



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

Making Heritage Work

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Dear Mr Creese

TRAFFIC SIGNS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS AND GENERAL DIRECTIONS (TSRGD) 2010

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body of the United Kingdom representing conservation specialists and historic environment practitioners in the public and private sectors. The Institute exists to establish the highest standards of conservation practice, to support the effective protection and enhancement of the historic environment, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and access to the historic environment for all.

Thank you for inviting us to participate in this consultation.

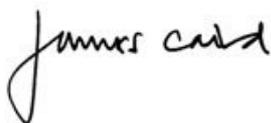
The Institute has no specific points to raise with regard to the proposed amendments to the regulations in general use but would like to make a few observations about the applicability of the Regulations in areas of visual sensitivity.

Whilst many of the proposals are intended to regularize common practice, there is a general tendency for the Regulations to allow, and, therefore implicitly encourage, traffic signs which are bigger, brighter, higher off the ground and illuminated in an increasingly wide range of circumstances.

We acknowledge that in some circumstances safety demands that more prominent signs are appropriate. However, we endorse the approach for sensitive areas, such as conservation areas and the setting of listed buildings, set out in Local Transport Note 01/08 *Traffic Management and Streetscape* which we consider to contain valuable advice. You may be aware that the CLG is intending to replace PPG15 *Planning and the Historic Environment* and it is intended not to include the issues contained in Chapter 5 *Transport and Traffic Management* in its replacement. We feel it is all the more important that highway authorities are advised of the need for sensitivity in historic environments by DfT advice. We believe this approach is supported by DfT as the Minister (Tony McNulty MP) endorsed the English Heritage series of manuals *Streets for All*.

Accordingly, we should be grateful if references to LTN01/08 and *Streets for All* and for the general need for signage that is sensitive to the visual demands of historic areas could be made in the Circular or letter to accompany the new Regulations when published.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Caird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

James Caird
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator