

SUBSIDENCE FORUM; REPORT ON INNOVATION GROUP TO AGM; 1ST MAY 2007

2006 ACTIVITY

Group was established during the year and key activities included;

- Group meeting at Greenwoods offices in July
- Production of Innovation Register
- Production of first Innovation newsletter
- Presentations to October SF Training day
- Presentation to DCLG Tree Inspectors Training Day
- 29 named members in Group

Key areas of Innovation reported on include

- Remote monitoring developments (SP Property Services)
- Tree mediation zone (Marishal Thomson)
- H&S and working practices (ASUC)
- Joint Mitigation Protocol developments (Tree Root Protocol)
- Clay Research Group activity (see CRG Web Site)

2007 CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITY

CILA – Special Interest Group (SIG)

Meeting was held with CILA on 24th April. Innovation Group will provide input into planned CILA Subsidence Masterclasses, the first of which will be held in Manchester in June. Relationship with CILA SIG is seen as an important communication channel for Innovation Group members.

Legal Update

John Wickham is in the course of preparing a Legal Update for the Innovation Group and has sought input from the Legal members of the Group. If possible it is hoped that this will be issued to coincide with the appeal judgement on the Perrin case.

Post Magazine Expo – June 20th

Part of the planned Subsidence Expo will include a workshop on “Innovations in the subsidence marketplace” with reference to new types of repair, product and process; cost-effective repairs to superstructure and foundations; effect of new methods on average claims cost. This will be a good opportunity to promote the aims of the group and communicate any innovative working practices – I will be looking for input from Innovation Group and Technical/Supplier Group members.

Technical Press

The website contains links to a number of articles already published highlighting the activities of the Innovations Group including key articles in Ground Engineering. It is intended to continually raise the profile of the Innovations Group using the SF Press strategy.

Innovation Newsletter

Original plan was for a quarterly newsletter – not been possible yet to achieve this however I would like to see a second edition published in time for the Post Expo.

Innovation Group Meetings

I would be interested to know how people feel about further Innovation Group meetings given business pressures on time and cost. Would face to face meetings enhance process or can website provide adequate communication channel?

Nick Deakin 1st May 2007