

Policy on removal of published decisions

In 2009, the Professional Standards Board (PSB) decided that all disciplinary decisions should be published other than in “exceptional circumstances”. Publication takes place in CII publications (the Journal and Financial Solutions) and on the CII website.

CII publishes disciplinary decisions for the following reasons:

1. To protect the public;
2. To maintain and promote public and market confidence; and
3. To declare and uphold proper standards of conduct

To ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act, the Professional Standards Board approved a policy setting out when published disciplinary decisions should be removed and have adopted a tiered approach.

Tier 1 – The lowest sanctions, such as a reprimand, should attract the lowest publication period of three years. This reflects a potentially inadvertent or technical breach (breach of CII Code of Ethics or other CII regulations) and consequent low action.

Tier 2 – Mid range. Where a sanction for a fixed period is given, the publication time should run concurrently. In addition, the three year rule above should be applied. So a five year suspension should be published for that time, plus 3 years.

Tier 3 – Highest sanction for expulsions only. An expulsion is reviewable after five years. The decision should, therefore be published for five years plus an additional more stringent publication time of 5 years, to reflect the seriousness of the sanction”.

Although disciplinary decisions will be removed from the website after the time periods set out have elapsed, details will remain on the CII’s records in line with the CII’s internal policy.