

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

This Code of Conduct is designed to place a personal obligation on Members to act with integrity and in the public interest. It encourages members to act in accordance with the Statement of Ethical Principles published by the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Engineering Council.

Specifically, this Code of Conduct obliges Members to:

- 1) Members shall at all times so order their conduct as to uphold the dignity and reputation of the profession. Members shall treat all persons fairly and without bias, respect the dignity and professional standing of colleagues, employers and subordinates, and shall avoid unwarranted statements that reflect upon the character or integrity of other Members of the profession.
- 2) Members shall accept due responsibility of all work done by them or under their direct supervision and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that persons working under their authority are competent to carry out the tasks assigned to them and do in fact carry out such tasks in a competent manner and that they accept personal responsibility for work done under the authority delegated to them.
- 3) When working outside the UK, or for an employer/client with interests outside the UK, members shall observe in each country, the rules of professional conduct appertaining to that country.
- 4) Members shall exercise their professional skill and judgement to the best of their ability and discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity. Members shall, when called upon to give an opinion in their professional capacity, give an opinion that is objective and reliable to the best of their ability.
- 5) Members shall assess and manage relevant risks and liability and communicate these appropriately, and if appropriate hold professional indemnity insurance.
- 6) Members shall not accept professional responsibilities which they do not believe they are competent to discharge.
- 7) Members shall inform their employer in writing of any conflict between their personal interests and faithful service to their employer. Members shall, when their professional advice is not accepted, take all reasonable steps to ensure that the person over-ruling or neglecting their advice is aware of the danger which they believe may result from such over-ruling or neglect.
- 8) Members shall reject bribery and all forms of corrupt behaviour and make positive efforts to ensure that others do likewise.
- 9) Members shall safeguard the public interest in matters of safety and health and prevent avoidable adverse impact on the environment by acting in accordance with the principles of sustainability.
- 10) Members shall raise a concern about a danger, risk, malpractice or wrongdoing which affects others ('blow the whistle'), and support a colleague or any other person to whom you have a duty of care who in good faith raises any such concern. The Society shall be notified by a Member of any significant violation of the SEE Code of Conduct by another member.

- 11) Members shall respect any confidence gained in their professional capacity, and shall not disclose to any other person any information so gained nor use the same for the advantage of themselves or any other person.
- 12) Members shall take all reasonable steps to maintain and develop their professional competence by attention to new developments in science and engineering relevant to their field of professional activity. Members shall encourage others to advance their learning and competence. Members shall record their CPD and make available their records to The Society for audit purposes if required to do so.
- 13) Members shall notify the Institution if convicted of a criminal offence or upon becoming bankrupt or disqualified as a Company Director. Members shall notify the Institution of any significant violation of the Institution's Code of Conduct by another member.
- 14) Breach of this Code of Conduct may render members liable to disciplinary action.
- 15) A complaint against any member who breaches the Society's Code of Conduct should be sent in writing to the Chief Executive of the Society, stating clearly the reason for complaint. The Chief Executive shall lay the complaint before a confidential meeting of the Council who shall decide if the Code of Conduct has been breached.
- 16) If an appeal is made, it shall be considered by an Appeals Panel made up of the President and Vice Presidents of the Society in a confidential meeting. Their decision shall be final and passed to the Council and conveyed to the appellant in writing.
- 17) If termination of membership results in the termination of Registration with the Engineering Council the registrant has the right of appeal under appellate jurisdiction to Engineering Council.
- 18) If termination of membership results in the termination of Registration with the Society of the Environment the registrant has the right of appeal to the Society of the Environment.