

The principal aim of the Nuclear Institute is to promote the highest professional and safety standards for the nuclear industry. As part of the activity towards achieving this aim the Institute has in place a professional development strategy for all professional membership grades i.e. Fellow, Member, Associate Member and Technician.

The Institute's strategy in professional development is based on the following objectives:

- (i) To promote a culture of active participation in professional development amongst the membership of the Institute.
- (ii) To require that members of the Institute maintain a continuous record of their professional development activity.
- (iii) To monitor the professional development profile of individual members of the Institute at appropriate times (related to maintaining Engineering Council and Science Council licensing conditions and when members are applying for, or transferring between, membership grades).
- (iv) To encourage individual members to aim for the highest standards in continuing professional development by the provision of regular information on professional development opportunities, standards and requirements, both in the workplace and in the wider profession.
- (v) To identify areas where professional development needs to be enhanced and to promote appropriate development initiatives in these areas.
- (vi) To regularly review the Institute's continuing professional development policy and to amend and improve where required.

It is generally recognised that most members undertake *professional development* on a regular basis, usually as part of their employment but that many fail to keep adequately documented evidence of this learning.

Each year, you will be required to confirm that you are undertaking CPD and are updating your record; the means of collection of compliance statements is being developed and will be announced in due course. The intention is to commence collection of CPD declarations for all professional members of the NI from January 2015. Detailed guidance on the type and extent of CPD will be issued to Members.

Individuals have 3 months from the request to submit their CPD declaration. In the event of a non-submission, the Individual's professional registration will be at risk.

The Nuclear Institute will review your professional development on a regular basis by means of a sample audit of a proportion of the professional membership. Failure to provide the evidence when requested or insufficient evidence will also put an Individual's professional registration at risk. In this instance the matter will be initially reviewed at the NI Membership committee.

Extenuating Circumstances

In some cases you may be unable to comply with the NI CPD policy (for example in cases of unemployment, maternity or sick leave). In this case you may apply to the NI to take a career break of a period not exceeding 3 years.