

## Member Profile & Report 2012

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 500 + Categories Full

Associate (public sector) Provisional (for up to 2 years)

Life Member Honorary Retired Overseas Affiliate

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 Logo



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General secretary Eric Shelmerdine

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 clear Criminal Convictions Certificate no older than 3 years.



Code of Ethics

Newsletter

Directory of Members

Membership selection process

A Governing Council normally consisting of up to 10 members including the President, who also acts as Chairman, oversees the administration of The Association, which is conducted day to day by the single full-time employee, the General Secretary. The Governing Council officers are democratically elected by the membership each year at an annual conference. See 2012 GC ORBAT annexed.

The Association is endorsed by The Law Society, see <a href="http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/productsandservices/benefits/theabi.page">http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/productsandservices/benefits/theabi.page</a>

The Association is also the only sector accredited association by The Drivers and Vehicle Licensing Agency giving members exclusive access to the vehicle keepers' database electronically in certain circumstances.

Private Investigations are included in the process of regulation under the Private Security Act 2001 to be implemented not before 2013 subject to the report of a recently concluded Judicial Inquiry and following the recommendations of the Parliamentary Home Affairs Select Committee published in July 2012.

Yes and available on www.theABI.org.uk

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

The Association produces a quarterly newsletter entitled "ABI Investigators' Journal." It also publishes a booklet to help people considering becoming a Private Investigator and 2 manuals, The Best Practice Guide, and Process Servers' Guide.

a. Credit reference search must be clear of County Court Judgments and Bankruptcy

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

I. Address verification

Yes

m. On-line examination based on The Association's publication "The Best Practice Guide"

Fast Track route available to existing investigators with a proven track and competency record, which exempts interview and examination.

Disqualification

Disciplinary procedures Yes

Data Protection Act 1998 Notification No. Z5636882



## $\begin{aligned} &\mathsf{GC-ORBAT}\ 2012\ (\mathtt{2012-04-22})\\ &\mathsf{Governing}\ \mathsf{Council} \end{aligned}$



