FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 14 February 2017
Report Subject	The Six Months Rule
Report Author	Chief Officer (Governance)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Where a Member has been, or it is likely that they will be absent from meetings for a period of six months, the Council is able to approve that absence. This is a provision of section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Two Members are currently in a position where they have not been able to attend a meeting for several months. It is therefore recommended that the Council approve their absences until the end of the life of this Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS	
1	That Council approves the absence of Councillors Aldridge and Halford until the end of the life of the life of this Council.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE RECOMMENDATION
1.01	Members will be aware that section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that if a Member is unable to attend meetings for a six months period, they are automatically cease to be a Member, unless the Council exercises its discretion in advance to approve the absence.
1.02	Two Members of the Council have been unable to attend meetings since the autumn of last year. Members will already be aware of the circumstances behind these absences. Therefore, it is appropriate to recommend to the Council that the absences until the end of the life of this Council, on 8th May (four days after the 4th May County Council elections) be approved.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Both of the Members referred to in this report, together with their respective group leaders have been made aware of its contents.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Both Members represent dual member wards, so there is still representation available to residents during their indisposition.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None **Contact Officer:** Robert Robins, Democratic Services Manager **Telephone:** 01352 702320 **E-mail:** Robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**
7.01	None