

DECISION ITEM



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	COUNCIL	5 DECEMBER 2016	18
DECLARATION OF VACANCY - ST JOHN'S WARD			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

Under the Local Government Act 1972, Councillor Mark Bamforth has automatically ceased to be a councillor because of non-attendance of meetings. The council is required to declare his office to be vacant so that a by-election can take place.

RECOMMENDATION

That as required by section 86 of the Local Government Act 1972, the office of Councillor in St Johns Ward previously held by Councillor Mark Bamforth be declared to be vacant.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

None.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	√
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	

REPORT

1. The Chief Executive reports that Councillor Mark Bamforth, St John's Ward, has not attended any meetings of the Borough Council, Committee or Sub-Committee nor any other meeting as a representative of the Borough Council since 11th April 2016.
2. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a member fails to attend any such meeting for a period of six months, he ceases to be a member of the authority unless a reason

for non-attendance has been approved by the Council before the expiry of the period. The Council must then declare the seat to be vacant. The six months expired on 11th October 2016.

3. The Chief Executive has written to Councillor Bamforth informing him of the situation and inviting him to comment on the accuracy of the information in paragraph 1.
4. In the absence of any contrary information from Councillor Bamforth, the Borough Council is asked to declare the seat to be vacant. The by-election to fill the vacancy (the term of office for which expires in May 2019) must be held within 35 days¹ of the declaration of the vacancy on a date fixed by the Returning Officer.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	
Legal	
Community Safety	
Human Rights and Equalities	
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	
Health & Safety and Risk Management	

LEAD AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
Allan Oldfield	01253 658658	24 November 2016	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
None		

¹ Not including any Sunday, any day of the Christmas break, of the Easter break or of a bank holiday break or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning