

# IFE Code of Conduct

## Code of Professional Conduct

Members of the Institution of Fire Engineers, of all grades, shall:

- ◆ uphold the reputation and standing of the Institution and the profession of fire engineering;
- ◆ observe the provisions of the Institution's governing documents and supporting rules and regulations;
- ◆ accept responsibility for work carried out by them, or under their supervision, exercising all reasonable professional skill and care in carrying out that work;
- ◆ hold adequate professional indemnity insurance, where required;
- ◆ exercise all reasonable professional skill and care to prevent avoidable danger to health or safety, and to prevent avoidable adverse environmental impacts;
- ◆ maintain their professional competence and only undertake professional tasks for which they are competent;
- ◆ avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest and advise affected parties if any such conflicts arise;
- ◆ discharge their professional duties with honesty, integrity, impartiality and objectivity;
- ◆ observe the duty of confidentiality owed to appropriate parties;
- ◆ support any colleague, or any other person to whom they have a duty of care, who in good faith raises any concern about a danger, risk, malpractice or wrongdoing which may affect others. (Refer to the Institution's Whistleblowing Policy for further guidance);
- ◆ notify the Institution of any serious or significant violation of this Code of Professional Conduct by another member. (Refer to the Institution's Whistleblowing Policy for further guidance); and
- ◆ notify the Institution immediately if they have:
  - received a criminal conviction, or an adverse civil court judgement, where either of these relate to any aspect of this Code of Professional Conduct;
  - been declared bankrupt or disqualified as a company director or charity trustee;
  - had membership of another professional body or institution terminated as a result of a disciplinary procedure.

## Ethical Principles

In addition to complying with this Code of Professional Conduct, members are expected to comply with the following four Ethical Principles:

### Honesty and Integrity

Members should act in a reliable and trustworthy manner and be alert to ways in which their work

and behaviour may affect others. They should respect the privacy, rights and reputations of other parties and individuals. Members must reject any and all forms of bribery and improper influence, reporting any such occurrences to the appropriate authorities.

### **Respect for life, law, the environment and public good**

Members should hold paramount the health and safety of others and draw attention to any hazards that may have a detrimental impact on health and safety. Members should recognise and respect personal information and intellectual property, and recognise the importance of physical and cyber security and data protection. Members should act to protect, and where possible, improve, the quality of the built and natural environments, and should seek to minimise both actual and potential adverse effects for their own and succeeding generations.

### **Accuracy and vigour**

Members should always act with care and perform services only in areas in which they are competent, or under competent supervision. Members should keep their skills and knowledge up to date and assist in the development of knowledge and skill in other professionals. Members should present and review theory, evidence and interpretation honestly, accurately, objectively and without bias, whilst also respecting reasoned alternative and dissenting views. Members should not knowingly mislead or allow others to be misled and should identify, evaluate, quantify, mitigate and manage risks objectively and appropriately.

### **Leadership and Communication**

As engineering professionals, members should be aware of the issues that engineering and technology raise for society, and listen to the aspirations and concerns of others. Members should promote equality, diversity and inclusion, and should seek to promote public awareness and understanding of the impacts and benefits of engineering achievements. Members should always be truthful in any statement made in a professional capacity and should challenge statements or policies that cause them professional concern.