

Ethics and You

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CIPFA Ethics Working Group

I will cover:

- What do we mean when we talk about Ethics
- What CIPFA expects
- What CIPFA offers
- What we, as a CIPFA Community, can do to help **ourselves**, and **each other**.

What do we mean when we talk about Ethics



What do we mean when we talk about Ethics

- ethics is a system of moral principles
- Study of right and wrong
- Personal v Professional ethics
- As a professional accountant – what it says in the Code of Ethics from each Institute/Association as guidance
- As a public servant – what it says in the codes of conduct from workplace

What CIPFA expects

- That as CIPFA accountants and trainees, we uphold in our behaviours and actions the CIPFA Statement of Proper Practice SOPP

What CIPFA expects

“Few decisions we face will be as simple as yes or no. There is always a context and always factors to weigh up. Underpinning our choices are ethical considerations; put simply, am I doing the right thing, as an individual and as a member of society? This is no less real in professional life as it is in our personal life”.

“No matter how much of a good deal something looks or how busy we are with other things, we have a duty to ensure the appropriate due diligence and governance processes are in place. We are bound by the SOPP and letting it fall by the wayside would have dire consequences. Sure, the risk of being scapegoated or having your post deleted is extremely worrying, but to not uphold ethical standards for fear of these is worse and carries with it a niggling conscience”

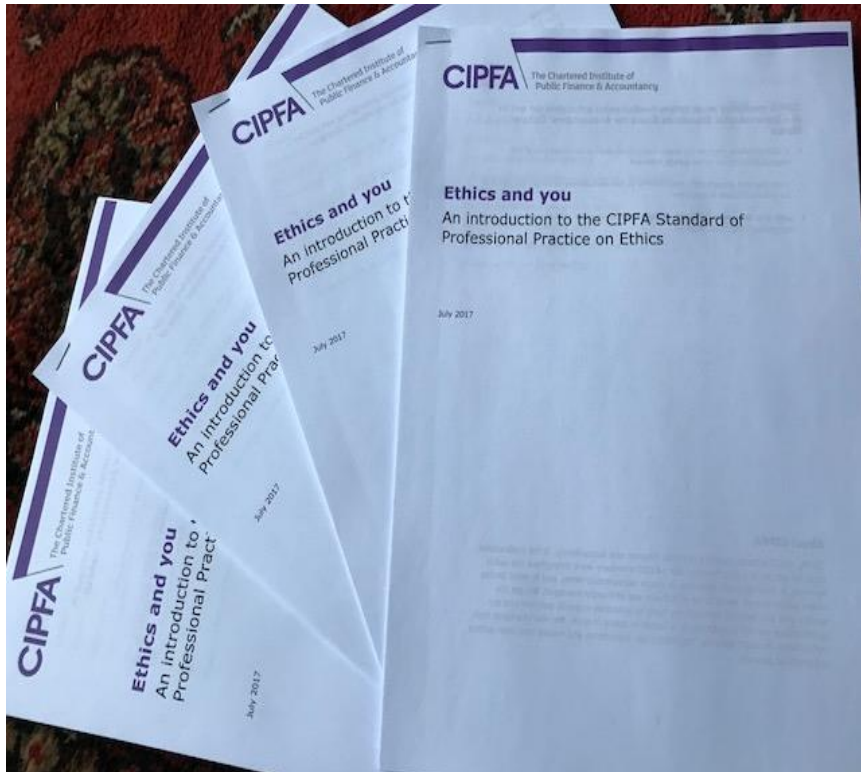
The only way is ethics 18-10-2017

By Rob Whiteman, CIPFA Chief Executive

What CIPFA offers



[on Ethics](#) is based on the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) Code of Ethics, which CIPFA adopts in full. CIPFA periodically updates its Code; CIPFA's SOPP is current based on the 2017 version but will be fully updated with the most recent Code of Ethics from 1st January 2018, following adoption at CIPFA Council in February 2017.



What CIPFA offers

Working Group, chaired
President Margaret Pratt.

and You – easy to read
updated last year

by

guidance

What we, as a CIPFA Community, can do to help ourselves, and each other



Suggestions include:

- **Be prepared:** know your organisation's code of conduct and procedures on whistleblowing;
- **Talk/share concerns:** peer group colleagues;
- **Use your support networks:** family, friends;
- **Professional networks:** union, trade groups, support/get involved CIPFA Regional activity

What we, as a CIPFA Community, can do to help ourselves, and each other



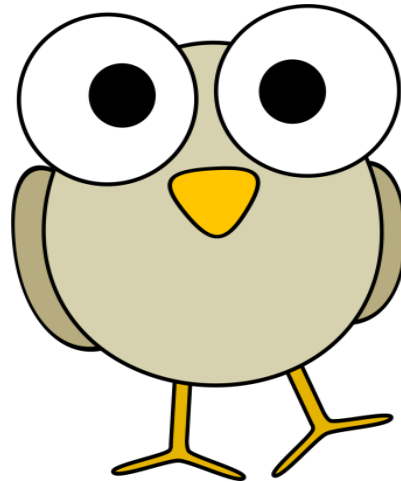
Suggestions include:

- Encourage debate on this issue widely and in relation to our work scenarios
- Be aware of the position your team, your Finance Director, your students are in that are likely to involve situations needing “moral courage”- talk to them!

What we, as a CIPFA Community, can do to help ourselves, and each other



- What other suggestions have you got?



Thank you for listening, and for the opportunity to share this with you today.

We all have a part to play in addressing Ethics and raising the profile of acting ethically at all times.

Let me know if you want to know more of what the Ethics Working Group is doing and how CIPFA is supporting its work, or any suggestions you have to move the debate forward.

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Rick Tazzini file share:

- <https://www.slideshare.net/RickTazzini/ethics-for-professional-accountants-in-the-nhs-2017>

Handbook of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants – IFA:

- http://www.ire.lu/fileadmin/media/Env_normatif_D%C3%A9ontologie/IESBA-2016-Handbook.pdf

Rob Whiteman's article - The only way is ethics 18-10-2017

- <http://www.cipfa.org/cipfa-thinks/cipfa-thinks-articles/the-ony-way-is-ethics>

International Federation of Accountants

Code of Ethics

Part A – Framework applies to all professional accountants

Part B – Professional accountants in public practice

Part C – Professional accountants in business



International Ethics Standards
Board for Accountants®

Handbook of the Code
of Ethics for Professional
Accountants

2016 Edition