

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Report of the Chief Executive to Full Council – 8 December 2009

### Non attendance at meetings – Councillor Miss Julie Wood, Taunton Lyngford Ward

(This matter is the responsibility of Councillor Henley, Leader of the Council.)

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 Councillor Miss Julie Wood has not attended any “qualifying” meetings of the Council nor any other meeting as a representative of the Council since the 13 May 2009.
- 1.2. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a Member fails to attend any such qualifying meeting for a period of six months the Council, must unless a reason for non-attendance has been approved by the Council before the expiry of the period, declare the seat to be vacant. The six months expired on the 14 November 2009.
- 1.3. The Chief Executive has written to Councillor Miss Wood informing her of the situation and inviting her to comment on the accuracy of the information in paragraph 1.1.
- 1.4. In the absence of any contrary information from Councillor Miss Wood, the 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 2011) must be held within 35 days of the declaration of the vacancy on a date fixed by the Returning Officer.

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That the seat in the Taunton Lyngford Ward be declared vacant.

Penny James  
Chief Executive.