



## Press release: Councils not impressed by the Budget

**78% of Councils thought the Budget was “bad” for local government, according to a survey carried out by Localis, the local government and localist think-tank.**

Localis carried out a survey of 50 Local Authority Leaders, Directors and Chief Executives from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009 to find out opinions and responses from leading figures of local government to the Budget 2009.

The respondents were made up of 65% District Councils, 12% Metropolitan Borough, 8% Unitary, 6% County and 8% other. The respondents reflect Councils from across England and Wales and have a balance of political control.

### The findings included:

- 78% of respondents thought that the Budget was bad for local government
- 80% thought that the Budget should have recognised a Greater role for Councils in dealing with the recession
- Only 35% of respondents were positive about statutory city regions
- 60% of District Councils believe that efficiency savings were not possible compared to only 12% for all other types of Council
- The departments most likely to be affected by calls for efficiency savings are: Back Office, Leisure Services, Environmental Services and Community Services

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**For more information about this survey, or to interview the author, please contact Mike Morgan-Giles on 0207 340 2660 or email [mike@localis.org.uk](mailto:mike@localis.org.uk)**

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