

Full Council

Report Title:	Dispensations Policy
Meeting Date:	15 November 2022
Contact Officer:	Lizzie Fuller, Committee Services Officer

Action Required

1. To receive the report and agree the proposed updates to the policy.

Background

2. The Dispensations Policy was recently reviewed by Officers as part of the process of researching the Oxfordshire Code of Conduct.
3. As part of that review, Officers noticed that section 4.1.1 of the policy did not cover Town Councillors who were also Councillors at Oxfordshire County Council. This was not an issue when the policy was adopted in May 2019 as the County Councillors for Thame at the time were not also Town Councillors, but since May 2021 this has been the case.
4. Officers suggest that reference to Oxfordshire County Council and 'triple-hatted' Members is added into section 4.1.1 in line with delegations already given to dual-hatted / District Council Members. The proposed amendments are shown in red text.
5. Section 1.4 has been reworded to better reflect the legislation.
6. Members are welcome to make suggestions for change / further change.
7. The policy will be brought for re-adoption at the Annual Meeting on 16 May 2023.

Resource Appraisal

8. The proposed changes are all within existing defined resources, and / or reflect what the Town Council does already, so there are no additional resource requirements identified.

Risk Assessment

9. The documents support the legal requirement for the Governance of a Town Council.

Legal Powers:

- Local Government Act 1972
- Localism Act 2011 s33

Recommendation

It is recommended...

- i) The updated Dispensations Policy be approved.***