

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item no.
The Leader of the Council (Cllr David Henderson) and the Chief Executive (Garry Payne)	Council	18 October 2018	9

Dispensation for non-attendance at council meetings: Councillor Balmain

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To approve a further dispensation to enable Councillor Balmain to continue to act as a Councillor until the election in May without having to attend meetings.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Cllr Balmain will be able to continue as a Councillor.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That Councillor Balmain be granted a dispensation to continue to act as a Councillor without attending meetings until 1 May 2019.

4. Background

- 4.1 At the Annual Council meeting on 10 May 2018 Cllr Balmain was granted a dispensation to continue to act as a councillor without attending meetings until 30 October. He had hoped that he would by now have been able to attend council meetings again on a regular basis, but his ongoing health problems are still preventing him from doing so.
- 4.2 If he is to continue to be a councillor, he will need to be granted a further dispensation at this meeting to avoid breaching the provisions of Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1 Whilst, because of the nature of his health problems, Cllr Balmain has not, been able to attend meetings for some time, he has throughout his illness

been able to respond to enquiries from local constituents and to deal with other council business by e-mail and on the telephone. He has also, when necessary, been able to discuss local issues or refer specific actions to the other Garstang Ward Members (Cllr Lady Atkins and Cllr Collinson) and, if granted a further dispensation, will continue to do so.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	Councillor Balmain's intention to cease claiming his basic allowance will result in a small budget saving.
Legal	Referred to in paragraph 4.2.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
data protection	x

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None	-	-

List of appendices

None.

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