



## **CIL A - Special Interest Group (SIG)**

### **Smaller Independent Practises**

Dear CIL A member

By way of introduction – I have been a Council member as area representative for Scotland since 2002, and this year was asked by Council to take responsibility for one of the new Special Interest Groups (SIG's) that was set up by CIL A. I expect you will have read Harry Roberts presidential emails on the reasons why these new groups have been introduced as a modernisation of the old CIL A area representative system.

This SIG is especially for Smaller Independent Practises. It has been accepted by Council that the interests and concerns of members within this description can be quite distinct from those who run and are employed by the larger organisations. We have been given the opportunity to express a view – to 'have a say' in the way the institute is run and to act together in procurement of goods or services so that our businesses can trade more efficiently and cooperate together where appropriate for mutual advantage. It recognises that smaller practitioners have common interests that we can advance together for the benefit of our profession and ourselves.

A group of like-minded smaller practitioners was formed last year and has held a number of meetings under the chairmanship of Sandy Taylor. This ad hoc group has now become the official SIG and been accepted as the representative body for Smaller Independent Practises. Sandy and I would like to extend a welcome to you to join the SIG and attend our next meeting, which is planned for November in London. It is intended that you will have the opportunity to meet other smaller practitioners, raise issues that are of common concern, make suggestions for co-ordinated action and question myself and the Institute President on current Council policy.

If you would like to join the Smaller Independent Practises SIG so that you can be kept informed of what we are doing (normally by email) please reply to me via the email address below to this effect. At present there is no cost involved in joining a SIG – the intention is that CIL A members choose the SIG's to join that they feel are most appropriate for them. We hope that you will be able to attend meetings – but this is not obligatory and joining will simply put your name and email address on our database for the circulation of relevant material and information about forthcoming events.



I will advise all those who express a desire to join the SIG about the proposed meeting and forward an agenda shortly.

I very much hope that you will take up the opportunity that this change in the structure of CIL A offers and look I forward to hearing from you.

Roger Topping LLB (Hons.), ACII, FCILA  
[roger.topping@topmarkadjusters.co.uk](mailto:roger.topping@topmarkadjusters.co.uk)