

**COUNCILLOR P.G. TURPIN - VALLETTS WARD:
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 85****Report By: CHIEF EXECUTIVE****Wards Affected**

Valletts

Purpose

1. To consider granting Councillor P.G. Turpin leave of absence until May 2007 because of ill-health.

Background

2. As Members will know, Councillor P.G. Turpin has suffered serious ill-health since August last year and has been unable to attend Council meetings. Neighbouring Councillors have been assisting with his Ward work. He will be automatically disqualified from office on 28th February, 2007 under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, because of his failure to attend a meeting for a period in excess of six months, unless the Council approves an extended period of absence before then (Standing Order 2.9.1 refers).
3. If leave of absence is not granted, the seat will fall vacant. In this case, under Section 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, because the casual vacancy would occur within six months of the date on which Councillor Turpin would have retired, a by-election will not be held. In either case the vacancy will be filled at the next election on 3rd May, 2007.
4. Leave of absence cannot be granted retrospectively, so any approval needs to be given at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT leave of absence be granted to Councillor P.G. Turpin until he would have ordinarily retired in May, 2007.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None identified.