



PRESS RELEASE

Businesses get green light and are set to vote for new Business Improvement District in Northampton town centre

22nd July 2015

The Northampton town centre Business Improvement District (BID) has been given the green light for an October ballot – thanks to ratification at tonight's [9th Sep 2015] Northampton Borough Council cabinet meeting.

The Council, which has legal responsibilities to ensure that regulations have been complied with before any ballot is instructed, assessed the BID proposals for a second five year term.

NBC Leader Councillor Mary Markham thanked the BID board for their hard work and confirmed that the ballot can now go ahead.

Jessica d'Aulerio, chair of the Northampton town centre BID and owner of town centre print business Tangerine Red, said: "We are delighted to confirm that Northampton town centre BID is seeking a second five year term and that we will inviting businesses to now vote in October for the BID's future.

"This is a unique opportunity to build upon the work we have done and ensure that the business community plays its part in the creation of a town centre in which we can all be proud.

"To help us shape our business plan for the next five years we have conducted extensive consultation with local businesses, so this is their opportunity to shape the town centre, to get projects they feel passionately about delivered, to take their business forward and to take advantage of the BID benefits. By voting yes businesses are voting for the priorities and actions they have asked the BID to deliver."

Jake Richardson, BID board director and Managing Director of The Richardsons Group, added: "It is essential that Northampton has both a vibrant and safe town centre if it is to attract day time and night time visitors, as well as increase footfall. We are asking businesses to vote for a plan that has been shaped by the businesses, for the businesses. Another five years will ensure we can continue to raise the profile and awareness of the quality and diversity of the culture and leisure economy in Northampton town centre."

The new BID's vision is: 'To develop the town centre into a quality destination with a clear identity, which provides opportunities for good quality retail niches, specialists and independents, which respects and nurtures its professional services, celebrates its attractive, diverse leisure and cultural offer, builds upon the town centre's heritage and looks to the future.'

Stewart Wright, BID director and owner of Papa Cinos and Nuovo in Northampton town centre, said: "I am looking forward to the BID going into another term so we can build on what we have started. Being part of a BID means we have a strong, collective and that we are able, as a group of businesses, to work together to make a difference, get things done and to create a thriving, dynamic town centre."

The BID ballot will commence on 1st October 2015 and there will be a formal launch of the business plan on this day. Business postal ballot papers must be returned by 5pm on Thursday 29th October.

Any businesses seeking to find out more you wish to know more please contact the BID office on 01604 837766 or e mail info@northamptonbid.co.uk

www.northamptonbid.co.uk

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