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Crossrail at Paddington

The Crossrail Parliamentary Select Committee sat for its first session on Tuesday 17 January – with BID staff present to hear the Chairman's Opening Statement and the Crossrail Promoter's Opening Address. The Chairman explained that as the Crossrail Bill has had a successful Second Reading in the House of Commons, this Committee will therefore only be considering the issues raised regarding the construction process. The Bill Promoter's legal representatives briefly outlined their position on issues including compensation, noise control and settlement. The Committee will now hear from petitioners such as Paddington BID who are seeking changes to the Bill. The outline programme for this first phase of hearings up to the Easter Recess does not specifically cover Paddington – we appear in a later phase – but many of the issues we have raised in our petition will also be aired by other petitioners. The BID team will be monitoring the proceedings and continuing preparations for our appearance before the Committee later in the year.

Rate relief in the BID area

Paddington BID are hosting a seminar in March at The Norfolk Plaza Hotel, with a presentation by Mark Jorgensen from the Valuations Office Agency. Mark will explain how the Rating Valuations are worked out, the factors that affect the valuation, how often they change and how to challenge them. Details of the seminar will follow at a later date.

Looking for Staff?

The local recruitment centre, Paddington First can help you find the right people to work in your business. The centre provides a made to measure service from assistance with job specification, screening and matching, to checks on work history - offering you all the information you need. It is a free service and takes the burden of recruiting away from you. For more information call 020 7853 4501 or drop in at the office on 28 Praed Street or visit www.paddingtonfirst.co.uk

Safer Paddington

A brand new HotelWatch scheme has been launched covering the W2 area. It is being co-ordinated by Westminster City Council's Civic Watch with support from the Metropolitan Police Service and organisations including Paddington BID. The scheme will deliver training for hotel management and staff as well as establishing a communication network to keep hoteliers informed on important security and safety issues. Contact Darren Pickup on 020 7641 1148 or email dpickup@westminster.gov.uk for details on how to get involved.

To give you an idea of the activities your Paddington BID Community Safety Team carry out on your behalf, here is a flavour of an average week in their life:

26 business visits, 5 beggar/street drinking move-ons or 'de-cannings', 3 arrests, 4 stop-searches, 3 environmental issues reported, 191 way-finding enquiries, 5 prostitute card removal runs.

If you would like a visit from PCSO Justin Lansdowne call 07966 771 891.

More Attractive Paddington

This month the planters at St Mary's Clinic Site, Praed Street underwent a makeover when they were replanted with Red Photinia. Tall and highly coloured shrubs will brighten up the Street over the coming months.

Parking in Paddington

Westminster City Council have issued 'Park Right' - a new guide to parking in Westminster. This easy to understand booklet explains all the parking signs and markings, how they are enforced, how to challenge a parking ticket and includes maps showing car parks, motorcycle bays, disabled bays and coach bays. We think this guide could be very useful to you. If you would like a copy please contact any member of the BID team on 020 7313 1011.

Promote your business at www.paddingtonbid.co.uk

The Guide section of the website, with information about Paddington's restaurants, cafes, bars, shops and businesses is currently being redeveloped. If you would like your business to be included in the updated site, please complete and return the attached fax-back form. This will allow us to ensure your business is properly represented on the site, and includes a link to your own website. We also invite you to add a special offer to your entry. Please contact Jess Noble on 020 7313 1011 for further information.

Your specific contact data is held to enable us to communicate quickly and accurately with you. We are registered under the Data Protection Act and do not disclose our database information.

IN PADDINGTON – your guide

The pocket-sized guide to Paddington, produced by the BID remains as popular as ever. The guide was redistributed to many of Paddington's shops and hotels in late 2005. If you require more copies call Jess Noble on 020 7313 1011.

Paddington Spring Walks

March will see the return of the ever popular Paddington walks. This year the program will be extended to include brand new walks, as well as old favourites from previous years, including the Brunel walk which will mark the 200th anniversary of his birth. You should receive a leaflet in March with details of walks taking place between March and June. If you require further information or any additional leaflets please contact Jess Noble on 020 7313 1011.

Join the BID Company

The BID Company continues to grow, with membership currently at well over 170. As a BID levy payer you are not automatically a member, signing up costs nothing and will ensure you have a say in decisions, a vote at the BID's AGM and the ability to be part of one of the Board's sub groups. If you have mislaid your pre-paid postcard and would like to join the Company please contact any member of the BID team on 020 7313 1011.

Contact the BID team

For more information about Paddington BID call 020 7313 1011 or visit www.paddingtonbid.co.uk. Paddington BID is delivered by Paddington Waterside Partnership Ltd. under a BID Management Agreement.



Planning and Design Guide for Businesses ● BID Annual General Meeting ● Crossrail at Paddington ● Rate Relief in the BID area ● More Attractive Paddington ● Safer Paddington ● Congestion Charge ● New Business Notice Boards at Paddington ● IN PADDINGTON – Your guide ● Paddington Spring Walks ● Looking for Staff? ● Contact the BID Team

Planning and Design Guide for Businesses

The new INPADDINGTON Planning and Design Guide for Businesses has been produced. This brand new guide, compiled with Westminster City Council Planning Department, aims to simplify the basic planning rules that apply within a conservation area such as Paddington. By following the guidelines set out within the booklet, you can save yourself and your business both time and money by getting the changes right first time.

Annual General Meeting

The BID Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday 6 July, at the Hilton London Paddington at 5.45 for 6.00 p.m. The AGM is your opportunity to influence how the BID's income is spent in the area and to elect the Board of Directors who will continue to represent you in the coming year.

In order to vote at the AGM, you need to be a company member. Signing up costs nothing, will ensure you have a say in decisions, and enable you to be part of one of the Board's sub groups. If you have mislaid your pre-paid postcard and would like to join the BID company please contact any member of the BID team on 020 7313 1011.

Crossrail at Paddington

The Parliamentary Select Committee continue to hear petitions from various bodies and organisations.

The BID team have reviewed the latest version of the Environmental Statement and were pleased to note that the taxis will be returning to the Eastbourne Terrace side of the station at the end of the project. We are presently awaiting a meeting with the Crossrail Negotiator for a preliminary discussion centred on our main petitioning points.

Rate relief in the BID area

A successful seminar was held last month for BID businesses, featuring a presentation by the Valuation Office Agency on the rating process. Mark Jorgensen, Westminster Group Valuation Officer, gave an informative talk explaining how the property Rating Valuations are worked out and set, the circumstances under which businesses can challenge them and the procedures to follow.

Also present were representatives from Montagu Evans, the Paddington BID preferred rating specialists with whom we have agreed a discounted fee basis for BID members. Montagu Evans are already progressing appeals for a number of our businesses and would be happy to discuss your individual situation with you. Call Montagu Evans 020 7493 4002 and ask for Simon Harris or Will Robinson.

More Attractive Paddington

Work will shortly be commencing to install an irrigation system at the St Mary's Hospital planters site, on Praed Street. This will ensure that the plants are kept well watered during the dry, summer months so they can continue to add a splash of colour to brighten up the streetscape.

Safer Paddington

Proposals are being drawn up to bring a CCTV network to the BID area. Members will be able to hear the proposals at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and vote on the extent and timescale for this project. A team of specialist consultants are considering potential locations and helping identify the BID area's needs, objectives and expectations from a CCTV system. The BID's Community Safety Team are playing a significant part in feeding information and crime statistics into this process but if you wish to make a particular point or provide information that you believe will be helpful, please email the BID Manager at chris_peers@paddingtonbid.co.uk

Congestion Charge

Many businesses have noted that several of our side street pavements have sprouted stubby poles and control boxes over the last few weeks. These are for the placement of cameras to administer the forthcoming Congestion Charge expansion. We have obtained agreement that all this new street furniture will be treated with high grade Dacrylate anti-graffiti treatment at no cost to the BID.

New Business Notice Boards for Paddington

This summer the BID has plans to produce and install area notice boards providing visitors to Paddington with way finding assistance; listing hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes, pubs and events. The boards will be a great focal point in Paddington and make it much easier for customers to find your business, and your staff and visitors to get involved in events and activities. Further details of locations will be announced soon.

IN PADDINGTON – your guide

The pocket-sized guide to Paddington, produced by the BID remains as popular as ever. If you require additional copies of the handy booklet containing information on all the local shops, restaurants, bars, cafés, hotels and services, please call Jess Noble in the BID team on 020 7313 1011.

Paddington Spring Walks

The Paddington guided walks programme for 2006 is now underway, with encouraging attendance levels despite the recent bad weather. This year the programme has been extended to include brand new walks, as well as old favourites from previous years, including the Brunel-guided walk which will mark the 200th anniversary of his birth. For copies of the leaflet which details all the walks taking place between now and June or if you would like to attend any of these, free of charge please call the BID team's office on 020 7313 1011, or email walks@paddingtonwaterside.co.uk.

Looking for Staff?

Paddington First, the local recruitment centre, provides a made-to-measure service to help you find the right people to work in your business. From assistance with job specification, screening and matching, to checks on work history, Paddington First offers you all the information you need. It is a free service and takes the burden of recruiting away from you. For more information call 020 7853 4501 or drop in at the office on 28 Praed Street or visit www.paddingtonfirst.co.uk.

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**BID Annual General Meeting ● Crossrail at Paddington ● What's Your Flavour? ● Visitor Map ●
Bridge Opening ● New Businesses In Paddington ● Safer Paddington ● New Business Notice
Board for Paddington ● Westminster Council's CivicWatch Spring Clean Event ● Paddington
Guided Walks ● IN PADDINGTON – Your guide ● Contact the BID Team**

BID Annual General Meeting

The Paddington BID AGM takes place on Thursday 6 July 2006 at the Hilton London Metropole, starting at 5.45 p.m. for 6.00 p.m. The AGM is your opportunity to influence the BID and to elect the Board of Directors and its Chairman who will represent you during the coming year.

As well as the formal business of the AGM, there will be a presentation on the CCTV programme and timetable for the BID area which will be put to a vote of Company Members. The guest speaker is Bridget Rosewell from the Greater London Authority who will talk about how the GLA interacts with the business community. She will also discuss the ways in which businesses have handled the introduction of Congestion Charging. The event closes at 7.30 p.m. with drinks and canapés and the chance to network with other businesses and the BID team.

To book your place, please fax back the enclosed booking form. In order to vote at the AGM you need to have registered as a Company Member. This is free and is your right as a BID levy payer. You can sign up on the night and be eligible to vote at the meeting.

Crossrail at Paddington

The BID has now met with the Crossrail Negotiation team and either reached agreement or an understanding on many of the points raised in our petition. Further points were taken away for consideration by Crossrail and discussions continued until just before we were due to appear before the Parliamentary Select Committee hearings at the House of Commons on 21 June. Our legal counsel were satisfied with Crossrail's response and so Paddington BID formally withdrew its petition. A detailed summary of the latest position will be posted on our website during July.

What's Your Flavour?

Following two summers of successful music events in Norfolk Square, plans are now well underway for this year. The event, to take place on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 August, will be two nights of live music and dancing. Don't worry if you have two left feet, there will be professionals on hand to give you some guidance. There will also be food and drinks available in the square and special offers from local restaurants and bars throughout the two days of the event.

Visitor Map

The new visitor map for Paddington is in the final stages of design and will be circulated within the coming weeks. Following a positive response from local businesses the map will feature a broad range of special offers for use within the area as well as comprehensive business listings and additional information including photographs of the Paddington area. Over the summer 20,000 copies will be circulated within Paddington and beyond.

Bridge Opening

On 14 June over 100 people gathered to celebrate the much anticipated official opening of the Bishop's Bridge Road. Providing a direct link between Eastbourne Terrace and Harrow Road, as well as a new point of access to Sheldon Square, the opening of the bridge will have a significant effect on the accessibility of Paddington.

New Businesses in Paddington

Three new businesses arrived in Paddington this month. The Ladbrokes Casino and Sports Bar on Eastbourne Terrace will be opening on 18 July. In the mean time you can sign up for membership by taking a photo ID to the foyer of the Hilton London Paddington on Praed Street.

Over on Southwick Street, 'Tête a Tête' has opened after extensive refurbishment to the shop space bringing a Parisian feel to Paddington. The menu includes pastries, cakes and savouries as well as teas, coffee and cold drinks.

The latest addition to Praed Street is trendy 'Itto', offering quick and tasty Oriental food, with sushi speciality.

Safer Paddington

The last quarter has seen an intensive focus on safety and security issues. The dedicated Police Community Safety Team has been concentrating on the moving on and arresting of beggars and street drinkers, resulting in several of the more persistent offenders not appearing in the BID area anymore. CCTV project proposals have been developed and discussed by the BID's Security sub-group and the BID Board, which will be presented at the AGM on 6 July 2006.

New Business Notice Board for Paddington

The BID has received planning permission to install an area notice board on the Arrivals Road at Paddington Station, providing visitors to Paddington with way finding assistance; listing hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes, pubs and events. The board will be a great focal point in Paddington and make it much easier for customers to find your business and your staff and visitors to get involved in events and activities. The board will be installed over the summer.

Westminster Council's CivicWatch Spring Clean Event

Your local CivicWatch team will be holding a spring clean event at Paddington Green Police Station, 2-4 Harrow Road on 24 July between 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. This is a one-off event to demonstrate how the council and residents can work together to keep the local area clean and safe. For more information or to register to join this event please call 020 7641 1085 or email civicwatch@westminster.gov.uk.

Paddington Guided Walks

The Paddington guided walks programme is now in its second half of the year. Enclosed is a leaflet which details all the walks taking place between July and October. If you would like more copies of the leaflet or wish to attend any of the walks, free of charge, please call the BID team's office on 020 7313 1011, or email walks@paddingtonwaterside.co.uk.

IN PADDINGTON – your guide

The pocket-sized guide to Paddington, produced by the BID remains as popular as ever. There are limited copies available so if you would like some please call Jess Noble in the BID team on 020 7313 1011.

Contact the BID team

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**Your new IN PADDINGTON Guide ● CCTV for Paddington ● IN PADDINGTON visitor map
● Safer Paddington ● What's Your Flavour? ● New Businesses in Paddington ● New
Business Notice Board for Paddington ● Improving Westminster's Services to Businesses
● Business Council Networking Opportunity ● Open House London Weekend ●**

Looking for Staff? ● Contact the BID team

Your new IN PADDINGTON Guide

The second version of the IN PADDINGTON Guide is now available from the BID office. This version has been extended to include some extra information for tourists and visitors to London, as well as the listings and reviews that proved so popular last year. Over the course of the next year 30,000 copies of this will be circulated through local hotels as well as to visitors and workers in and around Paddington and beyond. For copies, please complete the attached form, call 020 7313 1011 or email jess_noble@paddingtonbid.co.uk.

CCTV for Paddington

The project to bring CCTV to the BID area is proceeding well and is on schedule to be operational by April 2007 – a full year ahead of target. Some of our businesses thought we were already up and running when they received a letter from Cllr Chalkley announcing Westminster's newest parking attendant – CCTV. However, we can assure BID levy payers that the cameras we are installing will be tasked exclusively with addressing local crime and will only target a vehicle if there is a security or public safety issue.

IN PADDINGTON Visitor Map

The new IN PADDINGTON Visitor Map includes listings of hotels, eateries, bars and pubs as well as a range of shops and services in the area plus special offers submitted by a range of local businesses. 20,000 of these maps have been distributed throughout the summer months across Paddington and further afield. They are also currently available in the seatbacks on the Heathrow Express trains. We hope these will promote Paddington to a new audience and encourage people to explore a bit further. If you would like copies of the Visitor Map, please call Jess Noble on 020 7313 1011 or email jess_noble@paddingtonbid.co.uk.

Safer Paddington

After over 18 months with the BID's Community Safety Team, PC Huw Charles has returned to the response team at Paddington Green. In his place we now have PC Alan McBean who will no doubt continue Huw's sterling work on our behalf. You can contact the CST unit when they are on patrol by calling their duty phone on 07969 651656 although you should still call 999 for emergencies.

What's Your Flavour?

On 10 and 11 August, Paddington BID hosted the third Annual What's your Flavour? event. This year more than 500 people visited Norfolk Square Gardens over the two evenings to listen to the live music, watch the professional dancers and in many cases take to the dancefloor themselves. On the Thursday night 'One for the Road', a Frank Sinatra tribute act, wowed the crowds as members of The Dance School taught some simple, or not so simple, ballroom steps. Friday night, despite the rain, the park was still full of people learning to salsa to the fantastic 'Coco Xpress' performing live Latin American music.

New Businesses in Paddington

This month has seen the arrival of See Café to Praed Street, an Oriental Café and Delicatessen serving a variety of Asian dishes including fresh salads and wraps, hot plates and homemade cakes.

Over in Sheldon Square, Paddington Waterside, a new branch of Subway has opened offering high quality, freshly made sandwiches, as well as specialist running and sports shop, Apex. In addition Yakitoria Mizu, a brand new lounge bar has opened beneath Yakitoria Japanese Restaurant.

Ladbrokes Casino are currently running a prize draw to win a Mini Cooper on 1 October. Visit their website www.ladbrokecasino.com/paddington for more information, or drop in to the Casino where you can sign up for free membership. In addition, if you visit the restaurant during September, October or November, for a two or three course lunch or dinner, quote 'Pad' and you will receive a complimentary bottle of wine.

New Business Notice Board for Paddington

The Business notice board is now in production following a successful planning application to Westminster City Council. The board will provide way-finding assistance for visitors to Paddington; listing hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes and pubs. This will make it much easier for customers to find your business and your staff. The board will be installed at the entrance to Paddington Station, during the next month.

Improving Westminster's Services to Businesses

The London Chamber of Commerce and Westminster City Council are hosting a free seminar on how the council can improve its services to businesses on Monday 16 October, 08.00am-10.30am at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 33 Queen Street, EC4R 1AP. This discussion and networking session will offer you the opportunity to voice your queries, concerns and suggestions. For more information or to book a place please contact Cathy Scott at the Chamber of Commerce on 020 7203 1892 or cscott@londonchamber.co.uk.

Business-Council Networking Opportunity

Bayswater Area Forum welcomes you to join two mini-workshops on Tuesday 14th November at Porchester Hall, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. You can have your say on planned street works, Carnival feedback, parking zones and the new Westminster small-business network. Light refreshments provided. More details at www.westminster.gov.uk/areaforums or 020 7641 3411

Open House London Weekend

On 16 and 17 September, London's biggest architectural festival took place, giving everyone the opportunity to visit over 600 buildings new and old across London – many of them normally closed to the public – completely free of charge. In conjunction with Open House London Weekend, we ran our Brunel and Fleming guided walks with attendance in excess of 500 over the two days. For more information on our walks programme please visit www.paddingtonbid.co.uk. To book your place on a walk please call 020 7313 1011.

Looking for Staff?

The local recruitment centre, Paddington First has moved to **143-145 Harrow Road, W2 1JP**. Paddington First can help you find the right people to work in your business, providing a made to measure service from assistance with job specification, screening and matching, to checks on work history - offering you all the information you need. It is a free service and takes the burden of recruiting away from you. For more information call 020 7087 8080 or drop in to the new Harrow Road office, alternatively you can visit www.paddingtonfirst.co.uk.

Contact the BID team

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**BID Christmas Event ● Congestion Charge Western Extension ● Area Notice Board ●
What's Your Flavour? Photographs ● Safer Paddington ● Parking Issues ● New
Businesses in Paddington ● Crossrail ● Hotel Occupancy Research ● IN Paddington
Guide ● Contact the BID Team**

Paddington BID Christmas Event

Please find attached a flyer for the BID Christmas event on 6 December; a seasonal celebration with music, mulled wine and mince pies in Norfolk Square Gardens. Come and sing along with The Treblemakers, performing carols in the candle light alongside the Paddington Christmas tree. You can also join one of our free guided walks at 1.00 p.m., 3.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. and travel through the ages to experience Christmas in Paddington from the time of William Whiteley, through the Blitz and back to the present. To register your place on one of the walks or for more flyers please call 020 7313 1011 or email info@paddingtonbid.co.uk.

Alongside the event, the BID is running a Charity Christmas Challenge inviting you to buy an extra present this Christmas to be distributed by a local charity to children, homeless women and families and older people. To take part you will need a special tag and a leaflet with all the details of what to do. Both of these will be available at the event. For copies of the leaflet or a bundle of special tags for your business please call Jess Noble on 020 7313 1011.

Congestion Charge Western Extension

For your copy of the booklet produced by Transport for London detailing arrangements for the Congestion Charge extension which becomes operational on 19 February 2007 call the BID team on 020 7313 1011. We hope you will find this a useful resource. If you have any further questions after reading the booklet you can call the TfL helpline on 0845 900 1234. You can also call this number to get hold of the booklet in an alternative language.

Area Notice Board

The first area notice board was installed in October on the Arrivals Road to Paddington Station, providing visitors to Paddington with way finding assistance; listing hotels, shops, restaurants, cafes, pubs and other local businesses. Listings will be updated several times a year to make sure new businesses in the area are included. The BID now hopes to extend the scheme to include a further board elsewhere in the BID area.

What's Your Flavour? Photographs

You can now view photographs from the BID summer What's Your Flavour? event on our website www.paddingtonbid.co.uk. Click on 'News and Events' and then 'Events' and you will see a link to the photographs.

Safer Paddington

PCSO Chris Walsh left the Community Safety Team in October and was immediately replaced with PCSO Andy Richardson. The CST can be contacted on the **BID Duty Phone – 07969 651656** - and the officers also carry individual mobiles which divert to the Duty Phone when they are off duty.

Parking Issues

The BID attended the Westminster City Council Parking Services consultation meeting earlier this month. In general, the area has substantially benefited from the ongoing good relationship we have with the WCC parking team and the last year has seen several new parking bays appear, some inappropriate restrictions removed and others relocated to better effect. However, there were still some issues for us to raise at the meeting and a number of points have been taken up by WCC for consideration.

It is likely that Praed Street will gain additional pay and display parking bays before Christmas in compensation for losing a 43m stretch of single yellow line opposite the bus stop near the Post Office. It is proposed that this changes to a double yellow line to prevent the continual obstructions to the passage of the 60 buses an hour that use that narrow stretch of the street.

New Businesses in Paddington

Several new businesses have opened in Paddington recently.

- Villa Rosa, a New Italian Restaurant, opened on Craven Road offering traditional Mediterranean cuisine. For more information or to book a table please call 020 7402 2995.
- On Norfolk Place, Gina's a new café, opened just a few weeks ago offering sandwiches and cakes, baked potatoes, tea and coffee and cold drinks.
- Thai River Restaurant has opened on Chilworth Street. Call 020 7402 7519 for table reservations, takeaway and home delivery.
- Over in Sheldon Square, Chinese restaurant Pearl Liang opened earlier this month. To book a table please call 020 7289 7000.
- At 39 Praed Street the Pitman Training Centre is now under new management offering training courses in office and computer skills as well as administration and book-keeping. For more information please visit www.holborntesting.co.uk or call 020 7402 9646.

Crossrail

Crossrail have this month issued Amendment of Provisions 3 and Environmental Statement 3. Of particular interest to Paddington are new proposals to lower the road height of Eastbourne Terrace and Chilworth Street, bringing them down to the concourse level of Paddington Station. Access to the office blocks on the western side of the street would be by stairs or lifts contained in podiums outside each building. They also propose that the previously temporary move of taxis to the area of the Red Star deck at the rear of Paddington Station, should be a permanent one.

BID staff are discussing the proposals with key affected businesses and partner organisations to determine what stance to take. For more detailed information please visit www.crossrail.co.uk.

Hotel Occupancy Research

Many thanks to all the local hotels that recently provided information to us on room numbers and capacity. As a result we can now confirm that the BID area contains 90 hotels with more than 4,200 rooms and over 8,700 bed spaces. This information will be used in promotional material as well as funding applications and lobbying.

IN PADDINGTON Guide

If you would like additional copies of the new IN PADDINGTON guide please call 020 7313 1011 or email info@paddingtonbid.co.uk and we will arrange for a delivery to you. The Guide includes information for tourists and visitors to London, as well as listings and reviews of local shops, cafes, restaurants and pubs. Over the course of the next year 30,000 copies of this will be circulated through local hotels as well as to visitors and workers in and around Paddington and beyond.

Contact the BID team

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