

## **HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Report To:** Cabinet  
1 November 2016

**Subject:** **NORTHALLERTON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

**Northallerton Wards**  
**Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Finance: Councillor P R Wilkinson**

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### **1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 As Members are aware proposals for a Northallerton Business Improvement District (BID) have been brought forward. BID's are a means of further developing vibrant market towns, commercial districts and tourism zones. To accomplish this a local mechanism is used whereby non-domestic ratepayers occupying local business premises pay an extra levy (in this case 1.5% for those hereditaments with a rateable value of £10,000 and above) on top of their annual business rates for a fixed period of five years, i.e. from 3 April 2017 to March 2022. This additional funding is used by the BID company to deliver its business plan for the area.
- 1.2 BID's are governed by relevant legislation, in particular the Business Improvement District Regulations 2004 (as amended). These Regulations allow local businesses to set up a BID provided that (1) 51% of business ratepayers in the area vote in favour; and (2) the "Yes" votes represent more than 50% of the rateable value in the proposed area. The vote for a BID is carried out by secret postal ballot which is organised by Hambleton District Council. Eligibility to vote is based on one vote per eligible business premise's located within the defined BID area.
- 1.3 The District Council has three rateable business premises within the BID area, namely the Applegarth Car Park, Crosby Road Car Park and Northallerton Market. The Northallerton Prison Site has a zero rateable value as it is unoccupied. The District Council therefore has a say in whether or not the BID should be approved and this equates to three votes for the three respective business premises. Postal ballot votes were sent out to those eligible to vote on 13 October 2016 for return by no later than 5.00pm on 17 November 2016. The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet's approval to vote "Yes" to the BID District proposal.

### **2.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

- 2.1 The BID District proposal links to the Council's priority of driving economic vitality and the aim of improving market town vitality and viability.

### **3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:**

- 3.1 There are no significant risks associated with the recommendation.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- 4.1 The tables below set out the current rateable value for the Council's respective business premises, and the anticipated figures for 2017/2018, together with the increased rateable values taking into account the additional 1.5% levy. Members will see this represents a very modest increase.

<b>Rateable Values used in 2016/17</b>	<b>RV</b>	<b>1.5% Levy</b>
Applegarth Car Park	62,500	937.50
Lascelles Lane (Crosby Road) Car Park	21,250	318.75
Northallerton Market (Market Tolls)	44,000	660.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127,750</b>	<b>1,916.25</b>

<b>Rateable Values used in 2017/18*</b>	<b>RV</b>	<b>1.5% Levy</b>
Applegarth Car Park	100,000	1,500.00
Lascelles Lane (Crosby Road) Car Park	36,000	540.00
Northallerton Market (Market Tolls)	35,000	525.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>171,000</b>	<b>2,565.00</b>

\*Rateable Values taken from the Draft List of Revaluations to be used in 2017/18

## **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 The District Council is legally required to carry out the BID ballot on behalf of the BID consortium.

## **6.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES**

6.1 Equality and Diversity issues have been considered and there are no issues arising from this report.

## **7.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES**

7.1 Health and Safety issues have been considered and there are no issues arising from this report.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATION:**

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the BID proposal and authorises the Chief Executive to vote "Yes" in the upcoming postal ballot.

JUSTIN IVES

**Background papers:** NONE

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