

ELIMINATING SIGN CLUTTER

An innovative one-day training course

Achieving neater streets that are easier to use and cheaper to maintain.

The government has written to every council urging them to get rid of unnecessary signs, railings and advertising hoardings in a bid to make streets tidier and less confusing for motorists and pedestrians.



But how can this be achieved without compromising safety, road user guidance or the ability to enforce parking and other regulatory measures?

This one-day course focuses on the traffic signing aspects of clutter and how to minimise it. Traffic signing is the most complicated aspect of the street scene. It is governed by a large amount of legislation and guidance and by the duties imposed on authorities to strive for both efficiency and safety on the road network.

The pressure to reduce clutter is to some extent in conflict with the need to address safety and enforcement. This course will introduce techniques that help balance these issues and arrive at a comfortable compromise. The issues that people raise can often be addressed in more than one way, and the use of innovative mounting methods and hardware can make the signing that must remain acceptable and even an asset to the street scene. The course also covers inventory, assessment and public participation – issues that happily fit together to reduce the costs of data collection.

Simon Morgan and Geoff Bray (of Colin Buchanan) will examine why and when authorities need to erect signs and the reasons why clutter can accumulate. Most of the day will concentrate on different ways to identify and reduce clutter, but they will also cover the street management practices needed to ensure that clutter doesn't return.

Simon and Geoff are both recognised as leading specialists in traffic signing and are involved in training, accreditation and policy formation at national level. Geoff played a pivotal design role in the streetscape infrastructure and lighting of the award winning Kensington High Street scheme, cited by ministers and others as a shining example of what can be achieved.

Course Details

Location	London, close to Hammersmith tube station
Duration:	1 day (09.30 – 16.30)
Prerequisites:	A basic knowledge of traffic signing would be helpful but not essential
Course material:	Notes provided

Topics covered

- Introduction
- What is clutter?
- Why erect signs at all?
- Categories of sign, reasons for using them & legal requirements.
- The cost of signs and how this can be reduced.
- Finding what's out there.
- Public participation and street audits.
- Maintaining an inventory.
- Directional signs – keeping to the minimum whilst maintaining continuity.
- Warning signs – do they help or hinder?
- Yellow backing boards – when (if ever) to use them.
- Minimum requirements for parking and regulatory signing – often not as onerous as you think.
- Combining signs onto fewer smaller structures.
- Innovate mounting techniques.
- Keeping the footway clear.
- Maintaining a neat and uncluttered street.
- Review and questions.

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SIGNING



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