

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER EMERGENCY POWERS**

<b>Decision No:</b>	<b>D200017EM</b>
<b>Decision Taken By:</b>	Leader of the Borough Council
<b>Authority under which Decision Taken:</b>	Emergency provisions for decision making during a period of serious and unexpected disruption under Part 7 of the Constitution.
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Executive Key Decision
<b>Date:</b>	30 December 2020

**Decision(s) and Reason(s)**

**LOCAL RESTRICTIONS SUPPORT GRANT - CHRISTMAS SUPPORT PAYMENT – WET LED PUBS**

On 1 December 2020 the government announced additional support for wet-led pubs in Local Covid Alert Tiers 2 and 3 during the Christmas period of 2 December to 29 December.

When the second national lockdown ended on 2 December the Tonbridge and Malling area was placed into Tier 3 restrictions. From 20 December the government created a new, more restrictive, Tier 4 which Tonbridge and Malling fell into. However, this grant support still applied. Any pub in the Borough which was mainly 'wet-led' was eligible for the one-off amount of £1,000. Applications had to be made to receive the funding and the applicant needed to demonstrate that it derived less than 50% of its income from sales of food.

There was no absolute definition of a pub for this purpose. However, the government stated that it expected eligible pubs to be open to the general public; allow free entry (generally); and allow drinking without being required to purchase food. It excluded a number of specific entities including restaurants, cafes, hotels, snack-bars and sporting venues.

Funding of £57,600 has so far been received from Government.

In order to award the grants as required, it was necessary to adopt a policy. A draft scheme for approval was attached at Annex 1.

An application process would be made available to eligible businesses via the Council's website. Applications had to be made by 31 January 2021.

Applications would be reviewed by the Revenue & Benefits team and the Director of Finance & Transformation who would arrange payment of the grant awards.

**RESOLVED:** That:

The Tonbridge and Malling Borough 'Christmas Support Payment for wet-led Pubs' Scheme (as set out at Annex 1) be approved.

Taken in accordance with the Emergency Provisions set out at Part 7 Paragraph 1.3 of the Constitution and in agreement with the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Signed Leader: N Heslop

Signed Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee: J Sergison

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 30 December 2020

This decision is urgent and therefore not subject to call-in (in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rule 15 (i) as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution) and may be implemented immediately.