

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE NON-KEY DECISION

Decision Taken By: Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration	Decision Number: D230020MEM
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Date: 8 March 2023

Decision(s) and Reason(s)
BUSINESS RATES RETENTION PILOT UPDATE - APPRENTICESHIPS
Following consideration of the options set out in the Cabinet Member briefing note (attached at Annex 1, the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration resolved that: (1) the report BE NOTED. (2) the proposals regarding the use of funding allocated towards apprenticeships as set out in this report BE AGREED.
Reasons for decision: Having been approved by both Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Kent County Council in 2021, good progress has been made on the economic initiatives in the Business Rates Retention Pilot and Pool Programme. Annexes 1 and 2 set this out in detail, but to date around three-quarters (74%) of the Business Rates Pool Programme has been spent, and just under two-thirds (61%) of the Business Rates Retention Pilot Programme has been spent. However, the main area where there hasn't been much progress to date is in supporting apprenticeship development either within the Council itself or through working with partnership organisations, training providers and businesses (programmed in for 2023/24). However, initial work has now been undertaken to come up with proposals that support the recruitment of an apprentice at the council and support students at Oaks Specialist College to undertake internships and gain pre-apprenticeship workplace experience.

Signed Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration:	V Branson
Signed Leader:	M Boughton
Signed Chief Executive:	J Beilby
Date of publication:	9 March 2023

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.