

Regulations relating to the Council's Standing orders

37.

A local authority must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the coming into force of these Regulations, make standing orders securing the requirements set out in regulation 38.

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(1) A member on maternity absence or parental absence may, subject to paragraphs (2) to (6),—

- (a) attend particular meetings;
- (b) attend particular descriptions of meetings;
- (c) perform particular duties; or
- (d) perform duties of a particular description.

(2) The member must obtain the permission of the chair of the local authority, or where a local authority has elected a presiding member, the presiding member, before attending any meeting or performing any duty.

(3) The chair of the local authority, or where a local authority has elected a presiding member, the presiding member, must inform the leaders of each political group of the local authority before granting permission under paragraph (2).

(4) A member may complain in writing to the head of democratic services regarding a refusal under paragraph (2).

(5) The head of democratic services must refer a complaint under paragraph (4) to the chair of the local authority, or where a local authority has elected a presiding member, to the presiding member.

(6) A panel constituted in accordance with these Regulations must determine a complaint made under paragraph (4).

(7) The panel may—

- (a) confirm the decision of the chair of the local authority, or where a local authority has elected a presiding member, the decision of the presiding member, under paragraph (2); or
- (b) substitute its own decision as to the member attending any meeting or performing any duty.

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A local authority must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the coming into force of these Regulations, make provision in standing orders as to the extent of the duties, if any, which remain applicable to members during a period of family absence.