



NEWS

Forthcoming Motorcycling Guidance for Engineers -

Improving safety through engineering and integration

(Embargoed until 8.00 am Monday 11 April 2005)

Highway engineers can and must do more to make the road environment safer and more welcoming for motorcycling by taking measures to integrate PTWs into transport policy and plans according to new guidelines published by the Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers.

The IHIE Guidelines will be launched by Steven Norris, President of the Motorcycle Industry Association, at an IHIE Conference at the Institute of Physics in London on Thursday 14 April.

Motorcycling is high on the political agenda as signified by the February launch of the ***Government's Motorcycling Strategy***, the principal aim of which is to "mainstream" motorcycling.

The IHIE Guidelines follow up and compliment the Strategy. They are the first in the UK to give engineers practical advice on how the different characteristics of motorcycles can be recognised and addressed in highway and traffic design and management.

Key guidance on how to "Think Bike" is provided on

- designing roads and traffic calming with bikes in mind
- integrating motorcycling into the local transport plans local authorities are currently formulating
- near, clear and safe motorcycle parking

- recognising how motorcycles are driven and behave (“motorcycles are not 2 wheeled cars or fast bicycles”)
- improving maintenance regimes
- use of bus lanes and Advanced Stop Lines by motorcycles drawing on TfL research.

Commenting on the new guidelines, Gerry Harvey, President of IHIE, said:

“There is a great potential to reduce the risk of accidents involving motorcycles by improving road and traffic conditions and road user behaviour. The IHIE Guidelines explain the problems and offer good practice ideas and solutions: we are delighted to be publishing them”.

Dr Leon Mannings, Chairman of the British Motorcyclists Federation said:

“We welcome these guidelines and were pleased to be contributing to their development. Motorcycling has an increasingly valuable role to play in the transport infrastructure and this initiative by the IHIE is most timely. Motorcyclists are vulnerable, but hopefully they will now be less so”.

Steven Norris, President of the Motorcycle Industry Association, opening the launch conference, said:

“Motorcycle use is on the increase and, whilst overall the casualty rate for motorcycles has generally improved, we must do more for these vulnerable road users. I welcome the IHIE Guidelines which give engineers the tools to improve the environment for motorcyclists and will help to reduce rider vulnerability”.

Copies of the IHIE Guidelines for Motorcycling are available from IHIE, 58 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HS or secretary@ihie.org.uk

- Ends -

Press Enquiries and Photos

Tony Sharp, IHIE, 07939 517 384 - Chairman of the Guidelines Steering Group

Judith Walker, IHIE Secretary, 020 7436 7487 (Photos)

Craig Carey-Clinch, MCIA, 07979 757 484

Jeff Stone, BMF, 07802 763 094.

Notes to Editors

1. *IHIE is the professional qualifying institution for incorporated engineers and technicians in highways, traffic, transport and construction, delivering sustainable transport for the UK.*
2. *IHIE spokesmen will be available from 11 April for telephone interviews.*
3. *Press copies of **the IHIE Guidelines for Motorcycling** will be available from 14 April 2005 at the conference or email asking for a review copy.*
4. *Conference speakers will be available to the press on 14 April at 9.00 to 10.00 am and 12.30 to 1.30 pm.*
5. ***Photos:** Bike Safe , Paramedic and Police bikes plus Steven Norris will be available for photos at 9.00 am and 12.30 pm, 14 April outside 76 Portland Place.*

Ring IHIE for press photos on 15 April.

6. *Conference venue: Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London W1B 1NT. Conference desk: 020 7470 4800.*
7. *“Motorcycle” is used to cover all forms of Powered Two Wheelers (PTWs) from the smallest moped, maximum speed 30mph, through scooters to the largest sports and touring machines.*

8. *The Guidelines steering group comprised*

Anthony Sharp, IHIE (Chairman)

David Brown, Highways Agency

Nich Brown, Motorcycle Industry Association

Craig Carey-Clinch, Motorcycle Industry Association

Marilyn Cranfield, Transport for London

Richard Olliffe, British Motorcyclist Federation

Suku Phull, Department for Transport

Steve Proctor, TMS

Alan Tilly, Transport Research Laboratory

Judith Walker, IHIE

Rosemary Welch, County Surveyors Society

Scott Wilson were the managing editors and main authors.

Financial support of £50,000 was provided by

British Motorcyclists Federation

Highways Agency

County Surveyors Society

Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers

Department for Transport

Transport for London

Motorcycle Industry Association

Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers

De Morgan House

58 Russell Square

London

WC1B 4HS

Tel: 020 7436 7487

Fax: 020 7436 7488

Email: secretary@ihie.org.uk