



Subject:	Review of Business Rates
Date:	23rd August, 2019
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic services Officer.

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a request from the Director of Rating Policy to provide a briefing to Members on the review of Business Rates.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is recommended to hold a briefing session, to which all of the Members of the Council will be invited, for this purpose on Friday, 27th September at 9.30 a.m.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Correspondence has been received from Mr Alan Bronte, Director of Rating Policy, offering to brief Members on the review of Business Rates.

3.2	The Department of Finance is undertaking the review and a formal consultation will take place in early autumn with a view to providing a policy option to an incoming Minister.
3.3	As part of the review process and in advance of any proposed Council response to the public consultation, Mr. Bronte would like to meet with Members to hold informal discussions and to listen to views on the current rating system and options for improvement.
3.4	It suggested that this takes the form of a briefing session, to which all Members of the Council will be invited, to take place on Friday, 27th September at 9.30 am.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.5	None associated with this report.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.6	None associated with this report.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.