

**TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF EXECUTIVE NON-KEY DECISION**

<b>Decision Taken By:</b> <b>Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste and Technical Services</b>	<b>Decision Number:</b> <b>D250061MEM</b>
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**Date: 27 May 2025**

<b>Decision(s) and Reason(s)</b>
<b>Business Rates Discretionary Relief Award</b>
<p>Application received from Paws Cat Café, Tonbridge on the basis that retail rate relief had been reduced from 75% to 40% for the 2025/26 year. The application is on the basis that it is a unique place and they have many regular customers. Business accounts show some months the business makes a small profit and other months a loss.</p> <p>Following consideration of the policy, the Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste and Technical Services RESOLVED that:</p> <p>(1) the application for the award of discretionary relief be refused.</p>
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>
<p>It was central government policy to reduce the percentage of retail rate relief for 2025/26 and not the responsibility of local government to bridge this gap. This is consistent with other decisions of a similar nature.</p>

Signed Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste and Technical Services:	<i>M Coffin</i>
Signed Leader:	<i>M Boughton</i>
Signed Chief Executive:	<i>D Roberts</i>
Date of publication:	16 June 2025

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.