

Report of City Solicitor
Report to Council
Date: 26 February 2014
Subject: Attendance at Meetings

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

- 1 To seek authorisation of the Council to the absence of Councillor Charlwood from meetings of the authority for up to six consecutive months.

Recommendations

- 1 That approval be given to the absence of Councillor Charlwood from meetings of the authority for a period of six months from this meeting.

2 Purpose of this report

To seek authorisation of the Council to the absence of Councillor Charlwood from meetings of the authority for up to six consecutive months.

3 Background information

Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 makes provision in relation to member attendance at meetings. It provides that if a member fails to attend qualifying meetings for a period of 6 consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, they shall cease to be a member of the authority unless, before the expiry of that period, the authority has approved such non-attendance.

Councillor Charlwood is due to give birth in March 2014. At the time of writing this report her last attendance at a meeting of the authority was Licensing Committee on 11th February 2014.

4 Main issues

The group whip for Councillor Charlwood has requested that Council approve her absence from meetings of the authority for a period of 6 months for maternity reasons.

Councillor Charlwood's committee memberships are Licensing Committee and the North East (Inner) Area Committee.

5 Consultation and Engagement

The relevant group whip has been consulted on this report.

6 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

There are no specific implications regarding equality, diversity, cohesion and integration arising from this report.

7 Council policies and City Priorities

There are no specific implications.

8 Resources and value for money

There are no specific implications regarding resources and value for money arising from this report.

9 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

This report is not subject to Call In, as it is a Council Function.

10 Risk Management

No specific implications

11 Recommendations

Council is asked to approve the absence of Councillor Charlwood from meetings of the authority for a period of six months from this meeting.

12 Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.