



## PI Insurance

Kingsbridge has put together a package for IHIE members acting as freelance consultants. It includes £1M Professional Indemnity – which of course you'll need to keep going for some years after finishing work in order to keep up the protection – £5M to protect against third party claims – personal accident – and director's liability in case you are sued. You can buy the package on-line at [www.kpsol.co.uk/ihie](http://www.kpsol.co.uk/ihie) or by calling 0845 6430061.

Information on other PI providers and on self-employment and redundancy is available in 'Need Advice' in the Members' Area of [www.ihie.org.uk](http://www.ihie.org.uk)

## Consultation – Amendments to the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002

On the day of the IHIE Traffic Signs Conference, the Minister of Transport, Sadiq Khan, announced a public consultation on proposed amendments to the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002. At the conference DfT's Richard Creese outlined the proposals. The majority of the amendments focus on prescribing signs that are already routinely authorised, to reduce the need for local authorities to apply to the Department for special authorisation. They will also allow pedestrian facilities to be provided at portable signals and, as picked up by the press, allow a trial permitting cyclists to ride the wrong way along one-way streets – starting in Kensington.

[www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/trafficsignsamendmentregs/](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/trafficsignsamendmentregs/)



DfT staff enjoy a break at the IHIE Traffic Signs 2009

## Member's moves

- Jason Russell (FIHIE) has been appointed as the Acting Head of Surrey Highways.
- Bob Hindhaugh is leaving Cheshire West and Chester after re-organisation and is now a freelance consultant.
- Gerry Harvey (FIHIE) has fully retired from Bucks CC.
- Andy Williams has left Hounslow for Murrill Construction where he is Head of Maintenance & Civil Engineering.

## New Technical Guidance

- LTP3 Guidance is available here: [www.dft.gov.uk/pgf/regional/ltp/guidance/localtransportplans/](http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgf/regional/ltp/guidance/localtransportplans/)
- Environment Agency can now provide local authorities with information about the areas most susceptible to surface water flooding based on modelling.

The 'Flooding in England' – a national assessment of Flood Risk is available on <http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/pdf/GEHO0609BQDS-E-E.pdf>

- Highways Agency has commissioned Gifford to produce revised national guidance to mitigate the effects of rainwater run off from roads.
- The QPA is now the Mineral Products Association (MPA) – an amalgamated trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, ready-mixed concrete, lime, mortar and silica sand industries.
- A new design guide for rural streets lanes is published by Kent County Council and the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Informal courtesy crossings are recommended for pedestrians in villages and a new design of village gateway sign is illustrated. Case studies show how the guide's principles could be applied to eight locations in the Downs area. The handbook has been prepared by consultant Halcrow who provided Dorset's guide. [www.kentdowns.org.uk/StreetscapeDesignHandbook.htm](http://www.kentdowns.org.uk/StreetscapeDesignHandbook.htm)

- Understanding permeable and impermeable surfaces: a technical report on surfacing options and cost benefit analysis. Research into the different characteristics of various permeable and impermeable surfaces used for paving domestic and non-domestic areas of hard standing. [www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/permeablesurfacesreport/](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/permeablesurfacesreport/)

## Training and Development

### Preparing for your Review

4 November Birmingham

**\* Credit Crunch rate of 2 for 1!**

In depth advice and support in going for CEng, IEng and EngTech.

IHIE's new procedures explained.

### Highway Asset Management (NEW)

#### Introduction Course

2 November 2009 or 8 February 2010

#### Practitioner Training

3-5 November 2009 and 9-11 February 2010 (6 days residential)

In depth training delivered by exp Consulting.

Includes an assessment and can lead to an IHIE Professional Certificate.

Courses are available in-house or for local consortia at reduced rates.

### Annual Highway Maintenance Conference & Exhibition

13 October 2009, Northampton, Hilton.

The postponed IHIE/Highways annual conference: Speakers on asset management, drainage and defining levels of service.

### Highway Law

3 December, London WC1

A course for road design, maintenance and development engineers delivered by expert barristers from 4-5 Gray's Inn.

### Traffic Signal Control

26-28 April 2010 (Residential)

University of Nottingham.

IHIE's annual course for signal engineers on implementation and maintenance.

£895 if booked before 30 January 2010.

Invoices can be dated pre or post April 2010.

## Share your failures

The latest CROSS Newsletter contains an important report about public art works on or near highways and the need, in some cases, for appropriate engineering input to the design and construction of large sculptures. There is also the summary of a report about the slippage of a bridge being erected over railway tracks published with the permission of Transport for London together with reports about similar incidents from the past. Other reports cover unsafe street lighting columns and a brick bridge collapse.

[www.scoss.org.uk/cross](http://www.scoss.org.uk/cross)