

## **POLICY STATEMENT 7**

### **THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

IHIE believes that for future generations, sustainability of resources and the environment around them must be of the highest importance to highways practitioners, and hence;

- IHIE believes that sustainable development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present, while not compromising the needs of the future.
- IHIE recognises that environmental issues, together with those of safety and health, are now the largest considerations to be made when planning and designing new infrastructure, or maintaining or altering the existing built environment.
- IHIE welcomes the continued development of environmental and sustainability policy and sees it forming the foundation for infrastructure provision for the years to come.
- IHIE believes that consideration of environmental and sustainability issues is not only good ethically, but it also makes good sense from the standpoint of efficiency and economy, to prevent environmental damage and preserve natural resources.
- IHIE feels strongly that in the transportation arena, a more balanced approach to resourcing must be taken. The pressure to reduce vehicular traffic must be met with equal enthusiasm to provide alternative transportation infrastructure, which is reliable, affordable, and of high quality, to sustain the desired modal shift.

### **Actions**

IHIE will;

- through its conference, symposia and training programme, provide learning opportunities in this important and wide area.
- review the IHIE Professional Review and guideline documents to give coverage to this aspect of the highways and transportation industry.
- use its voice in the industry, and through involvement in national forums, to lobby for adoption of initiatives in line with this policy document.
- take every opportunity to contribute to national and local initiatives that further good development of environmental and sustainability policy.
- will review its own central and regional administration, to ensure that it continually meets best practice in use and possible re-use of resources, and plan strategically for the future in this respect.