



CORRUPTION PREVENTION SHOULD HAVE EQUAL STANDING WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. Most professional bodies in the infrastructure, construction and engineering (IC&E) sectors require a degree of awareness of corruption which is reflected in the body's own code of conduct. However, the level of attention paid to corruption is generally far subordinate to the attention paid to health and safety.
2. **The Anti-Corruption Forum recommends that** the prevention of corruption, including any form of bribery, extortion, fraud or deception, should have equal standing with health and safety in the requirements for professional status, and in continuing professional development, for all professionals in the IC&E sectors.
3. In order to promote the implementation of the above recommendation, the Anti-Corruption Forum will, through its Professional Standards Working Group, take the following actions.
 - a) Open discussions with professional bodies in the IC&E sectors on this matter.
 - b) Collect information on best practice in the IC&E sectors regarding the way in which professional bodies and companies encourage individuals to raise concerns of corruption with senior management in their organisations, protect the anonymity of those individuals and provide advice and support in relation to "whistle-blowing".
 - c) Encourage IC&E professional bodies to have a nominated person within each body with whom individuals can converse if they have been unable to achieve satisfaction within their own organisation and if they are concerned about the implications of "whistle-blowing". The nominated person may require training in how to handle such situations.
 - d) Encourage IC&E professional bodies to aim for consistency in how they deal with members found guilty of corruption.
 - e) Produce guidance for professional bodies in relation to disciplinary action covering the following headings:
 - Consistency of definition of what constitutes corruption.
 - An outline of offences where corruption would be the major, or sole, component.
 - Guidance on different types of corruption, and their relative severity.
 - The penalties that a professional body should impose upon a member found guilty of corruption.

- Factors that should be considered in mitigation when determining the penalty to be imposed, including any pressure from the guilty member's employer upon him/her to act corruptly and the guilty member's proposals to change his/her conduct and attitude to corruption.
 - How a situation should be handled where a person is disciplined for corruption by a professional body but is a member of another professional body that has not been informed of the offence.
- f) Encourage IC&E professional bodies to publicise regularly information about corruption, the law relating to it (both inside and outside UK), and its effects.
 - g) Ensure that IC&E professional bodies that join the Anti-Corruption Forum have clauses in their codes of conduct and/or bye-laws that adequately cover corruption. If this is not the case, the body should be given a limited time period, of no more than two years, in which to comply.
 - h) Encourage IC&E professional bodies within the UK only to enter into co-operation agreements with non-UK IC&E professional bodies if they have codes of conduct that adequately cover corruption.
 - i) Open discussions with IC&E professional bodies that do not have clauses in their codes of conduct and/or bye-laws that adequately cover corruption.

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The UK Anti-Corruption Forum is an alliance of UK business associations, professional institutions, civil society organisations and companies with interests in the domestic and international infrastructure, construction and engineering sectors. The purpose of the Forum is to promote industry-led actions which can help to eliminate corruption. The members of the Forum believe that corruption can only be eliminated if governments, banks, business and professional associations, and companies working in these sectors co-operate in the development and implementation of effective anti-corruption actions.

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