



Working for Safety on the Road

REPORT OF THE ROAD SAFETY GROUP 2006

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present the report of the Road Safety Group, in which I will cover some of the work undertaken in respect of the year 2006. The Road Safety Group ensures that the Association continues to promote its position as a leading Road Safety organisation representing as it does the widest possible opinion from its professional membership basis.

The Road Safety Group met on four occasions during the year.

STRUCTURE OF THE ROAD SAFETY GROUP

The Road Safety Group is made up of those Members who have been appointed by the Council of Management to "Head up the Road Safety Work of the Association". The Secretary is also a Member of the Road Safety Group.

The number of annually elected Members is eight.

The Council of Management appoints the Chairman of the Road Safety Group on an annual basis and the Chairman of the Association is an ex-officio Member of the Group.

I, together with the Secretary, have the authority to invite any additional Member(s), whom it is considered would enhance the work of the Group,

The Membership of the Group for the year 2006 was:-

Chairman

Susan Cooper

Secretary

Graham Feest

Chairman of the Association

Mike Ambrose (ex-officio)

Portfolio Members

Cars & Light Goods Vehicles
Large Goods Vehicles
Passenger Carrying Vehicles
Law
Motorcycling
Health & Safety/MORR

Graham Hurdle
Edward Handley
Martin Robinson
Roger London
Ian Kerr
Graham Feest/David Vallender

Road Safety Engineering/Integrated
Transport
Education, Training & Publicity
Emergency Services
Road Safety Vehicle Engineering

Nick Stillwell
Tina Housego
Robert Jackson
Marianne Page

Elected Members

Owen Corrigan
Paul Montgomery
Ian Powell
Maureen Simpson

Ted Clements MBE
Colin Pettener MBE
Patrick McEune
David Wilkinson

Additional Members

Nil

Unfortunately during the year Marianne Page had to relinquish her appointment as Portfolio Holder for Road Safety Engineering having decided on a career change and is now training to be a doctor in Swansea.

EUROPEAN ROAD SAFETY CHARTER

During the year we became a signatory to the European Road Safety Charter confirming, as part of our acceptance, that we would, within a three year period undertake and develop:

- (a) A Directory of Service Provision for Education and Training
- (b) The setting up and implementing of Minibus Workshops
- (c) The development of work with the voluntary vector
- (d) A Code of Practice for Refuse Collection Vehicles on the Highway

In this context we now have established three service directories which are available on the public area of the website.

- (a) A directory of Driving Schools for Large Goods Vehicles
- (b) A directory of L earner Driving/Schools of Motoring
- (c) A directory of DSA Registered Fleet Instructors

The Directories are open for inclusion of services to Members of AIRSO only at this stage.

The other three issues contained within our statement of intent will be the subject of development this coming year.

NATIONAL BLUE LIGHT USERS' CONFERENCE

This event was held for the ninth consecutive year and was in part sponsored by Jaguar Cars who made arrangements for the Association to use the National Motor Heritage Centre at Gaydon, Warwickshire. I am pleased to say that the event was well attended.

The Association is grateful to Mainstream Training (Phil Linehan, MAIRSO) for sponsoring the delegate packs for this Conference

A considerable amount of work was undertaken in preparation for this event and managing it on the day. I would like to express on behalf of the Association sincere thanks to the

Members who gave up their time on the actual day and in the preparations beforehand to ensure the event was a success.

CONSULTATIONS

The Association has been consulted, during the year, by various statutory and non-statutory bodies and has provided written responses to specific consultation documents

Responses have been made to the following:

- DSA Consultations on New Theory Test Questions
- DSA Consultation on Driver Certificate of Professional Competence
- DfT Consultation on Release of Data from the UK Vehicle Registers
- DSA Consultation on the Revision of the Highway Code
- UK Metric Association Consultation on The case for Converting Road Signs to Metric Units
- DfT Consultation on Modernising Operator Licensing
- DfT Consultation on Proposed Changes to the On-Road and Off-Road Motor Events Regulations
- DfT Consultation on Wearing of Seat Belts on Buses and Coaches
- RoSPA Consultation on MORR Driving Assessment and Training
- RoSPA Consultation on MORR In-Vehicle Technology
- POD Rooms Ltd consultation on Motorway Hotels
- RoSPA Consultation on Safer Motorcycling Through Work
- DVLA Consultation on Policy Associated with the Transfer, Assignment and Retention of Vehicle Registration Numbers
- DVLA Consultation on Fee Proposals
- DfT Consultation on New Guidance on Future Use of Safety Cameras
- Highways Agency Consultation on Service Areas and Other Roadside Facilities
- DSA Consultation on Improvements, Safety Related Measurers and General Fee Increases
- DfT Consultation on Changes to Comply with New European Regulations on Drivers' Hours

In addition the Road Safety Group provided at one of its meeting a direct input into the project under the direction of PACTS looking at how Road Safety Policy and Targets for Casualty Reduction might be developed post 2010.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Road Safety Group continues to monitor the outcomes from the presentations given at General Meetings and also the discussions, which take place at the Road Safety Seminars.

In addition to the general Road Safety Seminars two specific Seminars were arranged during the year covering the issues relating to the proposals for the Driver Certificate of Professional Competence and the new regulations regarding the carrying of children in vehicles and other in car safety related issues.

It should be recognised that the Association is providing a sound basis for the continuing Professional Development of its Membership. As such it is seeking to ensure that any other bodies who are seeking to identify providers of such a service recognise the Association as being able to meet some of their requirements.

ADI NEWS

We have been pleased to contribute a monthly article for ADI News and whilst the majority of these have been written by Members of the Road Safety Group we have and do welcome contributions from all within AIRSO.

MEMBERSHIP OF EXTERNAL BODIES

We are pleased to be represented on the following National Committees/Groups

RoSPA National Road Safety Committee	Susan Cooper
PACTS	Edward Handley/Graham Feest
London Accident Prevention Council	Ted Clements
Occupational Road Risk Alliance	David Vallender/Graham Feest
RoadSafe	Graham Feest/Susan Cooper

In addition we have been part of various national-working groups over the year which include

PACTS Road User Behaviour Working Party	Edward Handley/Graham Feest
PACTS Road Environment Working Party	Nick Stilwell
IPCC	Robert Jackson/Graham Feest

It should also be noted that Graham Feest is a Member of the judging panel for the Prince Michael Road Safety Awards.

OTHER ISSUES

During the year the Road Safety Group has looked at three particular issues which remain ongoing:

(a) The Road Safety Group has concerns about the lengths of Motorway Works and the time taken to undertake essential repairs or widening and the effect this may be having on other routes which are not designed to cope with constant heavy traffic. This issue is also coupled with the amount of time that primary routes remain closed following fatal or serious road traffic crashes and the ability of the diversionary routes to cope.

(b) The Association has expressed its concerns to the British Vehicle Rental Association (BVRA) about the manner in which vehicles are handed over to those who hire them without providing any basic familiarisation.

(c) The Association has been in discussions with Exeter University about the possibility of establishing a Studentship for a PhD looking at a number of issues relating to how Learner drivers go through the learning process.

CONCLUSIONS

Finally, I would like to conclude by thanking the Members of the Road Safety Group for all their efforts during the past year and in particular to Ed Handley for hosting the meetings.

Susan Cooper
Chairman
Road Safety Group 2006

Association of Industrial Road Safety Officers, 68 The Boulevard, Worthing, West Sussex
BN13 1LA

Tel/Fax: 01903 50 60 95 Email: airso@talk21.com www.airso.org.u.k

Secretary: Graham Feest FIRSO, M.Inst MTD, MAIRSO

Registered Charity No
1054640