



# Borough of Telford and Wrekin

## Full Council

Thursday 25 January 2024

### Councillor Leave of Absence

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<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Nathan England - Cabinet Member: Finance, Customer Services & Governance
<b>Lead Director:</b>	Anthea Lowe - Director: Policy & Governance
<b>Service Area:</b>	Policy & Governance
<b>Report Author:</b>	Jayne Clarke - Senior Democracy Officer (Democracy)
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	Oakengates & Ketley Bank
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Not Key Decision
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Report considered by:</b>	SMT – 16 January 2024 Full Council – 25 January 2024

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#### 1.0 Recommendations for decision/noting:

Council is asked to: -

- 1.1 Approve a leave of absence for Councillor Gilly Latham-Reynolds until 18 November 2024.

#### 2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 This report seeks the approval of Full Council for a leave of absence for a period of 12 months for Councillor Latham-Reynolds for the purpose of maternity leave.

#### 3.0 Background

- 3.1 Members will be aware that the Local Government Act 1972 requires Members to attend a meeting of the authority at least once in 6 months. In the event that they do not do so, then they automatically cease to be a Member of the Council. This

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applies unless the reason for the failure to attend is one that has been approved by Council. This is known as the 6 month rule.

### **4.0 Summary of main proposals**

- 4.1 A leave of absence is sought for Councillor Gilly Latham-Reynolds who is currently on maternity leave. It is intended that the leave of absence is granted until 18 November 2024, but nothing would preclude Councillor Latham-Reynolds from returning to her duties at an earlier date.
- 4.2 In September 2019, full Council approved a parental leave policy which allows Members to take an extended leave of absence for parental purposes. The proposals in this report are in line with that policy.

### **5.0 Alternative Options**

- 5.1 There are no alternative options arising from this report.

### **6.0 Key Risks**

- 6.1 None.

### **7.0 Council Priorities**

- 7.1 A community-focussed, innovative council providing efficient, effective and quality services.

### **8.0 Financial Implications**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **9.0 Legal and HR Implications**

- 9.1 Full Council is empowered pursuant to section 85 the Local Government Act 1972, to agree the absence of Councillors where there is a risk that they may breach the six month rule.

### **10.0 Ward Implications**

- 10.1 During the leave of absence casework will be covered by the remaining ward members.

### **11.0 Health, Social and Economic Implications**

- 11.1 There are no specific health, social and economic implications arising from this report.

### **12.0 Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 12.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

**13.0 Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

13.1 There are no climate change or environmental implications arising from this report.

**14.0 Background Papers**

14.1 There are no background papers to this report.

**15.0 Appendices**

15.1 There are no appendices to this report.

**16.0 Report Sign Off**

<b>Signed off by</b>	<b>Date sent</b>	<b>Date signed off</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Legal	17/01/2024	17/01/2024	RP