

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

FINANCE, INNOVATION and PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD

15 September 2021

Report of the Director of Finance and Transformation

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 RURAL RATE RELIEF – RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST

A report informing Members of the requirement to review the Council's rural settlement list and recommending that the current list should be retained, unaltered, for the financial year 2022/23.

- 1.1** Members will be aware that the Council grants relief to certain types of businesses that are located in rural settlements. For the purpose of granting relief, the rural settlements within the area of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council are shown in the Council's rural settlement list. The list is in the form of a map, which shows the location and boundaries of each rural settlement. The map is shown at **ANNEX 1**.
- 1.2** At this time of year, the Council has to consider whether it wishes to amend the rural settlement list for the forthcoming financial year. If it wishes to do so, then it must consult on any changes that it proposes to make.
- 1.3** Members should be aware that I have received no suggestions for amendment of the list. I am also unaware of any problems arising from the definitions of the rural settlements in the current list.

1.4 Legal Implications

- 1.4.1** None.

1.5 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.5.1** None.

1.6 Risk Assessment

- 1.6.1** No risks identified.

1.7 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.7.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.8 Recommendations

- 1.8.1 In view of the above, Members are **REQUESTED** to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet that the current rural settlement list should remain in force for the year 2022/23.

The Director of Finance and Transformation confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and policy Framework.

Background papers:

Nil

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