- Hard copies of BID newsletters
- Community notice boards
- Forum events

Workshop Exercise (4)

How do you currently network with other businesses?

- Hosting events
- Breakfast seminars
- Tech meet ups
- Parties
- Breakfast networking
- Netwalking

How could networking be improved?

- Funding would help us do more
- Calendar of events
- Set clear objectives for networking
- Networking is currently sector based
- We would like to get to know our neighbours
- Monthly drinks for all
- Breakfast events to update on consultations
- Sports competitions
- More informal networking
- Sustainability events and workshops

Workshop Exercise (5)

What sort of social activities or clubs would be most likely to appeal to you and your staff?



Larger text signifies more mentions

BID Development Timeline

- Additional workshops: February 11 and March 5 2020
- Colmore BID Talk: February 18 2020
- Final Prospectus to be distributed: April 2020
- Prospectus to be promoted: May – August 2020
- Business Plan available: August 2020
- Ballot period: 1 – 29 September 2020
- BID start date: 1 November 2020
(if ballot is successful)

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