

CIVIC CENTRE,
SUNDERLAND
16 MARCH 2021



Supplementary Agenda - Item 16 (iii)
for the meeting of
SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL
to be held on
24 MARCH 2021

COUNCIL

24 MARCH 2021

APPROVAL OF REASON FOR ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is for Members to consider approval of a further period of absence for Mr G. N. Cook, Co-opted Member and Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1** 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 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”.
- 2.2** On 19 November 2020, Council approved the absence of Mr Cook due to illness, such approval to expire on 31 March 2021.
- 2.3** The last attendance at a meeting by Mr Cook was 5 February 2020 and he has been unable to attend a meeting since the approval for absence was given. In view of the provisions of the Act regarding absence from meetings, it is considered appropriate to request Council to approve a further period of absence by reason of ill health.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1** Council is recommended to note Mr G.N. Cook’s continued absence from meetings due to ill health and, in accordance with section 85 Local Government Act 1972, approve the reason for his absence from meetings for a further period, up to and including the Annual Council meeting 2021.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no background papers to this report.

