

## 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 6th April 2001, with amendments approved by the Trustee Board on the 29th September 2010, and a new code approved by the Trustee Board on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

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

**Members of 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 environmental damage, degradation or nuisance
5. avoid knowingly or deliberately over-exploiting natural resources
6. take into consideration the needs of the community

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

7. act honestly, objectively and impartially and maintain confidentiality when required to do so
8. accept responsibility for their personal decisions and actions
9. never act illegally, fraudulently, deceitfully or dishonestly
10. avoid conflicts of interest and disclose any which may arise
11. advance their learning and competence and encourage others to do the same; recognize the limits of their competence
12. uphold the reputation of CIWEM and avoid damaging the reputation of any of its members

### 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.