



NEWS

New advice for use of bus lanes by motorcycles

The Department of Transport today published its long awaited Traffic Advisory Leaflet (TAL) on *The Use of Bus Lanes by Motorcycles 02/07*.

IHIE hopes that the new TAL will overcome the hesitation of those local authorities who, relying on the previous advice in LTN 1/97 *Keeping Buses Moving*, have been wary of allowing Motorcycles to access bus lanes along with Cyclists and Taxis.

This was despite the evidence of the last ten years, highlighted in the Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers (IHIE) **Guidelines for Motorcycling ~ Improving safety through engineering and integration**, that shows motorcycles can use bus lanes with no road safety dis-benefits to other road users but with reduced crashes to motorcycle riders.

Commenting on the publication of the TAL, IHIE Vice President, Tony Sharp, who also chairs the National Motorcycle Council's Traffic Management sub-Group, said

"Motorcycles should be seen as a valid part of our transport system but they are also 'vulnerable'. Previous trials have shown that there is significant potential to reduce crashes by allowing motorcycles to access bus lanes. The new advice makes it clear that it is now up to Local Authorities, in consultation with ALL effected stakeholders, to decide where they will or will not allow access into bus lanes by motorcycles."

Copies of the TAL can be downloaded from the IHIE Web site

www.ihie.org.uk

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Press Enquiries

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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. The IHIE Guidelines, which are a first in the UK, aim to assist highway and traffic engineers in developing a safer and more motorcycle friendly road environment. Drawing on the combined expertise of engineers, road safety officers and motorcyclists, the guidelines build on the Government's motorcycling strategy and demonstrate the role motorcycling can play in an integrated transport system.*
Copies of the IHIE Guidelines for Motorcycling are available from IHIE, 58 Russell Square, London WC1B 4HS or secretary@ihie.org.uk
- 3. "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.*