



**AGENDA ITEM: 10**

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE:  
10 DECEMBER 2008**

**COUNCIL:  
17 DECEMBER 2008**

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**Report of: Council Secretary and Solicitor**

**Contact: Mrs Jacky Denning (Extn. 5384)  
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**SUBJECT: CONSULTATION ON CODES OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY  
MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES**

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District wide interest

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To consider the consultation paper from the Department for Communities and Local Government on revising the model code of conduct for local authority members, the general principles which govern the conduct of local authority members and on the introduction of a requirement for a code of conduct for employees.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the response, attached at Appendix 2 be sent to the Department for Communities and Local Government by Wednesday, 24 December 2008.

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**3.0 THE CONSULTATION PAPER**

3.1 The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has issued a Consultation Paper, which:

- Invites views on proposals for revising the model code of conduct for local authority members, to clarify its application to members's conduct in their non-official capacity.
- Invites views on proposals for changes to the Relevant Authorities (General Principles) Order 2001 which sets out the general principles which govern the conduct of local authority members.
- Seeks comments on proposals to introduce a requirement for authorities to incorporate a code of conduct for employees, based on a statutory model code of conduct, into the terms and conditions of employment of their employees.

3.2 Views are sought by 24 December 2008, with a view to implementation in time for the local elections in May/June 2009.

#### **4.0 RESPONSE**

4.1 A copy of a draft response to the specific questions, which Members might wish to submit to the DCLG, is attached as Appendix 2.

#### **5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with the report and no significant impacts on crime and disorder.

#### **6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no specific financial or resource implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT**

7.1 There are no risks with the Council's business associated with the report and the response will provide the Council with the opportunity to give its views on the consultation document.

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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

There is no evidence from an initial assessment of an adverse impact on equality in relation to the equality target groups.

### **Appendices**

- (1) Communities In Control: Real People, Real Power – Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees – A Consultation – Department for Communities and Local Government – October 2008
- (2) Response to the consultation paper.