

PORT TALBOT TOWN CENTRE BID
STEERING GROUP
NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

#VIVA
Port Talbot

**VIVA PORT
TALBOT BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT GOES
LIVE**

It gives us great pleasure to advise you of the outcome of the ballot for the establishment of the Viva Port Talbot Business Improvement District which ended on 7th November.

Ballot Outcome

68% of businesses voted in favour of creating the BID, paving the way for the transformation of our town centre. The table below show the full results recorded. You can read the announcement here:

https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/12624/elections-ptbid_result.pdf

We want to thank you for backing our proposals and for giving us this opportunity to make Port Talbot town centre more vibrant.



Steering members on getting news of the ballot outcome

Ballot results:

Number of businesses balloted	213
Total number of votes cast in the ballot (excluding any votes given on ballot papers and rejected)	91
Total number of valid votes cast in favour of the BID proposal	62
Percentage of ratepayers who returned the ballot paper voting in favour of the proposa	68%
Percentage of turnout of ballot	43%
Percentage of the aggregate rateable value of each hereditament in respect of which a person voting in the ballot has voted in favour of the proposa	78%
Aggregated rateable value of hereditaments of the valid votes cast in favour of the BID proposal	£2,427,000

What happens next?

We can now start the ground work to prepare our full business plan. The challenges facing the town are constantly evolving and Viva Port Talbot needs to flexible in its response, informed by actual experience on the ground. Viva Port Talbot will be run by the board made up of local businesses and other stakeholders. Over the coming months, the tasks will be to:

- Get the company established and incorporated
- Set up a Viva Port Talbot BID board
- Develop additional theme groups to work alongside the board
- Finalise agreements with Neath Port Talbot Council about levy collection, baseline services and an operating agreement
- Engage with local businesses

How can I get involved in the running of Viva Port Talbot?

Individuals from all businesses that were eligible to vote may become members of the company. Any member can stand for election to the board. Company members may subsequently nominate themselves for directorships or to sit on one of the company's theme groups. The board will manage any staff which will deliver the projects and services as set out in the BID Proposal.

Please get in touch with us if you'd like to get involved in the board or the theme groups by contacting Mandy by phone or email.

Mandy Jenkins
Mobile: 07803 503972
Email: mandy.jenkins@themeans.co.uk

How is the BID levy paid?

The BID levy will be collected by means of a one-off annual instalment, during the first quarter of 2020.

How long will the BID last?

The BID term will be five years in duration. Before the end of this period, the BID board may choose to seek renewal of the BID for a further term, through a renewal ballot.

We will be producing further updates on our work. But in the meantime if you would like more detail on any aspect or have any questions you'd like answered please do ring or drop us an email.

Christmas is coming!

Town will be kicking off the festivities this weekend with the parade and lights switch this Sunday, 24th November. We'd like to wish you all a very merry and profitable Christmas and look forward to working with you to deliver our programme in the new year.

New Year - New Era

Viva Port Talbot joins the 400 other places in the UK which have established BIDs in order to bring more vibrancy to their town centres. Nearby Neath and Swansea are already enjoying the benefits.

Like all member organisations the success of Viva Port Talbot will depend on the input and response it receives from its members. So get involved and get your views heard.



Choir singing by school children at Port Talbot shopping centre, 2018