



GAZETTEERS
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Create.

Maintain.

Use.

Your LSG.

Everything happens somewhere. If you think of all of the services that a council offers, be it for street works planning and repairs, highways asset management, gritting and salting routes, waste collection, emergency planning and response, safe routes for schools, flood prevention and alleviation, management of footpaths and public rights of way, traffic calming schemes, risk management services to deal with highway related claims etc ... they are all reliant on accurate information about the precise details of the road network.



What is the LSG?

The LSG contains the master list of all of the quality checked streets records from within the council boundary.

For each street it contains the:

- street name and location details
- Unique Street Reference Number (USRN)
- road length
- junctions of road centre lines
- street geometry
- motorways
- classification of principal streets including trunk roads and other classified numbered streets
- classification of other publicly maintained unclassified numbered streets
- prospectively publicly maintainable streets
- private streets known to the highway or roads authority
- cycle ways
- public rights of way
- remote footpaths
- subways that are publicly maintained
- footpaths where maintained or metalled.
- maintenance responsibility
- construction and reinstatement details
- height, weight and width restrictions
- special designation describing:
 - traffic sensitive streets
 - protected streets
 - periods of operation
 - streets with special engineering difficulties
 - speed limit data
 - level crossing safety zones
 - environmentally sensitive areas
 - structures
 - pipelines
 - streets with special surfaces
 - streets with priority lanes
 - streets with special construction needs
 - height, weight and width restrictions
 - direction restriction
 - strategic routes
 - winter maintenance routes
 - HGV approved routes
 - emergency services routes.

Using the LSG master list at the heart of all street-based services and initiatives saves council taxpayers money and is the bedrock to providing efficient services to customers.

Create.

Over 30 years ago, all highway authorities and utility organisations came together under the direction of the Department for Transport to support an initiative to develop a definitive and unique national database of street data to coordinate all street works and road closure and opening activities.

The purpose was to prevent, and coordinate streets being repeatedly dug up over a period of months by different utility companies and highway authorities. This initiative resulted in the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and a code of practice for all users to abide by. The legislation provides for a unique referencing system, which is fundamental to the processes of managing all street works, diversions, road closures and openings.

The code of practice supported the concept that instead of an individual highway authority having to provide their street data to each utility organisation to be used by them to plan the notification of their intention to dig up the road there should be one central resource, the National Street Gazetteer (NSG), that could be used by all to coordinate their street works activities.

The objective was to reduce the maintenance of an estimated 25 plus differing street databases across an highway authority, all being updated at different times, by different people and to different levels of quality, to one definitive and unique master street database, held locally, that is kept as accurate and up to date as possible - the Local Street Gazetteer (LSG) that could feed all street data on regular basis to form the NSG for the benefit of all users.

The NSG contains a range of definitive information which supports all street works, diversions and road closure and opening activities in England and Wales. It primarily allows all highway authorities to manage all street works carried out by themselves and by statutory undertakers in an efficient manner on the national road network.

LSGs are created and maintained under statute and are compiled at a national hub, managed by GeoPlace to create the NSG. All 173 highway authorities across England and Wales upload their LSG data to the NSG hub on a monthly basis, where the information is then verified and made available to all licenced NSG users.

Consolidating this information at a national level means that there is improved consistency of data. It allows third party organisations such as utilities to go to a central place to obtain the data, and it allows all organisations to meet their statutory highway requirements to coordinate and provide the appropriate street works notifications.



Maintain.

All councils have an Authority Street Custodian who is responsible for maintaining and updating the LSG.

Following national agreed guidance, the Authority Street Custodian plays a crucial role in ensuring the most accurate and update to date information is recorded within the LSG and in turn, in the NSG.

In turn, this role ensures that all highway authorities meet key statutory requirements placed on them from the following:

- New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA), 1991
- Code of Practice for the Coordination of Street Works and Works for Road Purposes
- Technical Specification for the Electronic Transfer of Notifications (EToN)
- Code of Practice, Specification for the Reinstatement of the Highway (SROH)
- Traffic Management Act (TMA) 2004

In short, the role is vital to ensure smooth and efficient street works practices are undertaken with the minimum disruption to the general public and businesses.

Use.

Keeping traffic moving is a crucial aspect of good service delivery for residents and businesses. The NSG is designed to meet this need, to enable all highway authorities to manage street works and coordinate all street related activity within the local area.

Streets are part of the country's infrastructure through which many citizen-centred services are provided. Consequently, there are a range of street related issues such as congestion, capacity planning, street works, accidents, incidents and maintenance which affect them. A core dataset which records all these issues, and their attributes is essential.

Although the NSG is the dataset that underpins the ability of each highway authority to meet their statutory obligations, the NSG also enables highway authorities to perform;

- network management duties
- introduce fixed penalty noticing and permit schemes
- coordinate activities on the highway network.

These duties enable highway authorities to maintain safety, minimise inconvenience to people using the street network, protect the structure of the street and the integrity of apparatus in it.

The information contained within the NSG can be used for applications involving mobilisation, routing and scenario-based risk assessments. The NSG also provides essential information for the emergency services, such as traffic sensitivity, bridges and other structures. It is also valuable for data management and recording of incidents.

The Unique Street Reference Numbers (USRNs) provides a national unique identifier that allows users of the NSG to tie their data together across applications making sharing of information corporately and across the industry seamless and efficient.

Please talk to your local Authority Street Custodian to find out how you can use the definitive NSG data in your own council service area.



GeoPlace is a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey

