

SRA Principles

Introduction

The SRA Principles comprise the fundamental tenets of ethical behaviour that we expect all those that we regulate to uphold. This includes all individuals we authorise to provide legal services (solicitors, RELs and RFLs), as well as authorised firms and their managers and employees. For licensed bodies, these apply to those individuals, and the part of the body (where applicable), involved in delivering the services we regulate in accordance with the terms of your licence.

Should the Principles come into conflict, those which safeguard the wider public interest (such as the rule of law, and public confidence in a trustworthy solicitors' profession and a safe and effective market for regulated legal services) take precedence over an individual client's interests. You should, where relevant, inform your client of the circumstances in which your duty to the Court and other professional obligations will outweigh your duty to them.

The Principles and Codes are underpinned by our [Enforcement Strategy](#), which explains in more detail our approach to taking regulatory action in the public interest.

This introduction does not form part of the SRA Principles.

The principles are as follows:

SRA Principles

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You act:

- .1 in a way that upholds the constitutional principle of the rule of law, and the proper administration of justice.
- .2 in a way that upholds public trust and confidence in the solicitors' profession and in legal services provided by authorised persons.
- .3 with independence.
- .4 with honesty.
- .5 with integrity.
- .6 in a way that encourages equality, diversity and inclusion.
- .7 in the best interests of each client.

Glossary terms

solicitor

authorised person

client

Supplemental notes

Made by the SRA Board on 30 May 2018.

Made under section 31 of the Solicitors Act 1974, section 9 of the Administration of Justice Act 1985 and section 83 of the Legal Services Act 2007.