

**Report to:** EXECUTIVE CABINET

**Date:** 13 February 2019

**Executive Member Reporting Officer:** / Councillor Brenda Warrington – Executive Leader  
Sandra Stewart - Director of Governance and Pensions  
Sarah Dobson – Assistant Director, Policy & Communications.

**Subject:** BUDGET CONVERSATION 2019-20

**Report Summary:** It is important that Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission (Council and CCG) understand the priorities of the public – local residents, businesses, patients and service users. A public engagement exercise was launched between 5 December 2018 and 29 January 2019 to understand their priorities for spending within the context of the financial challenges facing public services. This engagement took the form of a conversation with the public on providing sustainable public services for the future, and encouraging residents to see themselves as citizens, not just consumers of services. The public were encouraged to leave comments and feedback through the Big Conversation including ideas and suggestions for saving money and improving services.

The conversation has also been undertaken via attendance at existing meetings/forums supported by an extensive communications campaign. This report provides the findings of the Budget Conversation exercise for 2019-20.

**Recommendations:** It is recommended that Executive Cabinet note the content of the report and take the findings from the conversation into consideration when setting the Council's budget at the Full Council meeting on 26 February 2019.

**Links to Corporate Plan:** An effective conversation with the public informs the budget setting process and ensures the budget aligns with the priorities of local people and the organisation's Corporate Plan.

**Policy Implications:** The budget reflects the policy choices that the Council and CCG intends to pursue. The outputs from the conversation with the public will inform the budget setting for 2019/20 and in turn that budget will have implications for future policy.

**Financial Implications:** There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All financial implications relating to the budget will be considered as part of the final budget proposals presented to Council.  
(Authorised by Section 151 Officer)

**Legal Implications:** The Council has a statutory duty to consult. Failure to consult on the proposed changes to the Council's budget could lead to challenge and negative public attitudes. This consultation has been an important step in sharing the Council's finances and the challenges that services and Borough face. It should be noted that it is the first integrated budget consultation of the Strategic Commission (Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and NHS Tameside & Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group)  
(Authorised by Borough Solicitor)

that has taken place. It is important that the Council and CCG take into account and considers that feedback when setting the budget and importantly we feedback the impact of the consultation on that decision making to ensure transparent.

**Risk Management :**

The Council and CCG have statutory duties to engage and consult with the public. Failure to engage on the spending priorities and proposed changes to the budget could lead to challenge and negative public attitude.

**Access to Information :**

The following appendices are included as part of this report:

<b>Appendix A</b>	Key Themes from Budget Conversation Survey
<b>Appendix B</b>	Budget Conversation Information Slides
<b>Appendix C</b>	Communications & Promotional Activity
<b>Appendix D</b>	Groups and Networks Budget Conversation was shared with
<b>Appendix E</b>	Dedicated Engagement & Drop In Sessions
<b>Appendix F</b>	Achieved Survey Sample

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Simon Brunet, Head of Policy, Performance and Intelligence, Governance and Pensions.



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## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the findings from the conversation on the 2019/20 budget for Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission (Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and NHS Tameside & Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group). The Strategic Commission continues to face major financial challenges with savings of £70 million required over the next five years.
- 1.2 The Budget Conversation approach supports the public (local residents, businesses, patients and service user) in understanding the tough choices and decisions required when shaping the Strategic Commission budget and also to understand the public's priorities.
- 1.3 This report outlines the results of the Budget Conversation 2019/20 and the communication / publicity conducted to promote the consultation. This was the first time an engagement exercise focussing on identifying the priorities of the public in terms of the budget has been undertaken by the Strategic Commission jointly as two organisations as opposed to the Council alone. All work to deliver the Budget Conversation has been undertaken within existing staff budgets.

## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 The key headlines from the Budget Conversation 2019/20 are:
  - Undertaken between 5 December 2018 and 29 January 2019
  - Information on the Budget Conversation was directly e-mailed to over **15,500** individual contacts
  - Information was shared directly with over **115** groups / networks.
  - Over **100** Budget Conversation social media posts reached our followers almost **90,000** times.
  - A total of **731** engagements. This is based on:
    - **501** survey responses
    - **211** contacts at dedicated engagement, drop-in sessions and other meetings
    - **17** e mails
    - **2** letters in The Reporter
  - The key themes emerging from the Budget Conversation are outlined below. These are based on the full range of feedback received during the Budget Conversation including survey responses and wider comments (e.g. feedback and drop-in sessions, e mails, social media and letters)

### **Suggested spending priorities for the Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission in 2019/20 and future years**

- Older people social care
- Education and schools
- Healthcare in general
- Children's social care
- Maintenance of roads and highways i.e. potholes
- Emergency Services: Police and Fire
- Mental Health services

- Transport infrastructure
- Littering or rubbish on the streets/Street Cleanliness
- Waste/recycling

**Ideas or suggestions for how we might deliver services more efficiently, save money or raise revenue<sup>1</sup>**

- Working practices and culture should be more efficient
- Increase fees or charges or fines
- Preventative early help investment to save money on service costs at later day,
- Encourage volunteering and community action
- Work with and support local businesses
- Utilise existing owned buildings better
- Reduce Elected Members expenses - Councillors and MPs
- Listen to the public
- Criticism of new parking charges
- Criticism of Vision Tameside project

The full list of themes emerging from the Budget Conversation survey can be found at **Appendix A**.

### **3.0 BUDGET CONVERSATION**

3.1 The Budget Conversation was launched on 5 December 2018 and ran for almost 8 weeks finishing on 29 January 2019.

3.2 The conversation was used to educate and inform the public on the Strategic Commission's budget and its financial challenges whilst also allowing feedback and ideas on how services can be improved and savings made. The conversation focussed primarily on two questions:

- What do you think should be the spending priorities for the Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission in 2019/20 and future years?
- Do you have ideas or suggestions for how we might deliver services more efficiently, save money or raise revenue?

3.3 The Budget Conversation was open to all as everyone has the right to contribute their views on what they feel our priorities should be now and in future years. The public were provided with an opportunity to leave comments and feedback through the Big Conversation – available on both the Council and CCG websites. Dedicated webpages to the Budget Conversation were created explaining all aspects of the conversation with links to the feedback form. A dedicated email account was also provided to enable public / service users / businesses to submit any comments.

3.4 Postcards were also available in Libraries and Children's Centres for those who wished to submit their comments in writing / via post.

3.4 The conversation also took place through attendance at a number of meetings / forums and was promoted extensively via existing groups / networks (further detail at 3.10 to 3.12).

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<sup>1</sup> This list excludes those who stated no comment / provided no answer to this question (19.4%) and those who made a one off comment relating to a specific topic which could not be analysed within a wider theme (8.0%)

3.5 A series of information slides were produced providing context to the Budget Conversation and the considerations the Strategic Commission must take into account to deliver a balanced budget. These covered:

- The total amount of money spent by the Strategic Commission and the savings required
- Change in funding over time – decreased significantly
- Where the Strategic Commission's money comes from: Government, Business rates, Council Tax and Income.
- How the Strategic Commission currently spends its money – examples
- The Strategic Commission's main spending areas and examples of services provided
- Examples of helping to address challenges facing the area
- Examples of new ways we have delivered services and are investing in the future

In addition to being hosted on the dedicated webpages these slides were also presented at the meetings / forums where Budget Conversation was discussed. A copy of the information slides are attached at **Appendix B**.

3.6 The conversation with Glossop residents related only to health services commissioned by Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission. Engagement material was tailored accordingly.

#### **Communications / Promotion**

3.7 To support the engagement activity, a full programme of communications was undertaken. This included a full suite of infographics used to help explain the Strategic Commission's budget and spend. These were used on social media, the web pages and other publicity material.

3.8 Posters were also produced to promote the Budget Conversation. Copies were sent to Libraries, Children's Centres, GP Practices and Civic Buildings across the locality. Posters were also available on request. In addition bookmarks and postcards (as referred to at 3.4) were also available at Libraries and Children's Centres. A copy of the suite of materials used to promote the Budget Conversation is attached at **Appendix C**.

3.9 The following channels were used to communicate to the public and wider stakeholders (including staff) that the engagement was taking place:

- Press release
- Tameside Council and Tameside & Glossop CCG websites
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Leader's blog
- Leader's weekly column (Tameside Reporter & Manchester Weekly News)
- Staff Portals
- E-mail signature
- Chief Executive's Brief
- Wire
- Public sector partners' newsletters, emails, websites etc.
- Partnership Engagement Network

#### **Engagement**

3.10 In addition to promotion through written communications the Budget Conversation was also promoted in a number of other ways. These include via:

- Partnership Engagement Network - a network of almost **300** contacts public, patients, stakeholders, partners and voluntary and community sector.
- Big Conversation - over **130** members of the public who have signed up to receive regular updates on consultations and engagement opportunities across Tameside and Glossop.
- Purple Wi-Fi - a list of over **15,000** members of the public who have accessed the free Wi-Fi service across Tameside and agreed to receive marketing emails. This was sent on three occasions, once in December and twice in January.
- Discussed at all Patient Neighbourhood Groups across Tameside & Glossop taking place during the Budget Conversation engagement period (**26** engagements).
- Information was also provided at all of the Tameside Strategic Neighbourhood Forums (**23** engagements).

3.11 The Budget Conversation was also promoted via existing groups / networks. Information was sent directly to **over 115** groups / networks. These are set out in **Appendix D**. This list is not exhaustive. Service areas / commissioning teams across the Strategic Commission were also encouraged to share details widely across Tameside & Glossop.

3.12 During the budget conversation we have endeavoured to engage with people from all equality groups. Engagement has been undertaken across all age groups – including young, working age and older. **5** dedicated engagement sessions and **6** drop-in sessions were also undertaken as outlined in **Appendix E**. The drop-in sessions were held at Action Together, The Grafton Centre, The Carers Group and The Together Centre at Loxley House which enabled engagement with a variety of different community groups / service users who use those facilities. The key themes arising from these sessions are outlined within Section 4.0 of this report.

## **4.0 BUDGET CONVERSATION ANALYSIS**

4.1 Analysis of the Budget Conversation and key themes emerging from this are outlined in section 4.0. These are based on feedback taken from:

- **501** survey responses
- **17** e mails
- Feedback from **5** dedicated engagement and **6** drop-in sessions
- **2** letters in The Reporter
- Social media comments

### **Survey**

4.2 A total of **501** people completed the Budget Conversation survey.

4.3 **Appendix F** outlines the achieved sample compared to the Tameside & Glossop population.

4.4 Table 1 details the achieved sample from the survey by postcode sector compared to the Tameside & Glossop population. The achieved sample figures are based on the **90.0%** of respondents who provided a valid Tameside & Glossop postcode sector in response to Question 2: Please select the first part of your postcode from the options below.

**Table 1: Achieved Sample by Postcode Sector**

Postcode Sector	Tameside & Glossop Households <sup>2</sup> (%)	Achieved sample (%)
M34 – Denton / Audenshaw	18.5	10.4
M43 – Droylsden	9.0	6.0
OL5 – Mossley	4.6	5.1
OL6 – Ashton (Hurst / St. Michaels)	11.6	18.2
OL7 – Ashton (Waterloo / St. Peters)	6.6	9.1
SK14 – Hyde	18.2	22.0
SK15 – Stalybridge	10.9	15.1
SK16 - Dukinfield	7.7	10.0
SK13 - Glossop	12.7	4.2

- 4.5 The tables above detail the achieved sample from the survey, against the Tameside & Glossop population. Respondents who did not specify a particular characteristic have been removed from these figures. This has not impacted on considering their views just reporting their demographic profile.
- 4.6 Weighting the data to account for over and under-sampling of particular sections of the population is not necessary, given that the budget conversation was available via the Big Conversation web pages on both the Council and CCG websites. It was open to all residents / members of the public and was not a fixed/controlled sample. No personal data was collected as part of the consultation process.
- 4.7 A total of **501** respondents also stated their interest in the consultation (Question 1). **428** of respondents (**85.4%**) were a resident of the area. Responses are detailed in table 2.

**Table 2: Respondent's interest in consultation**

Interest in Issue	%
I am a resident of the area	85.4
I work in the area	4.8
I spend my free time in the area	0.2
I have family in the area	0.4
I am an employee of either Tameside Council, Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning group, or another public sector organisation based in the area	5.2
I am a representative or member of a charity or voluntary group based in the area	1.6
Other	2.4

- 4.8 The Budget Conversation asked two key questions:
- What do you think should be the spending priorities for the Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission in 2019/20 and future years?
  - Do you have ideas or suggestions for how we might deliver services more efficiently, save money or raise revenue?
- 4.9 The key themes arising from each of the key questions are outlined in Tables 3 and 4 below. A full table of the themes identified are available at Appendix F.

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<sup>2</sup> Figures are based on the number of households in each postcode sector area.

**Table 3: What do you think should be the spending priorities for the Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission in 2019/20 and future years?**

Theme	No.	%
Older people social care	114	22.8%
Education and schools	98	19.6%
Healthcare in general	89	17.8%
Children's social care	76	15.2%
Maintenance of roads and highways i.e. potholes	64	12.8%
Emergency Services: Police and Fire	55	11.0%
Mental Health services	52	10.4%
Transport infrastructure, i.e. traffic management, roundabouts, cycle lanes	37	7.4%
Community safety	31	6.2%
Waste/Recycling	30	6.0%

**Table 4: Do you have ideas or suggestions for how we might deliver services more efficiently, save money or raise revenue?<sup>3</sup>**

Theme	No.	%
Working practices and culture should be more efficient	85	17.0%
Increase fees or charges or fines	42	8.4%
Preventative early help investment to save money on service costs at later day	36	7.2%
Encourage volunteering and community action	34	6.8%
Work with or support local businesses	31	6.2%
Utilise existing council owned buildings better	29	5.8%
Reduce elected members expenses- Councillors and MPs	28	5.6%
Listen to and engage with the public more	27	5.4%

4.10 Cross tabulation of results by demographic group has not been undertaken due to small numbers by individual category, making meaningful analysis not possible.

#### **Engagement & Drop In Sessions**

4.11 As detailed at 3.12, 5 dedicated engagement sessions were also undertaken as part of the Budget Conversation. The key themes arising from these sessions are outlined in Table 5 below.

<sup>3</sup> This list excludes those who stated no comment / provided no answer to this question (19.4%) and those who made a one off comment relating to a specific topic which could not be analysed within a wider theme (8.0%)

**Table 5: Key Themes from Engagement Sessions**

Group / Organisation	No. Attending	Key Themes
Youth Council	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childhood obesity/health – invest in facilities for young people that are accessible and reasonably priced.</li> <li>• Youth support &amp; leisure activities offer should see more investment</li> <li>• Provision of work experience opportunities for young people with local businesses</li> <li>• Mental health support needs investment, particularly for young people.</li> <li>• Homelessness support – rough sleeping is increasing.</li> </ul>
Tameside College	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boost / regenerate / tidy town centres to increase footfall and support businesses</li> <li>• Improve the parking offer in town centres</li> <li>• Criminal behaviour / anti-social behaviour in town centres needs to be tackled. Deal with crime at the root cause.</li> <li>• Waste services – keep areas tidy to make the area more attractive and to help local businesses.</li> <li>• Invest in urban regeneration</li> </ul>
Age UK Social Club	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital stays: more needs to be done to prevent unnecessary stays in hospital, for example more care in place to support people to live independently at home.</li> <li>• More resources in the caring profession to allow carers to do their job properly.</li> <li>• Offer of health / care support for older people must reflect the growing population</li> <li>• More dementia care</li> <li>• More resources in GP services</li> <li>• Invest more money in roads to spend less on fixing them</li> <li>• Promote cultural events</li> </ul>
People First Tameside	16	<p>It is important that the Strategic Commission continue to spend money on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste services</li> <li>• Adult services</li> <li>• Learning disability services</li> <li>• Highways</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Parks</li> <li>• Facilities</li> <li>• Children's services</li> </ul> <p>Continue to spend money on schemes such as Shared Lives and Routes to Work</p>
Ashton Sixth Form	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health services</li> <li>• Invest in youth spaces to deter anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• Tackle congestion</li> <li>• Focus on unemployment, boost skills in the area to incentivise work</li> <li>• Public transport is too expensive for young people</li> <li>• Provision of real life skills for young people</li> <li>• Consistent GP services across the borough – access to GP appointments</li> <li>• Save money through making libraries digital</li> <li>• Invest in sports facilities</li> </ul>

In addition, 6 drop in sessions were also held in partnership with a number of local groups. The drop in sessions were also publicised by the hosting organisation to maximise participation amongst their members / target audience. The attendance at the drop in sessions is detailed in Table 6.

**Table 6: Attendance at Drop in Sessions**

Group / Organisation	No. Attending
The Grafton Centre	30
The Together Centre x2	43
Action Together x2	3
Tameside Carers Group	17

The engagement sessions and drop in sessions resulted in 162 engagements.

#### Other Feedback Methods

- 4.12 In addition to feedback received through the direct survey and via engagement / drop in sessions, there were other methods by which comments were received. These include social media, e mails (17), and letters to the Tameside Reporter (2).
- 4.13 In total 103 posts promoting the Budget Conversation were made across Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission social media channels (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram) during the engagement period. Information detailing the reach of these posts is outlined in Table 7.

**Table 7: Social Media – Number of Posts and Reach**

Social Media Platform	No. of posts	No. of comments received	Number reached
Twitter: TMBC	38	N/A	34,891
Twitter: CCG	31	N/A	11,318
Facebook: TMBC	21	79	42,866
Facebook: CCG	13	0	760
Instagram: TMBC	1 post plus link to webpage in bio.	0	475

- 4.14 It is important that this feedback is also collated and fed into the engagement process. Table 8 below details the key themes taken from social media, direct e mails and letters appearing in The Reporter across the Budget Conversation engagement period.

**Table 8: Key Themes from Other Feedback Methods**

Theme
Council Does Not Listen
Cut Number / Pay of Councillors or Senior Managers
Bins and Flytipping
Council Wastes Money
Against New Parking Charges
Traffic Infrastructure and Road Maintenance
Against Vision Tameside
Support Budget Consultation

## 5.0 THEMES FROM WIDER CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission regularly engage and consult with the public, patients, stakeholders, partners and the voluntary & community sector to understand their views on various issues.

5.2 Key engagement headlines for Tameside & Glossop Strategic Commission from 2018 include:

- Facilitated over **30** thematic Tameside and/or Glossop engagement projects
- Received over **5,000** engagement contacts (excluding attendance at events / drop-ins)
- Delivered four Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) conferences attended by nearly **300** delegates
- Supported **19** engagement projects at the Greater Manchester level
- Promoted **31** national consultations where the topic was of relevance to and/or could have an impact on Tameside and/or Glossop

5.3 Responses to all thematic engagement and consultation activity is thoroughly analysed and the outputs used to inform the specific project related to that piece of work. Clearly common themes occur across the different thematic engagement activity. Similarly the strategic engagement work through the Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) provides an insight into views and opinions outside of the topic specific thematic work. These cross-cutting themes help to provide a direction of travel and under-pinning understanding of needs and aspirations.

5.4 Below is a summary of the key cross-cutting themes identified in 2018.

- Support for young people including learning opportunities and apprenticeships
- Availability of public transport giving access to services (routes and evenings/weekends)
- Transport costs, including the cost of public transport
- Parking at or close to service points – accessible and affordable
- Raising standards and quality of services
- Development of digital services but don't forget older people and those with learning disabilities
- Availability of appointments for key services, and waiting times
- Service providers and professional listening to patients and service users
- Knowledge of what services are available and how to access them
- Impact of service changes on low income households, those with long term conditions and families
- Help with financial management and other issues for those at greatest risk
- Focus on long term support at the lower level to prevent need for intensive interventions
- More help, support and opportunities for children, young people and families
- Concerns about ageing population – more support for older people to reduce need for care
- Person-centred care: focus on the individual and their needs
- 'Tell it once' approach for patients and service users
- Need more mental health services
- Public/private/third sector need to work together
- Better signposting from services to other services

## 6.0 PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT NETWORK

6.1 The Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) delivers a strategic approach to engagement and consultation across Tameside and Glossop. There have now been four Tameside and Glossop Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) conferences. Feedback from the conferences is positive with 9 out of 10 delegates rating them as very good or good overall, and 8 out of 10 delegates saying they were given enough opportunity to express their opinions.

6.2 The table below summarises the topics discussed at each of the conferences. Key feedback points from the workshops have been incorporated into the key-cross cutting themes at 5.4. Full feedback reports are available for all four events and are posted on the Partnership Engagement Network (PEN) pages of the website

Conference	Presentations	Workshops
October 2017  (Over 60 delegates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership Engagement Network Approach</li> <li>Shared Priorities &amp; Objectives</li> <li>Care Together</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated Neighbourhoods</li> <li>Intermediate Care proposals</li> <li>Patient voice in care and support planning</li> <li>Mental Health</li> <li>Preventing Homelessness Strategy</li> <li>Air quality</li> </ul>
February 2018  (Over 50 delegates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patient Choice</li> <li>Active Ageing</li> <li>Partnership Engagement Network Update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patient Choice</li> <li>Active Ageing Strategy</li> <li>One Equality Scheme</li> <li>Preventing hateful extremism and promoting social cohesion</li> <li>Development of a new 'Compact'</li> <li>Public Behaviour Change (Self Care Alliance)</li> </ul>
June 2018  (Over 80 delegates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Access to Primary Care</li> <li>Partnership Engagement Network Update</li> <li>What Matters to You</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working Together to Tackle and Prevent Homelessness</li> <li>Identifying &amp; Supporting Ex-Service Personnel in the Armed Forces Covenant</li> <li>Increasing Digital Skills and Employment</li> <li>Prescribing of Over the Counter Medicine</li> <li>Planning at End of Life</li> <li>Improving Access to Primary Care</li> </ul>
October 2018  (Over 70 delegates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frailty</li> <li>PEN update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frailty</li> <li>Community Safety</li> <li>Patient Centred Diagnosis Discussions in Long Term Conditions</li> <li>Collaborative Practice in Primary Care</li> <li>Tameside's Big Food Debate</li> <li>Children's Emotional Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> </ul>

## 7.0 STATUTORY RATE PAYERS CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Council has a statutory duty to consult with businesses and other representatives of non-domestic ratepayers on its annual spending proposals for 2019/20. Our proposed plans for carrying out this consultation are detailed below.
- 7.2 Businesses along with the public have already had the opportunity to partake in the budget conversation exercise as detailed in this report.
- 7.3 Table 8 details the proposed timetable for activity. We propose to send out an email pre-warning organisations of the impending consultation one week prior to commencement.

**Table 8: Proposed Timetable for Rate Payers Consultation of the 2019/20 Budget**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Date</b>
Send email to the following pre-notifying them about the statutory budget consultation commencing on the 6 February 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business rate payers database of email addresses provided by Exchequer</li> <li>• Business representative organisations</li> <li>• Live, Work and Invest members</li> <li>• Town team chairs for onward distribution</li> </ul>	30 January 2019
Send 2 <sup>nd</sup> email to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business rate payers database of email addresses provided by Exchequer</li> <li>• Business representative organisations</li> <li>• Live, Work and Invest members</li> <li>• Town team chairs for onward distribution</li> </ul> Informing them that the consultation is open.  The consultation will be held on Survey Monkey and a direct link to the survey will be included in the emails to businesses etc.	6 February 2019
Advertise the consultation on the Live, Work, Invest webpage <a href="http://www.liveworkinvest.com/">http://www.liveworkinvest.com/</a>	6 February 2019
Draft budget report to Executive Cabinet	13 February 2019
Deadline for responses to the consultation	12:00 noon 18 February 2019 (length of consultation period due to timings of Executive Cabinet and Full Council)
Feedback report on the findings from the consultation (to be written and incorporated into the final report for Full Council)	18 February 2019
Final budget to Full Council for approval	26 February 2019

- 7.4 The question for the 2019/20 budget is:  
 Tameside's business community is being invited to have its say on the council's draft budget proposals for the next financial year (2019/20). We are seeking your views on how we intend to use our resources. The budget includes the Council's saving proposals 2019/20 and these are set out in the budget report which is available to view at the following link.

## **8.0 NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 The findings from the budget conversation exercise will be used, in conjunction with other considerations, to inform the Council's budget setting process. The council's budget will be set at Full Council on the 26 February 2019.
- 8.2 Feedback on the results will also be provided to the public, staff, partners and engaged groups and a summary infographic report produced and shared on Tameside Council's and NHS Tameside & Glossop CCG's websites.

## **9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 As set out on the front of the report.