

The Society of Road Safety Auditors AGM 14th June 2010

Proposed changes to the Society of Road Safety Auditors (SoRSA) membership requirements

Report prepared by John Smart, Director of Professional and Business Development

Purpose

To seek Members approval to open up SoRSA membership to all non-CIHT members.

Information

Background

1. The CIHT launched SoRSA back in 2007 and following that successful launch the membership numbers have grown to over 260 registered roads safety specialists and 160 associates; it is now seen as the leading organisation for road safety auditors. Whilst membership of the Society has always been open to anyone with a road safety background membership of CIHT has been a prerequisite. Since the formation of the organisation there have been calls from within the profession not to make it exclusive to CIHT members but allow auditors with affiliations to other institutions open access to SoRSA.

Proposal

2. We are now three years on from the launch and have been considering what is best for the industry and road safety auditors in particular. The requirement of CIHT membership was to ensure that sufficient administrative support would be available for the fledgling organisation. The Society will continue to need support from the CIHT head office but we are now considering if the financial cost of this needs to be exclusively covered by CIHT membership fees. Discussions have been held with the Road Safety panel, the SoRSA committee and the CIHT Executive Committee with a view to allowing non-CIHT members to join SoRSA and cover the cost of their administrative support through an annual fee. It is proposed to pitch the annual fee close to that of Associate Member rate. Both the RS panel and SoRSA are supportive of this change.
3. The CIHT Executive Board was asked to consider opening up membership to non CIHT members providing those non members paid an administration fee. An extract from the minutes of the meeting confirms CIHT Board approval to take the proposal to the SoRSA AGM for ratification.
4. **“18. SoRSA – CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP RULES**
John Smart (JS) explained the reasons for offering SoRSA membership to non CIHT members and to charge an administrative fee in these cases. The proposal was **AGREED** for recommendation to SoRSA members at their AGM.”

5. It is further proposed that CIHT will create a new CIHT payment grade "SoRSA membership admin fee" or similar named. The changes can be affected immediately and new members taken on. By creating this new grade the SoRSA constitution will not require further amendment and non CIHT members who join SoRSA will also be required to adhere to the CIHT Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedures as far as they are applicable to the road safety audit remit.
6. The annual administration charge will be set slightly lower than the Associate fee but with none of the CIHT member benefits, TP magazine, access to website membership area, membership discounts etc.

Motion

That the SoRSA membership approves the proposal of opening up SoRSA membership to all non-CIHT members and cover their administrative costs by charging an annual fee.

John Smart May 2010