



Jane Smith
Utility Secretariat
NJUG
1 Castle Lane,
London, SW1E 6DR
Tel: 0203 397 3315
info@njuug.org.uk

David Capon
Local Authority Secretariat
JAG(UK)
200 Ferry Road,
Felixstowe, IP11 9RT
Tel: 07775827492
manager@jaguk.org

HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

HAUC(UK) Code of Conduct

The Highway Authorities Utilities Committee (HAUC(UK)) recognises the need to promote self regulation for road and street works and actively works together with street authorities, highways and roads agencies, utilities, contractors and other key stakeholders to manage and reduce disruption and inconvenience these works may cause to road users, businesses and residents within the UK.

HAUC(UK) promotes active participation at co-ordination meetings focussing on discussing advance planning, joint working and collaborative practices. We also promote working with utilities, authorities and other key stakeholders on the following:

Network Management Duty

HAUC(UK) endorses the aims and objectives of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and in particular the requirement for local traffic authorities to manage their road network and will strive to work towards achieving those aims in conjunction with Traffic Managers.

Permitting

HAUC(UK) offers to assist prospective permit authorities and their respective Traffic Managers develop their proposed permit schemes and help guide them towards maximising benefits to the community as a whole. We offer to work with system developers to help the community deliver efficient and practical software solutions using knowledge gained across the UK.

Advance Planning

Utilities and authorities will continue to share long term plans for asset upgrades and major maintenance projects to promote greater opportunities for trench and site sharing, and accommodating authority planning as part of their commitment to encouraging improved and enhanced work co-ordination.

Use of Minimum-Dig Technology

HAUC(UK) will continue to promote the use of minimum-dig technology where, practical and safe to do so, in order to reduce the size, environmental impact and duration of works.

Plating

To maximise the availability of carriageways and footways for road users and pedestrians during traffic-sensitive times, HAUC(UK) will encourage its members to consider the option of trench plating, or applying bridging techniques to utility excavations at sites where it is beneficial, safe and practical to do so and where it does not unduly extend the duration of the works or adversely affect the highway structure.

Working Outside Peak Hours

On the busiest roads, utilities and authorities will strive to work at times of the day that minimise disruption to traffic and reduce excessive delay and inconvenience to the road user. As part of the planning / project approval process and in discussion with environmental and highway departments and affected stakeholders, the options of evening, weekend and 24 hour working at key locations will be encouraged where it is deemed safe to do so and where environmental concerns and disturbance to residents can be kept to an acceptable level.

Communications

HAUC(UK) will actively encourage all works promoters to employ communications strategies appropriate to the works and customer needs. We will continue to encourage the use of work information boards at all sites to provide contact details and additional unique information boards specific to long term (major works) projects displaying updates on progress and estimated completion dates.

Inspection

HAUC(UK) will continue to promote improvement in inspection and compliance processes along with performance monitoring and will encourage prompt rectification of non-compliance. Utilising the benefits of inspections of all street and road works we will work together to minimise the effects of essential maintenance works on both the highway infrastructure and its availability to the highway user

First Time Reinstatements

To ensure work sites are returned to public use at the earliest opportunity and help reduce any unnecessary delays and disruption, HAUC(UK) promotes the use of first time permanent reinstatements wherever possible.

Good Practice Guide

An important key to self regulation is publicising good practice to the street and road works community. HAUC(UK) is committed to both elicit and share good practice to help raise awareness and drive performance improvement. We will continue to share examples of good practice on our web site and at

events around the country, and adopt the highest standards that emerge from this awareness.

Support and Continuous Improvement

To ensure best possible practice, it is important that all relevant parties agree to sign up to the principles of this code of conduct.

HAUC(UK) will review and revise the code as appropriate to ensure it remains relevant and continues to reflect good practice.



Jerry McConkey
Highways-side Chair
Joint Chair of HAUC(UK)



Mark Ostheimer
Utilities-side Chair
Joint Chair of HAUC(UK)

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