



### **Knaresborough BID Result Announcement**

Businesses in Knaresborough Town Centre narrowly voted against creating a Business Improvement District. The initiative would have raised over £600,000 over 5 years to be spent primarily on the marketing and promotion of the town centre, supporting and creating new events to attract people and business support activities.

For a Business Improvement District to go ahead, two conditions must be met:

1. More than 50% of businesses that vote must vote in favour.
2. The businesses that vote 'YES' must represent more than 50% of the total rateable value of the votes cast

The ballot results released by the independent scrutineer, Civica Election Services, revealed that the majority required by number was not passed with 52% against and 48% in favour of the BID. The second condition a 'majority by rateable value' was also required and this was 64% in favour of the BID and 36% against. As one of the conditions was not met, the BID will not go ahead

Commenting on the result, the Knaresborough BID Task Group made up of local businesses who led the development said 'First of all, we would like to thank all the businesses and stakeholders who have put their time in voluntarily towards his process. Whilst we are obviously disappointed at the outcome and feel that Knaresborough will miss out with all our surrounding places having their own BIDs, the process is also democratic and the choice has been made. What is important now is for the business community to come together to decide how we move forward. There were plenty of really great ideas about how we could improve the town centre during this process and its now about the will to carry on developing these and getting the resources to be able to so.'

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