

## **TRANSFER OF ASSESSMENT OF ALLEGATIONS - STANDARDS BOARD SUPPORT**

### **Recommendation:**

#### **To note the support to be provided by the Standards Board.**

(Monitoring Officer) At the last meeting, members sought clarification of the extent of support to be provided to Monitoring Officers following the transfer of the system for assessing allegations to principal authorities.

The Standards Board has acknowledged that, whilst most authorities have welcomed the benefits of a local system, a number have concerns about managing the function, particularly those authorities which have a large number of parish and town councils in their area.

The Standards Board has indicated that it will be focusing its work on supporting authorities with guidance and advice. The Standards Board has also said that it will "call for standards committees and monitoring officers to be properly resourced".

The Standards Board states that it has commenced a range of specific projects, including:

- (a) advising the Government on the changes to primary and secondary legislation that will be needed to introduce the new proposals for further devolution of responsibility;
- (b) focusing on the role of standards committees and how they will deal with complaints;
- (c) developing and supporting the changing role and responsibility of monitoring officers;
- (d) defining the Board's role in monitoring the performance of Standards Committees.