

DELEGATED DECISION NOTICE

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED BY MONITORING OFFICER

Background

1. In anticipation that Government may call for proposals for Local Government Reform and Devolution within local government, the Council is working jointly with South Lakeland District Council and Barrow Borough Council to explore further evidence to substantiate a case for the area of the three districts to form a Unitary Authority.
2. It is important that all Members views be heard on such a fundamental issue and that the vast majority of Members are able to formally participate in the voting on the future direction of the Council; any proposals for new local governance structures; and the future roles of Councils in the County and around the Bay.
3. Due to the uncertainty of whether Members who receive a members allowances have a DPI in discussing such matters a dispensation will be provided for all Members for a period of 4 years for matters relating to Local Government Reform and Devolution to enable Members who may have a DPI through receipt of an allowance to participate and vote on matters relating to Local Government Reform and devolution on such reports as may come forward for discussion at the Council.
4. If allowances were determined to be a DPI, the exclusion of such a large number of Members and their collective, skills and knowledge and experience would seriously damage the quality of decision-making and the representation of communities within the district.
5. Under the Constitution the Monitoring Officer has the power to grant dispensations where he considers that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business
6. The dispensation is as shown below.

Councillor/Co-optee	Dispensation	Date granted	Period
All current Members of Lancaster City Council	Due to the uncertainty of whether Members who receive allowances have a DPI a dispensation will be provided for all Members for a period of 4 years for matters relating to Local Government Reform and Devolution.	25.9.20 Granted by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with the Constitution.	4 years to September 2024

Luke Gorst
Luke Gorst

Monitoring Officer

25th September 2020