



Annual Town Meeting

15 May 2026

Agenda Item 10 - General Power of Competence (GPoC)

- **To Confirm the Qualification and Adoption**

Introduction

To formally record that the Council now meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the General Power of Competence (GPoC) and are asked to confirm its use of this power.

Background

Following the Town Clerk's successful completion of the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) and the Council's confirmation that the required proportion of elected Members hold the appropriate electoral mandate, the Council now satisfies the statutory conditions to be eligible for the General Power of Competence under the Localism Act 2011.

The General Power of Competence provides eligible local councils with the "power to do anything that an individual may generally do", subject to statutory limitations. This represents the widest power available to local authorities and removes the need to identify specific statutory authority for many actions.

This power will remain in force until the next relevant elections, when eligibility will be reviewed.