

North Somerset Council

Report to the Council

Date of Meeting: 08 November 2022

Subject of Report: Dispensation regarding absence from meetings

Town or Parish: None

Officer/Member Presenting: Assistant Director, Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer

Key Decision: N/A

Reason: Not an Executive Decision.

Recommendation

(1) that the Council waives the requirements of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of Cllr Crosby due to his current health issues and agrees that he receives a dispensation from the requirements of section 85 for the remainder of the municipal year if required

1. Summary of Report

Under the provisions of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, if a councillor 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.

Due to ill health Cllr Crosby was granted a dispensation by Council at its meeting on 10 May 2022 for the period until 15 November 2022. It was anticipated that a review of the situation could then be considered at this meeting of Council. Cllr Crosby continues his recovery but is not yet in a position to attend council meetings and it is therefore recommended that the dispensation period is extended to cover the remainder of the current municipal year expiring next May. This will provide the dispensation if required but clearly does not inhibit attendance at meetings if Cllr Crosby recovers sufficiently to do so.

2. Policy

None

3. Details

3.1 Set out in section 1 above.

4. Consultation

None.

5. Financial Implications

None

6. Legal Powers and Implications

The implications of a councillor not attending for the six month period are set out in section 1 above.

7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

None.

8. Risk Management

None.

9. Equality Implications

None.

10. Corporate Implications

None

11. Options Considered

None.

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Appendices:

None

Background Papers:

None