

## **Where Does the Town Centre Forum Go Now?**

The Harrow Town Centre Forum was originally established to coordinate the work of the Harrow Town Centre Manager and agree the Budget. That budget was a mixture of Council funding and private sector contributions. Membership included private sector organisations that made a financial contribution to the town centre partnership including Marks and Spencer, Boots, Debenhams, Harrow Council as well as other town centre stakeholders. With the deletion of the town centre manager post in 2007, financial contributions ended, the role of the Forum changed and the constitution was revised to reflect this. The Forum continued to make decisions on how the remainder of the budget was spent. The Forum agreed that the remainder of its budget would be used to support the development of the BID. That budget was spent for this purpose during 2012/13 and 2013/14.

In 2011/12 Harrow Council secured Round 1 Outer London Funding (OLF) to employ a town centre management team and deliver a series of projects to increase footfall and spend in the Town Centre. In 2012/13 Round 2 OLF money was secured, to fund town centre management, deliver events, develop a Business Improvement District and complete public realm improvements in the town centre and Lowlands Recreation Ground. The Town Centre Forum were consulted on and helped develop the applications for OLF funds, and its budget was used to match fund the work to develop a BID. Harrow Council was responsible for the delivery of the OLF programme, and the Town Centre Forum informed the delivery of that programme, a separate business led BID Development Group was established to secure the development of the Harrow BID company.

In December 2013, businesses voted Yes to establish a BID, which was established in April 2014. The OLF funding for town centre management ended in March 2014, and this function was effectively taken on by the BID.

The creation of the BID provides members of the Harrow Town Centre Forum an opportunity to determine the future of the Forum, and whether it has a role and what that role should be. The following table outlines the membership, remit, budget and accountability of the Town Centre Forum and of the BID, it has been drafted to help identify duplication or gaps, and to aid TCF members identify whether the forum has a future role and what that role could be.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>BID</b>	<b>Town Centre Forum</b>
Membership	<p><u>Members</u> – businesses in the BID area.</p> <p><u>Board of Directors</u>, includes Businesses and members delivering a service in the the Town Centre. McDonalds, Brighthouse, Marks and Spencers, Brian Cox Estate Agents, The Chocolate Room, Debenhams, St Georges, St Ann’s, Chelsea Building Society, BHS, Skipton Building Society (Business), Police, Harrow Council (nominated officer), Harrow Council (nominated Councillors)</p>	<p><u>Business Members</u> – max of 10 in the town centre.</p> <p>Current members (North West London Chamber of Commerce, St Ann’s Centre, St Georges Centre, &amp; Debenhams)</p> <p><u>Service Members</u>, any organisation that provides a service to the Town Centre, (a maximum of 3 service members – Current members - Metropolitan Police.</p> <p><u>Community Member</u> - any organisation or Association which is not a business but which is located within the Harrow Metropolitan Town Centre, (a maximum of 4 community members). Current members, Roxborough Residents Association, Churches Together in Harrow, Harrow Public Transport Users, Harrow College</p> <p><u>Council Officers</u> from Economic Development, Democratic Services and Communications.</p> <p><u>Councillors</u> - duly appointed councillors.</p>

Criteria	BID	Town Centre Forum
		<u>Non-Voting Advisers</u> - any person or organisation which is appointed by the Forum from time to time to advise on particular matters.
Remit	<p>The BID's Action Plan for 2014-19 includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Town Centre Management – Business Leadership, ensuring a quality trading environment is maintained, helping to sustain development &amp; progress, promoting and managing change, responding to market changes.</li> <li>b. Promotion – Defining a Clear Brand, Increasing Shopper Numbers, Events, Seasonal Lighting.</li> <li>c. Improving the Pedestrian experience, improved streetscape, enhanced enforcement, reducing business crime.</li> </ul> <p>The BID's sub groups include Environment and Operations, Promotion and Marketing of the Town Centre, Business against Crime Partnership.</p>	To co-ordinate and be representative of all stakeholders in the area of Harrow Metropolitan Town Centre (as those terms are defined from time to time in the current Harrow Development Plan) in the management, coordination of services and promotion and marketing of the Town Centre. The Forum may also make such representations and recommendations as it thinks fit with regard to Town Centre issues to the appropriate organisations.
<b>Budget</b>	A levy on the business rates. Up to £1.86m over 5 years	£0

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>BID</b>	<b>Town Centre Forum</b>
<b>Accountability</b>	<p>A ballot of 200 eligible business levy rate payers in the BID area.</p> <p>The Board of Directors is nominated and or elected from/by businesses which form the constituents of the district (BID area).</p> <p>Chair Gary Stevenson, Debenhams.</p> <p>Directors Darren Harman St Georges Shopping Centre, Piotr Strombeck St Ann’s Shopping Centre, Ishmeet Chada Chelsea Building Society, Kurt Jansen McDonalds, Jay Patel The Chocolate Room, Daniel Southgate Brian Cox Estate Agents.</p> <p>Other members nominated from Harrow Council (officer and Portfolio Holder), and Metropolitan Police.</p> <p>The Police and Council both serve on the Business Against Crime Partnership sub group, and the Council works with the Environment and Operations sub group.</p>	<p>Meetings are convened by Harrow Council officers in Democratic Services.</p> <p>The Town Centre Forum is chaired by Darren Harman St Georges Shopping Centre.</p> <p>The chairperson, vice-chairperson, and a maximum of 3 other Members are elected as an Executive to serve for a calendar year.</p> <p>The last AGM was held in January 2013. The 2014 AGM was not quorate, and the last Town Centre Forum held in May 2014, was also not quorate.</p> <p>At the January 2013 AGM the following were elected, chairperson (Darren Harman St Georges Shopping Centre), vice-chairpersons (Cllr Sue Anderson, and Cllr Simon Williams), and a maximum of 3 other Members (Gary Stevenson Debenhams, Anthony Wood Harrow Transport Users Group, and Mark Billington Harrow Council) were elected as the Executive.</p> <p>Please note following the Local Elections, Simon Williams is no longer a ward councillor, &amp; therefore not on the executive as councillor.</p>