

## **BUDGET STRATEGY - CONSULTATION WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The council is required to consult with the business community regarding the forthcoming Council Tax for 2006/07.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 Members considered the priorities of the Council at the Away Day on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2005. The Business Community have been supplied with the key items to be discussed and have been requested to advise this Committee on how they view the priorities.

### **3 CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 The documents issued to Members in relation to the Away Day listed the items to be considered as priorities of the Council. In order to focus the discussion the Business Community have been requested to identify the top ten items which they would support.
- 3.2 In addition, they have been requested to identify a maximum of five items or issues that they view as a priority which are not part of the Away Day report.

### **4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Council must decide on its priorities which can be included within the Budget Strategy. This Strategy is dependant on the level of Government Support and the permissible level of Council Tax.

### **5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 In considering priorities the Council has to be guided by its statutory requirements.

### **6 PARISH IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The services of the Council cover all Parishes.

**7 RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) To consider the views of the Business community.
- (2) To include those views in the report to Council when the priorities and budgets for the Council are determined.

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**Background Papers:-**

None

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