

ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025

As we approach the end of the first full year since the revote in 2024, this is the perfect time to look back at all we have achieved here on Brackmills Industrial Estate.

Our four new objectives for this latest term - our fourth five-year term as a BID - provide the cornerstones of all our activity. They are: Infrastructure, Crime prevention and safety, Environment and sustainability, Supporting businesses and people.



In the last year we have introduced state of the art mobile and static Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) CCTV cameras, which we are delighted to say are working effectively to detect, deter and disrupt criminal activity. The estate's environment is looking it's best thanks to clean, green initiatives, many of which have been supported by our BID members. Several exciting infrastructure projects are due for delivery this year, including the introduction of new bus shelters, which will have a significant impact on life on the estate for BID members and their staff.

In Spring 2025 we will be launching a brand new Brackmills BID website, which will include lots of new content and features - including an interactive map of the estate to improve wayfinding and information for

visitors. Turn to page 8 to read more and find out how to ensure your business looks its best on the new site.

In 2024 we launched a new promotional feature for BID members, our Brackmills Business of the Month Spotlights. These profiles, designed to shine a light on the fantastic variety of businesses here on the estate, run in our eNewsletters, on our website and across our social channels. They have proven very popular so far, with 7 successfully circulated to date and a monthly schedule already full into Summer 2025.

Our dedicated Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Paul Hurst has continued to work tirelessly - with a particular focus on personal safety for those working on the estate - turn to page 4 to read more about Paul.

As ever, we value your interaction and feedback and our door is always open if you would like to talk to us - please do not hesitate to get in touch: enquiries@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk

Sara Homer, Chief Executive, Brackmills BID

INFRASTRUCTURE

To provide a great infrastructure and smart working environment for businesses to operate and people and services to access and move around, safely and effectively.



Winter Gritting

To keep the estate moving during the cold and frosty months, at the time of writing we have funded 39 precautionary gritting applications and 4 adverse salting actions.



Emergencies

The BID team are often called upon during emergencies to provide practical support needed to keep the estate moving. One such incident took place in November 2024 when the estate was subject to significant flooding near Hardingstone Hill. Our CEO was onsite in the early hours leading the response efforts - which included sending emergency alerts to avoid the area, erecting barriers and sealing off dangerous routes with incident tape to keep the estate moving, while ensuring the safety of everyone onsite.



Major project

In 2024 we undertook the major project of fully resurfacing and restructuring Liliput Road. The work, which ran from Burryport Road to Bedford Road, also included reinforcing the drainage structure and the removal of a small traffic island to provide safer access for lorries.

Voi scooters

Voi scooters continue to prove very popular with nearly 70,000 rides - 34,000 ride starts and 35,500 ride ends - clocked up across the estate in 2024

Coming soon... Bus shelters

Brand new bus shelters will be installed across the estate this Spring.



All Routes



CRIME PREVENTION

AND SAFETY

Work closely with the police and others to maintain a safe and secure working environment for freight transport, all vehicles, customers and the people who work on the estate.

We work incredibly hard to keep crime to a minimum on Brackmills and we are proud to say that crime rates year on year continue to diminish.

Crime rates

There were 43 incidents from April 2024 to March 2025, 15 fewer than the preceding year.

CCTV

In 2024, the BID upgraded and installed new static, stealth and mobile CCTV cameras, including those equipped with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). These latest cameras, linked directly to the Police, are demonstrating a real impact on combating crime on Brackmills. As well as several intended driving prosecutions proceeding at the time of writing, we have also seen a significant reduction in the number of vehicles visiting the estate as part of car cruises.



CRIME PREVENTION

AND SAFETY



Security Group meetings



Additional security patrols



Over 100 personal **safety alarms funded** and distributed by our PCSO



Maintained cycle ways and footpaths



Over **40 sets of bike lights funded** and distributed to cycle commuters



Counter terrorism training, as well as business continuity support



A collective commitment to keeping crime on Brackmills at an all-time low



Dedicated PCSO on the beat inc **covering commuter cycle and footpath** routes to Brackmills from town centre



A Business Watch Scheme in partnership with Northamptonshire Police, Action Fraud and Neighbourhood Watch



An estate management team providing incident support and a central point of communication

Such is the nature and scale of our operation, we simply couldn't operate today without the safety and security afforded us by the BID. We must have crisis plans in place to protect the supply chain, and we need to be able to demonstrate this to retain our contracts.

Tom, British Pepper & Spice

If you have any security concerns and would like to speak to Paul or arrange a time for him to visit your business, please contact him on 07557 778096

Getting to know Paul, our Brackmills PCSO

Our dedicated Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Paul Hurst provides an active daily presence around the estate, playing a vital role in keeping BID businesses, their staff and visitors safe.

Paul's work had a particular focus on personal safety during 2024 and here he tells us how, with the support of the BID, he has reached out to the Brackmills community to help employees travel and work confidently on the estate:



We want people to not just be safe, but feel safe

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is a matter of priority for Northamptonshire Police and it is closely aligned with the BID's priority in making the estate safe and ensuring that those who work here feel safe.

Many female employees walk to and from the estate utilising the extensive network of public footpaths and cycle paths. Whilst crime remains low on the estate (particularly violent crime) it is very important that employees feel safe on their way to and from work.

Giving people the tools and advice to feel safe

Thanks to funding from the BID, as well as sharing top safety tips and advice, I was able to give out 100 state-of-the-art personal attack alarms. When activated, these alarms set off a high pitch tone and also acts as a torch in emergencies. The BID also funded cycle lights and to date I have distributed over 40 sets of lights to cyclists on their way to work.

Working together for a safer community

Having a visible police presence on the estate is vital for a feeling of safety and security for employees and a powerful deterrent to those up to no good. Thanks to the BID funding my dedicated PCSO role, I have much more time than my town counterparts to spend walking my beat, interacting with employees & businesses here on the estate.

My role is immensely rewarding. The BID are always open to new ideas to enhance safety & security across the estate. We have a fantastic partnership.

Paul Hurst, Brackmills PCSO



Connecting on the commute to work

My targeted patrols took place in the early hours of the morning in order to interact with employees as they walked or cycled to work. These patrols were focused around the public footpaths and cycle paths that connect the Brackmills estate to Northampton Town centre and I interacted with over 100 individual employees on their way to or from work.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Provide a smart, tidy and safe environment and focus on sustainability, exploring options for electric vehicle charging points – supporting businesses on their low carbon journeys.



To keep the estate environment clean and smart we have:



Continued to invest in **street cleaning and landscaping**



Driven litter control and cleanliness initiatives in partnership with some of our BID members



Invested in the **control and management** of verges, grass, shrubs and trees



Improved **cleanliness and signage** on cycle ways and footpaths



Continued to provide **festive lights on key roundabouts**



Invested in estate **property maintenance**



Thousands of people come to work here every day on Brackmills and with lots of green spaces, cycle paths and exercise groups, it's a nice place to be - the team loves it.

Rebecca, ACS Staffing Solutions



Our Environmental and Sustainability Group brings Brackmills businesses together to share best practise and receive updates about helping the environment.

A key ambition is to reduce CO2 emissions and reinvest surplus for the benefit of the community. As a result, the BID has invested in a series of Net Zero Workshops that anyone within the BID can access for free. These will begin in March 2025.

If you would like to know more, please email Charlotte.patrick@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk

World Clean Up Day

A day of litter picking took place in September as part of World Clean Up Day. Organised in partnership with Wickes and Northants Litter Wombles, over 100 employees from across the estate join forces to find, collect and bag litter. Businesses that took part included Baxter Healthcare, CEVA Logistics, ACS Staffing Solutions, DSV, igus UK, Bechtle, Wickes and Stanley Black & Decker.

Charity of the year 2025

2024 was another successful year of fund raising for Northamptonshire homeless charity, The Hope Centre. Including our Chair Jon Morgan taking part in the Ride 4 Hope event – cycling from Northampton to Paris. The BID matched Jon's personal fundraising efforts, with a total of over £10,000 being raised for this essential, life changing charity.

For the year ahead we would love to hear from you, our BID members, with suggestions for local charities and good causes that we might support.

Please email: Honey.Hubbard@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk

I was delighted so many organisations on Brackmills came together to support a big community litter pick. Here's to next year!

Sarah Steers, Co-Chair of the Wickes Wellbeing Network



SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE

Continue to support businesses on Brackmills to grow and develop, ensuring a great working environment in which people can thrive.

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are most successful when member businesses work together with the BID leadership team to maximise benefits for the whole community.

Here are some of the many ways we support our resident businesses on the estate:

Business leadership

- Our dedicated Chief Executive, Sara Homer, represents the best interests of Brackmills at all times

Voluntary Board

- Our voluntary Board of Directors are responsible for ensuring good value for levy payers and effective delivery of our objectives

Support businesses

- Our small, dedicated team support businesses to implement ideas, shape priorities and deliver projects with impact

Events

- We host a regular programme of business and networking events, including BID Breakfasts, Health, Safety & Wellbeing Forums, Environment & Sustainability Groups, Net Zero Workshops and Security & Safety Updates
- We host apprenticeship events to help with recruitment and development of local talent

Marketing

- We circulate regular bulletins and newsletters
- We invest in professional PR and marketing support with ongoing social media campaigns as well as press and PR to raise our profile and highlight important issues
- We provide a dedicated website - complete with a business directory, events, news and an interactive estate map

Partnerships

- We have partnered with Aquarius to help businesses support staff affected by alcohol, drugs and gambling



Brackmills event



Sign up
to receive our
eNewsletters



Making the most of your BID

We are passionate about helping you to make the most of your BID and we would love to see participation and engagement from all our members.

Ways you can get involved include:

- Follow and engage with us on social media
- Join us for our frequent business and networking events
- Sign up to receive our eNewsletters and encourage your staff to do the same
- Open your doors to your neighbours by hosting a Brackmills event
- Share your latest and upcoming news with us
- Sign up for some free promotion with our Business of the Month Spotlights



@BrackmillsBID

brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk

PLANS FOR 2025

We have a host of projects and initiatives planned for the year ahead, including vital works to restructure the area around the balancing pond to mitigate the risk of flooding – something that we encountered several times in the last year.

We are also delighted to announce that our new Brackmills website will launch in Spring 2025. It will feature a host of new content including an interactive map to aid wayfinding for visitors, a new-look Business Directory, all the latest news and Business of the Month Spotlights, as well as integrated booking functionality to register easily for all our BID events.

Your BID Team

In Summer 2024 we were delighted to welcome Jon Morgan, CEO of vehicle repair and servicing company In 'n' Out Autocentres as our new Chair.



I was incredibly proud to be appointed as the BID's Chair. Brackmills is far more than just a place to work and is always buzzing with life and people. I am committed to bringing as many of our businesses together as possible so we can create real impact for the benefit of everyone here."

Jon Morgan, Brackmills BID Chair



Our Vision

Through a business-led programme of investment our vision is for Brackmills Industrial Estate to be recognised as the premier business and logistics park in the country.

Would you like to get involved?

If you are interested in becoming a Board Director we would love to hear from you. Please email sara.homer@brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk



Meet our Board of Directors

Alistair Shepherd *Baxter Healthcare Ltd*

Charlotte Patrick *Brackmills BID Vice Chair, Northamptonshire Logistics Awards*

Cllr Phil Larratt *Nene Valley Ward West Northamptonshire Council, Portfolio Holder for Environment, Highways, Transport & Waste Services*

John Harley *Honorary Director*

Jon Morgan *Brackmills BID Chair, In N Out Autocentres*

Kevin McAllister *Bechtle Ltd*

Maria Mckeown *Travis Perkins*

Mark Meadowcroft *Signs Express*

Mick Cupoli *Walkerpack Ltd*

Richard Baker *Prop-search.com*

Sara Homer *Brackmills BID CEO*

Stephen Hylton *Alcura*



As a reminder, the BID levy for this five-year BID term has been reduced from the previous term's 1.13% down to 1% of rateable value (RV). We have also carried funds over from the last BID term (2019-2024).

Read all about our plans for the next five years:

<https://www.brackmillsindustrialestate.co.uk/looking-ahead-2024-2029>

PAYING YOUR BID LEVY

Businesses in the Brackmills Industrial Estate BID area are required to pay a levy, which is in addition to Business Rates and needs to be paid separately (regardless of how you pay your Business Rates).

Prompt payment will help ensure that the objectives that were voted on in the BID Business Plan come to fruition.

Please always quote your BID account reference. This is a nine digit number starting with a 7.

If you have any questions regarding your levy payment, please contact the Business Rates office at West Northamptonshire Council.

Telephone: **0300 1267000**

(Select the option for Business Rates)

E-mail: businessrates@westnorthants.gov.uk

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR BID

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are driven by participating businesses working together to maximise benefits for the BID area and those businesses within it.

Business hereditaments with a rateable value of £15,000 or more are liable for a BID levy to contribute to the costs of projects and activities undertaken by the BID.

The greater your involvement and the more activities opportunities you take advantage of, the better value for money you will receive from your BID levy.

You can pay the levy in the following ways:

1. Pay by debit or credit card on 0300 1267000
2. Online payments www.westnorthants.gov.uk/PayBusinessRates
3. By bank transfer, using the bank details below:

Sort Code: 20-17-68

Account No.: 03538028

Account Name: West Northants Council,
Payment Reference: BID account reference

Objective	2024/25
Infrastructure	261,158.00
Crime Prevention & Safety	226,965.00
Environment & Sustainability	16,551.00
Supporting Business & People	38,616.00
Central Management & Overheads	153,107.00
Levy Collection Costs	9,100.00
Total	705,497.00

Unaudited accounts including estimated accruals as of February 2025.

BID financials 2024/2025

In 2024/2025 the BID worked with a budget of £505,947 based on levy contributions plus £690,059 retained income from the previous BID period. The actual and committed expenditure for the current financial year to 31/03/2025 is shown in the table above. The BID has ringfenced monies from the previous BID for a number of significant infrastructure projects across the estate in the coming year.