

VOTE YES FOR DROGHEDA BUSINESS

A GUIDE TO THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT (BID) FOR RATE PAYERS



Rate Payers it is time to vote 'YES' to the proposed Business Improvement District (BID).

A 'YES' vote will give Drogheda business owners the opportunity to drive economic development and job growth in Drogheda.



lovedrogheda.ie



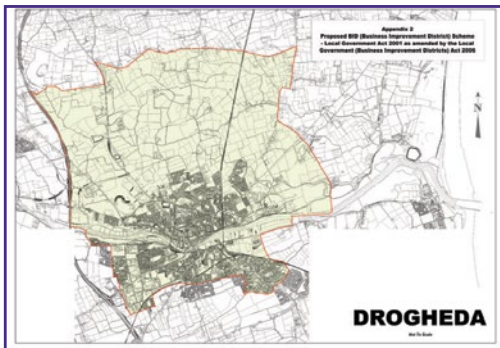
What a ‘YES’ vote will mean for your business in Drogheda?

The Fleadh has proven how, when our town comes together, we are world class. Drogheda people have huge pride in their town and volunteer at every opportunity to help out and assist. However, voluntarism alone will not deliver the big changes needed to ensure our future city achieves its full potential.



WHAT PART OF DROGHEDA WILL THE BID DISTRICT COVER?

The proposed BID district covers those areas of our town in Co Louth only. As of 25th April 2019, there were 1,554 rateable properties on the Louth County Council register for the proposed BID area. A map is contained in the proposal document.



Proposed BID (Business Improvement District)
Map is available to view on www.lovedrogheda.ie

DO WE HAVE OTHER BIDS IN IRELAND? OTHER PLACES?

Yes. Dublin City was the first and has over 2,500 rate payers. We currently have BIDs in Sligo, Dundalk and Sandyford – and there are 11 in Northern Ireland.

There are over 300 in the UK. They have been operating in Canada and the United States since the 1970s.

New York City alone has 74 BID's operating, with notable and very successful ones in the Times Square district and in the Grand Central Station district.

HAVE BIDS BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

The evidence says yes. The BID initiative worldwide is nearly 50 years old, and in city after city, we can see positive results.

What is a Business Improvement District (BID)?

A Business Improvement District is a commercial area in which additional funds are raised by rate payers, to invest in projects to improve the local business environment. It is legislated under the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006.

PROJECTS ARE LISTED IN THE PROPOSAL DOCUMENT UNDER

- Jobs, Enterprise & Technology
- Retail & Town Centre
- Tourism & Lifestyle
- Environment

HOW IS IT FUNDED?

The BID is supported entirely by local rate payers. The **LoveDrogheda BID** has proposed an additional 3.5% contribution on local rates – which has to be approved by a simple majority of rate payers. It also has to be approved by, at least, one third of the members of Louth County Council.

Additional funding will also be sourced from economic development agencies and other grant funding bodies.

HOW IS IT SET UP?

A simple majority of Drogheda rate payers vote in favour and one third of the Louth County Council members vote in favour to approve formation of the BID. Louth Rating Authority will issue demands and collect contributions which will be passed to Drogheda Business Improvement District CLG. This company will have a 12 member board, 10 appointed by Drogheda rate payers and 2 appointed by Louth County Council. The board can appoint a full time BID manager to oversee the development of projects. The BID has to be re-confirmed every 5 years by rate payers.

82.5% OF DROGHEDA
BUSINESSES WILL PAY LESS
THAN €300 PER ANNUM.

49.2% OF DROGHEDA
BUSINESSES WILL PAY LESS
THAN €100 PER ANNUM.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



There will be a 12 member board, 10 directors appointed by Drogheda Rate Payers and 2 appointed by Louth County Council.

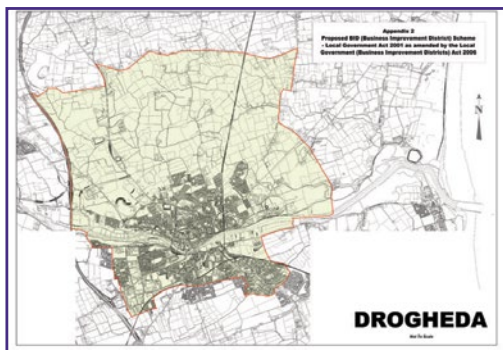
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Some examples how a Business Improvement District will benefit your business in Drogheda.



It will provide a foundation from which economic plans can be developed, 5 year enterprise and tourism development plans.

We can start putting a vision together as to how the Drogheda region will develop over the next 5 years and beyond.

Leverage the benefits of our heritage town and its tourism potential.

Grow our night time economy through the Purple Flag initiative.

Access to additional funding bodies, with upwards of 20% additional funds expected.

“We can start discussions about the 6,000 people that leave our town every day to work mostly in Dublin, and what actions we can take to get them working in Drogheda.”

We can review the mix of retail / workspace and hospitality in our town centre.

We can review options on how to improve accessibility into and around our town.

Get more business data about our town's economy.

Development of a town centre strategy to revitalise the town centre e.g. living space, co-working, retail and hospitality.

Have you received your Ballot Paper by post from Louth County Council?

It is time to let business owners have an input into how Drogheda prepares for it's future.

Vote 'YES' for future growth for your business in Drogheda.

This is a sample of the Ballot Paper you will receive. If you have not received your Ballot Paper from Louth County Council please email droghedabid@gmail.com with your details.



IMPORTANT

Ballots for the BID plebiscite will go out by post to all rate payers on August 26th and must be returned to Council offices in Dundalk by September 19th at 5:00 PM.

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL, TOWN HALL, DUNDALK

No. on electoral roll.....

No.

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL, TOWN HALL, DUNDALK

BALLOT PAPER

No. on electoral roll.....

No.

Louth County Council has received a proposal, under Section 129G (1) (as inserted by Section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 (No. 42 of 2006)) of the CLG, C/O Unit 35, Boyne Business Park, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 D52D to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) scheme for a period of five years from 1st January 2020.

Under Section 129G (1) (as inserted by Section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006) of the Local Government Act 2001, Louth County Council is required to hold a plebiscite to determine the level of support for the BID proposal among ratepayers of rateable properties in the proposed Business Improvement District. The proposal is available for inspection at the offices of Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, St. Alphonsus Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 KFW6 and Louth County Council, Civic Offices, Fair Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 P440 and at www.louthcoco.ie.

As a ratepayer in the proposed Business Improvement District, do you approve of the BID proposal? If you approve, please place the mark "X" in the box opposite the word "YES" below. If you do not approve, please place the mark "X" in the box opposite the word "NO" below.

In addition all ballot papers must be signed, dated and returned in the pre-paid envelope, before 12.00pm (noon) on Thursday, 19th September 2019.

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature of Ratepayer/Ratepayers [1]

Address

Date

[1] Section 129G (4) (as inserted by Section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006) of the Local Government Act 2001 provides that in the case where 2 or more persons own or occupy a rateable property and are liable for rates on that property, they shall be considered as one ratepayer for the purposes of the plebiscite. In those circumstances, the persons concerned are not entitled to vote in the plebiscite unless a majority of them concurs and unless the vote is signed by a majority of them.

CONTACT DETAILS

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