

Equality Code Review

Purpose: For decision

Author: Director of Strategy and External Relations

Approver: Chief Executive

Summary

This paper sets out the proposed changes to the Equality Code following consultation over the summer.

Recommendations

Council is asked to agree that the new Equality Code should be submitted to the Legal Services Board for approval.

Relevant Regulatory Objectives

Promoting inclusion, diversity and equality in the regulated community and in the provision of legal services helps the CLC meet the following Regulatory Objectives.

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

RO8 - promote and maintain adherence to the professional principles

Financial impact

There is no direct financial impact arising from the proposals in the paper. There will be resource and financial costs to the development and promulgation of enhanced guidance for the regulated community on how to meet their obligations under the revised Code.

Diversity and inclusion impact

The proposals in this paper are intended to enhance diversity and inclusion in the regulated community and the delivery of legal services.

Communications requirements

A communications plan to implement the revised Code will be developed as part of the overall communications plan for 2023