	REPORT OF:	The Monitoring Officer
	TO:	Standards Committee
	DATE:	26th October 2017

SUBJECT: Disqualification criteria for Councillors & Mayors

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To invite members to review consultation documents on revised disqualification criteria for Councillors and Mayors.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to feedback views and responses to the questions for inclusion in the Council's response to Government consultation on revisions to the Disqualification criteria for Councillors and Mayors.

3. BACKGROUND

In September 2017 the Government published a consultation on updating the Disqualification criteria for Councillors and Mayors.

The consultation paper (attached as Appendix to this report), sets out the government's proposals for updating the criteria disqualifying individuals from standing for , or holding office, as a local authority member, directly-elected mayor or member of the London Assembly.

4. RATIONALE

The Government is inviting everyone to comment but particularly seek the views of prospective and current councillors amongst others.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The DCLG is responsible for this consultation and is inviting views of elected members. The Standards Committee is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members in Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and it is appropriate for the Committee to take a view and ask the Monitoring Officer to forward their views through to the DCLG.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

A governance framework in local authorities is necessary to promote and maintain high ethical standards, and to ensure public confidence.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None contained in this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

This is a national consultation and all members of the public as well as key organisations have been invited to respond by 8th December 2017.

Chief Officer/Member
Contact Officer: David Fairclough
Date: 29th September 2017

Background Papers: DCLG – Consultation document September 2017