

BID Presentations Q&A points

Jubilee Rooms	Questioner	Question/Answer
18.10.11 pm	<p>Q1] Paul Hubbard, Architect; concerning the current business rates collected from LA23 how much comes back to LA23? Comment: by Cllr. Graham Vincent</p>	<p>A1] SLDC collects all the business rates on behalf of the Government and then receives back a sum (which can be affected by SLDC's performance criteria (eg meeting budget etc)</p> <p>SLDC collects £36M and receives back ca £8M from the Government (and was not sure what sum CCC received back). SLDC has a commitment to looking at and encouraging business projects throughout its area and LA23 is an area now being considered. Hopefully, SLDC will receive improved return from Government – and more focus is being giving to the Eastern and Western parts of the area. It was noted that SLDC collects £13M (via the non-domestic rate) on behalf of CCC which is more than Carlisle City Council does – and Carlisle has a larger population than SLDC</p>
	<p>Comment: on a BID Board cashflow in year 1</p>	<p>In the first year, the LA23 BID Board, has to consider projects and determine priorities – but will not be able to facilitate projects immediately. This is because (like most BIDs) it is hoped the levy will be collected with the non-domestic rate, which means for many businesses payment over 10 months commencing April – so it will be towards the end of the calendar year the BID Board will be in a position to draw down on funds to facilitate agreed projects.</p>
	<p>Comment: on objectives and projects</p>	<p>The BID Steering Group in its Objectives has stated some possible areas for projects and outline budgets for those areas. It is the BID Boards function to examine and agree to specific projects and determine the budget support for agreed projects.</p> <p>The Board meetings will be open for members to attend and observe, and full finance reports and project progress posted on the Board's website and full accounts will be presented to the AGM.</p> <p>Other sources (eg. SLDC, LDNPA, Cumbria Tourism etc) might provide matched funding to facilitate specific projects in the future.</p>
	<p>Comment: by Cllr. Graham Vincent</p>	<p>The BID projects and their funding have no influence on anything SLDC is doing or may do for the LA23 area. SLDC also has a 'discretionary spend' but that (taken with the BID monies) is not a reason not to spend in the LA23 area.</p> <p>The LA23 BID is the first BID SLDC has had and there has been a 'learning curve' for both SLDC and the BID Steering Group – who were a little quicker 'out of the blocks' than SLDC. Note was also made of Tim Farron's comment at the first meeting with businesses that AL23 area is in a stronger position than some other areas because the various authorities have notified the Steering Group of their respective Baseline Services for the LA23 area</p>