

Important updates from around the BID area

Over the summer there have been a number of developments within the West Chester Commercial BID.

Please read on for an update on a range of prevalent topics.

CCTV

In recent months, the BID have been liaising with Cheshire Police and CCTV of the local authority in order to try and have CCTV installed to cover the entrance and exit of Sovereign Way.

Currently, the area has CCTV that covers the entrance and exit of Bumpers Lane from Sealand Road, and a report has been provided by the Crime Reduction Advisor of Cheshire Police for the BID that includes the crime and incidents that have been reported over the last two years.

The next step is to discuss the report with CCTV and the local authority, with the BID putting a case together in order to show the necessity of CCTV within the BID.

Travellers

Over the summer, the BID has liaised with the Gypsy & Liaison Department of the local authority to have several encampments removed.

The BID's also liaised with Cheshire Police to inform them that some businesses have had visits from travellers, been intimidated and in some instances, had goods stolen.

On top of this, once travellers have vacated the BID area, the BID has immediately got in touch with the local authority's cleansing team in order for any necessary cleaning work to be undertaken.

Please remember that if you see any suspicious activity you can report it using the Rapid Text Service by contacting 01606 866658. An encampment can also be reported by emailing Dawn Taylor from Cheshire West and Chester Council on dawn.taylor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.



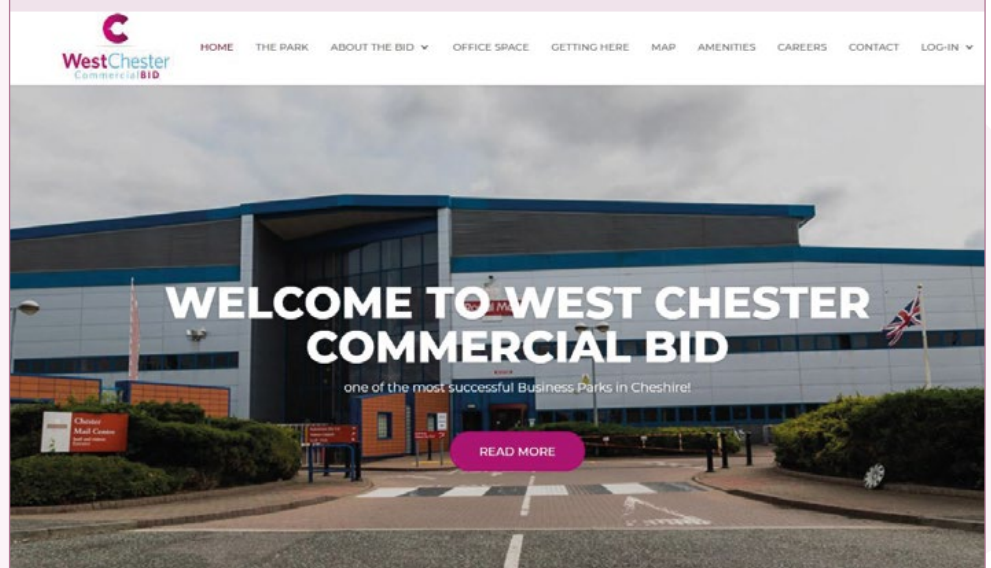
Website

Work has been continuing over the summer on the West Chester Commercial BID website.

It's at the working prototype stage now and much of the content is now on the site. When finished, the site

will act as the go-to destination for all things West Chester Commercial BID.

Make sure you keep checking your emails for an announcement about the site in the coming weeks.



Message from the Chair

Welcome to our summer newsletter.

We are approaching the end of our first year and I feel the BID has already made its mark. You can read in more detail about the various projects that are being progressed throughout the newsletter, and although not every target has been reached, we have made significant progress on the promised themes.

I would like to highlight a few in particular:

- ▶ The training courses have been very successful. They will be restarting soon, so remembering that these are high quality 'no cost to you' courses, I would encourage you to book your staff on the courses as soon as they are published because demand is high.
- ▶ The background discussions between the BID and the local authority have helped alleviate the insurgence of

travellers earlier this summer and the continuing clean up.

- ▶ We have the free energy review service in place to help us reduce our energy usage costs.

At the time of writing and after a lot of pressure from the BID, Sovereign Way has finally been resurfaced, putting an end to the costly spring replacements. This did cause some disruption to trading for a few days but I am sure the improvement to our road will be of great benefit to us all.

In our quest for a CCTV system on Sovereign Way, we have received the official report from the Crime Prevention Officer regarding the feasibility of such a system.

The proposed location of the CCTV is a strategic point and would complement the CCTV near Bumpers Lane. It would act as a deterrent to a point if signage is displayed correctly.



A positive step forward in increasing the security of our businesses, hopefully by this time next year we will have that in place.

We have had a long hot summer, which has strained air-conditioning systems and increased costs.

Thankfully we are now back to more traditional English weather and autumn is upon us.

We have had a successful first year, but with lots still to do.

Jordi Morell
Chair - West Chester Commercial BID



BID image enhancements

- Latest news

To help maintain and improve the image of the West Chester Commercial BID, the team have been working on a number of initiatives to try and ensure the area is in the best condition for businesses and their employees.

The first project relates to Sovereign Way, with the BID, over recent months, liaising with the local authority's Highways Department to ascertain the extent of the problems which many of you will be aware of.

Following investigatory works carried out on behalf of the BID over the summer, work began on the road at the end of August 2018. The work is now finished and we all have a resurfaced Sovereign Way with no health and safety concerns.

As well as this, the BID has also been in contact with the Highways

Department regarding street name plates, some of which are in need of replacing. They have now been ordered and should be installed within the next couple of weeks.

The BID continues to lobby with the Street Care Team of the local authority too, carrying out regular audits and reporting issues such as litter, fly tipping, fly posting, weeding and the maintenance of bushes and trees.

Finally, the BID team have identified three areas where West Chester Commercial BID branded signage can be installed. These are the entrances to Bumpers Lane, Sovereign Way and Hartford Way.

A topographical survey has been carried out and a landscape architect is currently analysing the three areas. Following this, a design will have to be agreed before a planning application



is submitted. Although a lengthy process, the signage would add a clear identity to the BID area.

Useful Contacts

If you have a problem, issue or request relating to a matter within the BID, there are a number of contacts and organisations you can get in touch with.

Please check out the full list below and make a note of them for future reference.

- ▶ **Cheshire Police** - PCSO Hannah Templeton - Hannah.templeton@cheshire.pnn.police.uk
- ▶ **Cheshire Police** - Joanne Pendry - joanne.pendry@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

- Make sure you contact either Hannah or Joanne for any issues surrounding ongoing crime matters, police advice or to report ongoing dangerous/obstructive parking.

- ▶ **West Chester BID Rapid Text Service** - 01606 866658
- ▶ **Cheshire West and Chester Council** - 'Your Streets' portal - www.westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk - 0300 123 7036
- ▶ **Cheshire West and Chester Council** - Gypsy & Traveller Liaison Officer (Local Authority) - dawn.taylor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- ▶ **Alpha Omega Security (Bank Holiday Cover periods)** - Control

Room - 07816 834217 or Operations Manager Matthew Wellington - 07855 815846

- ▶ **Defibrillators** - B&S Group Sovereign Way, Monday - Friday, 08:30am-5:00pm - 01244 390215 - Nicol Hughes Food, Monday - Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm - 01244 390929





Future training courses with West Chester Commercial BID

All companies who are based within West Chester Commercial BID are entitled to attend any of the many training courses that the BID runs throughout the year. The courses are free of charge to any employee who wishes to attend as they are all funded and delivered through the BID.

The courses are designed to cover as wide a variety of topics as possible, ranging from Health & Safety to Fire Marshal Training - all important aspects in keeping your work environment safe and running as smoothly as possible.

For more information or to book onto a course, please email **Stephanie. Leese@groundwork.org.uk**.

Please see below for a full list of courses:

- ▶ **1 Day Emergency First Aid at Work** - Tuesday 6th November 2018
- ▶ **Leadership Skills and Management Training Course** - Wednesday 14th November 2018
- ▶ **1 Day Emergency First Aid at Work** - Monday 10th December 2018
- ▶ **Level 2 Award in Health & Safety in the Workplace** - Tuesday 5th February 2019
- ▶ **1 Day Emergency First Aid at Work** - Monday 18th March 2019
- ▶ **Fire Marshal Training (Morning and Afternoon Session)** - Wednesday 8th May 2019
- ▶ **1 Day Emergency First Aid at Work** - Tuesday 11th June 2019



Saving money through the BID

As a BID, we are always looking at ways in which we can help and support the businesses on the estate, to make the day-to-day running of companies more efficient and cost effective.

We are therefore pleased to announce that we have teamed up with Power Solutions. By partnering with the Chester based organisation, we are able to offer a free energy review service to businesses which may help save you money.

Power Solutions have previously worked with a number of other Business Improvement Districts

including CH1 in Chester, where businesses have reported great savings.

Regardless of the size of your business, as a BID levy payer you are entitled to use this free service that the West Chester Commercial BID is providing.

David Harrington-Wright, who is the Director of Old Port Spa Aesthetics and Director & Chair of Chester Football Club, has seen huge benefits from working with Power Solutions.

“As a Director of two local businesses, one being Chester FC, I cannot recommend highly enough the

services of Power Solutions UK. They had saved us over £1000 on our gas contracts with more savings to follow on the electric usage.

“The customer service is excellent, they constantly monitor your contract and rates and will advise if things can be found cheaper. Other than a signature from us they handle everything else. Brilliant when you are busy, as it is a job you know should be done but rarely have the time to do.”

If you want to see how Power Solutions could help you, simply call Christine Scott on 01244 391 512 or email her on christine@powersolutionsuk.com.