

23rd July 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you on behalf of Yorkshire Coast Business Improvement District Limited ("YC BID") Board of Directors. As you are aware, the YC BID was established in accordance with the Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004. Pursuant to these Regulations, the Local Authorities for each BID Area (in our case, Scarborough Borough Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council) are required by Law to issue annual bills and collect the BID Levy.

To date, our Local Authorities have collected almost £1m of the First Year levy for the period August 2019-July 2020. The money has already been used to fund a number of projects and will also fund a variety of exciting projects moving forward. A selection of these projects are listed overleaf. For further details, please see our website at www.yorkshirecoastbid.co.uk/projects

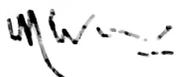
From the beginning of August, Scarborough Borough Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council will be sending out bills for the Second Year Levy for the period August 2020-July 2021, pursuant to their legal obligation to do so. The YC BID Board of Directors recognise that many levy payers will have suffered financial hardship over the past four months due to COVID-19 and may continue to do so for some months moving forward.

The Board has therefore called on the Government to agree **"For an amendment to The Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 to permit Local Authorities to agree with their Business Improvement Districts a legal implementation of levy relief of up to 100% for one year due to the impact of COVID-19"** so that relief may be given to those levy payers who have been adversely affected.

It is not the will of the Board for any business that has been affected by COVID-19 to have to pay, but at this moment in time we are unable to take any action to prevent the issue of bills for the year two levy because our Local Authorities are under a legal duty to issue the same. However, we have formally requested that your Local Authority defers collection of the Year Two levy pending a Government response, which will put collection on hold for a period of six months.

We would urge all businesses that have been affected by COVID-19 to take advantage of this deferral if the local authorities allow it. This will give us more time to lobby for the changes we need from government. We will keep you updated as soon as we are able to.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Rowe-Evans