



# The Code of Professional Conduct

Members of the Institution, in all grades, are required to maintain the highest standards of professional conduct.

All members must order their conduct in accordance with this Code. Members engaged in work outside the United Kingdom shall comply as far as is possible with this Code and with any established standards of conduct that exist in that country.

## Members shall:

1. At all times so order their conduct as to uphold the dignity and reputation of their profession and to safeguard the public interest in matters relevant to the art, science and practice of Building Services Engineering.
2. Exercise professional skill, care and diligence to the best of their ability and discharge their duties and responsibilities with fidelity, and with proper regard for professional standards.
3. Actively maintain, and where possible encourage others to maintain, their professional competence through systematic improvement and broadening of their knowledge and skill in accordance with Institution guidelines on Continuing Professional Development as published from time to time.
4. Reject bribery and all forms of corrupt behaviour, and make positive efforts to ensure others do likewise.
5. Avoid, where possible, real or perceived conflict of interest and disclose to their employer or client any significant interest in another company, firm or person undertaking any business which may benefit directly or indirectly from their work.
6. When acting on behalf of the Institution act in accordance with the Seven Principles of Public Life, accurately represent the views of the Institution, and refrain from promoting their own or their employers' interest.
7. Take all reasonable steps to prevent avoidable danger to the health, safety and welfare of themselves, colleagues and the general public.
8. Raise a concern, either within the workplace or externally, including a danger, risk, malpractice or wrongdoing, which affects others.
9. Promote the principles of sustainability and seek to prevent avoidable adverse impacts on the environment and society.
10. Only undertake work for which they have sufficient professional and technical competence and adequate resources to meet their obligations. They should also disclose relevant limitations of competence.
11. Treat all persons fairly and with respect and embrace equality of opportunity, diversity and the elimination of discrimination.
12. Cooperate and integrate proactively and with other professionals in the built environment.
13. Adopt a security minded approach and observe the proper duties of confidentiality owed to appropriate parties.
14. Notify the Institution if convicted of a criminal offence or disqualified as a company director.
15. Assess relevant liability and, if appropriate, hold professional indemnity insurance.
16. Notify the Institution of any significant violation of the Institution's Code of Conduct by another member.

**For CIBSE Charter and By-laws, please refer to the CIBSE website, [www.cibse.org](http://www.cibse.org).**

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# Supporting guidance and principles

The CIBSE code of conduct is supported by the best practice outlined in the guidance and principles provided below from the Royal Academy of Engineering, Engineering Council, Construction Industry Council and the Seven Principles of Public Life (also known as the Nolan Principles). These principles outline the types of behaviour that will assist adherence to the CIBSE code of conduct.

## Royal Academy of Engineering Statement of Ethical Principles

The Royal Academy of Engineering and Engineering Council have produced a statement of ethical principles. This statement was produced through discussions with engineers from a number of different engineering institutions and with philosophers specialising in applied ethics. CIBSE was involved in the development of this statement which is intended to be a statement of the values and principles that guide engineering practice and the codes of practice published by the participating engineering institutions.

This Statement comprises four fundamental principles that sit alongside the CIBSE Code of Conduct and together should guide an engineer in achieving the high ideals of professional life.

- Accuracy and Rigour
- Honesty and Integrity
- Respect for Life, Law and the Public Good
- Leadership and Communication

These four principles express the beliefs and values of the engineering profession and are amplified in the Statement [which can be downloaded here](#).

## Engineering Council Guidance on Risk, Sustainability Whistleblowing and Security

The Engineering Council has produced guidance on Risk, sustainability and whistleblowing which CIBSE members should review in conjunction with the CIBSE Code of Conduct.

### Engineering Council Guidance on Risk

The Engineering Council's guidance is generic, top level and profession-wide. It establishes six principles to help engineers meet their professional obligations, and to ensure that risk is an important consideration in all their engineering activity.

For full details please visit: [www.engc.org.uk/risk](http://www.engc.org.uk/risk)

### Engineering Council Guidance on Sustainability

The Engineering Council's guidance describes the role of engineers in relation to sustainability. Six principles have been developed, to guide and motivate you to achieve sustainable development in your work, and help you to meet your professional obligations to seek to achieve sustainability.

For full details please visit: [www.engc.org.uk/sustainability](http://www.engc.org.uk/sustainability)

### Engineering Council Guidance on Whistleblowing

This guidance is intended to support engineers and technicians when confronted by a potential whistleblowing situation. It sets out the processes engineers and technicians should follow in raising such a concern and where to get advice.

For full details please visit: [www.engc.org.uk/whistleblowing](http://www.engc.org.uk/whistleblowing)

### Engineering Council Guidance on Security

The Engineering Council's Guidance aims to guide engineers and technicians in identifying, assessing, managing **and** communicating issues about security.

For full details please visit [www.engc.org.uk/security](http://www.engc.org.uk/security)

## **Construction Industry Council's Essential Principles for Built Environment Professionals**

The Essential Principles Guide is an initiative that emerged from the Built Environment Professional Education project in March 2017. It contains six principles to guide, support and motivate all built environment professionals when making decisions for clients, employers and society which affect the achievement of an inclusive environment.

For full details please visit: <http://cic.org.uk/networks-and-committees/essential-principles-guide.php>

## **The Seven Principles of Public Life (also known as the Nolan Principles)**

More information can be found on the Government Website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life>