

KATE FULLER IEng FIHIE

Kate is Principal Consultant in the Network Performance sector of the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL). She has been appointed to manage TRL's involvement in DfT's landmark West Midlands Urban Traffic Management Control system.

Her typical office day starts at 07.30 with tea and paperwork, and then anything might happen. Although she is more and more involved in management she "likes to keep my hand in" on the technical side, and she sometimes spends time fully engaged on site.

Kate joined Berkshire CC at 21 and did a part time civil engineering HNC. She subsequently worked for Spelthorne and then spent 8 years setting up and managing the traffic management and road safety team at Wokingham DC. She spent part of her time with Wokingham "managing consultants" so she found moving to Morgan Tucker, becoming "a consultant who was managed, a steep learning curve".

She finds her background invaluable for working with local authority clients, because she understands the decision-making framework in which they operate. Her experience in traffic management and road safety has also given her extensive knowledge of assessing collision data, and she found that 'drawing up a report on where there is an element of highways design present in the accident, and if so, identifying what it was (for example, people right-turning dangerously into oncoming traffic), then putting in preventative measures, very satisfying.'

Kate's next goal is to be Chartered, because she feels that, as a CEng, more doors would be open to her.

She thinks that work on Home Zones, quiet streets, and safety should get more support and attention, and investment nationally. This is something IHIE has promoted, and will promote.

Now on Council, she thinks that IHIE is "a fantastic organisation", which is under-rated, and which should and will attract many new members over the coming two years.