

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2003

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS, 2004

NOTICE OF BALLOT FOR RENEWAL OF THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR EASTLEIGH TOWN CENTRE

This is to give notice that a ballot is to be held on the proposal of Eastleigh BID to renew the Business Improvement District (BID) for Eastleigh Town Centre. The ballot will be conducted entirely by post by Joanne Elizabeth Cassar, The Ballot Holder, c/o Eastleigh Borough Council, Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 9YN. Telephone 023 8068 8015

Who can vote in the BID Ballot?

Persons eligible to vote in the ballot will be the non-domestic ratepayer listed on the Council's database for each hereditament (business premise) situated in the geographical area of the proposed Renewal BID area as relevant at the date of this Notice. A plan of the BID geographical area can be found at www.eastleigh.gov.uk/bid. Details of relevant classes of non-domestic ratepayers who are liable for the BID levy are set out in the BID proposal. Each person entitled to vote in this ballot shall have one vote in respect of each hereditament occupied or (if unoccupied) owned by them in the geographical area of the proposed renewal BID.

Issue of Ballot Papers

Ballot papers will be issued to those eligible to vote on or before **Wednesday 4 October 2023** for return by them by no later than **5pm on Thursday 2 November 2023** (the "day of the ballot").

Appointment of Proxy

Persons eligible to vote in the ballot may appoint someone else to vote on their behalf (for example, if they were going to be away at the time of the ballot). Applications to appoint a proxy must be submitted to the Ballot Holder at the above address no later than **5pm on Monday 23 October 2023**. An application for the appointment of a proxy must be in writing and:-

- a. state the full name and address of the person whom the person entitled to vote (the applicant) wishes to appoint as proxy;
- b. state the address of the applicant's hereditament;
- c. be signed by the applicant; and
- d. contain a statement by the applicant that the proxy so named has been consulted and is capable of being and willing to be appointed.

Alternatively, you can arrange for the Ballot Paper to be sent to someone else within your business/organisation so long as that person is located at either the address of the hereditament (business premise) itself within the BID area, or at your principal place of business within England.

You can do this by writing to the Ballot Holder at the same address with the name and address of the person to whom the ballot paper should be sent and details of their position in your business/ organisation.

Lost Ballot Papers

Ballot papers will be issued to those who are eligible to vote by no later than **Wednesday 4 October 2023**.

If a ballot paper has **not** been received by **Friday 27 October 2023** you may apply to the Ballot Holder for a replacement paper in writing by supplying **ONE** of the following:

- a. A letter in hard copy form along with the appropriate 'evidence of identity'; or
- b. A scan of both the letter and the 'evidence of identity' attached to an email.

The letter should be addressed to Mrs J E Cassar, The Ballot Holder, Eastleigh Borough Council, Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 9YN. Alternatively, you can email joanne.cassar@eastleigh.gov.uk. The letter must be signed by the eligible voter and evidence of the voter's identity must be provided in the form of **ONE** of the following:

- a. A signed **letterhead** for the appropriate company; or
- b. A signed **photocopy** of the **National Non-Domestic Rating Bill** for the hereditament; or
- c. A signed **photocopy** of an item of personal ID such as a **Passport** or **Driving Licence**.

Please do not send original copies of ID or Bills.

Spoilt Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper is spoilt a replacement can be applied for. Please return the spoilt ballot paper to Mrs J E Cassar, The Ballot Holder, Eastleigh Borough Council, Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 9YN. Upon receipt a replacement ballot paper will be issued. Applications must be received by **Monday 30 October 2023**.

Ballot Paper Count

Ballot papers will be counted from **10am on Friday 3 November 2023** and the result of the ballot will be published on that day, initially on the Council's website (www.eastleigh.gov.uk/bid).

For a BID ballot to be successful there must be a majority of those voting in favour of the proposal, both in terms of the numbers voting and also the rateable value represented by those voting.

Rejected Ballot Papers

If a ballot paper is returned unsigned, unmarked or the intention of the voter is unclear it will not count.

Further Details of the BID Proposal

Further details of the BID proposal are available from Eastleigh BID, the BID proposer (contact Eastleigh BID Manager at Unit 2, Swan Centre, Wells Place, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 5SG telephone 023 8061 1100 or e-mail teresa@eastleighbid.co.uk) and are also available on the proposer's website (www.visiteastleigh.co.uk/bid-information). Each person entitled to vote may request a copy of the BID proposal from the BID proposer.

Signed:



Dated: 21 September 2023