

Newsletter No 11: June 2019

STREET MANAGER



A new approach to road works

Street Manager will be a new digital service that will transform the planning, management and communication of street and road works through open data and intelligent services to minimise distribution and improve journeys for the public.

What's new?

Welcome to the new format for our newsletter.

In a break with tradition, we will cover in this newsletter something that is not new in Street Manger, instead focusing on something the absence of which has caused some disquiet in the industry. As you may be aware, the non-statutory Permit Modification Requests (PMRs) were never scheduled to be part of Street Manager. However, the plan has always been to design a feature that provided a similar function in a Street Manager world. Sadly, this will not be before April 2020, so there will be a period of time where it won't be available to the industry. PMRs were introduced with EToN6 in 2013 but permit schemes did run for several years without them prior to that. Before PMRs were available an Authority had the option either to refuse a Permit or send a comment requesting a change. This is workable, particularly bearing in mind that the development of the PMR replacement will be a key priority for Street Manager in the 20/21 financial year. It should be with you by Summer 2020.

What's been done?

In the last few weeks we have:

- Presented at HAUC at Harrogate.
- Added the ability to auto-generate a work reference number.
- Began adding Search and Filtering functionality into Street Manager.
- Workshop with EToN developers looking at differences between Street Manager and EToN.

What will be done?

In the next few weeks we will:

- Carry on adding Search and Filtering functionality.
- Begin design of Lane Rental functionality.
- Research Forward Planning functionality ahead of design.
- Add the ability to indicate if a work will require a footway closure.

National Convention Update

At the HAUC UK Convention, the Street Manager team had a feature length slot to present in which we looked back at a huge year of progress for the project, gave a demo, provided updates on the latest on scope, Private Beta and the activities of the business change team. We were also very pleased to announce that Street Manager will be free for this current financial year with no change to users until April 2020. This may help you with transition and testing.

The Hole Story

Episode 9 of The Hole Story has been published since the last newsletter was issued. It can be viewed [here](#). It gives us the chance to look at the changes and improvements to the history screen since we last saw it as well as providing a look at the Work Record which acts as the hub for many of the functions in Street Manager. Two more episodes have been filmed and will be with you in the near future.

Private Beta

Our Private Beta started on 1st May and will last until the end of October. We would like to thank the following organisations who are taking part.

In Yorkshire and Humberside:

- Kirklees Council
- Leeds City Council
- Northern Powergrid
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Vodafone
- Virgin Media
- Wakefield Council
- Yorkshire Water
- Sheffield City Council [just joined]

In Southampton:

- Scottish and Southern Electricity
- Balfour Beatty working with Southampton City Council

In London and the South East:

- Essex County Council
- Hertfordshire County Council
- Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- Southwark Council
- Transport for London
- Barnet Council [just joined]

Accessibility testing

This week, we have started accessibility testing the Street Manager system on a test environment. The aim here is to make the Street Manager website usable by everyone in the industry regardless of any specialist needs or disabilities. So far, results have been positive. There have been a few issues identified that made the site tricky to use for those with vision impairments or who use screen reading software, but we are already planning fixes for these in the near future. Testing is ongoing this week, and the end result will be a Street Manager that has been built around users and is subsequently easy for everyone to use.

API Update

As the project continues to iterate and develop new features, the latest version of the API Specification (V1.1) is now available. API specific changes in this version include new functionality to specify a workstream for a permit; request more detail information on permit updates; perform a street lookup using a USRN rather than coordinates; auto-generate a works reference if not supplied; and support new sorting options within the Reporting API.

Full details on the changes can be found here: <https://departmentfortransport.github.io/street-manager-docs/api-documentation/V1.1/>, and are also documented in the API Resource Guide.

A further workshop with the EToN developers group took place this month. Framed as an EToN to Street Manager mapping workshop, the focus was on walking through the different user journeys in Street Manager, thus allowing the EToN developers to better understand the impact to their existing solutions. The output from this will instigate further additions to our existing business rules documentation, which you can look forward to over the next couple of months

During the session we also looked at ways to improve API usage efficiency to facilitate integration needs, with options to be reviewed and a selection of changes already committed to the roadmap to be delivered in the next few sprints. In addition to this, we also looked at the roadmap and key areas of priority from an integration perspective, which will further enable the group to enhance their own development plans over the coming months.

Business Change

Thank you to all those who have engaged with the business change team so far. We have spoken to a number of you at various HAUC events and are looking forward to speaking to more of you at upcoming events.

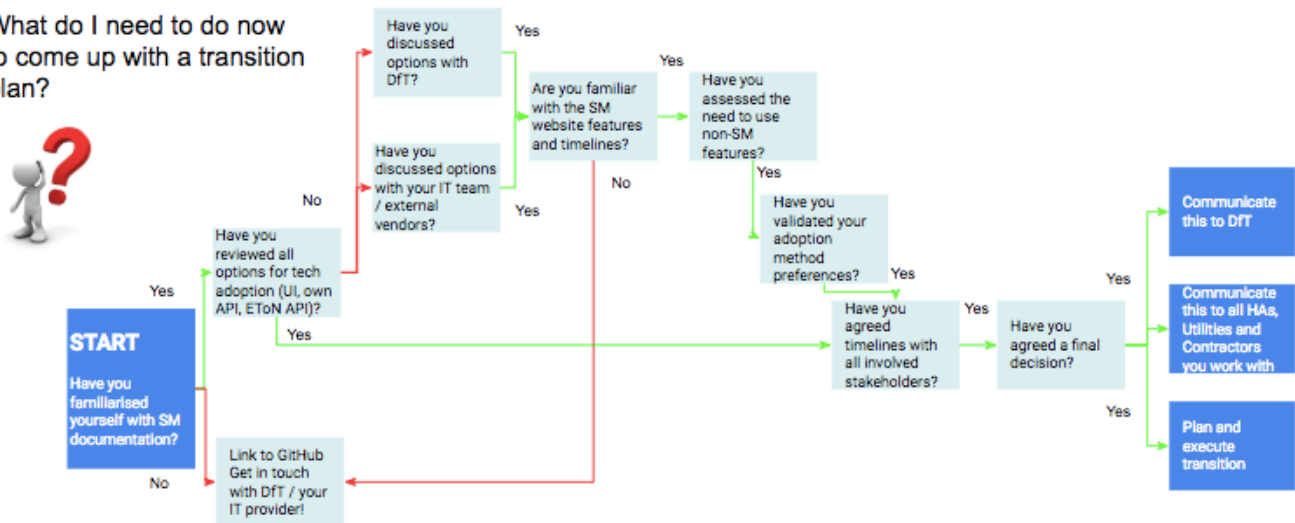
We would love to continue to hear from you regarding your plans so that we can begin to set up communities to ensure you are in contact with others choosing similar transition paths. We recognise that your plans might not be definite yet and are subject to change, but we would be grateful if you could provide an early indication.

The link to the survey can be found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSez0JdtjkmBku2hiBDUxicwAW2n0CmD7jQnmSrwT7C9jxCLw/viewform?usp=sf_link

For those of you who have struggled to access this link, we have created a survey monkey which can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D3QTHK9>

We recognise that there are lots of things to consider regarding preparing for the move over to Street Manager and have produced a decision tree to help you in this process.

What do I need to do now to come up with a transition plan?



The key point is: Make sure that you consider all available options: look at the Street Manager information available on GitHub, talk to other Authorities, Utilities and Contractors, and discuss your plans with DfT and IT vendors. Communication is key to enable us all to transition smoothly!

We hope that you have found the first part of the Business Change Playbook (Set up) useful and that it has helped you to start preparing for the change - you can find it here: <https://departmentfortransport.github.io/street-manager-docs/business-change/#documentation>.

The second (Deliver) and third (Measure) part of the playbook is now available on GitHub.

Attached to this newsletter is also a DfT Business Change Strategy, for your information.

Business Change - Document Spotlight

Overview Document - this document is intended to provide a high level overview of all the documentation produced by the Street Manager project so far. We recommend using this as a starting point and a means of familiarising yourself in advance of planning your transition. This is also a useful document to share with members of your team who may not be as aware of Street Manager.

Business Case - this document provides a template for Street Manager implementation that can be used to gain sign off for the project from senior personnel. It includes strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management cases for the change. We recommend using this to justify the time and potential financial investment needed to transition to Street Manager.

Keeping in touch

We are pleased that so many of you have signed up to our Slack channel. We now have 648 members. Please sign up as we are using this to answer questions, give updates and ask you some detailed questions. Users will also be able to share knowledge amongst themselves.

You can also get it as an app, and it's a free forum. Just to note, when signing up, please put your organisation in your display name as that helps identify you. Please also ask questions and generate discussions.

There is also a document store where you can find previous newsletters and slide decks.

Please sign up [here](#)

Contact us

Thank you to those of you who have been in touch with us this month. A reminder that if you wish to sign up to Street Manager or have any queries, you need to email streetmanager@dft.gov.uk or contact us on the #askthedft slack channel.



Department
for Transport