

RESIDENTS AND THE BID IN BATH

What can residents contribute to the BID?

Local knowledge:

- Some 5,000 residents live in the BID area.
- Residents can cover nights and weekends when businesses closed.
- A practical view, eg of how people use the station.
- History/architecture – what's fitting for Bath.
- Traffic flows and parking patterns.
- Problem points for traffic, night-time economy etc.

Eyes and ears:

- Early identification of problems arising.
- Assist enforcement by Council/Police.

Thinking capacity:

- Residents happy to put in time for free to study issues.
- Residents have an open mind and a long-term view.

Political influence:

- We are the electors – influence the 4 Councillors for Abbey & Kingsmead.
- Organised, with links via RAs, FoBRA, BPT etc to lobby Council, Police etc at top level.

Spending power:

- Many residents quite well off.
- Can encourage good new businesses.

What do residents hope the BID will achieve in Bath?

Successful retail economy:

- Good variety of independents and multiples.
- High occupancy rates.
- Real shops for residents not squeezed out.

Civilised evening economy:

- Shops opening a little later (but not beyond 20.00).
- More genuine cafe culture, eg at Kingsmead Square.
- No more big boozers (cf King Edward's Tavern).
- Less antisocial behaviour on the streets.
- Visitors who stay the night and spend more in the City: more restaurants and fewer bars.

Support for sustainable transport options

- Get away from the idea that customers must be able to drive to the door.
- More pedestrianisation.
- Avoid creating more parking spaces.
- Support for Park & Ride and bus services.
- A more pleasant urban space with a better visitor experience.

Improved environment

- Cleaner, tidier streets: less litter, restraint on A-boards etc.
- Better management of commercial deliveries and waste collection.
- Protection and enhancement for World Heritage Site.
- No creeping commercialisation of residential streets.

How can we help the BID board?

- Regular communication so that we can comment on issues, and help formulate solutions. (Must be early and two-way: not enough to be able to comment when other people have made proposals).
- Can offer some manpower/thinking time to deal with issues.
- Provide early intelligence of resident views.
- Circulate information from the board to residents, and get feedback quickly.