

Outside Bodies – Stratforward BID – Report to Town Council July 2021.
Cllr Kevin Taylor – Mayor

Sadly, I have to inform you that Mr Joe Baconnet has left the role as BID Director since my last report. On behalf of Town Council, I would like to thank Joe for his time in charge of BID and wish him success in his new venture.

Currently the HR sub committee which was set up to assist the BID Director prior to his departure are pursuing a number of avenues to find a replacement BID Manager.

During the interim period we are thankful for the assistance of British BIDS a subsidiary of Saville's PLC who have provided Mr Ben Collins who is an Associate Director of Saville's PLC to manage the day-to-day operations of Stratforward BID.

The proposed new website is now being delayed until the new manager is recruited, and this will also co-inside with the re-branding of BID.

There have also been two recent resignations from the board, the board are actively looking for the replacements. LSD Promotions Director, Dermot McGillicuddy, has recently joined the board representing markets.

Currently all sectors have seen reasonable levels of business activity especially hospitality, however, they are hindered severely now by staffing levels and the reluctance for individuals to take up many vacancies in this sector.

From 19th July it will be interesting to see the impact on our hospitality and retail sector, especially as we will no longer have the road closure on High Street. The cafes in this area were thrown a lifeline this week by the extension of pavement licences for another 12 months.