

## Ethical Principles

**Purpose:** For decision

**Author:** Director of Strategy and External Relations

**Approver:** Chief Executive

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### Summary

This paper sets out a new draft statement of Ethical Principles that will be consulted on over the summer.

### Recommendations

Council is asked to agree the proposed approach to consultation.

### Relevant Regulatory Objectives

The ethical principles will help deliver all of the Regulatory Objectives, though the emphasis is plainly on RO8 – promote and maintain adherence to professional principles.

*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*

*RO5 - promote competition in the provision of legal services*

*RO6 - encourage an independent, strong, diverse and effective legal profession*

*RO7 - increase public understanding of the citizen's legal rights and duties*

*RO8 - promote and maintain adherence to the professional principles*

### Financial impact

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

### Diversity and inclusion impact

1. We do not believe that there is any negative impact on diversity and inclusion from the proposed changes to the ethical principles. The draft principles would require CLC lawyers to promote and support equality, diversity and inclusion in practice and service delivery – an expansion of our expectations in this area compared to the current ethical principles.

### Communications requirements

The consultation will be promoted to the regulated community and its representative bodies, other regulators and other stakeholders through direct communications and the CLC's newsletter and social media channels as well as PR.