

AGENDA 7 Enc iii) Leave of Absence (section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972)

Legal position

Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of that Authority within a six-month consecutive period.

"If a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of *their* last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, *they* shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority."

Report

The last meeting attended by Cllr Lawrence Henderson was 31st January 2023. The Council can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six-month period, which would be 31st July 2023.

Cllr Lawrence Henderson has written to request a leave of absence due to ill health. In receiving this request for a leave of absence, the Council is asked to consider approval of the reason for absence from the date of the meeting at which it has been received.

Proposed Motion

To agree that, in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, Cllr Lawrence Henderson's non-attendance at meetings of the Council be approved for a period of 6-months on grounds of ill-health and recovery.