

BRIXTON BID

WE'RE TALKING BUSINESS

Brixton Business Improvement District (BID) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to strengthening Brixton's diverse business culture. We represent more than 500 levy-paying businesses and work to develop new and exciting opportunities for Brixton.

It's all about Brexit



**Michael Smith,
Director of the
Brixton Business
Improvement District**

Whatever it is – Deal or No Deal – businesses across the UK, including businesses in Brixton, must now get ready for 31 October 2019.

Some businesses may already be seeing some impact following the referendum in 2016. A negative impact on their supply chain or an inability to retain staff. The result of the referendum could even be impacting on sales. In essence, these could be all Brexit-related problems.

If your business in Brixton is being impacted in any way (positively or negatively) that you can attribute to Brexit, let us know. Drop us a line at admin@brixtonbid.co.uk with your Brexit-related business experience.

In the meantime, Business Secretary Andrea Leadsom has unveiled a grant scheme for business organisations and trade associations to support businesses in preparing for Brexit ahead of 31 October. This Business Readiness Fund is open to business organisations and trade associations throughout the UK.

The funding will support events, training and the production of advice packs to assist businesses in making sure they are fully prepared for a Brexit.

Applications for grants will be accepted up to Monday 30 September 2019 and administered through the dedicated website: www.gov.uk/-business-grants

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has updated information how VAT rules for UK businesses trading with EU countries would be affected if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, including detailed instructions on completing the European



community sales list:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/vat-for-businesses-if-theres-no-brexit-deal

HMRC has also updated its guidance on bringing goods intended for business into or taking goods out of the UK in baggage or a small motor vehicle:

www.gov.uk/guidance/bringing-merchandise-from-or-to-the-uk-in-baggage-if-the-uk-leaves-the-eu-without-a-deal

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs has updated guidance on preparing food and drink businesses for a no-deal Brexit:

www.gov.uk/guidance/the-food-and-drink-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit

The Department for Transport and the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency has updated guidance on international road haulage:

www.gov.uk/guidance/carry-out-international-road-haulage-after-brexit and www.gov.uk/guidance/ecmt-international-road-haulage-permits

Locally, Lambeth Larder has updated its website to better connect people to emergency

food and support.

Deal or no deal, Brexit will impact on us all – businesses as well as consumers.

We know that in Brixton more than 40% of people working in the night-time economy are EU residents. The EU settlement scheme outreach sessions by Seraphus Law, Respito Charity, Portuguese Council and IRMO are still live and another public advice session is due in October.

The fall in the value of sterling (£) against other currencies, another Brexit-related development, could have played a role in the demise of Thomas Cook plc.

Could the decline in our currency also be having an impact on your business?

Business Improvement Districts are ideally placed to provide information to local businesses on how to address some of the possible requirements of any Brexit happening after 31 October.

We need, however, to hear what your Brexit related issues/experiences are. Let us know at admin@brixtonbid.co.uk

Only in Brixton



BID DEAL MEANS BRIXTON CAN NOW RECYCLE ITS PAPER COFFEE CUPS

Brixton BID is to launch the first paper coffee cup recycling scheme in Lambeth, providing local independent coffee shops with advice and facilities to encourage consumers, residents and visitors to dispose of cups in an environment-friendly way.

UK recyclers now have the capacity to process all of the paper cups used here, but because they have a plastic lining to stop hot drinks from leaking, they need to be collected separately from other paper for recycling. So special recycling points are needed, along with clear communication to help users to find them.

The Brixton project is one of 12 across the UK that have secured grants of up to £100,000 to develop facilities to collect used cups. They are part of the Cup Fund

initiative managed by the environmental charity Hubbub and financed by Starbucks from a 5p charge on paper cups to encourage customers to increase their use of reusable cups.

All cups collected by the funded projects will be recycled in the UK, becoming paper bags, greetings cards and other products which will be manufactured locally to reduce transport costs. Some of the recycled-paper products will return to the locations where the cups were collected, creating a closed loop.

Gavin Ellis, director and co-founder of the Hubbub foundation, said: "While reusable cups are the most environmentally friendly choice, billions of paper cups are still being used each

year and most are not currently recycled.

"There is the capacity to recycle them, so the Cup Fund will introduce cup recycling points in high footfall locations to collect large numbers of cups and ensure that they are recycled.

"We have been so impressed with the scale of the winning projects' ambitions and we are looking forward to supporting them over the coming year."

Brixton BID can count on at least 20 independent coffee shops, including the Volcano coffee roastery, to be part of the scheme.

It is estimated that 10% of the estimated total of 120,000 cups a year used in Brixton can be collected.

The BID is delighted to be given this opportunity to introduce coffee cup

recycling in Brixton. Our local businesses are committed to delivering a clean and healthy environment for everyone and the introduction of coffee cups stations throughout our participating independent coffee shops is another step in the right direction.

Greening, air quality and recycling are top priorities for the BID and we hope that, with the introduction of this scheme local residents, employees and visitors can enjoy a Brixton coffee whilst doing the right thing for the environment.

ABOVE: Sealing the recycling deal (l-r) Reece Simwogerere, Brixton BID; Trewin Restorick, CEO and founder of Hubbub; Gavin Ellis; director and co-founder of Hubbub, Hammant Patel Villa, Brixton BID; Chantel Facey and Michael Smith



Michael Smith joined Refill Brixton coordinator Leonie Watson to launch a free water refilling station on Windrush Square. Switch to tap to fight plastic pollution and save money!



Brixton Market features in a new tourist poster for Victoria Line destinations

BRIXTON BID

CONNECT WITH US

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