FOR PUBLICATION

ABSENCE OF MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL (B100)

MEETING: 1. CABINET

2. EXECUTIVE MEMBER – GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 1. 10 MARCH 2015

2. 24 FEBRUARY 2015

REPORT BY: COMMITTEE AND SCRUTINY CO-

ORDINATOR

WARD: ROTHER

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR PUBLIC NII

REPORTS:

1.0 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To enable the Cabinet to consider, for the purposes of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the reasons for the absence of a Member of the Council from meetings of the Authority.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That, for the purposes of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the reason for the absence from meetings of Councillor Stewart Bradford from 20 October, 2014 of ill health, be approved and his continued absence from meetings be authorised through until 11 May, 2015
- 2.2 That the best wishes of all his Council colleagues are sent to Councillor Bradford.

3.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that 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 meetings 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.
- 3.2 Section 85(2) of the 1972 Act states that attendance as a member:
 - at a meeting of any committee or sub-committee of the authority,
 - or at a meeting of any joint committee, joint board or other body by whom for the time being any of the functions of the authority are being discharged, or who were appointed to advise the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions.
 - and attendance as representative of the authority at a meeting of any body of persons,

shall be deemed for the purposes of Section 85(1) to be attendance at a meeting of the authority.

3.3 The Council's constitution authorises the Cabinet to approve or otherwise for the purposes of Section 85(1) the reason(s) for the failure of any Member to attend meetings of this Authority.

4.0 COUNCILLOR STEWART BRADFORD

4.1 Councillor Bradford has been prevented by illness from attending meetings of the authority since his last attendance on 20 October, 2014 when he was present at a meeting on the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. It is not known when he might be in a position to resume his duties.

5.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 That for the purposes of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the reason for the absence from meetings of Councillor Stewart Bradford from 20 October, 2014, of ill health, be approved

- and his continued absence from meetings be authorised through until 11 May, 2015.
- 5.2 That the best wishes of all his Council colleagues are sent to Councillor Bradford.

6.0 **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 To meet the requirements of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

MARTIN ELLIOTT COMMITTEE AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR

Further information on this matter can be obtained from Martin Elliott (Extension 5236).

Officer recommendation supported

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Signed Executive Member

Date 24 February, 2015

Assistant Executive Member/Support Member comments (if applicable)