



AAT

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

ORDER BY CONSENT

In the matter of

Richard Downes MAAT, 158449

Misconduct

Richard Downes' conduct was found to be in breach of the *Code of Professional Ethics* and to have posed a risk to the public and/or undermine public confidence in the Association and its members as follows:

1. On an unknown date in February 2016, whilst employed at ("Company A") as a Finance Director, Richard Downes deposited £4,000 ("the Payment") due to Company A into his own bank account
2. Richard Downes failed to correctly report on the Payment in Company A's accounts and thereby associated himself with reports, returns, communications and/or other information which he knew would be misleading
3. On or around 24 August 2017, Richard Downes altered Company A's accounts in an attempt to conceal the Payment
4. Richard Downes' conduct in respect to Allegations 1, 2 and 3 above was dishonest.

Finding

Grounds for disciplinary action existed and the matter was suitable for the exercise of the Investigations Team's powers under the *Disciplinary Regulations*.

Order

Richard Downes is hereby:

1. Expelled from membership of AAT for a period of three years.

Consent

Richard Downes consented to the decision of the Investigations Team in accordance with Regulation 6 of the *Disciplinary Regulations*.

10 April 2019