

# Approval for Extended Absence

## 1. Councillor Mrs Margaret Hutchon

At its meeting on 12 October 2010 the Council gave approval in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 to the absence of Councillor Mrs Margaret Hutchon from meetings beyond a period of six months. The Council's approval was given on the basis of Mrs Hutchon's continued ill-health, and it was agreed at the time that the position should be reviewed if necessary at this meeting.

The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group has advised that an operation which Mrs Hutchon had been due to have in December last year was postponed because of the need to keep high dependency beds available during the influenza outbreak. It has now been rescheduled for mid/late February. At the time of writing, Mrs Hutchon is at home, but is not sufficiently well to attend meetings. In the light of these circumstances, at the request of the Liberal Democrat Group the Council's approval is sought to extend Mrs Hutchon's absence until the Council meeting on 12 July 2011.

### **Recommended:**

That, in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council approves an extended period of absence from meetings for Councillor Mrs Margaret Hutchon for reasons of ill-health, until the Council meeting on 12 July 2011.