

Volunteering Opportunities on CIPFA's Regulatory Committees

Volunteers are sought to join CIPFA's Investigations, Disciplinary and Appeal committees. Applications are particularly sought from members who have worked at director of finance level within public and private sector organisations, particularly within the NHS, local authority sector and those who have senior audit experience.

The Disciplinary Scheme

CIPFA's Disciplinary Scheme considers complaints of unethical or unprofessional conduct in relation to CIPFA Members and Students. The Investigations, Disciplinary and Appeal Committees each consists of CIPFA Members and independent members (i.e. non-accountants).

Investigations of disciplinary complaints are conducted by the Institute's investigations team under the auspices of the Investigations Committee. Three-member panels of the Investigations Committee consider reports from the team and determine whether to exercise the committee's powers to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee, impose one of the lesser sanctions or dismiss the case.

The Investigations Committee generally conducts business remotely i.e. through the use of email, telephone and correspondence. Attendance at meetings is an occasional requirement.

CIPFA's Disciplinary Committee adjudicates on disciplinary cases referred by the Investigations Committee at public hearings. This committee may impose reprimands, severe reprimands, make orders for suspension or expulsion from the Institute, require members to reimburse client fees and impose fines of up to £10,000.

The Appeal Committee considers appeals from the Disciplinary Committee and may confirm, vary or rescind any order of the Disciplinary Committee.

Both the Disciplinary and Appeal Committees conduct business at hearings which are open to the public. The process is adversarial and an independent legal assessor attends all hearings to advise on law and procedure.

The Competency Scheme

Members of the Disciplinary Scheme committees also sit on CIPFA's Competency Scheme committees.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Competency Scheme considers the competency of members who have become bankrupt, made arrangements with their creditors or who suffer from mental disorder which may impair their ability to practise as a CIPFA accountant.

The process reflects that of the Disciplinary Scheme in that each stage of an investigation is considered by a separate committee. However, all hearings are held in private and the powers of the committees are limited to orders for suspension or exclusion from membership.

General

Successful applicants to the Disciplinary and Competency Scheme committees will be required to complete a training programme of one day's duration before appointments are confirmed.

All committee members will be paid travel and subsistence expenses incurred on committee business.

Appointments will normally be for a period of 3-5 years.

The time commitment is approximately 6 days per annum plus attendance at a training day each year for the Disciplinary and Competency Schemes.

Applicants should have an interest in improving standards through professional self-regulation, be willing to bring their professional experience to bear on issues that may affect the livelihood of fellow CIPFA members, possess the ability to understand and analyse complex issues and be able to demonstrate sound judgment.

For further details on the specific roles and person specifications, please contact Jane Jones at jane.jones@cipfa.org.uk