



Charitable Relief Policy

The Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 control the BID Arrangements which include how the BID will levy its BID levy fees. In designing the scope definition for the BID, a decision was taken at the time of the ballot (February 2007) to include charities.

The BID levy for each hereditament is £200 plus 1.5% of rateable value for year one, plus RPI for subsequent years. In assessing the annual levy based on a fiscal year, the calculation used in applying the RPI figure is based on the published previous year's annualized figure. Therefore, the annualized RPI rate applied for the April 2008 – March 2009 levy invoice was the January 2007 figure.

The CBfB board represents all levy payers and at a board meeting held on 21 January 2009, the directors decided that charitable relief in general should not automatically be granted but that CBfB would review all claims for relief on a case-by-case basis on the grounds of hardship. The decision of CBfB in determining whether or not to make a donation is entirely discretionary and the decision of the board is final.

In terms of the process, the charity must first pay the BID levy in full to Coventry City Council. Then apply in writing to CBfB providing proof of payment of the levy invoice, a copy of your organization's last audited accounts and a statement of not more than 200 words as to why CBfB should consider making a donation to your organization.

Stephen Welch
Chief Executive
22 January 2009