Street Manager

NEWSLETTER



Street Manager is a new digital service by the DfT that is transforming the planning, management and communication of street and road works. Using open data and intelligent services, its aim is to minimise disruption – and improve journeys for the public.

Street Manager newsletter 46 - 29/03/2023

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We know there are a lot of questions out there as we head towards April. We're working to answer as many questions as we can but may not be able to get to all individual queries.

To aid familiarisation with the latest reforms, we have linked and attached useful documents that will answer many queries you may have.

Consultation response – provides information on what is changing and why it's changing

<u>Updated regulations for street works reforms</u> – corresponding regulatory amendments

Coordination code of practice will be available from 31/03 - Street works co-ordination -

Inspections code of practice will be available from 31/03 - Street works inspections

You will also find the <u>updated permit scheme statutory guidance</u> and supporting <u>permit scheme</u> conditions will be updated too and also available from 31/03.

This week, we will also put out a 'Frequently Asked Questions' Performance Based Inspections document. This is intended to be a live document which can be updated as and when required.

HAUC operational guidance will also follow in due course. A lot of the answers to your questions will be in one of the above documents.

2. Inspections COP and fees

It is worth noting that an inspection that is failed today will be under the 2002 inspection Code of Practice as it goes through its life-cycle in terms of follow-up inspections. And, of course, a defect sent in April and onwards will be under the new CoP and attract the new single inspection fee. This will inevitably result in situations where an inspector carried out two follow-up inspections on the same day and one will be under one Code and one under another. Authorities will need to take care to note which is which when invoicing. And of course, the sooner all pre-April failures are discussed and resolved, the sooner all inspections will be under the new inspection regime.

3. Deep linking

Something we've had on the To Do list for a long time is "Deep linking". Until now, if you click on a link someone has sent you or you use a bookmark and you aren't logged in, when you click on it, you get taken to the log-in screen and then have to go and click on the actual link again. Next month that changes, you'll log-in and go straight to the page that you clicked on. Good times.

A couple of things to note though, we do not recommend you link or bookmark a page in a create journey such as 'apply for permit' as this would not continue the journey where you left off.

Contractor users will have to choose the organisation to work on behalf of once they have logged in and if they pick an organisation that does not have access to the page they will receive an unauthorised error, for example they link to work but chose a different promoter than the one who raised the work.

Great to finally get this little enhancement in and at least one API provider has asked us for this in the past as well, so it may have other interesting uses as well.

4. Street Manager governance

Over the last several weeks we have been taking applications and votes for membership of this year's governance group and we are pleased to announce that we have a new panel. Our new representatives will be:

Highway Authority representatives

- Kevin Ferguson Durham County Council
- John Turner Dorset Council
- Tommy Clee Hertfordshire County Council
- Claire Wright TFL
- Sarah Widdows Cambridgeshire County Council (standing member)

<u>Utility representatives</u>

- Richard Boissieux UK Power Networks
- Luke Meaton Openreach
- Mark Whittaker Cadent
- Hannah Cook Anglian Water
- Samantha Brothwell National Grid (standing member)

HA contractor representative

Emma Oakley – FM Conway

<u>Utility contractor representative</u>

• Tom Lambert - Morrison Water Services

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the successful applicants and also to say a big thank you to everyone who applied.

5. No such thing as a traffic sensitive street

A wise man, long since retired, said: "There is no such thing as a Traffic Sensitive Street, only a street that is Traffic Sensitive at certain times."

With that in mind, let's discuss an issue that has recently come up a couple of times.

It has been suggested that end dates should never slide if a Cat 3 or 4 road is Traffic Sensitive at any time, unless HA explicitly acknowledges that the promoter will be carrying out all works outside of TS times. Currently Street Manager is set up in such a way that the end date will slide unless the promoter ticks the ASD box and no ASD is ticked by default, promoters must opt-in to which specific ASD they are impacted by. To have them all selected by default would of course destroy the point of the Highway Authority painstakingly adding the ASD in the first place.

We recently had an in-depth discussion about this with the SMEs and after much discussion agreed that Street Manager will continue to operate with the sliding of the end date depending on the promoting ticking the TS ASD. The HA should consider this during assessment. To aid this, in the Street Manager user interface, we'll look to introduce a reminder that the HA is about to grant a permit on a Cat 3 or 4 where the TS designation has not been ticked and the end date will slide. We'd encourage promoters to raise awareness of this to stop permits being refused when the designation is not ticked.

6. Note on new HAs

If you work in what is currently the Cumbria County Council area, please note the following on timings of the changeover. On the 12th April we plan to release updated NSG data to Street Manager. This release of the NSG data will include the split of Cumbria County Council (900) into two new organisations, Westmorland and Furness Council (935) and Cumberland Council (940). After the release of the NSG it will no longer be possible in Street Manager to assign new Works against Cumbria County Council via the API or the UI. Any existing Works will be actioned by Cumberland Council.

7. YouTube content

Our latest 'Hole story' video is up on our YouTube channel. In this latest video we demonstrate performance based inspections functionality. (2) The Hole Story: Episode 36 - Performance Based Inspections - YouTube

We also have a list of videos and training guides available on our GitHub site <u>Changes to Street</u> works Regulations 2023 - Plan and manage roadworks information (department-for-transport-streetmanager.github.io)