

## Budget Consultation - National Non-Domestic Ratepayers

### Background

Under Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 Swindon Council has a duty to consult with representatives of Non-Domestic Ratepayers about its proposals for expenditure. ("Non-Domestic Ratepayers" include not only industrial and commercial undertakings, but also certain educational and/or health care institutions and non-profit making organisations.)

The Public Notice was placed in the Swindon Evening Advertiser on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 seeking comments from the public. A notice and information was also available on the Council website from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015. A meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00 a.m. at the Civic Offices to which 166 representative from 122 businesses were invited. A link to publically available agenda papers that included the Budget Management 2014/15 and Budget 2015/16 report submitted to Cabinet on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014 was included in the invitation.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015 are attached as an annex to this Appendix. Apologies were received from Councillor Peter Watts, Jean Wilson (Innovate UK), Matt Moore (Science Museum), Caroline McBeth (Hochtief), Paul Jenkins (Thamesdown Transport), Les Durrant (Development Planning Design Services Consulting), Richard Lay (Lay Holdings Group), Craig Shuttleworth (Debenhams), Elizabeth Rhodes (English Heritage). Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, Mr Martin Draper (Zurich Insurance) who sought to attend was unable to do so. No further comments were received.