

Full Council

Report Title:	General Power of Competence
Meeting Date:	16 May 2023
Contact Officer:	Mandy Sturdy, Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide background on the re-adoption of the General Power of Competence

Background

2. The Localism Act 2011 introduced a General Power of Competence for Town and Parish Councils, subject to certain conditions being met.
3. A separate briefing paper from the DCLG: "A briefing paper on the General Power of Competence April 2012" describing the power is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
4. The Town Council made the required formal resolution at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 14 May 2019.
5. The law requires that the criteria for holding the General Power of Competence be checked and that a formal resolution be made to that effect at each new administration.

Action Required

6. To note the briefing paper on the General Power of Competence as attached at Appendix 1 of this report.
7. To note that the conditions are satisfied as follows:
 - The number of councillors elected at the last ordinary election is equal to, or exceeds, two thirds of its total number of councillors. 15 out of 16 Councillors have been elected (this includes uncontested elections) and therefore this criterion is satisfied.
 - The Town Clerk holds the CiLCA qualification.
 - The Town Clerk has passed the 2012 CiLCA module on the General Power of Competence.
8. To resolve that the Council meets the criteria for eligibility for the General Power of Competence relating to the electoral mandate and relevant training of the Town Clerk.

Resource Appraisal

9. There are no resource implications attached to this report.

Risk Assessment

10. There are no risks arising from this report.

Legal Powers:

- Localism Act 2011 S1-8
- The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Town Council resolves:

- i) That the Council meets the criteria for eligibility for the General Power of Competence relating to the electoral mandate and relevant training of the Town Clerk.***