

## Professional Ethics and Code of Conduct

### Code of Ethics

CIWEM members are expected to comply with the following code of ethics.

Initially approved by the Council of CIWEM at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2001, with amendments approved by the Trustee Board on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2010, and a new code approved by the Trustee Board on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014, with amendments approved in March 2021.

The Code of Ethics is a set of fifteen principles with which members are expected to comply. The first seven relate to environmental behaviour and the following eight to professional behaviour.

**Members of CIWEM (referred to here as “the Institution”) should acknowledge the environment is rich in diversity which includes natural, human, social, physical and biological interests and use their best endeavours to achieve and maintain an equitable and sustainable environment. In particular members are expected to:**

1. take account of the interaction between the natural, man-made and socio-cultural environment and promote enhancement wherever practicable
2. understand that ecosystem services provide an essential contribution to human well-being and apply this in their work.
3. promote the use of integrated solutions to the management of the wider environment
4. take all reasonable steps to avoid causing or allowing environmental damage, degradation or nuisance
5. avoid knowingly or deliberately over-exploiting natural resources
6. take into consideration the needs of the community
7. positively encourage equality and diversity in professional activities

**Furthermore, when engaged in professional activities, Members should –**

8. act honestly, objectively and impartially and maintain confidentiality when required to do so
9. accept responsibility for their personal decisions and actions
10. assess relevant liability, and where appropriate hold professional indemnity insurance
11. never act illegally, fraudulently, deceitfully or dishonestly

12. avoid conflicts of interest and disclose any which may arise as soon as reasonably practicable
13. advance their learning and competence, supporting and encourage others to do the same; recognise the limits of their competence
14. notify the Institution immediately if they have:
  - received a criminal conviction, or an adverse civil court judgement, related to any aspect of the Institution's Code of Professional Conduct (whether in UK or overseas);
  - been declared bankrupt or disqualified as a Company Director or Charity Trustee;
  - had membership of another professional body terminated as the result of a disciplinary procedure;
  - had employment terminated for gross misconduct.
15. uphold the reputation of the Institution

### **Professional Conduct**

Bye-Law 29 states that each member shall:

- (a) order their conduct pursuant to the Code of Ethics and so as to uphold and enhance the dignity, standing and reputation of the Institution and profession; and
- (b) exercise their professional skills and judgement to the best of their ability and discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity; and
- (c) have due regard to the public interest and protection and enhancement of the environment in the discharge of their duties; and
- (d) shall not maliciously or recklessly injure or attempt to injure whether directly or indirectly the professional reputation of another member.