

**Orpington 1st Ltd is a not-for-profit organisation owned and led by local employers. It seeks to improve Orpington as an area to work, visit and live.**

As a Business Improvement District (BID), Orpington 1st is financed through a mandatory levy paid by approximately 350 businesses in accordance with the Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004.

The BID is elected for a five-year term, after which another ballot will be necessary for it to continue. The levy is 1.5% of the rateable value of all the eligible rateable properties in the Orpington 1st BID area.

All BID area businesses are eligible to apply for membership of the company which will provide you with full, detailed information and voting rights.

Income	
BID Levy	£167,254
LBB Grant	£25,550
Additional Income	£25,429
<b>Total</b>	<b>£218,233</b>

Estimated levy collection – 95%  
Actual achieved – 96.78%

Expenditure	
Customers	£93,405
Look & Feel	£24,143
Access	£49,592
Business	£47,624
<b>Total</b>	<b>£214,764</b>

These figures are the estimated spend up to and including March 31<sup>st</sup> 2015. Full audited income & expenditure will be available in the Annual Report. All underspend is carried over to the next financial year.

### In the year ahead we will focus on....

- the creation of a robust and active business crime reduction partnership (BCRP)
- in partnership with LBB, the creation of a public square which supports a comprehensive events programme.
- a new business engagement and communication programme to encourage wider participation and support business growth.
- redevelopment of the market to improve the quality and variety of offer.
- Public Realm improvements that include way finding and connectivity.
- a local plan that aids inward investment and generates interest in an improved retail and leisure offer.



# Achievements 2014/15

## First For Customers



- 11.5% increase in footfall April 2014 – April 2015.
- Over 20,000 unique visitors per month to our website, FREE for businesses to use.
- Dedicated social media channels with over 3k followers.
- An exciting events programme created to encourage customers into the high street.
- A quarterly magazine distributed to over 13k households.
- Continued development of Loyalty Card scheme, and regular customer E-Newsletters sent to over 5,000 residents.



## First For Look & Feel



- Secured new local Police Team of 6 officers – dedicated to the high street.
- Extended programme of Clean Up/Green Up tackling problem areas.
- Secured additional funding to create a new public town square.
- Floral displays installed across the high street.
- Christmas lights and switch on event attracting over 6,000 visitors into the town centre.

## First For Access



- Negotiated FREE on street parking in loading bays from 6:30pm.
- Developed Levy payers permit scheme, enabling private vehicles to be used for loading.
- Founding member of Bromley Cycle Forum, promoting sustainable travel.
- 1 Year's FREE membership of City Car Club for up to 10 members of staff, PLUS £75 driving credit.
- Continued funding of public toilet facilities.



## First For Business



- Approx. £30,000 cost savings identified for high street businesses through the engagement of Merccat Assoc.
- Annual Business Show established, providing free access to support, advice and information concerning your business and your town centre.
- Working in partnership with LBB, secured funding for additional business support programme.
- Opening of the Enterprise Hub providing access to low cost office accommodation and training facilities.
- An events programme created to showcase local business to a wider audience.
- A full programme, 'Opportunity Orpington' implemented to encourage inward investment, and support economic development.