

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL**

**23 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER**

Report prepared by Janet Barnes

1. **URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE**

1.1 **CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

1.1.1 The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services agreed on 11 September 2009 that the decision set out below was urgent and needed to be actioned within the call-in period. In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the Constitution, the Mayor, in consultation with the Head of Paid Service and the Chairman of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, agreed that the decision was reasonable in all the circumstances and should be treated as a matter of urgency and not be subject to call-in.

1.1.2 National Non-Domestic Rates - Discretionary, Rate Relief

To consider the current position regarding the non domestic rate relief currently awarded in respect of the occupation of the Maidstone Leisure Centre by the Maidstone Leisure Trust and the possible consequences of a change to that relief in the event of Maidstone Leisure Trust losing charitable status and to consider an application for discretionary rate relief based on the criterion that the centre is used for recreation and is occupied by a non profit distributing organisation (NPDO).

1.1.3 Decision Made

That, for the reasons set out in the Report of the Assistant Director of Customer Services and Partnerships, in the event of the removal of Friendly Society status from Maidstone Leisure Trust and its non-acceptance as a registered charity by the Charity Commission, then 94% Discretionary Rate Relief be awarded to the Trust on the basis that the centre is occupied by a Non Profit Distributing Organisation and is used for recreational purposes; the relief to stay in force whilst the Maidstone Leisure Trust occupies the centre.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the report be noted.

*Background Documents*

*Record of Decision of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services dated 11 September 2009*