



# IMPARTIALITY POLICY & PUBLIC STATEMENT

TVE CERT is the legal entity responsible for certification activities; reference to TVE CERT in this Policy and Public Statement refers to these legal entities.

TVE CERT its Top Management, Managers and Staff fully understands the importance of impartiality in undertaking its Certification Activities. TVE CERT will therefore ensure that in all its dealings with clients or potential clients all employees or other personnel are and will remain impartial.

To ensure that impartiality is both maintained and can be demonstrated by the following principles have been established.

- TVE CERT Certificates are only issued following a review by an independent authorised and competent member of the management team to ensure that no interest shall predominate
- TVE CERT does not offer (and has never offered) management system consultancy or any other form of consultancy to companies or individuals.
- TVE CERT does not offer (and has never offered) an internal audit service to companies or individuals.
- TVE CERT does not own or have any interest (financial or otherwise) in any other company that offers certification, management system consultancy or internal audit services.
- TVE CERT and any part of the same legal entity and any entity under the organizational control of TVE CERT shall not offer or provide internal audits to its certified clients. Exceptionally and at the discretion of the Top Management, TVE CERT can accept a management system audit where a past relationship has existed but there has been no relationship for a minimum of 2 years. The risk assessment will be reviewed by the Committee for Impartiality.
- TVE CERT does not have (and will not form) any relationships with companies who offer consultancy, internal audit services or other services that can be considered as having an impact on the certification services provided by TVE CERT. Any current relationships with companies, organisations and individuals will be risk assessed on a regular basis to ensure that the relationship does not impact upon the impartiality of the certification process. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the Committee for Impartiality.
- Individuals employed by or otherwise contracted to TVE CERT are required to document and record their current and past relationships with all companies. Any situation past or present which may present a potential conflict of interest is required by TVE CERT to be declared. TVE CERT will use the information to identify any threats to impartiality and will not use that individual in any capacity unless they can demonstrate that there is no conflict of interest. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the Committee for Impartiality.
- TVE CERT will not allocate a member of staff or sub-contractor to a management system audit where any past relationship has existed. Exceptionally and at the discretion of the Top Management an individual or sub-contractor may be allocated to a management system audit where a past relationship has existed but there has been no relationship for a minimum of 2 years. The risk assessment will be reviewed by the Committee for Impartiality.

- TVE CERT does not offer any implementation training.
- TVE CERT will ensure that it is not linked or marketed in any way which links it with the activities of a management system consultancy and will take appropriate action should any such link be identified.
- All employees will be reviewed at least annually to ensure that they remain impartial when conducting audits.
- Auditors and others involved in the certification process are not and will not be put under any pressure and will not be influenced in any way to come to a particular conclusion regarding the result of an audit.

