

Issued by the Relevant Internal Audit Standard Setters:













In collaboration with:



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Glossary

SECTION 1

This document is therefore addressed to accounting officers, accountable officers, board and audit such as chief financial officers and chief executives.

Framework overview

Definition of 1	Internal Auditing	
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- Code of Ethics

The overarching principle borne in mind when all potential public sector interpretations and/or specific

- governance (taking into account, for example, any funding mechanisms, specific legislation etc).
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- _

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Purpose of the PSIAS

■ define the nature of internal auditing within the UK public sector

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Scope
All internal audit assurance and consulting services fall within the scope of the Definition of Internal
Consulting services are advisory in nature and are generally performed at the specific request of the
Code of Ethics Seven Principles of Public Life.
Standards apply to specific types of engagements and are classified accordingly: Standards employ terms that have been given specific meanings that are included in the Glossary.

Key governance elements

officer, chief financial officer, chief executive, the audit committee and other key officers or relevant and groups are defined for each internal audit service within its charter.

CIPFA			England and Wales only The Office of the Police constabularies, fire authorities, fire and
HM Treasury	UK*		
Department of Health		England	

Scottish Government	Scotland Office and Procurator	Scotland	
Welsh Government	Wales	Wales	
Northern Ireland Executive: Department of Finance (NI)			

Definition of Internal Auditing

■ Is objective and free from undue influence (independent).

Public sector requirement
0 / 6511
Code of Ethics
Code of Ethics
Code of Ethics extends beyond the definition of internal auditing to include two
Components
Code of Ethics to Institute members and those who provide internal auditing services within the definition of
to Institute members and those who provide internal auditing services within the definition of
Applicability and Enforcement
Code of Ethics Code of Ethics
Public sector interpretation
Code of Ethics

1 Integrity
Principle
Rules of Conduct
2 Objectivity
Principle
influenced by their own interests or by others in forming judgements.
Rules of Conduct
conflict with the interests of the organisation.
3 Conf dentiality
Principle Princi
Rules of Conduct

Rules of Conduct
4.3 Shall continually improve their proficiency and effectiveness and quality of their services.
Public sector requirement
Seven Principles of Public Life

4 Competency

Principle

1000 Purpose, Authority, and Responsibility

The purpose, authority and responsibility of the internal audit activity must be formally defined in an *Mission of Internal Audit*

Core Principles for the Professional Practice of Definition of Internal Auditing

Internal Auditing

Code of Ethics,

Standards

Interpretation:

The internal audit charter is a formal document that defines the internal audit activity's purpose, authority

of engagements; and defines the scope of internal audit activities. Final approval of the internal audit

Public sector requirement

- define the terms 'board' and 'senior management' for the purposes of internal audit activity
- define the role of internal audit in any fraud-related work, and

1000.A1

The nature of assurance services provided to the organisation must be defined in the internal audit assurances must also be defined in the internal audit charter.

1000.C1

The nature of consulting services must be defined in the internal audit charter.

2

1010 Recognising Mandatory Guidance in the Internal Audit Charter Core Principles for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing Code of Ethics Definition of Internal Auditing Standards 1100 Independence and Objectivity Interpretation: 1110 Organisational Independence activity to fulfil its responsibilities. The chief audit executive must confirm to the board, at least annually, Interpretation:

Public sector requirement	

Public sector interpretation
the CAE's remuneration specifically. The underlying principle is that the independence of the
inappropriately influenced by those subject to audit. In the UK public sector this can be achieved by
1110.A1
1111 Direct Interaction with the Board
1112 Chief Audit Executive Roles Beyond Internal Auditing
Interpretation:
Public sector interpretation
Code of Ethics

1120 Individual Objectivity

Internal auditors must have an impartial, unbiased attitude and avoid any conflict of interest.

Interpretation:

Conflict of interest is a situation in which an internal auditor, who is in a position of trust, has a competing professional or personal interest. Such competing interests can make it difficult to fulfil his or her duties impartially. A conflict of interest exists even if no unethical or improper act results. A conflict of interest can create an appearance of impropriety that can undermine confidence in the internal auditor, the internal audit activity and the profession. A conflict of interest could impair an individual's ability to

1130 Impairment to Independence or Objectivity
Interpretation:
personal conflict of interest, scope limitations, restrictions on access to records, personnel and properties
1130.A1 Internal auditors must refrain from assessing specific operations for which they were previously
1130.A2
1130.A3
1130.C1

Public sector requirement

Approval must be sought from the board for any significant additional consulting services not already

1200 Prof ciency and Due Professional Care

Engagements must be performed with proficiency and due professional care.

1210 Prof ciency

Interpretation:

Proficiency is a collective term that refers to the knowledge, skills, and other competencies required of

Internal auditors are encouraged to demonstrate their proficiency by obtaining appropriate professional certifications and qualifications, such as the Certified Internal Auditor designation and other designations

Public sector requirement

The chief audit executive must hold a professional qualification (CMIIA, CCAB or equivalent) and be

1210.A1

1210.A2

Internal auditors must have sufficient knowledge to evaluate the risk of fraud and the manner in which it

1210.A3

Internal auditors must have sufficient knowledge of key information technology risks and controls and

1220 Due Professional Care

1220.A1

- Relative complexity, materiality or significance of matters to which assurance procedures are applied
- Probability of significant errors, fraud, or non-compliance, and
- Cost of assurance in relation to potential benefits.

1220.A2

1220.A3

Internal auditors must be alert to the significant risks that might affect objectives, operations or not guarantee that all significant risks will be identified.

1311 Internal Assessments

- Periodic self-assessments or assessments by other persons within the organisation with sufficient

Interpretation:

Code of Ethics

Standards.

Code of Ethics

Standards.

Sufficient knowledge of internal audit practices requires at least an understanding of all elements of the

1312 External Assessments

External assessments must be conducted at least once every five years by a qualified, independent

- The qualifications and independence of the external assessor or assessment team, including any potential conflict of interest.

Interpretation:

Code of

Ethics Standards

A qualified assessor or assessment team demonstrates competence in two areas: the professional practice

team as a whole that is qualified. The chief audit executive uses professional judgment when assessing whether an assessor or assessment team demonstrates sufficient competence to be qualified.

An independent assessor or assessment team means not having either an actual or a perceived conflict

to reduce perceived or potential conflicts of interest.

Public sector requirement

eg the accounting/accountable officer or chair of the audit committee as well as with the external

1320 Reporting on the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme

essor(s) or assessi	ment team, including potential
de of Ethics	Standards
al Standards for	the Professional Practice of
Internat	ional Standards for the Professional
of Ethics	Standards
xistence for at leas	st five years will also have the results
Standards	
	I Standards for the Internation of Ethics xistence for at least

Performance Standards

2000 Managing the Internal Audit Activity

Interpretation:				
	Standards.	Code of Ethics	Standards.	
2010 Planning				
Interpretation:				
Public sector requir	rement			
2010.A1				
2010.A2				
2010.C1				

2020	Commi	unication	and A	pproval
2020		aincation	i aiiu A	DDI OVAI

including significant interim changes, to senior management and the board for review and approval. The			
2030 Resource Management The chief audit executive must ensure that internal audit resources are appropriate, sufficient and			
Interpretation:			
Sufficient refers to the quantity of resources needed to accomplish the plan. Resources are effectively			
Public sector requirement			
2040 Policies and Procedures			
Interpretation:			
2050 Coordination and Reliance			
Interpretation:			
2060 Reporting to Senior Management and the Board			
Code of Ethics Standards. Reporting must also include significant risk and			

Code of Ethics	Standards, and action plans to address any significant
Provider and Organi	isational Responsibility for Internal Auditing
Code of Ethics	Standards.
rk	
	Provider and Organi Code of Ethics

2110.A1 2110.A2 2120 Risk Management Interpretation: significant risks are identified and assessed 2120.A1 ■ reliability and integrity of financial and operational information effectiveness and efficiency of operations and programmes

2120.C1

2120.A2

objectives and be alert to the existence of other significant risks.

2120.C3

2130 Control

effectiveness and efficiency and by promoting continuous improvement.

2130.A1

- reliability and integrity of financial and operational information
- effectiveness and efficiency of operations and programmes

2130.C1

2200 Engagement Planning

2201 Planning Considerations

- The significant risks to the activity's objectives, resources and operations and the means by which the
- The opportunities for making significant improvements to the activity's governance, risk management

2201.A1

2201.C1

scope, respective responsibilities and other client expectations. For significant engagements, this

2210 Engagement Objectives

2210 Engagement Objectives
2210.A1
review. Engagement objectives must reflect the results of this assessment.
2210.A2 Internal auditors must consider the probability of significant errors, fraud, non-compliance and other
2210.A3
Interpretation:
Public sector interpretation
2210.C1
2210.C2
2220 Engagement Scope
2220 Engagement Scope The established scope must be sufficient to satisfy the objectives of the engagement.
2220.A1
2220.A2
If significant consulting opportunities arise during an assurance engagement, a specific written

2220.C1

is sufficient to address the agreed-upon objectives. If internal auditors develop reservations about the

2220.C2

objectives and be alert to significant control issues.

2230 Engagement Resource Allocation

Internal auditors must determine appropriate and sufficient resources to achieve engagement objectives

Interpretation:

engagement. Sufficient refers to the quantity of resources needed to accomplish the engagement with

2240 Engagement Work Programme

2240.A1

2240.C1

2300 Performing the Engagement

Internal auditors must identify, analyse, evaluate and document sufficient information to achieve the

2310 I dentifying Information

Internal auditors must identify sufficient, reliable, relevant and useful information to achieve the

Interpretation:

Sufficient information is factual, adequate and convincing so that a prudent, informed person would reach

2320 Analysis and Evaluation

2330 Documenting Information

2330.A2 2330.C1 2340 Engagement Supervision Interpretation: The extent of supervision required will depend on the proficiency and experience of internal auditors and 2400 Communicating Results 2410 Criteria for Communicating 2410.A1 stakeholders and must be supported by sufficient, reliable, relevant and useful information. Interpretation: an engagement may be in relation to controls around a specific process, risk or business unit. The formulation of such opinions requires consideration of the engagement results and their significance.	Internal auditors must document sufficient, reliable, relevant and useful information to support the
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Interpretation: an engagement may be in relation to controls around a specific process, risk or business unit. The formulation of such opinions requires consideration of the engagement results and their significance.	2410.A1
formulation of such opinions requires consideration of the engagement results and their significance.	
	formulation of such opinions requires consideration of the engagement results and their significance.

241	0.A3

2410.C1

2420 Quality of Communications

Interpretation:

understood and logical, avoiding unnecessary technical language and providing all significant and relevant information. Concise communications are to the point and avoid unnecessary elaboration, superfluous

is essential to the target audience and include all significant and relevant information and observations depending on the significance of the issue, allowing management to take appropriate corrective action.

2421 Errors and Omissions

If a final communication contains a significant error or omission, the chief audit executive must

2430 Use of "Conducted in Conformance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing"

International Standards for the

Professional Practice of Internal Auditing

2431 Engagement Disclosure of Non-conformance

Code of Ethics Standards impacts a specific engagement,

- Code of Ethics Standard(s)

2440 Disseminating Results

Interpretation:

The chief audit executive is responsible for reviewing and approving the final engagement communication

2440.A1
The chief audit executive is responsible for communicating the final results to parties who can ensure that
2440.A2
2440.A2
2440.C1 The chief audit executive is responsible for communicating the final results of consulting engagements
2440.C2
During consulting engagements, governance, risk management and control issues may be identified. Whenever these issues are significant to the organisation, they must be communicated to senior
2450 Overall Opinions
opinion must be supported by sufficient, reliable, relevant and useful information.
Interpretation:
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Public sector requirement

2500 Monitoring Progress
2500.A1
2500.C1
2600 Communicating the Acceptance of Risks
Interpretation: The identification of risk accepted by management may be observed through an assurance or consulting

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objective and relevant assurance, and contributes to the effectiveness and efficiency of governance, risk

Adequate Control

and objectives will be achieved efficiently and economically.

Public sector def nition: Assurance Framework

Assurance Services

governance, risk management and control processes for the organisation. Examples may include financial,

Public sector def nition: Audit Committee

framework, the internal control environment and the integrity of financial reporting.

Board

Standards

Standards

Charter

The internal audit charter is a formal document that defines the internal audit activity's purpose, authority

of engagements; and defines the scope of internal audit activities.

Chief Audit Executive

reporting to the chief audit executive will have appropriate professional certifications and qualifications. The specific job title and/or responsibilities of the chief audit executive may vary across organisations.

Code of Ethics

Code of Ethics

Code of Ethics

Code of Ethics

Compliance

Conf ict of Interest

Any relationship that is, or appears to be, not in the best interest of the organisation. A conflict of interest

Consulting Services

Control

the performance of sufficient actions to provide reasonable assurance that objectives and goals will

Control Environment

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- •
- •
- •
- **Control Processes**

Core Principles for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing

Engagement

A specific internal audit assignment, task, or review activity, such as an internal audit, control selfactivities designed to accomplish a specific set of related objectives.

Engagement Objectives

Broad statements developed by internal auditors that define intended engagement accomplishments.

Engagement Opinion

Engagement Work Programme

External Service Provider

A person or firm outside of the organisation that has special knowledge, skill and experience in a

Fraud
Governance
Public sector def nition: Governance Statement
Public sector definition: Governance Statement
Impairment
Impairment to organisational independence and individual objectivity may include personal conflict of
Independence
Information Technology Controls
Information Technology Governance
Internal Audit Activity

International Professional Practices Framework

Public sector interpretation
Public sector interpretation: International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
Must
Standards
Objectivity
Overall Opinion
number of individual engagements and other activities for a specific time interval.
Risk
Risk Appetite
Risk Management

Should

Standards

Signif cance

judgment assists internal auditors when evaluating the significance of matters within the context of the

Standard

Technology-based Audit Techniques

