



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

February Update from the Dorking BID

BID Business Initiatives

Hello Dorking have started a handyman scheme where BID businesses can request help with small DIY jobs that need doing in their premises. BID members also have the opportunity to become members of Surrey Chambers, with the benefits this can offer their business. First Aid training is being provided to BID businesses who want to attend.

South Street Gardens

A CIL application has been submitted for funding to rejuvenate South Street Gardens. This will include repairing the paving, replacing the benches, commissioning a sculpture and creating an archway for the entrance to the caves.

Dorking Festivals

Hello Dorking have a number of events and festivals throughout the year, including the Festival of Light this month, Vintage Day in May, and a Food and Drink Festival and Walking Festival in September.

Dorking West Train Station

Strategic CIL funding has been granted to update Dorking West train station but it is not known whether this includes improvements to signage and lighting so the BID will make enquiries.

Town of Culture

This is an initiative being introduced by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport in 2028. Similar to the City of Culture it will celebrate the contribution towns make to our cultural life. The initial submission has to be made by the end of March 2026. The towns making successful submission will receive £60k to develop their proposal, the winner will receive £3million and 2 runners up £250k each. A meeting will be held with Dorking's key cultural organisations to discuss how to proceed.

Voluntary BID Businesses

Hello Dorking welcomes Dorking Distillery as new voluntary BID members.