

# Best practice code launched by invasive specialists trade body

By Rachel Anderson

A new code of practice has been launched by the Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association (INNSA) for those who specialise in controlling and eradicating unwanted non-native plants.

The code was launched at the inaugural conference of INNSA, which is the trade body representing invasive species specialists.

Delegates at the well-attended event, which was held at the Museum of Science & Technology in Manchester, heard how the new INNSA code of practice will better promote best practice and quality standards within the industry for the benefit of consumers and property professionals.

INNSA chairman Mike Clough said: "I was delighted with the first annual conference that brought together invasive species specialists, lawyers, surveyors, search companies and other property professionals."



**Invasive species: conference held by trade organisation last month**

He added: "The packed agenda was very well received by the audience and a number of delegates

signalled their intention to both subscribe to the new INNSA code of practice and to join the association. We

can now move forward with confidence and engage with all property stakeholders to gain their formal recognition for the code to protect them and their clients."

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors associate director Graham Ellis, who gave a presentation at the conference, said: "There is a clear need for all property professionals to work together to help consumers and businesses identify and tackle invasive species."

He added: "I very much hope the new INNSA code of practice will represent an important milestone in affording protection for property owners who are affected by invasive species."

"I look forward to working closely with INNSA as well as other reputable organisations to ensure that there is joined-up thinking between surveyors and valuers and the specialist remediation community."

## Code of practice Subscriber requirements

Organisations that subscribe to the INNSA code will have to:

- Display the code logo on their websites and any other materials available in the public domain.
- Act with integrity and carry out work with due skill, care and diligence.
- At all times maintain adequate and appropriate insurance to protect consumers.

- Conduct business in an honest, fair and professional manner.
- Handle complaints speedily and fairly.
- Ensure that products and services comply with code registration rules, standards and relevant laws.
- Monitor their compliance with the code.

For further details on the code of practice, see [www.innsa.org](http://www.innsa.org).

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