



IHIE

**INSTITUTE OF HIGHWAY
INCORPORATED ENGINEERS**

POLICY STATEMENT 3

RECYCLING AND RE-USE OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

IHIE is committed to planned initiatives in, and the development of, re-use techniques in the highways sector. The industry already re-uses materials. We would like to see more appropriate and environmentally effective re-use. We strongly support sustainability of high quality resources and best practice in their use and placement.

IHIE:

- Believes that research, demonstration and monitoring projects to prove the methods and use of recycled materials should be encouraged to ensure a wider application and acceptance of their value in highway engineering
- Believes that the use of recycled materials including the recycling processes should be subject to a full life-cycle assessment with whole life cost modelling of their benefits.
- Believes that whole life costing should inform the engineering choice of aggregates to ensure that lower grade aggregates which are already re-used are not plundered for use higher in the construction chain.
- Believes that use of recycled materials in particular circumstances should be based on end performance criteria and testing.
- Supports the setting of targets for use of recycled aggregates and construction materials.
- Supports the introduction of "waste audit" procedures and recycling targets to monitor and control the disposal of materials removed as part of construction projects.
- Believes that quality control systems should be defined to cover the selection, processing and use of materials to be used for construction purposes.
- Believes that financial incentives and penalties should be introduced to encourage the appropriate use of recycled materials.
- Supports the development of a strategic plan by construction and maintenance practitioners and mineral planners to guide mineral extraction.
- Believes that consideration should be given to the setting of targets for the use of recycled materials in highways construction and maintenance, e.g. with respect to local authority adoption standards for new estate roads.
- Believes that possibly the most effective way to reduce the long-term use of aggregates would be adoption of higher design life standards for major road projects and comprehensive planned maintenance of the existing highway network.

IHIE will encourage the consideration of re-use techniques and recyclable materials by increased awareness of available technology and exposure to research findings through training and education initiatives.

May 1998

By the year 2020 IHIE wants to see an accountable, sustainable, well-maintained Transportation network available to all.