

**Introduction by HAUC(UK) Joint Chairs  
Nick Morris and Mark Ostheimer**

Welcome to the first HAUC(UK) Newsletter for members, designed to provide a short and timely news update. This edition covers progress in developing the HAUC(UK) Strategy, Vision, Objectives, Structure and Culture, including the 18 December 2008 meeting with the Joint Chairs of English HAUCs, NIRAUC, Welsh HAUC and RAUC (Scotland). It also covers key events, an update from the 21 January HAUC(UK) meeting, a new Alternative Reinstatement Materials Advice Note, a request for information from KPM Working Group Chair Jerry McConkey and key HAUC(UK) personnel changes.

We hope you find it useful - please let us know what you think either by contacting us direct or by emailing the HAUC(UK) Secretariats – [graham.eaton@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:graham.eaton@derbyshire.gov.uk) and [info@njug.org.uk](mailto:info@njug.org.uk)

**HAUC(UK) 18 December Meeting with  
Joint Chairs**

HAUC(UK) Joint Chairs Nick Morris and Mark Ostheimer presented initial thoughts of the HAUC(UK) Strategy Group and then sought Joint Chairs views / suggestions.

**Vision – general principles**

There was general consensus around the need to be a united organisation, to work together to improve performance and to represent the industry in constructive dialogue with governments and other key stakeholders. However, it was agreed to develop a short strapline and to strengthen the Vision wording – suggested as follows:

***“HAUC(UK) – one voice delivering excellence  
in road and street works”***

**To be a united UK-wide organisation  
promoting trust and fostering honest  
dialogue across the industry**

- **To be a partner with governments in leading the transformation of the road and street works industry to consistently improve performance.**

**Objectives**

Nick and Mark also suggested key objectives and it was agreed to strengthen them to:

- To strengthen the relationship and communication between HAUC (UK) and Regional HAUCs, NIRAUC, Welsh HAUC and RAUC (Scotland).
- To drive improved performance of road and street works by promoting good practice and supporting innovation in ways to reduce disruption and improve safety, sustainability and quality of all works.
- To work constructively with governments to create a positive and joined-up industry without the need for onerous regulation.
- However, where necessary, to deliver timely, effective and consistent input to, and interpretation of, legislation, associated regulations, codes of practice and guidance that balances the needs of all.
- To minimise the number of formal disputes through informal mediation, discussion and advice, but where necessary to provide a timely and effective dispute resolution service to deal with disputes that do arise.
- To develop a programme of activities to deliver the above objectives.

**Structure**

A number of options were discussed, with agreement that further work was needed to identify the optimum structure to deliver HAUC(UK)'s objectives. In particular the group debated how to strengthen the relationship and ensure active participation of NIRAUC, Welsh

HAUC, RAUC (Scotland) and English Regional Joint Chairs. It was agreed to:

- trial all joint chairs attending HAUC(UK) meetings, starting 21 January, to improve two-way flow of information, and see if this improves strategic direction of the industry.
- collectively keep under review whether such a large number of attendees makes meetings more difficult to manage.

### Culture – outcomes / behaviours

Jane Smith, HAUC(UK) Joint Secretariat presented the outcomes and behaviours that HAUC(UK) had identified – covering what the industry does and doesn't want as its culture. Additional ideas received are in bold:

#### What Do We Want v What Don't We Want?

Trust	v	Lack of Trust
Co-operation and Resolution	v	Unnecessary Deferral of Issues
Following HAUC Advice Notes	v	Inconsistent Application of HAUC Advice Notes
Better two-way Communication between national and regional level	v	No engagement between national and regional level
To celebrate Success	v	Points scoring / undermining each other
To focus on Strategic goals	v	To drop into the detail
To promote best Practice	v	To stifle innovation
<b>Respect each Others views</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Entrenchment</b>
<b>Team Working</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Silos</b>
<b>Responsiveness v stakeholders' views</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>Inwardly focused to and negativity</b>

### Next Steps

Suggested changes to the HAUC(UK) Vision, Objectives and Culture were discussed at the HAUC(UK) meeting on 21 January 2009. **Final comments to be sent to Jane Smith ([jane@political-intelligence.com](mailto:jane@political-intelligence.com)) by 16 February.** In addition:

- The HAUC(UK) Joint Chairs, JAG (UK) Chair and NJUG Chief Executive will meet to discuss key elements of a joint Strategy.
- The HAUC(UK) Strategy team will then:
  - Review the draft Strategy document, a revised version of which will then be circulated, finalised and approved at the 22 April 2009 HAUC(UK) meeting .
  - Consider and propose the resources, roles, responsibilities and mechanisms necessary for delivery.
  - Develop a five-year Business Plan, building on suggested activities already within the draft Strategy for 2009/10.
  - Agree how to roll out the HAUC(UK) Vision, Objectives, Strategy and Culture e.g. through joint promotion at National and regional HAUC conferences.

### New HAUC(UK) Advice Note published

We are pleased to alert you to a new HAUC (UK) Advice Note on Alternative Reinstatement Materials. Click here to access it on the HAUC (UK) website.  
<http://www.hauc-uk.org.uk/category/2/>

### KPM (Key Performance Measures) Working Group Information Request

Please send any KPM good practice / additional information to Jerry McConkey at [jerry.mcconkey@technical.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:jerry.mcconkey@technical.sefton.gov.uk)

### HSC09 Conference and Awards

Put 13 and 14 May in your diaries as the industry's annual conference takes place in

Cardiff. There is an interesting array of speakers and this year there will be a single HAUC(UK) Stand jointly manned by JAG(UK) and NJUG. Further details can be found at:

<http://www.surveyorevents.com/hsc09/>

Don't forget to start work early on your nominations for the 2009 Awards. Details can be found at:

<http://www.surveyorevents.com/hsc09/index.cfm?do=awards.page>

## Regional HAUC Conferences – Dates for your Diary

**SEHAUC Conference – 15 July at Sandown Park Racecourse**

**West Midlands HAUC Conference – 15/16 September at the Staffordshire Showground**

**Anglian HAUC Conference – 7 October at Newmarket Racecourse.**

## HAUC(UK) 21 January 2009 Update – DfT halts plans for five-yearly accreditation and additional inspections for S74 and permits

At the 21 January HAUC(UK) meeting DfT confirmed that it has been required to re-examine its proposals to minimise any regulatory changes which place additional burdens on local government or business. It had therefore agreed with Ministers that:

- The planned additional 10% of inspections for S74 and permits (increasing from 30% to 40%) will not now go ahead.
- The requirement for all road and street works operatives to face five-yearly re-accreditation will not be progressed.

HAUC(UK) joint chairs and all members expressed strong concern over the decision not to progress five-yearly re-accreditation, raising worries about the impact on safety and quality of works, and disappointment that the decision had been made without recourse to either HAUC(UK) or the Training and Accreditation Working Group. The Group will review and report back urgently

to the HAUC(UK) Joint Chairs, who if advised, will write to Ministers requesting a re-think.

## HAUC(UK) Personnel Changes

Finally, a few key changes to the HAUC(UK) Team:

Following his appointment as Chair of JAG (UK) we welcome **Jerry McConkey** to the HAUC(UK) Committee. Jerry works for Sefton Borough Council and is a member of North West HAUC and a number of HAUC Working Groups.

**Richard Wakelen**, who represents the Energy Networks Association (electricity) at HAUC(UK) is stepping down following a change of role within EDF Energy. He is being replaced by **Christopher Perkins** also from EDF Energy.

**Grant Rogers**, who represented the Energy Networks Association (gas) at HAUC(UK) has stepped down following a change of role within Wales and West Utilities, and he is being replaced by **Alan Florry**, from Southern Gas Networks.

We welcome Christopher and Alan to HAUC(UK) and wish Richard and Grant every success in their new roles.

If you would like us to publicise any other personnel changes please email [graham.eaton@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:graham.eaton@derbyshire.gov.uk) and [info@njug.org.uk](mailto:info@njug.org.uk)

Finally, after many years service to HAUC(UK) and JAG(UK) (and its predecessor NSWHG) **Graham Eaton** is retiring in March 2009. On behalf of all road and street works industry colleagues we want to thank Graham for all his hard work and wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.