



BID NEWSLETTER

SPRING
2019

Northfield Community Garden

We are a small group of volunteers who meet to grow and develop a garden on the derelict plot of land opposite Sainsbury's car park, Lockwood Road in Northfield. We were able to set up using the LIF Birmingham City Council, and Greggs Environmental Funding grants.



We grow edibles and insect loving plants and are keen for the folk of Northfield to come along and share the eating and growing!



We are all inclusive and have raised planters which are wheelchair access friendly and lots areas for children to enjoy and investigate.



We are open every Friday 10-12, and due to open Saturdays depending on our volunteer support.

We use raised planters and reclaim and recycle all we can. We have only had the plot for 12 months and we've managed to grow a lot and engage lots of people.

Our best crops have been prolific runner beans, potatoes, red peppers, courgettes, tomatoes and herbs.



We are always keen for people to join us and share their ideas and experience. Come along and meet us in the garden.

Join us on Facebook



www.facebook.com/NafEarth

The FSB and YOU!

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) is the UK's largest business support organisation, promoting and protecting the interests of the self-employed and small businesses. Established over 40 years ago to help our members succeed in business, we are a non-profit making and non-party political organisation that's led by our members, for our members.

Members get an exclusive package of business services including advice, financial products and support. These cover a wide range of benefits such as tax, legal and HR, local networking,

business banking, insurance services, funding and much more. How can FSB help your business?

If you run your own business, chances are you picked an industry you know and are passionate about. You're confident that you know it well enough to be able to cope with whatever life throws at you.

But what happens when you need to deal with something outside your field of expertise? No one person has all the answers. The good news is, joining FSB, the Experts in Business, means having

someone on your side who does have the legal, tax or HR expertise needed. What's included in membership?

Right from the outset, FSB Business Essentials members have access to a range of advice, financial and support services designed to make your life easier, including:

- Legal and tax protection scheme and legal costs insurance
- 24/7 legal advice line
- Insurance advice

Home Secretary visits Northfield Town Centre

On 8th March, Northfield Town Centre received visits for dignitaries who have a responsibility for community safety, crime and disorder.

Along with school heads and Northfield Constituency street wardens, the BID staff were fortunate to meet to receive visits from the Home Secretary, Sajid Javid; West Midlands Police Chief Constable, Dave Thompson and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, David Jamieson to Northfield Town Centre.

We made sure that we highlighted with each of them our businesses issues of concern, namely the reporting of business crime reporting and responses from partner agencies and the essential partnership working needed in order for Northfield BID to meet our 'Protecting Northfield' priorities, as well as any financial assistance they could give the BID in meeting its objectives.



- Free business banking (subject to status)
- 24/7 employment advice, and fully customisable documents from the legal hub
- An extensive online legal hub with over 650 document templates and factsheets
- Cyber protection insurance
- Debt recovery service

We can help your business grow by leaving you free to do what you're best at: running your business.

For more information,
please contact Shazin
Nathanie



07985 231224



shazin.nathanie
@fsb.org.uk

fsb³
Experts in Business

**FSB Business Essentials membership starts from £147 per annum. Rates increase depending on your number of employees. Please see the website www.fsb.org.uk for full details of subscription rate bands.*

2018 Budget - Business Rates Retail Relief

Just a remainder that in the Autumn Budget 2018, the Government announced that businesses that have a rateable value of under £51,000 will have a third of their business rates bill as for years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Those businesses that have a rateable value of £12,000 and under, do not have any business rates to pay for the next two years starting from April 2019.

The businesses that will benefit from the relief are those 'businesses' that are wholly or mainly being used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments. The Government considers this to mean:

i. Business premises that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public:

- Shops (such as: florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off licences, chemists, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
- Charity shops
- Opticians
- Post offices
- Furnishing shops/display rooms (such as: carpet shops, double glazing, garage doors)
- Car/ caravan show rooms
- Second hand car lots
- Markets
- Petrol stations
- Garden centres
- Art galleries (where art is for sale/ hire)

ii. Business premises that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:

- Hair and beauty services (such as: hair dressers, nail bars, beauty salons, tanning shops, etc)
- Shoe repairs/ key cutting
- Travel agents
- Ticket offices e.g. for theatre
- Dry cleaners
- Launderettes
- PC/ TV/ domestic appliance repair
- Funeral directors
- Photo processing
- Tool hire
- Car hire

iii. Business premises that are being used for the sale of food and/ or drink to visiting members of the public:

- Restaurants
- Takeaways
- Sandwich shops
- Coffee shops
- Pubs
- Bars

To qualify for the relief the business premises should be wholly or mainly being used as a shop, restaurant, cafe or drinking establishment. In a similar way to other reliefs (such as charity relief), this is a test on use rather than

occupation. Therefore, hereditaments which are occupied but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose will not qualify for the relief.

The list set out above is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list the many and varied retail uses that exist. There will also be mixed uses. However, it is intended to be a guide for authorities as to the types of uses that Government considers for this purpose to be retail. Authorities should determine for themselves whether particular properties not listed are broadly similar in nature to those above and, if so, to consider them eligible for the relief. Conversely, properties that are not broadly similar in nature to those listed above should not be eligible for the relief.

The list below sets out the types of uses that the Government does not consider to be retail use for the purpose of this relief. Again, it is for Birmingham City Council to determine for themselves whether particular properties are broadly similar in nature to those below and, if so, to consider them not eligible for the relief under their local scheme.

i. Business premises that are being used for the provision of the following services to be visiting members of the public:

- Financial services (e.g. banks, building societies, cash points, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)
- Other services (e.g. estate agents, letting agents, employment agencies)
- Medical services (e.g. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)
- Professional services (e.g. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents/ financial advisers, tutors)
- Post office sorting offices

ii. **Business premises that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public**

How much relief will be available?

The total amount of government funded relief available for each property for 2019-20 and 2020-21 under this scheme is one third of the bill, after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary have been applied. There is no relief available under this scheme for properties with a rateable value of £51,000 or more.

The eligibility for the relief and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis.

Ratepayers that occupy more than one property will be entitled to relief for each of their eligible properties, subject to State Aid De Minimis limits.

For further information, please contact Birmingham City Council Business Rates:

 0121 303 5509

 business_rates@birmingham.gov.uk

To complete an online Business Enquiry Form, please visit

 www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20148/business_rates/252/business_rates_reductions/2

Introducing First Call Pest Management to Northfield BID

My aim is to save BID businesses money on their Pest Control Management (PCM) Plans. All food businesses should have PCM plans in place to control pests. I look to provide a fantastic level of service and develop IPM (Integrated Pest Management) with you and your business to provide a combination of regular monitoring, proofing works to limit access to property for pests, hygiene advice and treatment.

The average cost to food premises for a PCM contract is £100 - £250 (depending upon the size of the business). I will be offering my service to all BID businesses within Northfield and other BID

areas with the view to save you 20% to 25% depending on what you currently pay at the moment. Either way I will beat the price you currently pay - guaranteed!

One reviewer has said, **“Excellent service, can’t thank you enough. Speedy response, professional, perfect price! 5-star”**

I will work with any business that needs a pest management service! This work will be carried out, outside of my working hours with the BID.



Tony Adams
BID Operations Support Officer



• Protecting your family, home and business

• Fast response

• Professional and reliable service

• Providing low cost and hassle free pest control services

• Fully qualified technician

• Food Premises - Pest control programs

• Rats, mice and squirrels

• All flying insects - wasps, flies etc

• All crawling insects - bed bugs, fleas, cockroaches, spiders, ants and mites

• Rodent proofing carried out at competitive prices

FIRST CALL PEST MANAGEMENT

All genuine competitor prices beaten!

 0121 680 3262 or 07831 169876

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 www.firstcallpestmanagement.com

 [@firstcallpestmanagement](https://www.facebook.com/firstcallpestmanagement)


BPCA
British Pest Control Association
MEMBER

 All major credit and debit cards accepted.

Protecting North Business Crime and Assurance

Similar to other BIDs, Northfield BID has me as its High Street Security Officer. I have extensive experience in dealing with security matters relating to retail businesses and providing a reassuring presence and business crime advice to the business community.

I have been listening to what business owners and managers say about business crime within the Northfield BID area, and I would like to share with you some advice that may help your business and your staff.

Shoplifting

Retailers may never eliminate shoplifting entirely, but there are some simple steps you can take to help protect yourself and your business from thieves:

- Your staff are amongst your most important and effective defences against shoplifters - ensure you provide them with proper training.
- Consider investing in a store security guard or join the Northfield BID retail radio scheme. This means that you can be alerted if known shoplifters are near your business premises as and when it happens.
- If you are re-designing your shop, try and use low-level aisles so your staff can always see customers. Use mirrors to reduce blind spots.
- Do not place displays of tempting goods close to exit doors.
- Manage the obstructions within your store and avoid shelving or displays so high that they obscure surveillance.
- Either use empty packets of high value goods or put them behind or near checkout areas.
- If your store has a fitting room, introduce restrictions on access and have a member of staff monitor all

goods going in and coming out. Be sure to check the fitting rooms frequently for clothes left behind. Pay special attention to discarded price tags, security tags and hangers - these may be an indication that shoplifting has already occurred.

- Invest in a properly managed CCTV system. Make sure appropriate signage is displayed.
- Consider placing a wall mounted CCTV monitor near to till points.

Further detailed advice and guidance on how to prevent retail theft can be found on the Association of Convenience Stores Crime Report 2014, which can be accessed online.



www.acs.org.uk

Anti-social behaviour

Anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of unacceptable activity that causes harm to an individual, to your business, to our community or to our BID area. This could be an action by someone that leaves you and/or your staff feeling alarmed, harassed or distressed. It also includes fear of crime or concern for public safety, public disorder or public nuisance.

Examples of anti-social behaviour include:

- Nuisance, rowdy or inconsiderate neighbours
- Vandalism, graffiti and fly-posting
- Inconsiderate or inappropriate use of vehicles

- Street drinking
- Prostitution related activity
- Environmental damage including littering, dumping of rubbish and abandonment of cars
- Begging and vagrancy
- Fireworks misuse
- Intimidation from groups of young adults.

West Midlands Police, Birmingham City Council and other partners (which includes Northfield BID) all have a responsibility to deal with anti-social behaviour and to help people and businesses who may be suffering from it.

If you are experiencing problems with anti-social behaviour, or have any concerns about it, or other community safety issues, you should contact Birmingham City Council



0121 303 1111

or call the West Midlands Police non-emergency number



101

Alternatively, you can report a non-emergency crime or live chat to an advisor at WMP Online



www.west-midlands.police.uk

field: ce Advice

**Remember, in an emergency,
always call 999.**

Impact Statement for Business

If your business has been a victim of crime and you report this to the police, and you can make an Impact Statement for Business (ISB). The ISB gives you the opportunity to set out the impact that a crime has had on the business such as direct financial loss, and wider impacts, e.g. operational disruption or reputational damage. The court will take the statement into account when determining sentence.

All businesses of any size may make an ISB through the police representative that attends.

You should be informed about the opportunity to make an ISB by the police at the same time as they take statements about the alleged offence.

You can make an ISB to the police at that time or download a template form which you can complete and email or post to your police contact.



[www.police.uk/
information-and-
advice/impact-
statement-for-business](http://www.police.uk/information-and-advice/impact-statement-for-business)

Please talk to me if you would like to know more about this.

And finally...

MRS Radio Communication Link for Northfield High Street

Many of the businesses trading on Northfield High Street are now part of the radio link that Northfield BID in conjunction with Northfield Shopping Centre has in place to help tackle shoplifting, anti-social behaviour and other urgent issues that arise daily.

Being part of the Radio Link gives businesses the reassurance that they will have the support of the High Street Security Officer and other Radio Link users/Store Security if an incident should arise. The Radio Link is monitored on a regular basis which gives businesses total peace of mind that they have someone there to support them.

Information about joining the Northfield Radio Link can be obtained from myself, or BID Operations Support Officer, Tony Adams.

Mark Graham
High Street Security Officer



Social Media - 'free advertising'

The BID manages 2 Facebook pages and 2 Twitter accounts for businesses and visitors to the Town Centre:

 www.facebook.com/NorthfieldBID

Dedicated to the friends of the town centre who have an interest in its future;

 www.facebook.com/visitnorthfield

Provides information for visitors and customers who visit Northfield for the 'retailing plus' experience;

The Northfield Town Centre Facebook page is no longer in use. Any future town centre events and other events outside of the town centre that may be of interest to Northfield's large and diverse customer base will now be posted on www.facebook.com/visitnorthfield/

 www.twitter.com/northfieldBID

 www.twitter.com/VisitNorthfield

 www.instagram.com/northfield_bid

Check out the BID website

 www.northfieldbid.com

for more information about the BID projects undertaken for the benefit of Northfield BID and Northfield Town Centre.



Remember to send me in your offers or anything else you wish to promote to people that 'like' or 'follow us' on social media.

This is free advertising for you and your business.

Contact us

To get involved with any of our projects or think that you have a new project idea to fill in the gaps or add 'additionality' to BID services, please contact us at our **new email addresses**.

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Movers and shakers in Northfield

Welcome 😊

Allegro Lounge,
768 Bristol Road South, Northfield, Birmingham B31 2NN
www.thelounges.co.uk/allegro

Goodbye 😞

Barclays Bank
Chocolate Heaven
Hee Sushi
Northfield Variety Market