

Agenda Item 8

Proposed Exemption Motion submitted by Councillor Boden

S.85 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 in order to avoid being disqualified. This requirement can be waived and the time limit extended if any failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the authority, in advance of the six month period expiring.

Councillor Bristow has been unable, due to ill-health, to attend a Council or Committee meeting since 18th July 2019 meaning that unless his absence is approved, he will be disqualified with effect from 18th January 2020.

Councillor Bristow has requested that his absence is approved and extended for a further six months commencing 18th January 2020 until 18th July 2020, in order to provide him with the opportunity to feel well enough from his illness and resume his duties as a Councillor as soon as he is able to do so. Authorising the absence until 18th July 2020 will not prevent Councillor Bristow from attending a meeting at an earlier date but will however provide him with the flexibility required to feel well enough before doing so.

Council is therefore asked to approve Cllr Bristow's absence on the grounds of ill health, in accordance with s85 of the Local Government Act 1972.