



Overview of Projects, Income & Expenditure

2026/27



Introduction

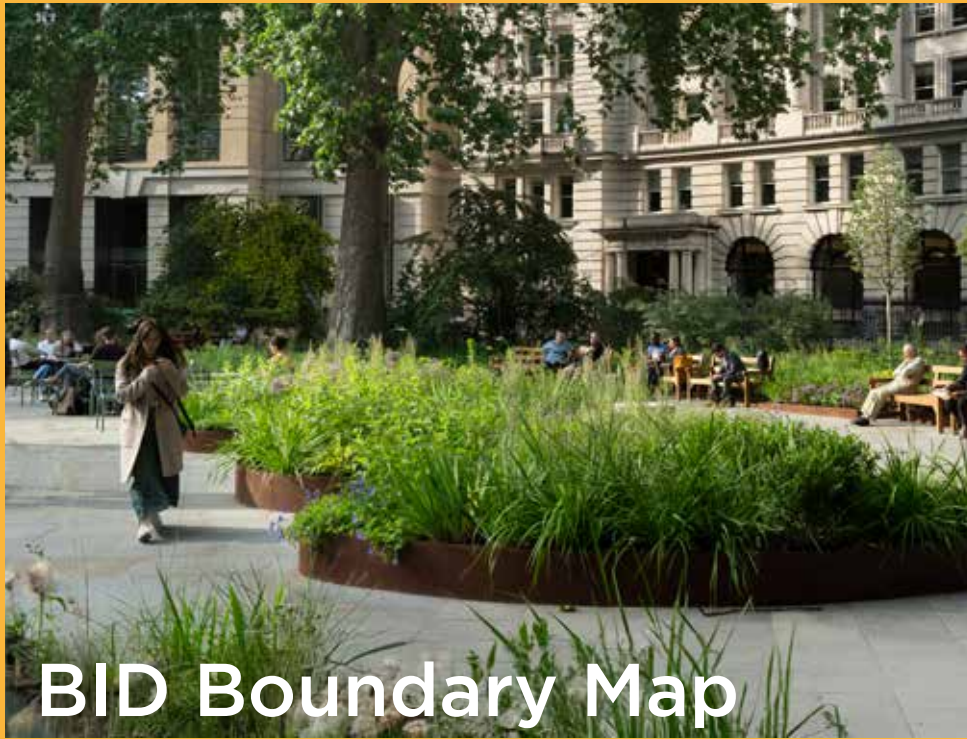
The Culture Mile Business Improvement District now enters the fourth year of its initial five-year term. Established as one of the largest BIDs in the Square Mile, **we continue to act as a strong and collaborative voice for businesses** – championing culture, improving the public realm and strengthening connections across our community.



Over the past year we have built on firm foundations, delivering tangible improvements to the environment, expanding our safety and community programmes, and growing our cultural offer. As the area evolves – with major developments progressing and the London Museum’s opening approaching – we continue to adapt our services to meet the changing needs of businesses, workers, residents and visitors.

Just as important as what we have delivered is what lies ahead. The year to come will see further greening and public realm enhancements, strengthened night-time safety initiatives, and an ambitious cultural programme designed to support footfall, vibrancy and economic resilience across Culture Mile.

We remain committed to working in partnership with our members and stakeholders to ensure Culture Mile continues to thrive as a sustainable environment, a connected community, an inspiring place and a leading cultural destination.



BID Boundary Map



Culture Mile

Where the **past meets progress** to spark new cultural moments.

From Farringdon to Finsbury Circus Gardens, Culture Mile is a place where heritage and innovation sit side by side – where historic streets, institutions and communities connect with new development, emerging businesses and bold cultural ambition.

The Culture Mile BID acts as a key local advocate for businesses across the area. Our role is to champion culture, improve the public realm and strengthen connections between commerce, community and creativity. Through collaborative working with property owners, cultural institutions, the City of London and local stakeholders, we help shape an environment that supports economic resilience and civic pride.

Our work is guided by four core themes – Sustainable Environment, Connected Communities, Inspiring Places and Cultural Destination – ensuring that investment delivers practical improvements while reinforcing the area’s distinctive identity.

As the London Museum prepares to open its new home at Smithfield and major public realm projects progress, Culture Mile stands at a pivotal moment. By bringing partners together and supporting high-quality activation, greening and cultural programming, we are helping to create new reasons to visit, spend time and do business here.

The story of Culture Mile continues to evolve – and together with our members, we are shaping a destination where the past meets progress to spark new cultural moments.

The Culture Mile team welcomes your thoughts and comments and encourages you to take advantage of the projects and services we provide.

You can contact the team at info@culturemilebid.co.uk or visit culturemilebid.co.uk.



Sustainable Environment

2025/26 Achievements:

Over the past year we have laid strong foundations for long-term environmental improvement across the Culture Mile footprint. A comprehensive green infrastructure audit was commissioned, building on analysis from the Public Realm Vision and Strategy. Aligned with the green corridors set out in the draft City Plan 2040, the audit identified priority locations where the BID can introduce high-quality, sustainable planting that strengthens biodiversity and connectivity between existing green spaces.

Culture Mile BID was recognised through the London in Bloom programme for its commitment to greening and environmental quality. This reflected the collective efforts of the BID, businesses and community partners to enhance streets, planting and biodiversity across the area.

We progressed development of a Net Zero roadmap to support businesses on their transition journey, alongside delivering sustainability seminars to share practical guidance and best practice. Our Street Ambassador team continued to support environmental quality by reporting waste, graffiti and abandoned e-bikes in partnership with the City of London.

Work also began with the City, neighbouring BIDs and local stakeholders to explore ways to reduce Freight, Servicing and Delivery (FSD) vehicle movements, supporting the City's Transport Strategy.

In 2026/27 we will:

- Deliver the Net Zero roadmap and practical toolkit to support measurable business action.
- Roll out further greening projects across priority locations identified through the green infrastructure audit.
- Deliver the Seeds in the City project at St Giles' Terrace, engaging schools and community groups in sustainable urban food growing.
- Continue participation in London in Bloom, strengthening biodiversity and civic pride.
- Trial a consolidation tool for freight, servicing and deliveries, linked to public realm enhancement projects at Moor Lane and Coleman Street.





Connected Business Community

2025/26 Achievements:

Investment in community safety and business engagement continued throughout the year. We launched Year 3 of the Community Grants Programme, awarding £60,000 to 15 projects supporting local communities.

The Street Ambassador service was expanded, extending operating hours into the evening, providing winter coverage and trialling weekend support for events and the night-time economy.

We commissioned regular footfall and economic insight data to help members respond to changing travel patterns and consumer behaviour. Building on the success of our first Knowledge Exchange, we delivered further opportunities for skills sharing and discussion around inclusion, wellbeing and talent development.

A Crime Perception Survey informed a targeted programme of safety initiatives including cyber security workshops, conflict management training and women's self-defence sessions. In partnership with City of London Police, we supported Operation Reframe, engaging over 350 City workers in bystander intervention awareness.

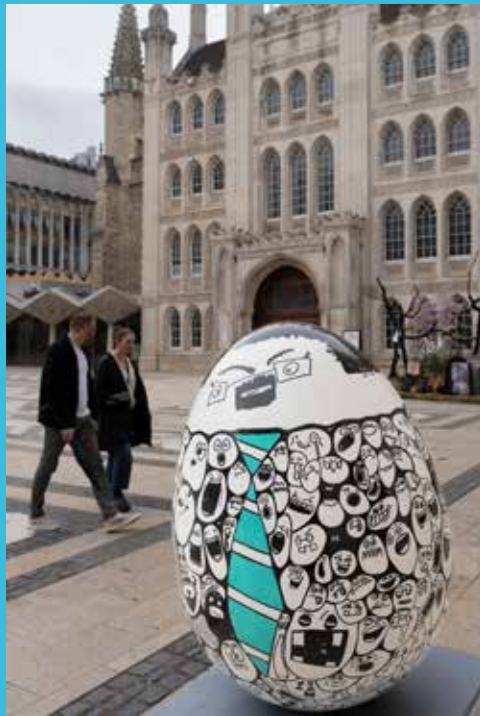
Over 1,000 mobile phones were protected through phone marking days, cycle marking and repair sessions were delivered for the cycling community, and bag hooks were introduced across hospitality venues to help reduce theft and strengthen night-time safety.

We also continued to connect businesses with residents and charities through Business in the Community activity, matching corporate volunteering capacity with local need.

We supported the Lord Mayor's Appeal We Can Be programme, welcoming over 300 young women from across London to gain insight into careers in the City. The initiative helps build confidence, challenge perceptions and connect young women with future opportunities.

In 2026/27 we will:

- Continue delivery of the Community Grants Programme, supporting projects that deliver meaningful local impact.
- Further develop the Street Ambassador service with a focus on safety, welcome and support for the evening and night-time economy.
- Embed regular sharing of footfall and economic insight data to inform member decision-making and BID priorities.
- Deliver an expanded Knowledge Exchange and networking programme focused on inclusion, skills and staff wellbeing.
- Develop targeted initiatives to support night-time safety and strengthen confidence in the evening economy.
- Strengthen links between local businesses and residents through volunteering and CSR matchmaking.



Inspiring Places

2025/26 Achievements:

We continued to enhance the public realm across Culture Mile through cultural activation, strategic planning and physical improvements. As part of the London Festival of Architecture, we worked with the London Museum to activate Smithfield ahead of its reopening and delivered a series of 'quick win' public realm projects identified through the Public Realm Strategy.

Our area-wide festive lighting scheme was expanded to additional streets and landmarks. Collaboration with property owners and developers supported meanwhile cultural activation and improved the presentation of construction sites. Work also continued to explore efficiencies in Freight, Servicing and Deliveries across the area.

In 2026/27 we will:

- Carry out an access and inclusion review to ensure Culture Mile is welcoming, inclusive and safe for all.
- Continue to support public realm enhancement plans at Moor Lane.
- Work with the City to develop design and cost options for improvements to Coleman Street.
- Deliver short-term placemaking enhancements at West Smithfield in line with Phase 1 of the London Museum opening.

- Implement enhancements at the Barbican Station junction, including greening and public art in partnership with property owners and the City.
- Expand festive lighting installations and explore new locations across the area.
- Commission a temporary installation celebrating the St Giles' Terrace urban farming project as part of the London Festival of Architecture 2026.
- Continue to communicate construction phasing for major schemes including St Paul's Gyratory and Greyfriars Square.
- Explore short-term activations for Silk Street, including greening, lighting and public art.
- Pilot additional street cleaning services targeting identified hotspots.



Cultural Destination

2025/26 Achievements:

Culture Mile strengthened its position as a distinctive cultural destination through delivery of a varied programme of events, partnerships and activations. We worked closely with major and emerging cultural partners, expanded our placemaking programme, and continued collaboration with the London Museum ahead of its phased opening in 2026.

A standout moment this year was the successful delivery of the inaugural Vibrance Festival, a large-scale light and sound experience that animated the area and attracted strong audiences, establishing a new flagship cultural moment for Culture Mile.

We also delivered our own Culture Mile Midsummer Fayre, bringing together businesses, cultural partners and the local community in a vibrant celebration of the area's identity, alongside a programme of high-quality activations including a VE Day celebration at Smithfield Rotunda Gardens and sporting events in Guildhall Yard delivered in partnership with the Central London Alliance, which saw basketball and football activities draw in new and diverse audiences.

These events, alongside our wider programme, have strengthened Culture Mile's reputation as a dynamic destination, increasing footfall, supporting local businesses and showcasing the area as a place to spend time beyond the working day.

Our data-led approach advanced through regular visitor insight reporting to inform both member businesses and BID strategy. Partnerships with organisations including the Guildhall School of Music & Drama supported the development of new cultural moments for the area.

In 2026/27 we will:

- Continue sharing regular visitor insight reports to support business planning and BID priorities.
- Work closely with the London Museum on Phase 1 opening activity, including community programming and anticipatory communications campaigns.
- Expand the Culture Mile Midsummer Fayre as part of our summer programme celebrating the area's connections to music and literature.
- Support the Vibrance Festival in partnership with Guildhall School of Music & Drama, Guildhall Production Studios and the City Corporation Culture Team, while exploring additional funding pathways with members and neighbouring BIDs.
- Partner with cultural institutions to deliver a distinctive year-round programme attracting domestic and international visitors.
- Work with property owners and managers to activate publicly accessible spaces through short-term activations, meanwhile use and longer-term enhancements.

BID Board and Team

BID Activities are managed by a not-for-profit company directed by a board of local business leaders to whom the BID team is accountable. The day to day activity and management of projects is delivered by an executive team.

BID Board

Andrew Smith (Chair)

Broadfield Law

Andrew Heald

Baird

Beau Vigushin

Barbican Centre

Charles Knight

Barts Health NHS Trust

Ruth Hoy

DLA Piper

Sian Brittain

Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Krupa Patel

Legal & General

Rajeev Shaunak

MHA McIntyre Hudson

David Banks

Phillips 66

Angeli Ganoo-Fletcher

PRP Architects

Alex Grossick

Deutsche Bank

Street Ambassador Team

Greig Oldbury, Giovanni Ramnath, Ceyda Mehmet, Caleb Johnson

Executive Team

To be appointed

Chief Executive

Caroline Hanson

Director of Communications
and Marketing

Sarah Baker

Head of Partnerships & Engagement

To be appointed

Head of Placemaking

Anita Kwasniewski

Events Manager

Dhino Panchalingam

Digital Marketing &
Communications Manager

Aleksandra Mamrocha

Executive Assistant

Dr Julie Grail

Strategic Consultant to the Board



2025-2026 Forecast position*

	Total £
2024-25 Reserves brought forward	2,438,168
BID Levy Income (assuming 95% Collection)	2,674,112
Voluntary Income and Sponsorship	22,500
Total Income	5,134,780
Sustainable Environment	333,235
Connected Community	455,782
Inspiring Places	529,985
Cultural Destination	906,902
Management and Administration**	265,636
Contingency	-
Total Expenditure	2,491,540
2025-26 Estimated Closing Reserves	2,643,241

* Based on full year forecasts made in February 2026 management accounts.

** Covered firstly by voluntary income and includes statutory obligations including levy collection fees.

*** 5% Statutory contingency set aside to cover BID levy fluctuations.

2026-2027 Budget



	Total £
2025-26 Estimated Reserves brought forward	2,643,241
BID Levy Income (assuming 95% Collection)	2,500,243
Voluntary Income and Sponsorship	22,500
Total Income	5,165,984
Sustainable Environment	389,525
Connected Community	759,234
Inspiring Places	1,083,779
Cultural Destination	986,412
Management and Administration**	282,262
Contingency***	126,137
Total Expenditure	3,627,348
2026-27 Estimated Closing Reserves	1,538,636



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