

7. NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8462
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to report on the outcome of discussions with the Community Boards following a Council resolution at its meeting on 24 July 2008.
2. At its 24 July 2008 meeting the Council considered a revised Code of Conduct following a report from the Office of the Auditor General on the Codes Adopted by Local Authorities in New Zealand. The revised Codes had been discussed at a workshop with Councillors on 15 May 2008.
3. At the July meeting the Council:
 - (a) *Resolved to adopt the new Code of Conduct in the form presented to the Council at the July meeting.*
 - (b) *Agreed that its Ethics Subcommittee (including the Convenor) could be used by Community Boards where a breach of the code is alleged in respect of two community board members.*
 - (c) *Where the Ethics Subcommittee procedure is to be used by a Community Board, consideration of the membership of the Subcommittee is to be deferred until the Chairpersons consider the matter.*
4. Since that July meeting the revised Code has been considered by the Community Board Chairpersons and by each of the Community Boards. All Boards have agreed to adopt the revised Code of Conduct, tailored to reflect use by the Community Boards.
5. Regarding the issue of the Ethics Subcommittee, each of the Boards has also agreed to utilise the Council's Ethics Subcommittee but as provided for in the Code of the Boards' membership of the Subcommittee, will be tailored to comprise the convenor and Community Board members. If the issue is related to only one Board then the membership would comprise members of that Community Board (other than those involved in the alleged breach) and if the issues was to involve one or more Boards then the membership of the Committee would be tailored accordingly.
6. The General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, has advised each of the Boards that the membership of the Subcommittee could only be finalised once the particular circumstances that gave rise to the alleged breach where known.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) Approve the Council members of the Ethics Subcommittee.
- (b) Note that the Community Boards have adopted the revised Code of Conduct.
- (c) Note that the Community Boards have considered the Ethics Subcommittee procedure.
- (d) Note that the membership of the Ethics Subcommittee, when applied to Community Boards, be considered on the particular occasion that an alleged breach arises.