

The Joint Authorities Group (UK)

Promoting excellence in road network and traffic
management within the United Kingdom



→ Who we are & what we do

The Joint Authorities Group (UK) - JAG(UK) - represents the organisations responsible for the roads and streets of the United Kingdom. JAG(UK) focuses on supporting the management of all works on the street and road network including the coordination of both these works along with other events which take place on or affect the network. JAG(UK) also provides a link between governments and authorities to provide desired outcomes in street and roads issues.

JAG(UK)'s member organisations are primarily local authorities and similar bodies whose principal activities are governed by highways, street, road and traffic management legislation. Their responsibilities include regulation of streets and roads for any purpose, with a view to maintaining public safety, asset integrity and the movement of people and goods.

JAG(UK) has eight primary objectives and supports its members in seeking to achieve these. It delivers against these objectives through a rolling three-year business plan, detailed in agreed action plans which are reported annually.

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→ Our key objectives

- **Safeguarding the quality and effectiveness** of streets and roads as the major transport network
- **Monitoring current street and road works legislation** to ensure its effectiveness and to make recommendations for change where necessary
- **Developing a consistent and appropriate implementation of regulations**, balancing the legitimate needs of network users and works promoters
- **Identifying and promoting good practice** in all aspects of traffic and works coordination
- **Liaising** with the Regional JAG(UK) and joint Regional HAUC (Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee)/RAUC (Roads Authorities and Utilities Committee) Representatives Groups and all other bodies who have an interest in street and road works
- **Supporting** practitioners within member organisations in their personal professional development through communication and the provision of guidance and advice
- **Representing** the interests and expert contributions of the membership in the wider public arena, including government, HAUC(UK), RAUC, the National Traffic Managers Forum and other related bodies; and
- **Liaising** with the Department for Transport (DfT), devolved Governments and members of HAUC(UK) working groups ensuring that a common policy and strategy related to the HAUC(UK) Business Plan is established and communicated.

↑ Delivering for you

JAG(UK) recognises the expertise of the officers employed by its member authorities. To support them in their professional contributions, our key aims are:

- **Making a significant contribution** to the finalisation of government sponsored Codes of Practice, regulations and impact assessments
- **Engaging** with the DfT, devolved Governments, Network Rail, Highways England, statutory undertakers and local authorities, to deliver continuous improvement
- **Providing an on-line library** of existing legislation, regulations, procedures and guidance for authorities and their officers
- **Acting as an online advisory service** and providing prompt guidance on emerging issues
- **Delivering a focused approach** as part of the GeoPlace/Local Government Association family
- **Attending** national, regional and local meetings and to support member authorities.

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→ Adding value

Good Practice Advice Notes

Topics for action are brought to the JAG(UK) Strategy and Research Group, and may be raised through any regional or national JAG(UK), by any member authority or one of its officers. By agreement, the Strategy and Research Group will ask the appropriate working group or appoint a chair and convene a task and finish group to prepare an appropriate response. The responses are then made available to all.

Interaction online

The secure website at **www.jaguk.org** holds the library of Advice Notes and other valuable documents, free for members. It provides news and opinion on topics of interest to the industry. Any member can share knowledge, request that a subject be addressed or post a query for response by other members in the discussion forum, consultations can also be managed through this site. JAG(UK) will seek to provide a definitive answer to any question so that consistency of interpretation can be provided across the UK.



Providing Strategic direction

JAG(UK) provides strategic direction to authorities in terms of their approach to street and roads works. Working at a number of levels nationally, regionally and locally and both politically and operationally, JAG(UK) aims to influence new legislation and policy, represents the interests of member when engaging with devolved and national governments and works to share good practice on existing legislation.

Strategy and Research Group

The Strategy and Research Group takes a central role in driving the direction of JAG(UK). It sets the strategy and ensure alignment with both government policy and Industry priorities. The Group reports on a regular basis to the governing council which remains the decision-making body.

Governance

JAG(UK) is underpinned by the activities of the regional groups which link to every local authority. JAG(UK) supports authority side input into HAUC(UK) Working Groups and works with the regional representatives to provide consistency and resources to support and help move the industry forward effectively.



→ How we are organised

JAG(UK) achieves its aims predominantly through the voluntary contribution of expertise and time from officers in its member organisations.

The JAG(UK) Governing Council meets regularly to plan, allocate and monitor the Group's activities, and to discuss issues for representation at their respective national HAUCs.

The JAG(UK) Strategy and Research Group takes a more central role in the direction of JAG(UK) with the CEO driving policy and communications.

JAG(UK) is also part of the GeoPlace family which gives a strategic link to the LGA, strong links to the NSG community and links to other professional services which help deliver a more relevant and valued service to members relating to all aspects of the road and street network.

↑ Our governance structure

Officers of the Group

CEO

Ensuring a focus on the strategic aims of JAG(UK) and Leading on HAUC(UK) matters. The CEO is appointed by the JAG(UK) Board and holds this post for an agreed term, usually two years. The CEO also chairs the JAG(UK) Board.

Chair

Chair of the Governing Council and elected by member organisations and serving for an agreed term, usually two years.

Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair of the Governing Council and elected by member organisations and serving for an agreed term, usually two years.

Chair Strategy and Research Group

Appointed by the JAG(UK) Board and holds this post for an agreed term, usually two years.

JAG(UK) Manager

A seconded position from GeoPlace, dedicated full time to represent the interests of all JAG(UK) members

Deputy JAG(UK) Manager

A seconded position from GeoPlace dedicated to represent the interests of all JAG(UK) members

The Governing Council

As above and including:

- Representative for England
- Representative for Northern Ireland
- Representative for Scotland
- Representative for Wales
- Regional JAG(UK) Representatives
- Representative for Transport for London
- Representatives for active working groups.

Regional and national committees

More than 200 organisations are eligible members of JAG(UK). They are grouped regionally or nationally, and represented in the Group's Governing Council by their regional or national chairs. The regional and national groups parallel similar organisations within the utility services supply industry and HAUC(UK).

Our relationship with HAUC(UK)

JAG(UK) representatives at every level contribute to the work of HAUC(UK) and its working groups, representing the authority perspective. Working towards developing efficient collaboration with utility works promoters to reduce traffic disruption from operations. JAG(UK) is represented at all four national HAUC/RAUCs and the HAUC(UK) Board.

Advice and guidance notes are jointly written by highway authorities and statutory undertakers and are agreed by HAUC(UK). Members also provide the highway side input to HAUC(UK) working groups. All HAUC(UK) advice notes are signed off by the joint HAUC(UK) Chairs

As well as working with the utilities on shared guidance and codes of practice, the JAG(UK) representatives contribute to dispute resolution and will support colleagues in the consistent and agreed interpretation of Codes of Practice in the real context of local operations.

Working with HAUC(UK) colleagues in the development, implementation, monitoring and review of the HAUC(UK) strategic aims

Our relationship with UK Government Departments

JAG(UK) works closely with government departments in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, supporting policy development, interpretation, advice, communication and implementation. It will also provide supporting data to influence and guide Government legislation and other initiatives

Working Groups

JAG(UK) provides membership into all HAUC(UK) working groups, these include:

- Communications Working Group – sending relevant messages to the community and keeping members up to date about change
- SROH Working Group – promoting good practice in the industry and ensuring reinstatement meets national performance standards
- Inspections Working Group – looking into all aspects of the Inspections Code of Practice
- Permit Forum – providing a forum for significant issues in permitting among Authorities and Undertakers
- Training & Accreditation Working Group – to oversee matters of training and accreditation in regards to NRSWA and the TMA
- Coordination Working Group - considering issues raised about the Coordination Code of Practice.

The Joint Authorities Group (UK)

- Safeguards efficiency of streets and roads
- Develops consistent implementation of regulations
- Identifies and promotes good practice
- Supports practitioners with guidance and information
- Represents the authority view
- Maintains cooperation and balance with others

How to get in touch with us

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Website

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Further information

For more information, please visit:

www.jaguk.org and www.geoplace.co.uk