

BRIEFING NOTE

TO: Cabinet
FROM: Head of Resources (and Section 151 Officer)
Date: 14th February 2019
TITLE: **Budget Consultation – Business Community**

As you will be aware, all councils are required to undertake a statutory consultation with the business community in respect of their budget. It is usual practice for the results to be announced by the executive Member for Strategic Resources (Cllr Jonathan Gray) at the Cabinet meeting where the “Final Budget” is reported.

Background on Consultation

Following discussions with Cllr Gray, it was agreed that the consultation would include an introductory letter from the Council and include as an attachment the Draft Budget 2019/20 and Medium Financial Term Strategy 2020/21 to 2023/24 Report that was considered at Cabinet on 17th January 2019 for consideration and comment on by businesses.

The letter and its attachment were circulated to over 500 local businesses by e-mail for consideration and comment.

The Results

To date, there have been no responses from businesses on the content of the “Draft Budget Report”. This mirrors the results from last year and is reflective of a steady decline in responses over previous years.

Conclusions

Huntingdonshire District Council has met its obligation to consult.