

## **COUNCIL – 7TH NOVEMBER 2022**

### **Report of the Chief Executive**

#### **AUTHORISATION OF ABSENCE**

##### Purpose of Report

To enable the Council to consider authorising an absence from meetings in accordance with section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 ('The 1972 Act'), in the circumstances set out in the report.

##### Recommendation

That, should Councillor Boldrin be unable to attend the Council meeting, his absence since the Personnel Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 be authorised due to his ongoing ill health.

##### Reason

To enable Councillor Boldrin's absence to be authorised by the Council prior to the end of the 6-month period since he was last able to attend an "in person" meeting as required by Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

##### Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states the following:

"... 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."

Consultation has been undertaken with the Group Leader of the Labour Group of which Councillor Boldrin is a member. The Labour Group Leader has indicated that Councillor Boldrin has been unwell for a period of time and has not attended an 'in person' meeting since the Personnel Committee held on 7th June 2022. He is due to have an operation and will need to recover and convalesce and therefore it was felt to be prudent to include this item on the agenda for the meeting.

##### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

Should the Council decide to authorise an individual councillor's absence, the matter would normally be referred back to the Council after a further 6 months if the councillor does not attend any meetings in that period. On this occasion there are Borough Council elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and so a further report will not be necessary.

## Report Implications

### *Financial Implications*

There are no financial implications associated with this decision.

### *Risk Management*

No specific risks have been identified in connection with this report.

Background Papers: None

Officer to Contact: Adrian Ward  
Head of Governance and HR  
(01509) 634573  
[adrian.ward@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:adrian.ward@charnwood.gov.uk)