

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 23 JULY 2020

**Question to Mark Winnington
Cabinet Member for Economic Growth**

By Syed Hussain

Question

How many BAME enterprises have been awarded monies from the £500K business grant scheme and have received additional support within the Staffordshire county area?

Reply

The County Council does treat all business equally that request our support. However, we can't provide any data on ethnicity of businesses for the County Council's Emergency Business Grant nor the wider support provided through the Growth Hub, as this is data we do not collect from a business when they request support. It is also data that is not required by government when using their funding to support businesses.

We do know the locations of businesses and can make an assumption that some them will be from BAME groups given the diversity of Staffordshire's communities, but this is not formal confirmation of them being BAME enterprises.

We are completely supportive of all our communities, including BAME, and I am grateful Mr Hussain posed this question. Considering this, we will review our processes to reaffirm equal access to opportunity and indeed if improvements can be made.