

**SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND  
SIX MONTH RULE: COUNCILLOR STEVE VAN DE KERKHOVE**

*To:* Full Council

*Date:* 15th December 2015

*From:* The Monitoring Officer

*Purpose:* To seek approval, for the purposes of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, for the absence of Councillor Steve van de Kerkhove from any meeting of the Authority from the date of this meeting for six months on the grounds of his serious ill health.

*Recommendation:* Council is recommended to:

- i) note that Councillor Steve van de Kerkhove has not been able to attend meetings of the Council due to ill-health since his attendance at a meeting of Children and Young People Policy and Service Committee on 30th June 2015;
- ii) extend its best wishes to Councillor van de Kerkhove; and
- iii) approve Councillor van de Kerkhove's non-attendance at meetings of the Council due to ill-health up to 15th June 2016 pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 if a Member fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his/her last attendance to attend any meeting of the Council or as a representative of the Council on an Outside Body he/she shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the Council before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the Authority.
- 1.2 Due to ill-health Councillor Steve van de Kerkhove has not been able to attend any Council or Committee meetings since his attendance at Children and Young People Policy and Service Committee on 30th June 2015. A request is put forward to Council to approve an extension to the usual six month rule to enable Councillor van de Kerkhove to remain in office. If this request is not approved Councillor van de Kerkhove will cease to be a member of the Council.
- 1.3 Council is therefore asked to give approval to Councillor van de Kerkhove's non-attendance by reason of ill-health. This will be reviewed in six months' time, if Councillor van de Kerkhove remains absent.

Source Documents	Location
Local Government Act 1972	<a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/85">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/85</a>