

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE NON-KEY DECISION

Decision Taken By:
Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing

Decision Number:
D230101MEM

Date: 14 November 2023

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

BUSINESS RATES RETENTION PILOT PROGRAMME - DIGITAL INCLUSION PROJECT

Following consideration of the options, detailed in the Cabinet Member Reasons Report (attached at Annex 1), the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing, **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the proposals for the delivery of a Digital Inclusion Project, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed.

Reasons for decision:

The Borough Council has been working with the Digital Kent team to look at ways of supporting digital inclusion agenda with the funding that has been allocated through the Business Rates Retention Pilot Programme. The proposed initiative will support digitally excluded residents from across Tonbridge and Malling Borough with hardware and skills development, with a key focus on residents seeking employment or at risk of financial hardship and/or becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

Whilst the main aim of the project is to support 225 local residents in gaining greater digital access to employment/training opportunities and services through the provision of hardware and skills development training, it should also be noted that this proposed project also supports the vision and priorities set out in the Digital and IT Strategy 2023-2027.

Signed Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing:	K Tanner
Signed Leader:	M Boughton
Signed Chief Executive:	J Beilby
Date of publication:	14 November 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.