

September 2005

# The Martineau Johnson Breakfast Briefing Transport and Road Safety

This was a new venture for BHSEA, courtesy of our member, Martineau Johnson and was held in their new office within a few paces of Birmingham's Snowhill Station. About twenty BHSEA members attended this briefing, which was given by **Stuart Farr, Partner and Nicola Cárdenas Blanco, Solicitor.**

The programme dealt with the new **Road Transport (Working Time) Regulations 2005** and new offences proposed under the **Road Traffic Bill 2005**. For most drivers and employers, I think the proposals for a more flexible approach to fixed penalty and disqualification, together with increased fines for driving in a **careless and inconsiderate manner** will have greater importance!

After those shock tactics, Nicola gave a thought-provoking presentation on **Closing the Loopholes in your Road safety Policy!** This covered topics such as, Speeding, Drivers' Fitness to Drive, Experience and Tracking employees' penalty points, Suitable Vehicles and Information, Instruction and Training, Insurance and Road Worthiness, Recording, Reporting and Investigating Incidents, Effective Monitoring and Review, Vehicle Defect Reporting, Licenses, Licensing Categories and License Requirements, Contractors' Use of Vehicles.

Despite the earliness of the hour, the generosity of the bacon and sausage sandwiches and the mass of information delivered, the questions flooded out after these very comprehensive presentations. At the end of the session, BHSEA Chairman **Warwick Adams** thanked Stuart and Nicola for such an impressive event and the rest of the members didn't wait to be asked to join in the thanks!

Time and space prevent me from giving more feedback here, but Nicola was kind enough to give me some very good notes which I will Email to members, shortly. Anyone who wants a copy, but who isn't in my address book had better send me an email request PDQ – or else!