

Suspected dishonesty

We do not tolerate dishonesty within the profession we regulate. Those we regulate are in a position of trust. Personal [integrity](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#integrity) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#integrity] is central to their role and they are bound by our [Principles](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/solicitors/standards-regulations/principles) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/solicitors/standards-regulations/principles] to protect [client](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#client) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#client] money and [assets](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#assets) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#assets], and to act in the [public interest](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#public-interest) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#public-interest]. [Solicitors](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#solicitor) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#solicitor] and other individuals that we regulate are often trusted with large amounts of client money. Therefore it is essential that those we regulate act honestly and in their clients' best [interests](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#interests) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#interests].

If you think a person or firm, regulated by us, has been dishonest towards you or a [third party](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#3rd-party) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#3rd-party], contact us immediately via our [contact centre](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/contact-us) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/contact-us] or use our [report a solicitor page](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/].

Dishonesty can take many different forms—from misleading a client about a document, to [complex frauds](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/fraud/) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/fraud/]. We treat any form of dishonesty seriously, because they pose a serious [risk](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#risk) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#risk] to clients and the public interest, as well as jeopardising the reputation of the profession.

A finding of dishonesty against a person regulated by us has serious consequences for him or her. Therefore, we must be absolutely sure that he or she has been dishonest.