

## EAST HERTS COUNCIL

### OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014 OFFICER DECISION WRITTEN RECORD

Reference:	OD/2020
Subject Matter:	Approval of absence of two Members, Cllrs John Burmicz and Judith Ranger, for reasons arising from coronavirus impact on ability to attend meetings
Date of Decision:	15 April 2020
Exempt /Confidential information (Yes / No):	No
If Exempt/Confidential – reason why:	
Name of Officer taking decision under delegated authority:	Richard Cassidy, Chief Executive
Source of delegated authority:	Constitution Part 3C, Officers' responsibility for functions, Officer specific delegation to Chief Executive: in cases of urgency take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a Committee in consultation with the Leader, provided that any such decision shall be reported to the next meeting of the Executive, appropriate Committee or Council

Exercise of delegated authority approved by: <i>(if different from Officer taking decision)</i>	Not applicable
Decision:	That:  (a) due to reduced opportunity to attend qualifying meetings as a result of the cancellation of a number of scheduled meetings arising from Coronavirus mitigation measures, to approve a dispensation from disqualification for Councillor J Ranger which would otherwise occur by 23 April 2020; and  (b) as a contingency in relation to Councillor J Ranger and Councillor J Burmicz, to approve their non-attendance at meetings for the duration of six months, commencing with the date of publication of this decision.
Reason(s) for Decision:	To avoid inadvertent vacation of office of a the above named Members, in view of extraordinary circumstances occasioned by the coronavirus outbreak.
Details of alternative options, if any, considered and rejected:	Not to provide dispensation from attendance. This option has been rejected because the Members concerned have confirmed that they would have attended meetings during

	the next two months. These Members wish to seek dispensation to avoid risk of vacation of office.
Name of Officer who has confirmed with all Members involved in taking this decision whether they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest:	<i>Not applicable.</i>
Name(s) of any Member who has removed himself/herself from contributing to this decision because of a conflict of interest:	None.