



**Full Council**  
02 March 2015

**Report from the Chief Operating Officer**

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Member's Absence from Council Meetings**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 The Local Government Act 1972 expressly provides that where a council member fails throughout a period of 6 consecutive months from the date of their last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority then, subject to certain exceptions, they cease to be a member of the authority unless failure was due to some reason approved by the Council before the expiry of that period.
- 1.2 Councillor Tayo Oladapo last attended a Council meeting (Scrutiny Committee) on 26 November 2014 and would cease to be a councillor on 25 May 2015 if he was unable to attend a meeting before then.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- (i) that Councillor Oladapo's absence from meetings of the Council since 27 November 2014 be approved on the basis of his ill-health and that the position be reviewed, if required, at the first Ordinary Meeting of Full Council for the 2015/16 Municipal Year;
- (iii) that the Council's wishes for a speedy return to good health be passed on to Councillor Oladapo.

**3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 Councillor Oladapo is currently suffering ill-health such that he has been unable to attend meetings since 26 November 2014 and if he were not to attend another meeting before 25 May 2015 the legislation provides that his seat be declared vacant forthwith and he would cease to be a councillor.
- 3.2 At a Council meeting on 13 June 2001, it was agreed that the decision to then approve the absence of a councillor due to ill health should set a precedent in such circumstances.

#### **4. Legal implications**

##### **4.1 Section 85 Local Government Act 1972 provides**

*if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he 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.*

#### **Background Papers**

Local Government Act 1972  
Council minutes 13 June 2001

#### **Contact Officer**

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