

## Email from Paul Hoey about the 2007 Code of Conduct and arrangements for adoption by local authorities in England

"The government today tabled in Parliament the revised Model Code of Conduct for members. A copy of the revised Code, *The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 No.1115*, will be available shortly from the Stationery Office at [www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si-2007-index.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si-2007-index.htm) .

The Code will come into force from 3 May 2007 and local authorities will then have 6 months to adopt the revised Code. You must notify the Standards Board when your authority adopts the revised Code (as must parish councils when they adopt the code).

The easiest way to notify the Standards Board is by email to Kimberley Connell of our Policy and Guidance Team at [enquiries@standardsboard.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@standardsboard.co.uk).

If the Code is adopted unamended, you simply need to confirm that fact and the date the authority adopted it. You only need to provide us with a copy of your Code where it differs from the model version. This can also be supplied to us electronically.

To facilitate implementation, ensure consistency across authorities and assist members to understand the revised Code, we strongly recommend councils adopt the revised Code at their first opportunity and without amendment. This will give certainty to members and the public as to what standards are expected, ensure consistency throughout England, and minimise the legal risk of your authority adopting additional provisions which are unenforceable. However, we also recommend that you consider adopting the ten General Principles as a non-enforceable preamble or annex to your Code to remind members and the public of the principles underlying the Code.

The Standards Board will be publishing a general guide to the revised Code for members which we hope will be available first in electronic form on our website from 3 May with hard copies published and distributed shortly thereafter. We are also planning to produce a further range of training materials for local authorities to use to train their members on the revised Code, including a DVD which is scheduled to be distributed in July. Standard presentations and scenarios will be available on our website in May. Please refer to our website at [www.standardsboard.co.uk](http://www.standardsboard.co.uk) for future updates.

Finally you may wish to note that, from 23 April, the Standards Board will have relocated to a new office and our future contact details are:

Standards Board for England

**4th Floor, GriffinHouse  
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**Enquires: 0161 817 5300**

**Kind Regards**

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