

By: Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services
To: County Council 19 May 2016
Subject: Request for Extended Leave of Absence

1. Introduction

- (1) Under Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, 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 or as a representative of the Authority on an outside body, s/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.
- (2) 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.

2. Request for Extended Leave

- (1) Following a discussion with Mr Gordon Cowan, Ms Jane Cribbon is asking the County Council to consider a request for extended leave because of her ill health and her ongoing treatment regime which is debilitating.
- (2) Ms Cribbon has not been able to attend any Council or Committee meetings since Thursday 10 December 2015. The Council can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the relevant six month period, which will be Thursday 9 June 2016. Ms Cribbon has indicated that because of her serious illness and the treatment she is having it is unlikely that she will be well enough to attend any meeting before this date.

3. Recommendation

In accordance with Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 the County Council is asked to consider Ms Cribbon's request for extended leave for a six month period expiring on Thursday 8 December 2016 on the grounds of serious ill health.

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services
03000 416647
peter.sass@kent.gov.uk