

BID Levy Rules:

The BID process is governed by Government Legislation and Regulations. As such, once a majority vote has been achieved, the BID levy becomes mandatory on all defined ratepayers.

- The BID levy will be fixed at 1% of the rateable value of all non domestic ratepayers with a rateable value of £5,000 or more using the 2010 rating list as at 14th January 2011, which is the date of notice of the ballot.
- Those receiving either 80% mandatory and 20% discretionary charitable relief or 100% Discretionary Relief from non domestic rates will be exempt from the BID.
- Where a property is taken out of rating e.g. due to demolition or a split or merge of an existing assessment, the BID levy will apply up to the day before the effective day of removal from the Rating List and the annual BID levy will be apportioned accordingly.
- Where a new assessment is brought into the Rating List e.g. a newly erected property or a property resulting from a split or merger, the BID levy will apply from the effective date as shown in the Rating List. The annual levy will be apportioned on a daily basis as required.
- There will be no VAT charged on the BID levy.
- The BID levy will be payable in a single instalment 28 days after the issue of the demand notice.
- The BID levy will be payable from 1st August 2011 for the first year of the BID and from 1st April for each subsequent year. The charge will be calculated on a daily basis and there will be adjustments during the year to reflect changes in the liable party.
- In accordance with The Business Improvement Districts (Wales) Regulations 2005 the City and County of Swansea Revenues Section will be responsible for the imposition, administration, collection, recovery and application of the BID levy.
- Non-payment of the BID levy will be strongly pursued via all available enforcement options as determined in the current Non Domestic Rating legislation.
- The term of the BID will be for a period of 5 years from 1st August 2011.
- The Quadrant Shopping Centre tenants paying a service charge for security, cleansing and marketing will receive a discount of 10%.
- The levy charge will be capped at £16,000 PAYABLE per year. This will be reviewed annually by the board of Directors.
- The BID levy will also not be affected by the Government's Small Business Rate Relief Scheme which came into effect on 1st April 2007 in Wales.
- The BID levy is payable on the whole rating assessment irrespective if part or all of it is empty. In the case of empty properties, the BID levy will be collected at 100% from either the owner or leaseholder (if an occupational lease exists) except in cases where insolvency proceedings have commenced.
- If you would like to find out the rateable value of your business, please refer to your rates bill or check it at: <http://www.voa.gov.uk>

BID Services:

Swansea BID (Business Improvement District) is the only BID in Wales. The BID is delivered through Swansea Business Improvements District Ltd a not for profit company, limited by guarantee, with a board of directors elected from the BID area who pay the BID levy themselves. Working in partnerships we deliver leadership along with marketing and operational improvements for businesses located in the City Centre BID area.

We recently secured a strong mandate from City Centre Businesses to continue for a further 5 years from 1st August 2011, this renewal will result in the delivery of significant business, staff and customer improvements. We will use our mature partnerships to maximise the positive impact of your investment.

Our core projects are -

- Car Parking & Transportation
- Safety & Security
- Marketing & PR
- Cleansing
- Supporting & Attracting Business

Swansea BID is a direct response to City Centre Businesses ideas to improve the trading environment and enhance profitability. Our projects are truly ambitious and will directly deliver investment in the City Centre over the next 5 years. All BID projects are in addition to those services delivered by the local authority. Through Swansea BID members will continue to control their trading environment driven by a private sector management approach. Working together we can further develop Swansea City Centre's trading environment to benefit YOU the City Centre business.

Queries regarding BID Services:

Letters should be sent to - Swansea Business Improvement District Ltd.
1 Picton Lane, Swansea SA1 4AF.
Alternatively, you can ring 01792 475021.

How to pay your BID Levy:

- By Cheque:** please make cheques payable to "The City And County Of Swansea". Please write your 8 digit BID reference (shown overleaf) on the back of each cheque. We will only issue a receipt if you request it and you enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your payment. We do not accept post dated cheques.
- In person:** Payment can be made at the Civic Centre, Oystermouth Road, Swansea SA1 3SN. Opening Hours: 8.45am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.45am to 4.00pm on Friday.
- By post:** You can send your cheques or postal orders (not cash) to: The Head of Finance, The Civic Centre, Swansea SA1 3SN. Please ensure you quote your 8 digit BID reference (shown overleaf) with your payment.

Contact Details:

Queries regarding your bill: Letters should be sent to The Head of Finance, The Civic Centre, Oystermouth Road, Swansea SA1 3SN. Alternatively you can telephone The Finance Department on 01792 635937 / 635938 or email businessrates@swansea.gov.uk

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