

A SUMMARY OF MANOR ROYAL BID ACTIVITIES SINCE COVID19

The recent outbreak has presented an unprecedented challenge to towns and cities up and down the country and across the world. Much closer to home the impact on Manor Royal was evident almost immediately and it is still too early to know what the longer-term impact will be. The Manor Royal BID has not been immune but has still been operating, albeit in a very different way. Here is a roundup of what the Manor Royal BID has done and is doing in response to the COVID19 crisis.

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

We immediately set up a new area of our website to serve as a signpost to useful sources of information, national and local, covering Government support, staying at home tips, mental health and wellbeing resources, grants, advice from the local Business Rates team and more.

The page is constantly updated and has had a major refresh to make it easier to find what businesses need. We will keep this live for as long as we need to. Visit www.manorroyal.org/covid19



GRANT FUNDING

The BID worked with Crawley Borough Council to ensure those businesses entitled to Government support got to know about it and were able to take advantage of the grant funding they could claim. At the last count there were only 20 companies on Manor Royal who could claim a grant that hadn't.

REPRESENTING MANOR ROYAL

A key role of the Manor Royal BID, we have been producing data, insights and reports and sharing these with influential stakeholders including Henry Smith MP for Crawley, Crawley Borough Council, West Sussex County Council and the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership. This includes highlighting concerns of Manor Royal businesses that do not benefit from the Government grant support currently available and making suggestions for how this might be improved. You can read some of our information sheets and economic updates on our COVID19 pages.

Our role in representing the local area has also involved a prominent role in the local and national media, including a spot on the ITV London News.

[View the ITV News clip on our LinkedIN Page](#)



MANOR ROYAL BID BOARD

The Manor Royal BID Board, made up of volunteers from Manor Royal businesses, have been meeting even more regularly supported by representatives from Crawley Borough Council, West Sussex County Council and the Coast to Capital LEP to take decisions about how to manage the BID and to understand the impact COVID is having both on the BID itself and the area generally. The Board was also strengthened by co-opting Yvonne Taylor (Managing Director, PPL Insights) and Tim Rose (Global Facilities Manager, Elekta). **Visit the Resources section of the website to find out what the Board has been up to.**

PARTICIPATING IN THE TOWN-WIDE CRAWLEY ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASKFORCE

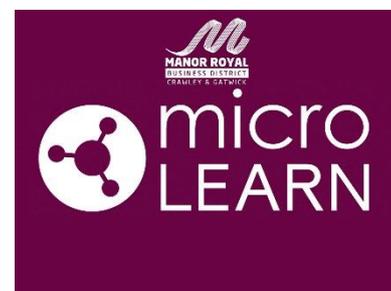
Set up by Crawley Borough Council, the Manor Royal BID has taken its place on the Taskforce designed to understand the impact of COVID19 locally and plan for the town's recovery and future growth. The Manor Royal BID is represented at Executive level alongside Crawley Borough Council, West Sussex County Council, Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership, Gatwick Airport Limited, Gatwick Diamond Initiative, and Henry Smith MP.

The BID is playing an active role in encouraging businesses to complete the Business Impact Survey so that the views, needs and issues of Manor Royal businesses are properly taken account of.

Complete the survey [HERE](#)

ACCESS TO FREE ONLINE TRAINING PLATFORM

As we can't run our face to face training at the moment, we have introduced a free to access online training platform for Manor Royal companies and their employees. There are literally 100s of subjects covering everything from regulatory stuff to mental health and wellbeing courses and it can be accessed from anywhere, great for those working from home. **Visit www.manorroyal.org/microlearn**



SUPPORTING THE "RAISE THE BAR" CAMPAIGN

Devised by Croydon BID, this national campaign is designed to persuade Government to raise the rateable value threshold to £150,000 so that more businesses working in retail, hospitality and leisure can benefit from a £25,000 grant to help meet essential costs.

We understand that more is needed to support companies in Manor Royal that do not operate in one of these sectors, and we are working on that, however the Board felt it was important to support the campaign to help those it would benefit. To find out more and help your favourite shop, restaurant or leisure facility visit www.raisethebarcampaign.com

FREE ONLINE HR, COMPLIANCE & BUSINESS SUPPORT

Following its launch in November 2019, Manor Royal businesses can freely access the MentorLIVE service made available through our partnership with Natwest. This is a fantastic resource and especially useful at the moment. www.manorroyal.org/mentor

MANOR ROYAL MESSAGE BOARD

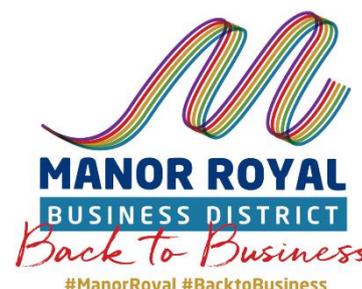
We set up a dedicated webpage so for Manor Royal companies to post their messages. In addition to the Business Directory, the Message Board allows companies to promote special offers, let others know they are still working or merely share other news they want their neighbours to know about. It has proven to be popular and we use those posts to promote Manor Royal businesses across our other comms channels including the eBulletin and social media platforms (LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter).

Find out who is on the Message Board at www.manorroyal.org/messageboard

HELPING EACH OTHER TO GET BACK TO BUSINESS

As well as providing easy access to advice and guidance, we created a section on our COVID19 pages dedicated to local suppliers who can provide services and goods to help get you get “Back to Business” on Manor Royal, including specialist cleaning services, hand sanitizer, hands free dispensers, graphics, signs, PPE, plastic cough screens and more.

Visit www.manorroyal.org/covid10 (see section 17)



STAYING IN TOUCH & KEEPING IT SOCIAL

During the crisis we have stepped up our online communications with more frequent mailings and eBulletins. We have been keeping the Manor Royal website up to date with the latest news and been managing our social media channels (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn), which have been even more active than usual. We have also featured stories and films contributed by Manor Royal companies and key supporters. We encourage all Manor Royal companies to keep connected and stay in touch.

Sign up the eBulletin [HERE](#)

Get in touch with the BID Office to find out how to get involved info@manorroyal.org

BID LEVY COLLECTION

The BID Levy invoices were issued as usual in March just before Lockdown really began. Without the BID Levy the Manor Royal BID cannot operate. However, in recognition of the current difficulties the Board agreed to suspend the collection process for the time being and reminders will not be sent until July.

See the BID Levy leaflet [HERE](#)

MANOR ROYAL DIGITAL SIGNS **SPECIAL COVID RATES**

The Digital Signs, large double-sided digital screens positioned at four key locations in different areas of Manor Royal, have been carrying COVID19 information messages as well as business messages. Manor Royal companies already benefit from exclusive rates that have now been made even more attractive for a limited time. All current advertisers and any business on Manor Royal committing to a new “Gold” package will get three months for free. In response to feedback we have also adjusted the rotation so that advertisers get more views for their advert displayed across all four screens plus they get their advert featured online, in the Manor Royal magazine and via social media. Great for increasing awareness as we come out of Lockdown.



Find out more at www.manorroyal.org/advertising

MANOR ROYAL JOBS BOARD **FREE JOB POSTINGS**

The partnership between the Manor Royal BID and LoveLocalJobs.com to provide free and unlimited job postings for all Manor Royal companies to advertise their vacancies right across the Gatwick Diamond area remains in place, ready for when companies need it. See www.manorroyal.org/jobs

SECURE & MAINTAINED

Imposed restrictions has prohibited delivery to some extent. However, we have been maintaining our security presence, including liaison with the Police and updating businesses on security matters through our free to access Manor Royal Business Watch (DISC) system. The Maintenance Team is getting back to something more like normal service now and have started the first grass cuts after a short imposed layoff.

Find out more about the available BID benefits at www.manorroyal.org/benefits

Email the BID office to find out about joining Business Watch info@manorroyal.org

BOUNCING BACK

We have had to postpone our events programme but we will come back with a bang later in the year – if we can. Of note are plans to combine our Know Your Neighbour and Manor Royal Matters events into one Mega Manor Royal Show at The Hawth Theatre on 14 October. Free to attend and exhibit. If we still can't get together then we will look at what we can do either online or on another date.



You can book now at www.manorroyal.org/events

IMPROVING FACILITIES

One of our big projects is to enhance the facilities available to the 30,000 people that work in Manor Royal by investing in a series of small park areas, or microparks, to improve the seating, wayfinding and overall look and feel of the Business District building on the popularity and success of Crawter's Brook People's Park and The Terrace Pocket Park. With support we were able to complete the initial phase of work and identified artists who can work with us to help design the park areas based on the history of the businesses and people who made Manor Royal what it is. Sadly the funding sources we hope to utilise (e.g. Lottery Funding) are temporarily unavailable meaning actual delivery is delayed while everyone concentrates attention on dealing with the fallout of COVID19. We remain committed to this project and will announce the appointed artists shortly and look to resume the project as soon as we are able to. **For details of this project visit www.manorroyal.org/mystory**



IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE

The transport infrastructure improvements planned for Manor Royal as part of the Crawley Growth Programme - a significant programme of investment across the town involving various partners including Crawley Borough Council, West Sussex County Council and the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership - will still happen. This is the ideal time to make this kind of investment if we are to encourage and maintain the good habits we have learned during the period of lockdown when we saw more people walking, cycling and adopting more active travel behaviours.

Find out more at www.manorroyal.org/cgp

PLANNING FOR RECOVERY

Work is underway to formulate a plan to support Manor Royal's recovery and return to growth. The intention is to devise a plan that spans the full recovery cycle from the Shock & Initial Response, to Restart and finally a positive focus on Manor Royal's Transformation and return to Growth. We will use this to engage and inform our role as part of the town wide Crawley Economic Recovery Taskforce.

STAY IN TOUCH

It has never been more important for us to stick together and work through this. There are plenty of ways to stay in touch with the Manor Royal BID who, in turn, can help you stay in touch with what's going on and with each other. Don't be a stranger!

www.manorroyal.org | [LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Sign up to the eBulletin](#)