

# SOUTH BANK BID BALLOT WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Early in the new year, you will receive several documents in the post relating to South Bank BID's proposals for its third term, and the associated ballot.

As a Business Improvement District (BID) we are required to provide all eligible levy payers with the opportunity to vote for the BID's proposal to continue for another five-year term.

Between 25 January and 22 February 2024, you will have the chance to vote in the ballot which is conducted via post. Here's a quick guide to know what to look out for, and what you need to do next.

# **KEY DATES**

### 8 JAN

**Notice of Ballot** will be posted to you from Lambeth Council

### **10 JAN**

South Bank BID Third Term Business Plan Launch Event

# **25 JAN**

Voting Opens. Ballot papers will have been posted to you

### **22 FEB**

Voting Closes at 5pm. Papers received after this time will not be counted

### **23 FEB**

**Result Announced** 

# MAILING 1

#### 9-11 JANUARY

#### **WHAT TO EXPECT**

In the first mailing, you will receive a Notice of Ballot. This will be sent by Lambeth Council, who is conducting the ballot on behalf of themselves and Southwark Council, as the BID spans parts of both boroughs. This is a formal notification that the ballot is taking place and will advise how many votes you have.

#### WHAT TO DO

Please check that your details are correct as this is the same address that the ballot paper will be sent to. If you do not receive this notice of ballot, or need the ballot paper sent to an alternative address or individual, please get in touch with us by emailing bid@southbanklondon.com

### **MAILING 2**

#### **9-11 JANUARY**

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

In the second mailing you will receive the Business Plan for South Bank BID's third term.

#### WHAT TO DO

Please take the time to read through the document which sets out our plans and the services we intend to deliver if you vote yes to renew South Bank BID for a third term.

#### **MAILING 3**

#### **23-25 JANUARY**

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

The third and last mailing will include your ballot paper. If you occupy more than one premises, you may receive more than one paper, each in separate envelopes.

#### WHAT TO DO

Please complete the ballot paper in full and return in the freepost envelope provided.

#### Your completed ballot paper must be received by 5pm on Thursday 22 February 2024.

In order to meet this deadline, it is advisable to return your ballot paper as soon as possible.

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### What is a Business Improvement District?

A Business Improvement District (BID) is a not-for-profit organisation, led and funded by businesses to improve a defined commercial area. BIDs are formed when businesses in the defined area vote on a business plan which is tailored to respond to the needs of the businesses following consultation.

South Bank BID was established in 2014. We fund and support a number of public realm services, including enhanced security, cleaning and refuse collection, and help to promote South Bank as a leading visitor destination and as the cultural heart of London. We also act as a collective voice for our 300 levy payers, helping to ensure their perspectives are heard and their priorities acted on.

#### What is the ballot for?

In accordance with UK legislation, Business Improvement Districts operate on fixed term of up to five years and must renew their status at the end of every term.

South Bank BID's second term ends in September 2024. In order for the work carried out by South Bank BID to continue, there will be a legal vote to secure a third term and for our projects and services to continue for another five years. The ballot will be carried out by Lambeth Council, who conduct the ballot on behalf of themselves and Southwark Council.

# Why have I received more than one ballot paper?

Each rateable business property, known as a hereditament, is entitled to one vote. Businesses occupying more than one hereditament will get more than one vote. If you receive more than one ballot paper, please vote and return each individual ballot paper in its corresponding envelope.

#### How will the ballot be determined as successful?

The BID ballot will be successful if the following two criteria are met:

- A simple majority by number of those voting must vote in favour
- Those voting in favour must represent the majority of rateable value of those voting

#### What happens if it's a 'no' vote?

If the ballot fails to gain a positive majority vote, South Bank BID will cease to exist on 30 September 2024 and all projects and services funded by the company will terminate.

If you have any further questions about the BID Ballot or the projects and services delivered by South Bank BID, please email us at bid@southbanklondon.com, we'd love to hear from you.

# **YOU'RE INVITED**

Wednesday 10 January | 6-9pm SEA LIFE London Aquarium

We have the pleasure of inviting you to the launch of our Third Term Business Plan, ahead of our ballot which will run between 25 January and 22 February 2024.

Taking place in SEA Life London Aquarium – one of London's top attractions – this is an opportunity to learn more about the BID's plans for its third term and the ballot process, and enjoy some drinks and nibbles, while meeting the BID team and fellow levy payers.

To confirm your attendance, please scan the QR code to register.

