

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2003
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2004**

NOTICE OF BALLOT

PROPOSED BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR YORK CITY CENTRE

This is to give notice that a ballot is to be held on the proposal of the York BID to introduce a Business Improvement District (BID) for York City Centre. You should have already received a copy of the BID Proposal Document from the BID Promoters. It is also available at www.theyorkbid.com

The ballot will be conducted entirely by post by the Independent Scrutineer, **Electoral Reform Services of 33 Clarendon Road, London N8 0NW**. Ballot Papers will be sent to those eligible to vote on Friday October 23 for return to them by no later than **5pm** on Thursday November 26 (the “day of the ballot”).

Who can Vote in the BID Ballot?

Persons eligible to vote in the ballot will be the non-domestic ratepayer listed on the Council’s database for each hereditament (business premise) situated in the geographical area of the proposed BID as at the date of this Notice. Each person entitled to vote in this ballot shall have one vote in respect of each hereditament occupied or (if unoccupied) owned by them in the geographical area of the proposed BID.

Appointment of Proxy

Persons eligible to vote in the BID ballot may appoint someone else to vote on their behalf (for example, if you are going to be away at the time of the ballot). Applications to appoint a proxy must be submitted to Electoral Reform Services at the above address no later than **5pm** on Monday November 16. An application for the appointment of a proxy must be made in writing and:

- a) state the full name and address of the person whom the person entitled to vote (the applicant) wishes to appoint as a proxy;
- b) state the address of the applicant’s hereditament or hereditaments;
- c) be signed by the applicant; and
- d) contain a statement by the applicant that the proxy so named has been consulted and is capable and willing to be appointed.

A proxy appointment may be cancelled by notifying ERS at the address above no later than **5pm** on Saturday November 21.

Lost Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper has **not** been received by Friday November 20 you may apply to ERS for a replacement paper in writing as follows:

- a) A letter in hardcopy form along with the appropriate ‘evidence of identity’.
- b) A scan of both the letter and the ‘evidence of identity’ attached to an email.
- c) A fax copy of both the letter and the ‘evidence of identity’.

The letter should be addressed to The Independent Scrutineer, The Election Centre, 33 Clarendon Road, London N8 0NW. The letter must be signed by the Eligible Voter and evidence of the voter’s identity must be provided in the form of **one** of the following:

- a) Signed **Letterhead** for the appropriate company
- b) A signed **photocopy** of the **National Non-Domestic Rating Bill** for the hereditament
- c) A signed **photocopy** of an item of personal ID such as a **Passport** or **Driving Licence**.

Please do not send original copies of ID or Bills.

Please see over

Spoilt Ballot Papers

If you inadvertently spoil your ballot paper in such a manner that it cannot be conveniently used as a ballot paper, please return it to Electoral Reform Services (address overleaf).

On receipt of the spoilt ballot paper, Electoral Reform Services will issue a replacement. No replacements can be issued if the spoilt ballot paper is received by Electoral Reform Services later than three working days before the day of the ballot.

Count of Ballot Papers

Ballot papers will be counted on Friday November 27 and the result of the ballot will be announced shortly after.

For a BID ballot to be successful there must be a majority of those voting in favour of the proposal, and those voting in favour must represent a majority of the aggregate rateable value of the hereditaments voting.

Rejected Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper is duplicated and two are returned bearing the same number or barcode both will be void and not counted. Any ballot papers that are returned unsigned, unmarked or that are void for uncertainty will also be void and not counted.

Declaring the result

The ballot result will declare:

- a) the total number of valid votes cast
- b) the total aggregate rateable value of valid votes cast
- c) the total number of valid votes cast in favour of the BID
- d) the total aggregate rateable value of valid votes in favour of the BID
- e) and if applicable: the total number of ballot papers rejected

For the BID Ballot to be successful there must be:

- i. A majority in favour of the BID in the number of those voting
- ii. A majority in favour of the BID in the proportion of rateable value of those voting

Further details of the BID Proposal

If you require further information on the BID, please contact Steve Hughes, York BID Project manager at Steve.hughes@theyorkbid.com Tel: 01904 554448 or 07702710322

Alternatively, information on the BID, including the business proposal is available at www.theyorkbid.com

A copy of the BID document will be available to inspect at the address below.

Steve Stewart
Ballot Holder
City of York Council
West Offices
Station Rise
York
YO1 6GA

October 9th, 2015