

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER EMERGENCY POWERS**

<b>Decision No:</b>	<b>D2100003EM</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>	6 April 2021

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

**Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Restart Grant and Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Schemes (April) 2021**

A new set of business grants to support recovery from the coronavirus pandemic was announced by the Chancellor in March 2021.

The first was a (mandatory) one-off 'Restart Grant' and the Borough Council had been allocated a sum of £5.154m for passing on to eligible businesses, including those that

- were liable for business rates and on the rating list as at 1 April 2021;
- were trading as at 1 April 2021; and
- fell within either Strand One (non-essential retail businesses) or Strand Two (hospitality, accommodation, leisure, personal care and gym businesses)

Details of the Scheme were set out in Annex 1.

The second funding allocation was a top up to the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) for which the Borough Council was provisionally awarded £1.057m. This latest funding was to be used for awards during the 'restart' period.

The Tonbridge & Malling Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Scheme April 2021 onwards (Restart) was attached at Annex 2 and was aimed at businesses that were in priority sectors but not covered by the mandatory Restart scheme. As with the mandatory scheme, businesses needed to be trading on 1 April 2021 and would need to meet other eligibility criteria set out in the scheme.

A new round of applications would be launched once the Policies (set out in Annexes 1 and 2) were adopted and the funding received from Government. An application process would be made available via the Council's website and applications

administered by the Revenue and Benefits team. The Economic Development team would also review applications related to the ARG Restart Scheme. The Director of Finance & Transformation would arrange payment of the grant awards.

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council RESTART Grants Scheme April 2021 (as set out at Annex 1) be approved; and
- (2) the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) Scheme April 2021 onwards (Restart) (as set out at Annex 2) 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: 6 April 2021

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.