



Architects Act 1997

1997 CHAPTER 22

PART III

DISCIPLINE

Professional standards

13 Code of practice

- (1) The Board shall issue a code laying down standards of professional conduct and practice expected of registered persons.
- (2) The Board shall keep the code under review and vary its provisions whenever it considers it appropriate to do so.
- (3) Before issuing or varying the code, the Board shall—
 - (a) consult such professional bodies and such other persons with an interest in architecture as it considers appropriate; and
 - (b) publish in such manner as it considers appropriate notice that it proposes to issue or vary the code, stating where copies of the proposals can be obtained.
- (4) Failure by a registered person to comply with the provisions of the code—
 - (a) shall not be taken of itself to constitute unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence on his part; but
 - (b) shall be taken into account in any proceedings against him under section 14.
- (5) The Board shall provide a copy of the code to any person who requests one on payment of a reasonable charge decided by the Board (and may provide a copy free of charge whenever it considers appropriate).

14 Professional misconduct and incompetence

- (1) Where an allegation is made that a registered person is guilty of—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) unacceptable professional conduct (that is, conduct which falls short of the standard required of a registered person); or
 - (b) serious professional incompetence,or it appears to the Registrar that a registered person may be so guilty, the case shall be investigated by persons appointed in accordance with rules made by the Board.
- (2) Where persons investigating a case under subsection (1) find that a registered person has a case to answer, they shall report their finding to the Professional Conduct Committee.
- (3) Where the Professional Conduct Committee receives a report under subsection (2) in relation to a registered person, the Committee shall consider whether he is guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence.
- (4) Before considering whether a registered person is guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence the Professional Conduct Committee shall—
 - (a) serve written notice on him outlining the case against him; and
 - (b) give him the opportunity to appear before the Committee to argue his case.
- (5) At any such hearing the registered person is entitled to be legally represented.
- (6) The Board may make rules as to the procedure to be followed by the Professional Conduct Committee in any proceedings under this section.
- (7) If the Board does not make rules for the appointment of persons to investigate whether registered persons have been guilty of unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence, the Professional Conduct Committee shall consider such questions without any prior investigation.