

HAVE YOUR SAY ON BID'S NEXT 5 YEARS

Complete the survey inside this newsletter & be in with a chance of winning £ 100!

A word from

NEWPORT NOW



Newsletter, July 2024

For the latest news from the BID, visit newportnow.co.uk

A message from Newport Now BID chairman, Zep Bellavia

WELCOME to our summer newsletter for BID levy payers.

We had a great turnout at our AGM and open meeting in March, and there will be another open meeting in October at which we will be launching our business plan for 2025-30.

You can have your say on what is included in that plan by

completing the survey inside this newsletter - and be in with a chance of winning a £100 Newport Now gift card.

You will be able to vote on the plan when levy payers are balloted in November as to whether they wish the BID to continue for a third term.

Obviously, I and the rest of the

BID's volunteer board of directors hope you will decide to vote **Yes** in November and we will be providing you with lots of reasons to do so between now and then.

Some of these reasons you will find in this newsletter but also on our website and our regular e-bulletins.

I'm delighted to be announcing

our month-long urban beach event in this newsletter. We think this will provide fantastic family fun for the school holidays.

We have some great events co-later in the year so keep an eye on our website and social media.

● **Zep Bellavia is Managing Director of Bellavia & Associates Solicitors.**

BID bringing beach fun to city centre

ALL THE fun of the seaside will be coming to Newport city centre throughout August - providing some perfect family fun during the school summer holidays.

Newport Now BID is bringing an urban beach into John Frost Square from August 2nd to the 27th inclusive.

The beach will be open for families to enjoy from 9am to 5pm every day.

Complete with buckets, spades and deck chairs, the BID's urban beach will provide fun for all the family.

The month-long event is being delivered by the BID with support from Newport City Council via the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF).

Newport Now BID manager Kevin Ward said: "We felt there was a gap in the Newport events calendar at the end of the school summer holidays.

"Bringing the seaside into the city centre for almost all of August is a fantastic way to mark the end of the holiday season.

"Children will love the beach, and there will be some surprise entertainment at different points during the month for all the family.

"Just as importantly, the beach will bring additional footfall and trading opportunities into the city centre at a crucial time for our businesses.



Newport Now BID brought an urban beach into the city centre in 2017 and 2018. Now the beach will be back in John Frost Square for the whole of August

"We're grateful for the support from the council via SPF as bringing the beach in for a month would have been impossible without this funding."

The urban beach is the latest in a series of city centre events delivered or funded by Newport Now BID.

The urban beach is being delivered in partnership with Yellow



Funded by
UK Government
Wedi ei ariannu gan
Llywodraeth y DU

Bus Events.
The UK Shared Prosperity

Fund is a central pillar of the UK government's Levelling Up agenda and provides £2.6 billion of funding for local investment by March 2025.

The fund aims to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK investing in communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills.

Do you take the gift card?

DOES your business accept the Newport Now gift card?

Our gift cards can only be spent with participating businesses in the city centre - keeping the Newport pound in Newport.

Newport is one of more than 200 cities and towns across the UK to run a gift card scheme.

Currently, around 50 businesses in the Newport Now BID area accept the gift card, ranging from national brands like Primark and Boots UK to independents like the the Carpenters pub and Gallery 57.

This brings thousands of pounds of extra spend into the city centre every year.

Remember - the gift card can only be spent in the city centre. For example, it can be spent at Boots on Commercial Street but not at any other Boots branch in Newport.

But imagine how much more money could be spent in Newport city centre if we doubled or even tripled the number of shops, pubs, restaurants and coffee shops accepting the card?

There is no additional cost to



The Newport Now gift card can only be spent in participating city centre businesses - keeping the Newport pound in Newport

your business in taking the card.

The Newport Now gift card is a prepaid Mastercard which can be spent at registered businesses only.

Both national brands and independent businesses can easily accept our gift cards with no additional equipment required.

Signing up to accept the card

couldn't be simpler. Just go to our website newportnow.co.uk and follow the instructions in the Welcome to Newport section.

If something isn't working for you when you try to sign up online, just contact our manager Kevin Ward - kevin@kevinward-media.com and we'll come to you to help.

Newport Now receives coveted industry standards kite mark

NEWPORT Now BID has been recognised for its high standards and received a coveted national accreditation for Business Improvement Districts.

The BID Foundation's Industry Standards was awarded to Newport Now, which represents more than 600 businesses in the city centre, in recognition of its standards of transparency and responsible governance, following an independent review process.

The BID Foundation has developed the Industry Standards for all BIDs with input from the UK and Welsh governments and other national bodies.

The standards highlight information and documentation that should be made publicly accessible and easily identifiable by every BID and are independently accredited by the Institute of Place Management.

Newport Now has passed the Industry Standards accreditation by demonstrating high standards on a range of issues including its business plan, governance mechanisms and reporting, directors and personal interests, and detail on ballot results.

Newport Now BID manager Kevin Ward said: "We are absolutely delighted to have received this important accreditation, which shows we meet the highest



standards set for BIDs across the UK. While we have had the majority of the 11 industry standards in place for some years, we thought it was important to have this accreditation as a formal, independently-assessed recognition of the work we do on behalf of our members.

"As we are about to start the process leading to a ballot of city centre businesses in November that will determine whether Newport Now receives support for a third BID term of five years covering the period 2025 to 2030, we felt it was important to demonstrate to businesses that we follow recommended best practices.

"This recognition comes after a thorough independent review process, which underscores our commitment to transparency and best practices."

The review process is conducted by The BID Foundation, which is

delivered with the support of the Institute of Place Management, the professional body for place managers and leaders, based at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Matthew Davis, director at the BID Foundation and the Institute of Place Management, said: "This is a crucial piece of work to support BIDs. The Industry Standards further demonstrate the professionalism of BIDs that adopt them, and of the wider sector, which has stepped forward through the pandemic and now during recovery to provide support to thousands of local businesses."

You can find out more about the BID Foundation at www.placemanagement.org/the-bid-foundation and about the Industry Standards accreditation at www.placemanagement.org/the-bid-foundation/industry-standards

BID's Night Ambassadors service is extended for another year thanks to grant funding

THE BID's successful Night Ambassadors service has been extended for at least another year thanks to a successful application for further grant funding.

This means our Night Ambassadors are guaranteed to be on duty in the city centre and wider Stow Hill area every weekend until at least the end of March, 2025.

The service, which operates on Fridays and Saturdays from 8pm to 4am, provides assistance to the public, the night-time economy and the emergency services.

Our Night Ambassadors help to make Newport city centre, riverfront and Clarence Place area safer at night, particularly for women and girls.

They also patrol a wider area than our daytime Street Ambassadors - including Belle Vue Park and the Royal Gwent Hospital.

The Night Ambassadors service began operations in July 2022 thanks to a successful application for grant funding from the Home Office's Safer Streets initiative.

The funding allowed the Night Ambassadors to operate for 14 months.

In partnership with Newport City Council, the BID then applied for further funding from the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner.

The application was successful and the service was secured until the end of March this year.

Earlier this year, we worked again with the council to apply for funding from the Gwent PCC to extend the service for a further 12-month period.

That application was successful and the service is now secured until at least the end of next March.

BID manager Kevin Ward said: "The Night Ambassadors have proved incredibly popular with revellers, licensees, the police and licensing authorities since we introduced them.

"They help keep people safe, calm incidents that would previously have involved the police being called, and provide first aid on the rare occasions it is necessary.

"Further funding from the Gwent PCC means we can continue to provide the service at no cost to BID levy payers and we look forward to extending it beyond 2025 if we receive a Yes vote in this year's ballot for a third BID term."



SURVEY 2024

Help us create the BID business plan for the next five years...

In November, we will be asking all BID businesses to vote on a new BID proposal and business plan for a third 5-year term.

We would like you to help us shape our plans. To do that we first need to understand your views on the BID and its work. We would appreciate it if you could please take a few minutes to complete this survey.

Thank you in advance and your responses will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

You can complete the survey online here: www.newportnow.co.uk/resources and email it to kevin@kevinwardmedia.com

If you are completing this hard copy, then it will have been delivered by our Street Ambassadors and they will collect it from you.

The closing date is: July 31, 2024. Thank you.



1. Please provide us with some general information about your business:

Your Name.....

Position/Job Title.....

Business Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Postcode.....

Telephone Number.....

Email.....

2. What is the nature of your business?

Retail Financial/Professional Services

Food & Drink Health & Beauty

Entertainment/Leisure Accommodation

Office/Commercial Public Sector

Other (please specify below)

3. What type of business are you?

Multiple Trader/National

Regional (more than one site in South Wales)

Independent or sole trader

4. How many people work at these premises? (figure should include owners)

Full Time

Part Time

5. How long has your business been in the city centre?

Less than a year 1-5 years

6-10 years More than 10 years

6. In November 2024 all BID levy payers will be asked to vote again to continue the Newport Now BID for a third 5-year term. We would like to ascertain your voting intentions at this stage. Will you:

Vote YES

Vote NO

Don't know yet

For news and updates on all the projects and services delivered by the BID, visit newportnow.co.uk

We would like to ask you some questions about the BID and the projects and services we deliver. How do you rank the importance of the below projects/services offered by the BID? If you would like the project or service to continue, then please also tick the box in the final column.



SURVEY 2024

Help us create the BID business plan for the next five years...

Win £100!

Every completed survey will be entered into a draw to win a £100 Newport Now gift card. The gift cards can only be spent at participating businesses in the city centre.



7. Welcome to Newport

Helping to improve the street and trading environment while changing perceptions and creating a vibrant city centre. *The aim of this theme is to introduce a range of services that will create a more attractive environment for visitors, shoppers and businesses. We also want to improve perceptions, create more reasons to visit and make the most of opportunities presented by new developments.*

- We will:
- Deliver a programme of city centre events to increase footfall and spend
 - Continue to provide shopfront improvement grants for BID levy payers
 - Raise the profile of our city centre by gaining positive media coverage
 - Further develop the Newport Now Gift Card – increasing spend in the city centre
 - Develop marketing activities which are both visitor and business focused with the aim of helping to fill vacant units and continuing to drive up footfall
 - Encourage local residents and employees to spend locally through regular promotions and constant reminders of what the city has to offer

	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not Important	If you would like this BID service to continue, please tick
Events: Delivery or sponsorship of events such as: Countdown to Christmas, Food & Drink Festival, Urban Beach, Big Splash, Pride in the Port, Small Business Saturday, Newport Wales Marathon, Christmas Markets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marketing: issuing of positive PR & articles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newport Now website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Newport Now gift card	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing shopfront improvement grants; opening pop-up shops to help new traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Safe & Secure Newport

Creating a more welcoming city centre experience *Like the majority of town and city centres in the UK, Newport suffers with issues of anti-social behaviour. The aim of this theme is to address this and work with the police & others to make the city centre experience more pleasant for visitors and workers during the day and night.*

- We will:
- Provide uniformed Street Ambassadors to welcome visitors, confront anti-social behaviour and help prevent crime against property
 - Provide Night Ambassadors via grant funding to achieve a better weekend night time experience for visitors
 - Support the Newport Business Against Crime Partnership (NBaC) and work closely with them to increase take up of the radio link service and enhance the sharing of intelligence related to crime in the area
 - Work closely with the local police force to develop a working partnership with them and the business community

	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not Important	If you would like this BID service to continue, please tick
Street Ambassadors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night Ambassadors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting Newport Business Against Crime Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liaising with and supporting police	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9 Newport Now BID targeted external grant funding on a regular basis to supplement the levy and provide additional services and projects. We set a target of raising a total of £25,000 in external funding during the BID's 2020-25 term. How much do you think has actually been raised?

- Less than £2,500
 £2,500-£25,000
 £25,000-£250,000
 £250,000+

For the answer, please go to newportnow.co.uk/about-the-bid



SURVEY 2024

Help us create the BID business plan for the next five years...

10. Future Newport

City Centre Strategy & Business Support

This theme aims to make sure that you, as a committed and passionate business community, have a significant role in the future of our city. With a positive vision for the future we will strive towards shared success. We will adopt digital technologies wherever possible.

We will:

- Act as a collective voice for our members and provide presentation and input into future plans for our city centre
- Work with Newport City Council on the development and implementation of a city centre placemaking plan
- Help city centre businesses save money on their energy, telecoms and merchant fees
- Support new businesses to move into the city centre and encourage use of vacant units, including temporary use via pop-ups
- Support businesses through facilitating access to grants and providing training opportunities
- Link businesses with local skills providers to create a better skilled local workforce
- Work with Newport's sporting facilities and teams to enhance the city centre experience for their visitors (e.g. Dragons. Newport County, Newport Live, Run 4 Wales)

	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not Important	If you would like this BID service to continue, please tick
Lobbying central & local government on behalf of city centre businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encouraging use of vacant units, including pop-ups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping you save money on your energy, telecoms & merchant fees via our Savings Advisory Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Source free training for you & your staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue promoting & growing use of the city centre app	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working with the city's sports teams & organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are you missing out on services?

IS YOUR business based in one of the streets marked on this map?

If so, and if your premises has a rateable value of £5,000 or more then you are a levy-paying Newport Now BID member.

Newport Now has been in existence since 2015 but we know some levy payers are still unsure about what the BID offers them.

Newport Now is one of more than 340 Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) across the UK.

A BID is a business-led and business-funded body formed to help improve a defined area.

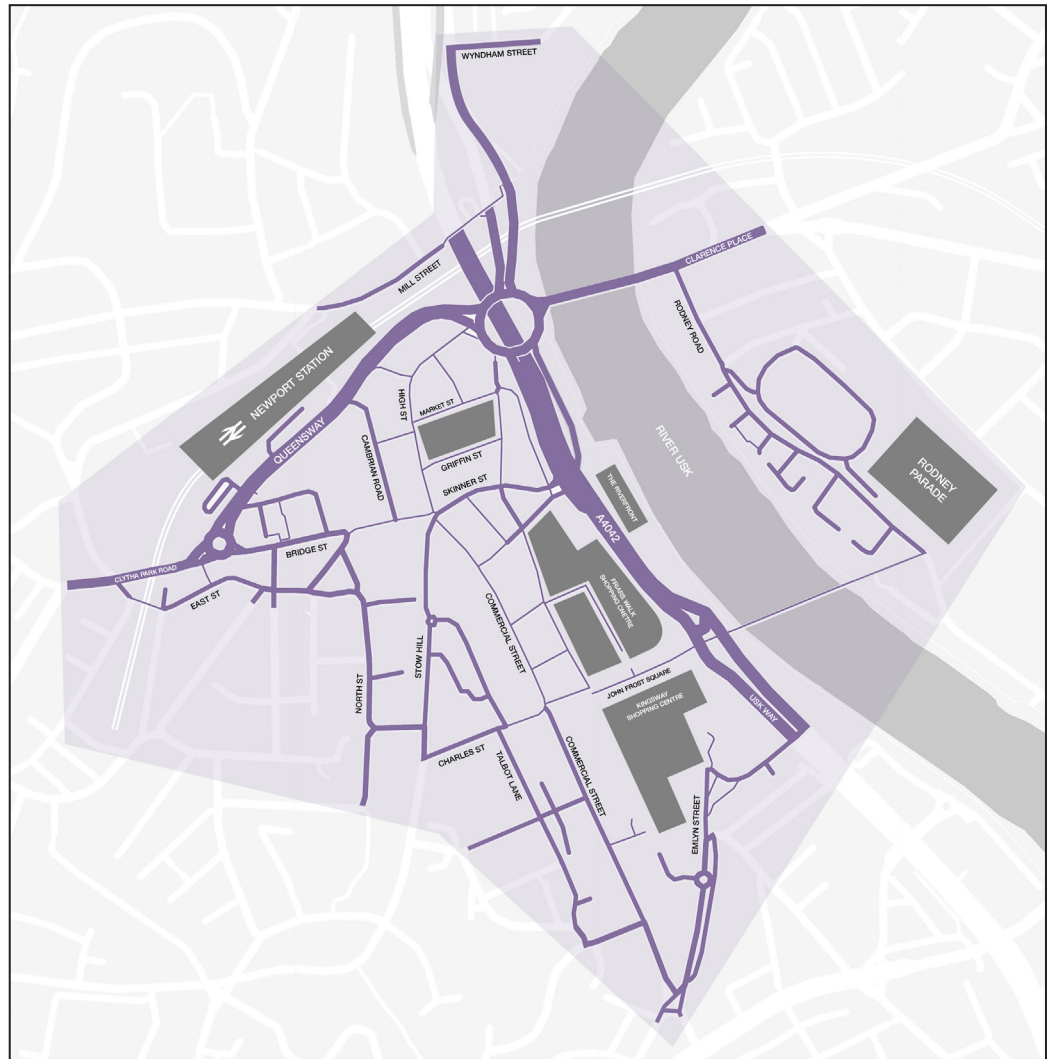
BIDs are established for 5-year terms following a ballot of businesses. At the end of each 5 years, a further ballot is held to extend the BID for a further term.

Newport Now is coming to the end of its second term and will be balloting for a third term in November this year.

Benefits available to your business as a levy payer include:

- An annual events programme organised of funded by the BID
- Uniformed Street and Night Ambassadors on patrol 5 days a week.
- Shopfront Improvement Grants
- Savings Advisory Service
- Newport Now gift card
- City centre app

For more details on all benefits & services, please visit www.newportnow.co.uk



Opportunity to join the BID board of directors

ARE you interested in joining the BID's volunteer board of directors?

Newport Now is a not-for-profit company governed by a board of directors, all of whom either own or run businesses in the BID area, or are part of community groups.

The current board of directors is: Zep Bellavia (Bellavia & Associates Solicitors, chair), Alan Edwards (Vacara's), Cath Macnamara (Liverton Opticians), Dan Smith (M4 Property Consultants), Gavin Horton (Horton's Lounge), Ian Lamsdale (Newport City Radio), Nicky Vignoli (The Newporters community group), Robin Hall (Kymyn Financial Planners), Tracy Stokes (Belle Femme), Nikki Marshall (Newport Arcade) and Simon Pullen (Friars Walk).

There is a vacancy for one further person to join the board. Board members are volunteers and the board meets six times a year. There are also two open meetings a year. For more information, please email kevin@kevinwardmedia.com



Zep Bellavia



Alan Edwards



Cath Macnamara



Dan Smith



Gavin Horton



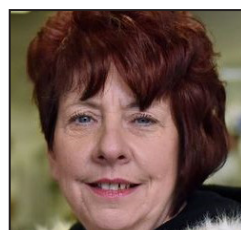
Ian Lamsdale



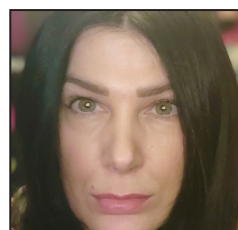
Nicky Vignoli



Robin Hall



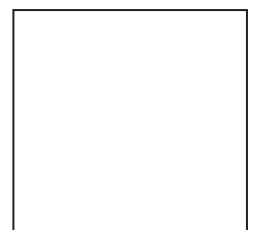
Tracy Stokes



Nikki Marshall



Simon Pullen



Vacancy

NEWPORT NOW

VOTE
YES

FOR 5
MORE YEARS

Why your vote matters

WE KNOW you might be fed up with elections at the moment.

But there is another important vote taking place later this year.

From October 31 to November 28, Newport Now will be balloted our members to gain support for a third 5-year term for the BID.

All BIDs operate across 5-year terms, delivering a business plan agreed by their members, before seeking a Yes vote at ballot for another 5 years.

Newport Now is in the last year of its second 5-year term and we will be asking your for a Yes vote to deliver a new business plan for 2025-2030.

Your vote really will matter. Keep an eye on your emails, our website & social media for more details.

NEWPORT NOW

DON'T LOSE THE FOLLOWING AND MORE...

- ✓ Shopfront Improvement Grants, Savings Advisory Service, Gift Card & City Centre App
- ✓ Uniformed Street & Night Ambassadors on duty 5 days a week
- ✓ Events including Christmas Lights Switch-On, Record Store Day, Urban Beach, Small Business Saturday

VOTE YES FOR NEWPORT NOW BID'S 3RD TERM
Ballot Period from **31 October** to **28 November 2024**

WWW.NEWPORTNOW.CO.UK