

Title: **Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees - Consultation Paper**

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1. Purpose

To enable the Standards Committee to consider the above consultation and to make a response to the Department of Communities and Local Government by 24 December 2008.

2. Background

The Department for Communities and Local Government is inviting views on proposals for revising the Members Model Code of Conduct and for introducing a new Code of Conduct for Local Government employees.

3. Key Issues

The main change to the Members Code of Conduct is to extend the Code to members acting in a private, non-official capacity where they are convicted of a criminal offence.

The proposed Code for employees is two-tier. The first tier sets out core values which will apply to all local authority employees. The second tier, which is similar to the Members' Code, will only apply to 'qualifying employees' - either senior officers or officers to whom functions of the local authority have been delegated.

The Consultation paper (Appendix 1 of this report) contains a number of questions to which responses are invited. The questions are reproduced with suggested responses in Appendix 2.

4. Effects on Strategies and Codes

None.

5. Risk Management Implications

None.

6. Financial Implications

None.

7. Legal & Human Rights Implications

None beyond those covered in this report.

8. The Next Steps

The Committee's response will be submitted to the DCLG before 24 December.

9. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee determines its response to the consultation and this is submitted to the DCLG before 24 December 2008.