

Public Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**

17th May, 2017

MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

As previously notified to you, I enclose a copy of the report for the following item to be considered at the meeting to be held at 9.30 am on Friday, 19th May, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

6. **Governance**

- (b) Non-Attendance at Meetings (Pages 1 - 2)

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Subject:	Non-Attendance at Meetings
Date:	19 th May, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To advise the Committee of a request by Councillor Arder Carson for the Council to approve his continued absence on the basis of ill health.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is recommended to approve the request.

3.0	Main report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Correspondence has been received from Councillor Arder Carson indicating that he has undertaken major surgery and that during his recuperation he will not be able to attend any meetings of the Council or its Committees during this period.</p> <p>Under the provisions of Section 9 of the local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972, a Councillor can be disqualified from office on the basis of non-attendance if he/she fails to attend a meeting throughout a period of six months, unless such failure was approved by the Council.</p> <p>Councillor Arder Carson has not been able to attend any meetings since 1st December, 2016 and he has indicated that he does not think that his health will improve sufficiently for him to attend any meetings prior to the end of the six-month period on 1st June.</p> <p>Accordingly, he has requested that the Council approves his continued absence on the basis of ill-health in accordance with Section 9 of the 1972 Act.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.