

# Street names, locations and responsibilities for maintenance

The new **FindMyStreet.co.uk** service helps people to understand more about the street network in England and Wales: where a street is, what its official name is in the National Street Gazetteer (NSG), and who's responsible for its maintenance.

The service is funded by the Local Government Association (LGA) and managed by GeoPlace. Its purpose is to support both the Deregulation Act (2015), protecting Public Rights of Way (PRoW) from being extinguished and the Highways Act Section 36 (6) in providing a list of publicly maintainable streets, therefore reducing the burden on authorities.

## Reducing the burden on authorities

Councils have to keep an up to date list of streets that are maintainable at public expense under Section 36 of the Highways Act 1980. FindMyStreet holds this information in an authoritative and consistent format, so councils can

now use this service instead of maintaining their own records. This will help to reduce the burden on those local highway authorities.

The new service makes the data available to the general public too, via a centralised portal of all authorities in England and Wales. This means members of the public don't need to contact their individual councils for the details - they can go online, 24/7, to FindMyStreet instead. FindMyStreet also provides an easy way for the public to identify and report missing streets and public rights of way in the NSG.

Anyone can see the official status of a street, and if it's publicly maintainable or not - which will reduce the impact of those communications on local governments officers.

## What does FindMyStreet do?



FindMyStreet shows every street that's held in the NSG. It explains where a street is, what its official name is, and who's responsible for that street's maintenance



FindMyStreet also shows if a street or Public Right of Way is missing from the NSG. It signposts an easy way to report that missing data to the relevant highways authority via its 'Missing Streets' function



Users can view and print every street held in the NSG for each highway authority

## The National Street Gazetteer



A gazetteer is a list of details about the names of places. The NSG is the authoritative source of information about streets in England and Wales. FindMyStreet uses data that's held in the most up to date version of the NSG.



Street details are collected locally by 173 local highways authorities. Each local highway authority uses the data it collects to create a Local Street Gazetteer. Once a month, that updated information is sent to the team at GeoPlace.



The GeoPlace team verifies this data and combines it with other details sent in by bodies such as Transport for London, Welsh Government, and Network Rail. As one large dataset, this information then populates the National Street Gazetteer.



## Uses of the National Street Gazetteer

The NSG is used by local authorities, statutory undertakers, contractors and anyone who needs to work with official street information in England and Wales.

Local authorities use the NSG as a central, trusted source of information to underpin all kinds of public services. Everything from rubbish collection to planning for new housing and organising streetworks (or roadworks) in their area.

Some companies also have a legal right or obligation to work on the highways, such as utilities, including gas, electric and telecoms providers. These organisations are known as statutory undertakers.

Working together, these organisations all use the National Street Gazetteer to help minimise disruption on the network and improve public safety.