

LEVY RULES

The levy rate will be fixed at 1.5% of rateable value as at 1st April 2020 based on the 2017 Rating List.

All new hereditaments entering the Rating List after 1st April 2020 will be levied at 1.5% of the prevailing list at the start of each chargeable year.

The levy will be charged annually in advance for each chargeable period from April to March, starting on 1st April 2020 utilising the prevailing values on the 2017 Rating List.

Any adjustments to the rateable values will only be applied to the BID levy at the fixed date of the subsequent chargeable year.

The levy is an annual charge payable in advance and no refunds will be made on the BID levy.

A threshold of £7,500 rateable value will be applied, exempting any business hereditament within the defined BID area falling below this rateable value.

There will be a cap on contributions from one hereditament to a maximum value of £15,000.

The BID levy may increase by an annual inflationary factor of up to 2% (i.e. up from 1.5% multiplier to 1.52% in year 2 and so on). The Board will be required to decide on whether to apply the inflation factor each year.

In the case of empty or untenanted premises, the property owner (the subsequent eligible ratepayer) will be liable for the BID levy with no void period, and will be entitled to vote in the BID ballot.

Non-retail charities will be eligible to a BID levy reduction of 80% of the BID levy.

Shopping centre tenants who are already subject to a service charge will pay a 1% levy.

VAT will not be charged on the BID levy.

The term of the BID will be five years from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025.

If you are unsure about your rateable value, please visit the Valuation Office Agency website www.gov.uk/correct-your-business-rates or contact the VOA on 03000 501501.

Please note that the BID levy is separate to Business Rates payments and different rules do apply, e.g. if you are eligible for business rate relief, this will not have an impact on your BID levy. You can find details about business rates on www.worcester.gov.uk/business-rates