

**Press Release – Wednesday, December 4**

**Derby Cathedral Quarter BID celebrates Small Business Saturday with news of exciting openings and milestone anniversaries**

Updated figures from the Cathedral Quarter BID reveal that 28 new small enterprises have opened in Derby's Cathedral Quarter since the start of the year, with six more small businesses joining since the figures were last released in August.

The area now boasts over 300 small businesses, reflecting its vibrant and thriving business community. These updated statistics come ahead of Small Business Saturday on December 7, highlighting the Quarter's continued growth and appeal.

Small Business Saturday celebrates the achievements of new enterprises, small business entrepreneurs and new independent shops across the UK and encourages people to shop local.

Martin Langsdale, Chair of the Cathedral Quarter BID, said he was excited about the area's continued success.

He explained: "The growth we've seen this year is a testament to the Cathedral Quarter's enduring appeal as a place to start and grow a business. Small Business Saturday is the perfect occasion to celebrate the incredible contribution these businesses make to our community."

This year's event coincides with a major milestone for The Mecca, an independent, family-owned jeweller and clock shop which celebrates its 100th year of Christmas trading in the Cathedral Quarter. This anniversary reflects the unique blend of history and innovation that defines the area.

Among the new businesses that have chosen to make the Cathedral Quarter their home this year is Social Moody, a thriving social media agency; Glamberry, a café and bespoke cakery; Rapture Tattoo, a premium tattoo studio; and Bridge the Gap CIC, a social enterprise promoting emotional literacy and mental health support for children and families.

Adding to the festive excitement, Thrive Mind Village, a new community hub on Iron Gate, will host its official launch on Small Business Saturday, from 11am to 6pm. Thrive Mind Village will feature a shop stocked with books, crafts, gifts, and more, alongside culinary treats from pop-up chef Sky, offering vegan delights such as stir-fry, steamed buns, Aloo pies, and festive pancakes. Visitors can also join the 'Free Craft Along' session hosted by Rachel, bringing their own projects or creating something new to take home.

Simon Jones and Liz Le Drew, from Thrive Mind Village emphasised the importance of supporting local enterprises and said: “Small Business Saturday is hugely important, especially at a time of year when large online retailers like Amazon cause the most harm to people and the planet for profits.

“It's the small businesses of Derby, run by passionate local people, that go the extra mile to do things with real quality and care, bringing unique experiences and ethical products that help the people and planet rather than harm them.”

To celebrate the day, The Cathedral Quarter BID have worked with Derby City Council to offer free parking to shoppers at Darwin Place car park on Saturday. There are 231 spaces available during the day.

For more information about the businesses in the BID area, visit [www.derbycathedralquarter.co.uk](http://www.derbycathedralquarter.co.uk)

## Ends

### Note to editors:

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### Notes to Editor

- BIDs are regulated and were first introduced in the UK in 2004 as part of the Local Government Act 2003
- BIDs are an investment in the local trading environment through the provision of added value services.
- BIDs are funded by local businesses through a regulated levy; therefore, all beneficiaries pay.
- They see improvements to business profitability and turnover which would not have happened without a BID.
- Businesses identify the area and the issues and put together a proposal which should include delivery guarantees, performance indicators and management structure.
- The plan voted for has a lifespan of 5 years and further proposals will have to be reaffirmed through a further vote.
- There are now over 320 BIDs across the country.
- There are two criteria which must be achieved for the vote to be successful: more than 50% of the number of businesses who vote have to say yes and more than 50% of the rateable value of the businesses who vote have to say yes.



BID information: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/business-improvement-districts>