

Meeting Council

Portfolio Area

Date 22 May 2025



RESOLUTION TO EXTEND 6 MONTH RULE – SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To seek Council's approval, in accordance with section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, of Councillor Barr's non-attendance at meetings of the Council for a period of 6 months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Council agree, in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, to approve Councillor Barr's non-attendance at meetings for six months, until 22 November 2025, on the grounds of ill health, and that the Council's best wishes be conveyed to her.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. Councillor Barr has been unable to attend any qualifying meetings on ill-health grounds, having last attended at the Licensing Committee on 19 December

2024. In the circumstances, it is requested that Council approve her continuing absence for a period of 6 months.

- 3.2. If approved this extension would not prevent Councillor Barr from returning to meetings at any time within the 6 month extension period.
- 3.3. An extension is permitted under section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 but must be approved within 6 months of Councillor Barr's last qualifying meeting to prevent her from being disqualified.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION AND OTHER OPTIONS

- 4.1. Unless Council approve Councillor Barr's continued absence she will be disqualified from serving as a Councillor on 19 June 2025, her last qualifying attendance being at the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 19 December 2024.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 5.1. None

Legal Implications

- 5.2. Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides:

Subject to subsections (2) and (3) below, if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, 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.

Council is therefore permitted to approve Councillor Barr's continuing absence under the above section. If Council does not approve Councillor Barr's absence she will cease to be a member of this Authority.

Policy Implications

- 5.3. None.

Planning Implications

- 5.4. None.

Climate Change Implications

- 5.5. None.

Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 5.6. None.