



**Report to Economic & Environmental
Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development
Committee
18th April 2013**

Report of: Policy Officer (Scrutiny)

Subject: Discussion with Business Representatives – Access to Finance.

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Background:

The Committee has timetabled twice yearly discussions with representatives from Sheffield businesses. Following the September meeting with business, access to finance has been identified as the theme for April's discussion. This is because:

- It's a timely issue that has been identified as a consistent barrier to the business growth
- It's a pertinent issue – as part of the Council's 'Business Friendly' agenda
- A scrutiny discussion can add value – as this is an area the Council can influence.

At the March meeting of the Committee, Officers from Creative Sheffield attended to give Members a pre-briefing on Access to Finance – their presentation is attached for information.

Format of the Meeting:

Representatives from Sheffield's Business Community have been invited to share their experiences of accessing finance. There will be the opportunity for Q&A and discussion.

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

Note the pre-briefing and use to inform discussion with business representatives on Access to Finance.

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