

22 January 2007

To Chief Executives of:
County Councils and District Councils in England
London Borough Councils
The Greater London Authority
National Park Authorities
The Broads Authority

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

The Clerk:
City of London
Council of the Isles of Scilly
Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities
Fire and Civil Defence Authorities
Police Authorities in England and Wales
The Clerk:
Parish Councils in England

Dear Colleague

A REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS

I am writing to inform you that the Government has today published the enclosed consultation paper which seeks views on a draft of a proposed new model code of conduct for local authority members.

The Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, published in October 2006 announced the Government's intention to put in place a clearer, simpler and more proportionate code of conduct for members of local authorities, which would include changes to the rules on personal and prejudicial interests. This followed our discussion paper *Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future* in December 2005, which included the Government's response to the recommendations of the Standards Board for England for amendments to the model code of conduct for members.

The Government is also proposing to combine the current four individual codes into one consolidated code. The four model codes are the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct)(England) Order 2001, the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001, the National Park and Broads Authorities (Model Code of Conduct)(England) Order 2001 and the Police Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001.

The consultation paper provides an explanatory commentary on the proposals and invites views on them. A draft of the proposed new model code is at Annex A to the

paper and particular questions on which we would welcome views are listed separately at Annex B to the paper.

Copies of the consultation paper are being sent to all principal local authorities, parish councils and other organisations and individuals who have a particular interest in these issues. If you wish to comment, please send responses to:

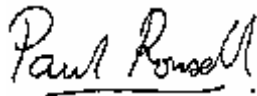
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so as to be received by **Friday 9 March**.

Any queries you may have on this letter or paper should be directed to either:

Cathryn Evans (tel: 020 7944 4262; cathryn.evans@communities.gsi.gov.uk)
or William Tandoh (tel: 020 7944 8765; william.tandoh@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Rowsell". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

Paul Rowsell