

# SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

## Report

**Subject** : Chief Executive Officer's Completion of CiLCA and Attainment of General Power of Competence  
**Committee** : Full Council  
**Date** : 15 September 2025  
**Author** : Janine Whitty, Head of Corporate Services

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### 1. Report Summary:

1.1 This report informs the Committee that the Chief Executive Officer has successfully completed the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).

1.2 To adopt the General Power of Competence a parish council must:

- 1.2.1 Have a qualified clerk, with relevant training, such as CiLCA.
- 1.2.2 Have at least two thirds of councillors elected, not co-opted.

1.2 Therefore, Salisbury City Council now meets the criteria to adopt the General Power of Competence, enhancing its ability to act innovatively and effectively in the interests of the community.

### 2. Background:

2.1 CiLCA is a nationally recognised qualification for local council officers, demonstrating professional competence in council administration.

2.2 It is the Proper Officer (Chief Executive Officer) whom must have this qualification to allow the council to adopt the General Power of Competence, however the Head of Environmental Services and Head of Corporate Services also have CiLCA.

2.3 The Localism Act 2011 introduced the General Power of Competence, allowing eligible councils to do 'anything that individuals generally may do,' provided it is not prohibited by other legislation.

### 3. Recommendation:

It is recommended that:

3.1 That the Committee formally acknowledges the Chief Executive Officer's achievement.

3.2 That the Council adopts the General Power of Competence.

3.3 That relevant policies and procedures be reviewed to reflect the new powers.

### 5. Wards Affected: All

### 6. Background papers:

6.1 Localism Act 2011, Part 1, Chapter 1. [Local authority's general power of competence](#)

6.2 CiLCA Qualification Framework.

## 7. Implications:

7.1 **Financial:** Potential for cost savings and income generation through innovative service delivery.

7.2 **Legal:** Council must ensure compliance with overarching legislation when exercising the General Power of Competence.

7.3 **Personnel:** None.

7.4. **Environmental Impact:** Opportunities to support sustainable initiatives.

7.5. **Equalities Impact:** No negative impact identified; potential to enhance inclusivity through broader service options.