



The Blackburn EDZ BID

Economic Development Zone
Business Improvement District



WELCOME PACK

What is a BID?

A Business Improvement District (BID) enables groups of businesses to commission projects that will lead to improvements in their local trading environment, funded through an additional levy charged through the business rates system.

The funding raised from the levy is ring fenced and held locally by an accountable body (Groundwork in the case of Blackburn Industrial Estate) and invested in added value projects and services. The projects and services are all commissioned and delivered under the governance and direction of the Blackburn Industrial Estate business community. The funds raised cannot be used to support or pay for services that are a statutory obligation of the public sector.

The Blackburn Business Improvement District is a partnership between the businesses on Furthergate Business Park, Greenbank Business Park, Whitebirk Industrial Estate, Blackburn Council, Groundwork and a range of partner organisations.

Since 2004, when the legislation to enable BIDs was introduced, more than 300 BIDs have been approved by companies across the UK.

What can the BID do for your business?

The Blackburn Business Improvement District is broken down into three themes, with a range of services and projects designed to benefit businesses focused within each one:

1

CRIME AND SECURITY

2

IMAGE ENHANCEMENT

3

BUSINESS SUPPORT

To get the most out of the Blackburn EDZ BID and take advantage of all the benefits and services on offer to your business, please get in touch with the BID Team and let us know your most up to date contact details (the email address and phone number of a key contact who will receive information and communications). To do this, please contact on:

Email: info@blackburnedz.co.uk

Tel: 0333 1210393

Web: www.blackburnbidedz.co.uk



**MAP OF THE BLACKBURN
EDZ BID AREA**

THEME 1 - SECURITY AND CRIME PREVENTION

Prior to the BID installing CCTV in 2007, the area was subject to significant levels of criminal activity with nearly 200 criminal incidents a year. The BID's co-ordinated approach to tackling crime has helped reduce key categories of reported crime over 60% since 2007, equating to more than 100 criminal incidents being deterred and prevented each year.

In the last two years the BID has re-invested £80,000 into the 28 camera CCTV system, installing new cameras, repairing non-functioning cameras and delivering a fully operational CCTV system.

Management of the 24/7 CCTV Network

The CCTV network covers strategic locations across the BID area and is monitored 24/7 through a manned CCTV monitoring station. The CCTV Hub operates 24/7 and has access to both CCTV images and police radios to provide a reactive and proactive response to incidents throughout the area.

The cameras provide high quality CCTV images with live monitoring 24/7 from the state of the art CCTV Control Centre in Blackburn.



24/7 Rapid Text Service

The BID has introduced a 'Rapid Text' service to provide real time intelligence on incidents across Greenbank, Furthergate and Whitebirk business parks. This service enables businesses to report and share security threats and risks with neighbouring companies to raise awareness of risks from suspicious incidents, crime occurrences and general security threats.

**BLACKBURN
EDZ
BID**

RAPID TEXT SERVICE

If you see anything suspicious or of general interest
on Blackburn EDZ then please report it to:

0333 121 0393

(24hr coverage)

THEME 2 - IMAGE ENHANCEMENT, CLEANER AND GREENER

Warden Scheme

The business park warden scheme enhances the image of all three business parks and responds to issues of vandalism, fly tipping and graffiti. Regular image audits are undertaken across the entire EDZ area by the Business Improvement District Project Manager on a reoccurring basis, identifying areas for improvement and ensuring the area looks its best for employers, employees and visitors alike.

Litter Picking

A programme of litter picking of the area (outside of business boundaries) including the removal of litter in shrubs is funded by the BID. Litter bins are maintained and emptied in problem areas as part of an ongoing maintenance scheme.

Environmental Crime and Fly Tipping

The BID undertakes monitoring of the area, identifying vandalism, fly tipping and graffiti issues. The BID works with the local authority, police and CCTV monitoring team to identify those responsible and to ensure the efficient repair of street furniture and removal of waste. The warden service responds to reports of fly tipping ensuring swift action is taken to clear illegally fly-tipped waste.



THEME 3 - BUSINESS SUPPORT, RECRUITMENT AND NET-ZERO

The BID disseminates essential grants and business support information to support companies to grow and prosper, signposting companies to funding opportunities from Lancashire's business support community including the Chamber of Commerce, Boost Lancashire and support from Universities and Colleges.

The BID also looks in to new opportunities for supporting businesses across Greenbank, Furthergate and Whitebirk Business Parks to address the challenges and opportunities presented by Net-Zero and rising energy costs.

The Blackburn EDZ BID Management Service

The BID provides a dedicated BID team supporting your business to tackle issues that affect the business park and your company.

The BID Team disseminates regular news updates and grant information through regular communications and publications for all businesses highlighting news stories, opportunities to access grants and wider business support opportunities.

Net-Zero, Energy and Sustainability Support

The BID develops sustainable business support projects/initiatives with partner organisations to support companies in responding to the Net-Zero agenda. These include carbon literacy training, feasibility assessments for smart renewable energy networks, business resilience support to manage extreme weather conditions and energy audits.

Recruitment Support

The BID works with government funded recruitment support projects to enable companies to access new opportunities for recruiting skilled and employable staff.

The Executive Board

The Blackburn EDZ BID has a voluntary Executive Board that meets several times a year to decide what projects and services the BID will fund. The Executive Board is elected annually by the Blackburn Commercial Business Group at the AGM and consists of a Chair and Vice-Chair plus five Executives. If you are interested in becoming an Executive Board member, please get in touch with the BID Team to let us know.

Email: info@blackburnedz.co.uk **Tel:** 0333 1210393 **Web:** www.blackburnbidedz.co.uk

For more information on the Blackburn EDZ Business Improvement District,
and how your business can benefit visit www.blackburnedzbid.co.uk