

# MOTION ON NOTICE



**Date of Council Meeting:** 24 November 2025

**Title of Motion:** Non - Attendance of Councillor Rebecca Smith MP

**Motion Narrative:**

As the City Council will be aware Councillor Rebecca Smith MP was successfully elected to represent the South West Devon Constituency in Parliament at the last General Election.

At the time of her election, Councillor Smith confirmed that she intended to continue as a Ward Councillor for Plymstock Radford until her tenure in office expires in May 2026. Cllr Smith's justification for this, was that she did not want to cause a by-election which would cost the City Council additional money.

Given that Council Elections are now within 6 months of taking place, any casual vacancies left vacant by elected members due to be re elected on 7th May 2026 will not trigger a by-election and will not incur additional costs. Therefore, should Cllr Smith do the right thing and resign from Plymouth City Council, there will be no by-election and no additional costs. The City Council would save approximately £6,000 in not having to pay Councillors allowances to Cllr Smith.

Cllr Smith's failure to attend any of her scheduled City Council meetings in this Municipal Year on 16th May, 2nd June or 15th September and her only attendance at a City Council meeting being as a substitute for Cllr Darcy at the Planning Committee on 26th June for 21 minutes.

**Action Required:** Council resolves: To invite Cllr Rebecca Smith MP to resign from Plymouth City Council with immediate effect as she is unable to fulfil the full duties of a serving Plymouth City Councillor.

**Proposer:** Councillor Terri Beer

**Seconder:** Councillor Maddi Bridgeman