

Report to **Governance Committee**  
Date **9 November 2021**  
Report By **Assistant Chief Executive**  
Title of Report **Non Attendance at Meetings**  
Purpose of Report **To consider whether to grant a dispensation to Councillor Pragnell in relation to his non attendance at meetings of the authority.**

---

**RECOMMENDATION: The Governance Committee is recommended to recommend the County Council approve the reason for Councillor Pragnell's non-attendance and grant a dispensation for Councillor Pragnell from attending meetings of the Council to allow Councillor Pragnell to remain qualified until such time as he is recovered and is able to attend a meeting of the Council**

---

## **1. Supporting Information**

1.1 Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a Member fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months to attend a meeting of the authority then they cease to be a member of the authority unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the Authority before the expiration of the period.

1.2 Councillor Pragnell has been unable to attend any meeting of the authority for a period in excess of three months due to ill health. The last meeting he attended was the County Council meeting on 23 July 2021 and he has sent apologies for absence for meetings since then. Councillor Pragnell is unlikely to be in a position to attend a meeting in the near future and has requested that the Council considers granting him a dispensation.

## **2. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

2.1 As a result of Councillor Pragnell's ill health it is unlikely that he will be able to attend a meeting in the coming months. The Committee is therefore recommended to recommend the Council approve the reason for Councillor Pragnell's non-attendance and grant a dispensation from attending meetings of the Council until such time as Cllr Pragnell is recovered and able to attend a meeting.

**Philip Baker**  
**Assistant Chief Executive**

Contact Officer: Stuart McKeown  
Tel: 01273 481583  
Email: [stuart.mckeown@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.mckeown@eastsussex.gov.uk)

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS None

