

AGENDA ITEM 5

CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

25 JANUARY 2006

**REFORM OF PUBLIC SECTOR OMBUDSMEN SERVICES
IN ENGLAND**

RICHARD LONG, DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To inform Members of the reply received from the Cabinet Office in response to the submission by the Council relating to the proposals for the Reform of Public Sector Ombudsmen in England.

BACKGROUND

2. At its meeting of 26 October 2005, Committee considered the Consultation Paper that had been issued by the Cabinet Office in respect of the services offered by the three different Government Ombudsmen who have responsibility for the oversight of services in England.
3. As instructed by, and in accordance with the views of, Committee, a response was sent to the Cabinet Office: the full text of the Council's response is attached at Appendix 1.
4. A reply was received from the Cabinet Office, thanking the Council for its contribution, and advising that the results of the consultation exercise will be published in due course. A copy of the letter is attached at Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. That Members note the above. The results of the consultation exercise will be reported to Committee once they are received from the Cabinet Office.

