

## EQUALITY CODE REVIEW

**Purpose:** For information  
**Author:** Director of External Relations / Deputy Director of Policy  
**Approver:** Chief Executive

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### Recommendations

The Council is asked to note the final draft of the Equality Code Consultation.

### Summary

In June 2021 the Council approved revisions to the Equality Code and agreed on a 3 month public consultation. Due to temporary staff changes / gaps the project was temporarily halted. It recommenced in 2022 once resources were available, but was unavoidably paused due to the unexpected surge in sanctions work and other tasks due to the war in Ukraine. The consultation has now been finalised. The additional work mainly focused on adding a new Guidance section to support the proposed Code changes (which have remained the same and will be familiar to the Council), and obtaining a range of informal external views on the project.

### Relevant Regulatory Objectives

The project directly or indirectly supports the following statutory objectives, and in particular RO6:

- RO1 - protect and promote the public interest
- RO2 - support the constitutional principle of the rule of law
- RO3 - improve access to justice
- RO4 - protect and promote the interests of consumers
- RO6 - encourage an independent, strong, diverse and effective legal profession
- RO8 - promote and maintain adherence to the professional principles

### Risk management

The Equality Code revision does not directly relate to the list of Principal Risks monitored by Council. However, it is key to meeting a range of regulatory objectives, and is considered important to our ongoing work with the Legal Services Board.

**Financial impact**

There is no immediate financial impact to the CLC from the proposals in the paper.

**Diversity and inclusion impact**

The changes to the Equality Code are intended to deliver, and maintain, positive improvements to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) within the sector.

**Communications requirements**

The proposed project has been reviewed by some of the regulated community, and bodies with expertise in EDI issues. A communications / outreach plan will include these and other bodies, when the final consultation is published.

**Publication status of this paper**

This paper is not for publication, as the CLC will publish a consultation on the Equality Code later.