

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

MEETING: 21ST SEPTEMBER 2009

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS

REPORT OF THE CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY

1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is for the Authority to consider an appropriate course of action for the extended period of absence from meetings of the Authority by Councillor Bollands.

2 BACKGROUND

Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Standing Order D2 of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority Standing Orders provides that if a Member of the Authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months to attend any meeting of the Authority, committee or sub-committee, he/she shall, unless the failure was due to a reason approved by the Authority, cease to be a member of the Authority.

Unfortunately, Councillor Bollands has been unable to attend any such meetings for a period of almost a year due to a prolonged period of ill health. Members recall that at its meeting on 20th April they gave approval to the absence of Councillor Bollands from meetings of the Authority and its committees and sub-committees over the preceding six months by reason of his serious ill-health (minute no. 125/2009 refers).

3 PROPOSAL

As the approval for absence for Councillor Bollands expires on 20th October 2009 Members are invited to consider a further extension to the approval of absence from Councillor Bollands or alternatively request that Gateshead Council reconsider their representation to the Authority.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Authority is requested, for the purpose of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1985 and Standing Order D2, to:-

- (i) give consideration to an appropriate course of action.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.