



Council Meeting

02 03 23 - 7.30 pm

Supplementary Summons

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14. Urgent business - Local Government Act 1972 – Section 85: attendance dispensation

This item has been added to the agenda in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The requirement for the item was not confirmed until after the publication of the summons.

Reasons for urgency

It is necessary for the Council to consider whether to grant a dispensation under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Mayor is of the opinion that the item is urgent because it cannot be held until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

Recommendations

- a) The Council is asked to consider whether it wishes to exercise its powers under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 by granting a dispensation to the attendance requirements for elected Members in recognition of Councillor Furey's ill-health.**
- b) The Council is asked to agree the duration of the dispensation, to apply from 20 April 2023.**

1. Councillor Furey last attended a meeting of the authority on 20 October 2022 and has not been able to attend a meeting since then owing to ill health.
2. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his/her last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he/she, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, will cease to be a member of the authority.
3. Therefore, if Councillor Furey fails to attend any meeting of the authority due to take place before 20 April 2023, or any meeting of an outside body to which he has been appointed as the Council's representative, he will cease to be a member unless the Council grants a dispensation.

4. As this is the last ordinary meeting of the Council before 20 April 2023, it is suggested that in light of Councillor Furey's continuing recuperation, members consider whether a dispensation should be granted.