

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
ACTING AS CORPORATE TRUSTEE
OF THE CHARITY KNOWN AS THE
COBTREE MANOR ESTATE**

21 MAY 2016

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

Yes

**ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE
CHARITY COMMITTEE**

Final Decision-Maker	Maidstone Borough Council acting as Corporate Trustee of the Charity Known as the Cobtree Manor Estate
Lead Head of Service	Paul Riley, Head of Finance and Resources
Lead Officer and Report Author	Debbie Snook, Democratic Services Officer
Classification	Public
Wards affected	N/A

This report makes the following recommendations to this Committee:

1. That the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee as set out below be approved:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1
UKIP	0
Labour	0

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: N/A

Timetable

Meeting	Date
Maidstone Borough Council Acting as Corporate Trustee of the Charity Known as the Cobtree Manor Estate	21 May 2016

ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE CHARITY COMMITTEE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to review the representation of the different Political Groups on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee.
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2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following the Borough Council elections on 5 May 2016, the composition of the Council has changed, and this necessitates a review of the allocation of seats on Committees, including the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee. The review must take into account the governance arrangements which came into effect at the Annual Meeting in 2015, and are detailed in the Constitution.
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3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- 3.1 To achieve political balance, the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee would be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1
UKIP	0
Labour	0

- 3.2 Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides for exceptions to the political balance requirements. Essentially, the Council can amend the political balance of a Committee provided that notice of the intention to give such consideration has been given to all Members of the Council and that when the alternative arrangements are put to the vote at the Council meeting, no Member of the Council votes against them.
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4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is proposed, following consultation with Group Leaders, that the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be politically balanced, and that the allocation of seats on the Committee be as set out in paragraph 3.1 above.
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5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 The Group Leaders have been advised of the proposed allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee.

6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Once the allocation of seats has been decided upon, there is a duty to give effect to the allocation by making appointments to them in accordance with the wishes of the Group Leaders on behalf of their respective Political Groups.

7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Impact on Corporate Priorities	N/A	Head of Finance and Resources
Risk Management	The review of the allocation of seats on the Committee will ensure an appropriate political balance in membership.	Head of Finance and Resources
Financial	The Committee forms part of the original plan for the Committee system of governance and as such there are no additional financial implications.	Head of Finance and Resources
Staffing	There are no staffing implications.	Head of Finance and Resources
Legal	The legal implications are set out in the body of the report.	Legal Team
Equality Impact Needs Assessment	There are no equality issues.	Policy & Information Manager
Environmental/Sustainable Development	There are no environmental/sustainable development implications.	Head of Service/Manager
Community Safety	There are no community safety implications.	Head of Service/Manager
Human Rights Act	There are no human rights implications.	Head of Service/Manager

Procurement	There are no procurement implications.	Head of Finance and Resources
Asset Management	There are no asset management implications.	Head of Finance and Resources

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None