

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	DDC/18/2
MEETING	DETERMINATIONS & DISPENSATIONS COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	9 APRIL 2018
SUBJECT OF REPORT	CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ETHICAL STANDARDS
LEAD OFFICER	Director of Corporate Services (Clerk to the Authority)
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p><i>That, subject to any amendments as may be indicated at the meeting, the Authority be recommended to:</i></p> <p><i>(a) approve the attached response to the consultation on the review of local government ethical standards be approved; and</i></p> <p><i>(b) authorise the Clerk to submit the response on behalf of the Authority.</i></p>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The Committee on Standards in Public Life (CPSL) is an advisory, non-departmental public body sponsored by the Cabinet Office. It advises the Prime Minister on ethical standards across the whole of public life in England and monitors and reports on issues relating to the standards of conduct of all public office holders.</p> <p>The Committee is undertaking a review of local government ethical standards. The review has the following terms of reference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine the structures, processes and practices in local government in England for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ maintaining codes of conduct for local councillors ○ investigating alleged breaches fairly and with due process ○ enforcing codes and imposing sanctions for misconduct ○ declaring interests and managing conflicts of interest ○ whistleblowing • assess whether the existing structures, processes and practices are conducive to high standards of conduct in local government • make any recommendations for how they can be improved • note any evidence of intimidation of councillors, and make recommendations for any measures that could be put in place to prevent and address such intimidation <p>To help inform the review process, the Committee has issued a consultation document. The closing date for responses to this document is Friday 18 May 2018.</p> <p>A copy of the consultation document, together with suggested responses to each of the questions posed, is attached at Appendix A.</p>

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Nil.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)	The contents of this report are considered compatible with existing equalities and human rights legislation.
APPENDICES	A. Draft response to consultation on review of local government ethical standards.
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Localism Act 2011 B. The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. C. Committee on Standards in Public Life Consultation on Review of Local Government Ethical Standards.