TO: RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 8TH OCTOBER 2002

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

FROM: POLICY SERVICES

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1. **PURPOSE OF ITEM**

1.1 To invite the Business Ratepayers to outline any concerns they may have and that they wish the Council to build into the Council tax setting process for 2003/4

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Each year the Committee invites representatives of the Business Community to attend two meetings. At this time of the year, when the budget for the following year is in a formative state, they have the opportunity to input any issues that they feel warrant attention in the process. Copies of the Financial Strategy have been sent to the representatives and they will also have sight of the capital programme report that is on the agenda of the executive for October.
- 2.2 A second opportunity will be offered at our January meeting when the proposals for next year are nearer completion.

3. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

3.1 This is part of the budget process.

4. OUTCOME REQUIRED

4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to bear in mind these consultation comments and bring them to the attention of the Council during the Budget setting process.

Lyn Edwards Corporate Finance Manager

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Council's Financial Strategy

Areas in District Affected: Nil.

For further information about this report please contact:

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