

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## ***News Release***

**For Immediate Release**

**01 December 2016 / PR 8423**

### **SIDCUP VOTES FOR NEW BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

A new Business Improvement District (BID) will be established in Sidcup in April 2017, following a vote by local businesses and organisations.

The BID was proposed by the Sidcup Partners, a group of local representatives, and supported by the London Borough of Bexley, to help raise Sidcup's profile and attract investment to the town.

170 businesses and organisations in the BID's catchment area voted, which represents a turnout of 43%. A total of 113 (66%) voted in favour of the proposal.

Sue Petty, Acting Chairman for Sidcup Partners, said: "The point of the Sidcup BID is to bring all the businesses in Sidcup together to help improve their offer to customers and employees. By working together with one strong voice, businesses have the ability to make a significant and lasting change to the area, making it a pleasant, welcoming and attractive place for people to work, shop and eat. This in turn leads to higher footfall, happier employees and ultimately greater profits for all businesses involved."

Cllr Linda Bailey, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth, said: "This great result has come about following the massive amount of hard work the Council has put into revitalising Sidcup High Street. The BID will be able to build on that success, having it in place will help ensure that investment in Sidcup continues to grow. As we have seen from their success in Bexleyheath town centre and throughout the country, BIDs offer a great opportunity to create exciting activity for shoppers and provide a high quality environment for businesses."

The BID is funded by an additional small levy on eligible businesses and organisations, which will come into effect on 1 April 2017 for five years. The income will be used to fund a range of improvements in the BID zone, which extends from Sidcup High Street to the Rose Bruford College campus. The Sidcup Partners plan to hold markets and networking events, co-ordinate initiatives to help businesses save money and promote themselves, and make the public areas more attractive.

The official results declaration can be viewed at [www.bexley.gov.uk/sidcupbid](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/sidcupbid)  
Further information on the Sidcup Partners' plans can be found at [www.sidcuppartners.co.uk](http://www.sidcuppartners.co.uk)

## ENDS

Notes to Editor -

Business improvement districts (BIDs) are business-led organisations set up by like-minded business people who work together to improve their trading environment. BIDs can only be created if they are approved through a formal ballot of businesses operating in the defined BID area, when a majority of votes both by number and by combined rateable value are secured.

The BID levy is legally binding once the majority vote in favour. Income is ring-fenced for specifically improving the local area, which means that all contributing businesses share in the benefits.

Funds are only allowed to be spent on BID projects above and beyond those delivered by the local Council.

**Please contact: Jane Parson on 020 3045 4868**  
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Attachments

- SIDCUP VOTES FOR NEW BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT [SIDCUP VOTES FOR NEW BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT](#)



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