



PRESS RELEASE

Royal Tunbridge Wells Votes Yes for BID

Royal Tunbridge Wells Together is delighted to announce that local businesses have voted 'Yes' in a month-long ballot for the town centre area to become a Business Improvement District or a BID.

The BID will commence its 5-year term on 1st April 2019 and, following extensive consultations with the local business community will have 4 key focuses. These are:

- Events
- Promotion
- A Better Town for Business
- Accessibility

Royal Tunbridge Wells Together, the existing town centre partnerships created by local businesses in 2016 will become the BID delivery company, serving all the 600+ businesses that lie within the BID boundary area. A total of c£2.3million will be invested during the 5 year BID term, all with the aim of improving vibrancy, footfall and the general environment for businesses in the entire town centre area.

Nicky Blanchard, Chair of Royal Tunbridge Wells Together commented "This is incredibly good news for Royal Tunbridge Wells, we need to be ready on 1st April next year to deliver; the hard work starts now! We will be spending the next few months making sure that everything outlined in the Business Plan is in place and ready. The BID will be fully accountable to its member businesses and we look forward to working with them all."

Turnout in the BID ballot was 38% with 73% of voting businesses voting in favour.

ENDS

Royal Tunbridge Wells Together is a membership organisation supported by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and a number of businesses in the Town Centre. For further details of the aims and objectives of Royal Tunbridge Wells Together, please visit www.tunbridgewellstogether.co.uk