

# **Management Committee**

## **12 December 2017**

### **Scrutiny of the Weymouth BID**

#### **For Decision**

#### **Briefholder**

Councillor James Farquharson – Economic Development  
Councillor Richard Kosior – Tourism and Culture

#### **Senior Leadership Team Contact:**

M Hamilton, Strategic Director

#### **Cover Report Author:**

L Watson, Democratic Services Team

#### **Statutory Authority**

Local Government Act 2000 and Localism Act 2011 sets out the requirement for local authorities to establish overview and scrutiny committees and their functions.

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To consider the findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny and Performance Committee following a scrutiny review of the Weymouth Business Improvement District (BID).

#### **Recommendations of the Scrutiny and Performance Committee**

##### **Recommendations for the borough council:**

- 2 (a) That regular updates on the work of the Weymouth BID be provided for all councillors by the Economic Development and Tourism & Culture Briefholders as the council representatives on the BID Board. This could be in the form of bi-annual presentations/written updates to the appropriate body (Scrutiny and Performance Committee or Full Council);
- (b) That the Weymouth BID be invited to provide an all member briefing on the work of the Weymouth BID on an annual basis;
- (c) That the borough councillor representatives attend the majority of BID Board meetings.

## **Suggestions to forward to the Weymouth BID for their consideration:**

The following suggestions are presented to the BID for their consideration:

- (a) To consider how accessible the BID Board and manager appear to levy payers and how levy payers can contact and contribute thoughts and ideas to the BID. Some suggestions for consideration are:

Opportunities for levy payers to meet and speak face to face with the BID manager and Board members;

Opportunities for levy payers to make comments/suggestions, for example through the creation of a project proposal form for levy payers to use;

Opportunities for levy payers to attend and participate, where appropriate, at BID Board meetings and AGM and access information, where appropriate, from these meetings.

- (b) To review how information is made available to levy payers in order to raise levels of awareness of support available to levy payers and projects underway and being planned;
- (c) To review the size of the area covered by the Weymouth BID to ensure that there is a fair level of benefit to all areas and levy payers;
- (d) To review where within the BID area, projects and events are run to ensure that there is a fair level of benefit to all areas and levy payers;
- (e) To review the types of projects and events that are run by the BID, in particular to include smaller scale projects such as pop up cafes or street markets which could potentially result in some quick win achievements for the town and to include a focus on out of season events and projects to encourage people to visit the town during the quieter months;
- (f) To consider how the BID can assist with promoting activities and events both within Weymouth and across Dorset (including linking in with the council's visitor information services);
- (g) To consider whether there are further benefits that can be offered to levy payers, for example, discounted/free pitches at events;
- (h) To review the range of levy payers on the BID Board to ensure that appropriate levels of representation of smaller and independent businesses are encouraged. To consider including a neutral person when applications for Board members are reviewed.

## **Reason for Decision**

- 3 To enable Management Committee to consider the findings of the scrutiny review of the Weymouth BID by the Scrutiny and Performance Committee.

## **Background and Reason Decision Needed**

- 4 A group of members from the Scrutiny and Performance Committee have undertaken a scrutiny review of the Weymouth BID. The report produced and subsequently agreed by the committee at their meeting on 23 November 2017 is attached as an appendix to this report. The report contains recommendations which are presented for consideration by the Management Committee and suggestions to be forwarded on to the Weymouth BID for their consideration.

## **Implications**

### **Financial**

- 5 There are no financial implications for the borough council arising from this report.

### **Human Resources**

- 6 No implications from this report.

## **Consultation and Engagement**

- 7 Details of consultation undertaken during the review is set out within the report.

## **Appendices**

- 8 Appendix – Scrutiny Review – Weymouth BID – report agreed by the Scrutiny and Performance Committee

## **Background Papers**

- 9 None

## **Footnote**

- 10 Issues relating to financial, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

**Cover Report Author:** Lindsey Watson, Democratic Services

**Telephone:** (01305) 252209

**Email:** [lwatson@dorset.gov.uk](mailto:lwatson@dorset.gov.uk)