

TOPIC: The types of BID ballot

Abstract: -

There is often confusion as to the different types of ballot that may be held in respect of a BID. It is important to understand the differences as each is treated differently according to the BID Regulations. There are 4 different types of ballot:

1. BID ballot
2. Renewal ballot
3. Re-ballot
4. Alteration ballot

This Policy and Guidance Note explains each in turn

Guidance: -

To create a BID, the Proposer of the BID Arrangements is required to win a majority at a ballot by a simple majority (more 'yes' votes than 'no' votes) and by a majority of rateable value (more RV attached to the 'yes' votes than the 'no' votes). The ballot period must be for a minimum of 28 days, finishing on a working day at 5pm. Variations to this apply outside England where turnout thresholds are required and ballot periods are longer. The types of ballot are:

- a) BID ballot – this is a ballot held to introduce a new set of Proposals, most commonly considered as a 'new' BID.
- b) Renewal ballot – this is a continuation, on a like-for-like basis (same BID area, same BID Body, same Levy Rules etc.), of current Arrangements for a further identical term. The ballot must be held within the existing term of the BID.
- c) Re-ballot – this is the re-representation of BID Proposals following failure to secure an affirmative vote at ballot, including the Secretary of State overturning a ballot declaration.
- d) Alteration ballot – BID Arrangements may be altered where they contain a provision to that effect. No such provision may alter the BID area or the BID levy (if that causes anyone not previously liable to pay, or increases the liability of any party) and any such alteration would require a ballot to effect the change.

TIPS

1. Ensure that when asking the local authority to hold a ballot, you check the Regulations attached to the type of ballot you are requesting.
2. The requirements of a BID Proposal differ depending upon the type of ballot.