



RCH

CODE OF PRACTICE AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Published by authority of the Board with effect from 1 February 1998.

Copyright reserved, PO Box 11106, Wellington.

CODE OF PRACTICE AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

This Code has been prepared by the Architects Education and Registration Board pursuant to section 36(e) of the Architects Act 1963, which provides that one of the functions of the Board is “to prepare and publish from time to time a code of practice and professional conduct to be observed by architects”.

Changes may be approved by the Board from time to time and notified to architects before their incorporation in a revised edition of the Code. Architects are expected to be familiar with new provisions from the date of their notification.

The Architects Act 1963 confers on the Board certain powers of investigation and discipline in relation to the conduct of architects. If the Board is satisfied after proper enquiry, as provided in the Act, that an architect has acted in breach of any part of this Code, the Board may conclude that such breach constitutes grounds for disciplinary action under Section 42(b) of the Act and may lead to an exercise of the Board’s disciplinary powers as provided in Sections 41 to 45 of the Act.

The provisions of the Code are not to be taken as in any way limiting or qualifying the powers of the Board as conferred by the provisions of the Act. This Code indicates the standard of conduct to which all architects must adhere. Architects are responsible to ensure that their conduct and that of their employees, and to the extent that it is within their control, the conduct of any company or other organisation, conform with this Code.

The Code has four Principles together with a number of Rules, each relating to a particular Principle and to be read with it.

PRINCIPLE 1 - COMPETENCE

An architect shall strive:

- A** to ensure that he or she is competent to deal effectively with duties undertaken; and
 - B** to maintain and extend his or her competence.
-

PRINCIPLE 2 - RESPONSIBILITY

An architect shall act responsibly in carrying out all duties undertaken, having proper regard for the interests of both those who commission and those who may be expected to use or enjoy the product.

- 2.1** An architect may make his or her practice availability known to the public provided that the information given is in substance and in presentation factual and neither misleading nor unfair to others.
 - 2.2** An architect shall act responsibly in offering, providing and charging for services.
 - 2.3** An architect shall establish and confirm as early as possible with each client the conditions of engagement, the services to be rendered and the fees to be paid.
 - 2.4** An architect may engage another person or organisation to carry out all or any aspect of a public relations policy and shall be responsible to ensure that such activities are not in conflict with any of the provisions of this Code.
-

PRINCIPLE 3 - INTEGRITY

An architect shall avoid actions or situations inconsistent with professional obligations or likely to raise doubts about his or her integrity.

- 3.1** An architect who finds that personal and professional interests conflict so as to risk a breach of this principle, shall, as the circumstances may require, either withdraw from the situation or remove the source of conflict or declare it and obtain the agreement of the parties concerned to the continuance of the engagement.
 - 3.2** An architect may publicly endorse a service or product provided this is done with the care expected of an architect.
 - 3.3** An architect who superintends or controls the architectural business of any organisation shall ensure that such business is conducted in conformity with this Code. An architect who is unable to ensure that the business is so conducted, or who is asked by the Registrar for information about the conduct of this business in relation to this Code, shall furnish the Registrar with a written declaration of the facts.
 - 3.4** An architect who is in business with an unregistered person shall not permit any written material that may reasonably cause any other person to believe that such unregistered person is an architect.
 - 3.5** An architect participating as principal or employee in building contracting activities not including the design of buildings, or employed in any other aspect of the commerce or industry of building construction, shall not imply or permit others to imply, through the use of the word architect or through references to professional training, registration or membership of the NZIA, a professional relationship with the building owner, nor in any way mislead owners or the public as to the actual role played.
-

PRINCIPLE 4 - IMPARTIALITY

An architect shall be impartial when acting between parties and shall interpret the conditions of a contract with fairness as between the parties.

