

Full Council

13 July 2023

Dispensation Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr S Flower, Leader of the Council

Local Councillor(s): N/a

Executive Director: J Mair, Director of Legal & Democratic

Report Author: Susan Dallison

Title: Democratic Services Team Leader

Tel: 01305 252216

Email: susan.dallison@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, if a member of a local authority fails to attend a meeting throughout a period of 6 consecutive months, from the date of the last attendance, they shall cease to be a member of the local authority, unless the failure to attend was due to some reason approved by the Full Council before the expiry of that period.

Recommendation:

To approve a dispensation for Cllr J Dover from attending meetings of the Council until 2 May 2024, by reason of ill health.

Reason for Recommendation:

To comply with the requirements of the Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 and to enable Cllr J Dover time to recuperate without the risk of losing her seat as a Dorset Councillor.

1. **Report**

- 1.1 Due to continuing ill health Cllr J Dover has not been able to attend meetings since May 2022 and will not be able to attend the Full Council

meeting on 13th July 2023 when her current dispensation period ends. Without a further dispensation from Full Council Cllr J Dover will cease to be a member of Dorset Council as she is not well enough to attend Full Council. Full Council is therefore requested to grant this request for a dispensation for non-attendance with immediate effect.

- 1.2 The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group has been consulted about this process and agrees the recommendation contained within this report. Arrangements have been put in place for Cllr M Roe to deal with Cllr J Dover's ward work.

2. **Financial Implications**

None

3. **Climate Implications**

None

4. **Well-being and Health Implications**

None

5. **Other Implications**

None

6. **Risk Assessment**

- 6.1 HAVING CONSIDERED: the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:
Current Risk: low
Residual Risk: low

7. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

N/A

8. **Appendices**

None

9. **Background Papers**

[Dispensation report.pdf \(dorsetcouncil.gov.uk\)](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/Dispensation%20report.pdf)