

25 March 2025

Non Attendance of a Member

Purpose of the report

1. To seek Members' instructions in respect of non - attendance of a Member, Mr Simon Myers, at meetings of the Finance and Resources Committee.

Recommendation

2. Members are asked to determine:
 - a) whether in respect of Standing Orders, they wish to take any action regarding Mr Myer's non - attendance, and
 - b) whether to bring Mr Myer's non - attendance to the attention of North Yorkshire Council (Mr Myer's appointing body).

Strategic Planning Framework

3. The information and recommendation(s) contained in this report are consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and its approved strategic planning framework:
 - **Corporate Plan Objective 32:**
Operate governance arrangements that are fit for purpose, as reported through the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Governance Report.

Background

4. The Authority's Standing Orders provide that:

3.2 (b) Attendance at Meetings

'...if a Member is absent from meetings of the Authority, or a Committee or Sub-Committee of the Authority for three consecutive meetings of the Authority or the particular Committee or Sub-Committee, the Chief Executive shall bring the failure to attend those meetings to the attention of the Member and to the person or body which appointed the Member unless the Authority is satisfied that circumstances do not warrant that course of action.'

5. Mr Myers last attended a meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on 5 March 2024. Since that date he has missed 3 meetings of the Committee - 28 May 2024, 1 October 2024 and 17 December 2024.
6. Having contacted Mr Myers to discuss this paper, he has explained that, as a member of the Executive at North Yorkshire Council who hold their meetings on Tuesday mornings this has clashed with the Finance and Resources Committee meetings which are also held on Tuesday mornings. Therefore, he has faced difficulties in attending those meetings to meet his current Council commitments.
7. Mr Myers is keen to continue to carry out his role as a full Member of the Authority. The Finance and Resources Committee dates only clash on one occasion in 2025 (16 December 2025) and therefore he will be able to participate in 3 of the scheduled 4 meetings in 2025.

Financial Implications

8. None

Legal Implications

9. None, the requirements of the Authority's Standing Orders is separate to the statutory requirements regarding Member attendance.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

10. None

David Butterworth
Chief Executive