Supporting BIDs to make better places
An industry-led, independent community shaping the future of BIDs.

The BID Foundation (TBF) provides its membership with specialist resources and strategic direction.

Recognised by Government and the Institute of Place Management (IPM), the professional body for place. TBF support our members to transform towns and cities across the UK by:

- Demonstrating the value of BIDs to levy payers
- Influencing local and national government policy and action
- Helping BIDs be more effective partners and bring new resources to their area
- Adapt to fast changing environments remaining valued, resilient, and trusted
- Sharing best practice from across the industry and beyond
- Developing BID professionals and place expertise
- Assisting BIDs to engage stakeholders and evolve their BID offer
- Amplifying BID achievements to gain recognition for exemplary work
- Providing a quality accreditation to elevate standards and accountability
- Helping to share best practice from across the industry and beyond

As we navigate a fast changing political, social and economic environment, The BID Foundation offers reassurance and expertise to our maturing industry.
Why become a member?

**Industry Standards Accreditation**

BIDs remain an unknown to many outside the sector, and TBF’s Industry Standards provide clarity for stakeholders and levy payers to understand the value and benefits of having a BID in their area. Industry Standards were developed with government and industry experts as a way for all BIDs to demonstrate the quality of their governance and management regardless of the type of industry they represent.

**A trusted and respected voice for BIDs**

The BID Foundation is an independent body, administered within and working alongside the Institute of Place Management. Our record on representing BIDs to government, business and the public is excellent - rooted in research expertise, strong relations in Westminster, and engagement with policy experts and decision-makers.
Professional development and support for your team

We are part of the Institute of Place Management. IPM is led by Professor Cathy Parker, it has unrivalled experience and knowledge of towns and cities, and the place management structures and policies that affect them. The BID Foundation brings that insight to our members, with regular briefings on the topical issues impacting BIDs.

Leadership Network, events & BID Summit

The BID Foundation and its members come together at three events per year, in addition to a BID Summit held in conjunction with IPM’s annual conference. These events attract high profile speakers and put BIDs at the heart of debate on place, as well as connecting the sector with other place leaders. There are also frequent webinars for members to share best practice and support each other’s work.

Peer support and community

At its heart, TBF is a supportive, impartial peer network. We provide a framework to give your questions coverage to hundreds of like-minded BID practitioners, helping make running a BID a less isolated role and building confidence through consensus.

IPM membership for your team

TBF Membership comes with all the benefits of the IPM too – including access to materials, newsletters, events, the Journal of Place Management and Development, and the annual conference.

Official logo and designatory letters

BID practitioners should be proud of our industry and levy payers can be assured by its strength and proven track-record. Membership allows BIDs to display the official TBF logo and let stakeholders know that they are part of an established, national network of place leaders. By joining TBF, your staff will receive IPM membership and designatory letters to demonstrate professional expertise.
2023

19-20 April

BID Summit and IPM Conference

This year we focus on the theme of ‘Devolution’ in our landmark event over 2 days at Manchester Metropolitan University. This provides both a national platform for BIDs to share their work and communicate its impact, and a second day to collaborate with place researchers at IPM.

Evidencing the value of BIDs

Through research and sharing best practice, particularly through the High Streets Task Force, TBF has evidenced the impact of local businesses investing and improving their areas using the BID model. We estimate that over £1bn has been contributed to place management and development since BID legislation was brought into law, most of it through private sector funding. We promote this considerable impact at local and national levels.
A Key Role at a Critical Time

Following the publicly acknowledged role of BIDs in covid recovery, the political and policy agenda is now focussing on local place leadership and how this can drive economic revitalisation. Both TBF and IPM have advocated for greater resources and policy support – insisting BIDs have a ‘seat at the table’ and are at the centre of all conversations on local delivery and place leadership.

We continue to work with government and high street bodies to achieve this.

“We want to echo the thanks of the Committee to the extraordinary hard work of local authorities, the High Streets Task Force, Business Improvement Districts and many other organisations for their work to champion and protect high streets.”

HM Government committee response on supporting high streets after COVID-19

From May

Webinars and Future Leadership Networks

Our core programme continues throughout 2023, involving focused webinars from TBF as well as access to IPM’s event programme, including a range of very relevant place policy and practice issues, providing a chance to connect with relevant stakeholders like local authorities and national bodies.

“Business Improvement Districts are the only recognised policy instrument to bring about granular level improvement to the local trading environment.”

IPM and TBF submission to recent Funding for Levelling Up inquiry
Your support is invaluable and membership to The BID Foundation provides you with a wealth of connections and resources. Speak to us to find out how we can help.

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