

# CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

**MEETING OF:** GOVERNANCE AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE  
**DATE:** 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020  
**REPORT OF:** DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND COMMISSIONING  
**AUTHOR:** ANDREW LEADBETTER

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**SUBJECT:** MODEL MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT –  
CONSULTATION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION

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## Purpose of Report

1. To bring to Members' attention the consultation, by the Local Government Association (LGA), about a Model Member Code of Conduct.

**Recommended:** That Members

[1] consider how they wish to respond to the consultation.

## Background

2. The current standards regime has been in place since 2012. The Localism Act 2011 and associated secondary legislation created a new approach and framework for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct. The legislation contained certain prescriptive elements, but left local authorities with discretion in a number of key areas. One such area was the code of conduct – whilst local authorities were required to have a code, there was no model. As a result, there is a considerable variation in detail and complexity in the codes that have been adopted by local authorities. This is not ideal and is particularly troublesome for Members that sit on more than one local authority.

## Information

3. The LGA has produced a draft Model Code of Conduct and is consulting upon it. The consultation document is attached to this report as Appendix 1. The draft Model Code itself begins on page 3 of the consultation document.
4. The LGA has posed a number of questions concerned with the draft Model Code. These can be found in the document that is attached to this report as Appendix 2.
5. Whilst it is acknowledged that it may be difficult to secure consensus about responses to all aspects of the consultation, it is appropriate to promote a discussion with Members.

## **Financial Implications**

6. There are no financial implications associated with responding to the consultation.

## **Legal Implications**

7. There are no legal implications associated with responding to the consultation.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

8. There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

## **Environmental Implications**

9. There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Local Government Association Model Member Code of Conduct Consultation