

Full Council – 11 June 2020

Question submitted for Public Participation Period

Question - submitted by John Calvert

Agenda Item 7 Dispensation for non-attendance at meetings of Dorset Council

I am a resident of the Dorset Council Area and I remember instances of County Councillors not attending many meetings in the 'old days'

I do not understand why Dorset Council is being asked to introduce a blanket dispensation until May 2021.

If councillors are seriously ill throughout six months the Full Council could sort it.

If councillors miss one meeting out of one then surely again the Full Council could sort it.

If councillors have difficulty with Virtual Meetings surely the Council's officers could sort that out.

If a councillor's committee doesn't meet for six months surely they can't be barred for not attending non-existent meetings.

We need committed representatives particularly at this difficult time.

All in all, the question comes down to; what is the real problem, if any, that this measure is supposed to fix?