

IKD Member Profile & Report 2017

Member organisation	Association of British Investigators
IKD membership since	1969
Company Status	Limited by guarantee Professional body for all professional investigators whether private or public sector
ABI Membership	450 +

Categories

Full (including Fast Track)	Retired
Associate (public sector)	Overseas
Provisional (up to 2 years)	Affiliate
Life Member	Corporate
Honorary	Consociate

Patron	Colin Dexter OBE
Registered office	Brentano Suite Elstree WD6 3SY
Telephone	+44 (0) 20 8191 7500
Email	Secretariat@theABI.org.uk
URL	www.theABI.org.uk



President	Mark HODGSON Mark_Hodgson@theABI.org.uk
Chairman of the Board	Darren SHELMERDINE Darren_Shelmerdine@theABI.org.uk
Secretariat	Tony IMOSSI Daniella IMOSSI Sam COOPER
IKD Delegate	Tony IMOSSI

Description

The Association of British Investigators is the longest established organisation representing professional Investigators in the UK with its foundations laid way back in 1913. With the absence of any statutory control of the investigation industry in the UK, The Association recognised the need for self-regulation many years ago and set very high standards to meet the criteria for membership opting for quality rather than quantity. Members are admitted only after stringent vetting. Members must conduct their business in a professional manner, with Professional Indemnity Insurance and by complying with a strict code of ethics with disciplinary procedures in place to monitor any transgressors. Members are also required to provide a Criminal Convictions Certificate no older than 3 years. A Governing Council normally consisting of up to 10 members including the President and the Chairman, oversees the administration of The Association, which is conducted day to day by the Secretariat team from the dedicated offices in Elstree. The Governing Council officers are democratically elected by the membership each year at an annual conference. The Association is endorsed by The Law Society of England & Wales, The Association is also the only sector accredited association with The Law Society of Scotland and the government body, The Drivers and Vehicle Licensing Agency giving members exclusive access to the vehicle keepers' database electronically in certain circumstances. Private Investigation as an activity is included in the process of regulation under the Private Security Act 2001 but has yet to be implemented.

Code of Ethics & Professional Standards

Bye-Laws & other documents

<http://www.theabi.org.uk/about/compliance-and-guidance>

Directory of Members

A directory of members is available on the web site by location and member.

Newsletter

The Association produces a weekly email newsletter. It also publishes a booklet to help people considering becoming a Private Investigator.

Membership selection process

- a. Credit reference search must be clear of Monetary Judgments or other insolvency
- b. 2 professional written references
- c. Interview by membership panel to check character and competence
- d. Publication of applicant among membership with opportunity for objections from within the membership
- e. Check Data Protection Notification

- f. Check Consumer Credit Licence, if applicable
- h. Professional Indemnity Insurance at a minimum level, currently £250,000
- i. Criminal Convictions Certificate conforming with The Association's Policy
- j. Identity verification
- k. Photographic identity card supplied
- l. Address verification
- m. Full and Provisional membership requires the Level 3 Qualification in Investigations [Fast Track route available to existing investigators with a proven track and competency record, which exempts interview and examination. The application must be sponsored by 2 Full Members].

Disqualification	Yes
Disciplinary procedures	Yes
Data Protection Act 1998	Notification No. Z5636882