

Urgent Non-Executive Decision made by the Chief Executive

SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report asks the Council to note the urgent non-executive decisions taken by the Chief Executive, following consultation with the political group leaders, since the last meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the decision of the Chief Executive, following consultation with the political group leaders, to grant an extended leave of absence to Councillor Redfern to 26 November 2015.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Council Constitution requires that such matters be reported to Council.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the process of debarring a councillor who has not been present at meetings commences six calendar months after their last meeting. Due to ill health, Councillor Redfern has been unable to attend any meetings since the annual meeting of Council on 21 May 2015.
- 4.2 A decision to grant an extended leave of absence is a non-executive decision normally taken by Council. The Scheme of Delegations enables the Chief Executive to take urgent non-executive decisions on behalf of Council following consultation with group leaders.
- 4.3 The Labour group requested on 22 October 2015 that an urgent non-executive decision be considered to bridge the gap between Councillor Redfern's permitted period of six months' absence expiring on 21 November 2015 and Council having an opportunity to debate the motion at its meeting four days later. The request was considered reasonable and group leaders were consulted on 27 October 2015.
- 4.4 Councillors Banwait, Graves, Hickson and Jones unanimously agreed to the proposed decision, extending Councillor Redfern's leave of absence to 26 November 2015, and the decision was made by the Chief Executive on 2 November 2015.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Had the decision not been made, Councillor Redfern's permitted period of absence would have expired prior to Council having due opportunity to consider the matter.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Janie Berry – Director of Governance
Financial officer	N/A
Human Resources officer	N/A
Service Director(s)	N/A
Other(s)	Paul Robinson – Chief Executive

For more information contact:	David Walsh 01332 643655 david.walsh@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Chief Exec's Urgent Decision Notice

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1.1 None directly from this report.

Legal

2.1 None directly from this report.

Personnel

3.1 None directly from this report.

IT Impact

4.1 None directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

5.1 None directly from this report.

Health and Safety

6.1 None directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

7.1 None directly from this report.

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None directly from this report.

Risk Management

9.1 None directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 None directly from this report.

**REPORT TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF AN URGENT NON- EXECUTIVE MATTER
REQUIRING A DECISION OF THE COUNCIL**

SUBJECT: Approval of a period of extended leave for a councillor until 26 November 2015

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:

Due to ill health, Councillor Redfern has been unable to attend any council meetings for some months. A period of extended leave has been requested and can be permitted where a councillor's absence can be justified.

This proposal would grant extended leave to Councillor Redfern until 26 November 2015 in recognition that her state of health has prevented her participation, and to enable sufficient time for a lengthier extension to be considered by Council at its meeting on 25 November 2015, as it has been indicated that such a motion will be proposed.

REASON FOR URGENCY:

Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the process of debarring a councillor commences six calendar months after their last meeting. Councillor Redfern's health deteriorated shortly after the Annual Meeting, on 20 May 2015, so a decision to grant extended leave ought to be taken before 20 November 2015.

TITLE OF COMMITTEE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Council – 25 November 2015

DATE GROUP LEADERS CONSULTED: 27 October 2015