

Meeting held on teams on teams - 13.30 - 16.00

Chair - Sam Guiver

Minute Taker Julie Payne

In attendance:

- (CB) Clive Bairsto CEO SWUK & Co-Chair HAUC (UK)
- (SG) Sam Guiver Co-Chair HAUC(UK) and Chair JAG(UK)
- (GD) Gail Davies Welsh HAUC
- (SB) Samantha Brothwell National Grid (ENA representative & SWUK)
- (PC) Phil Cameron JAG(UK) Community Manager, Co-Chair Performance, Comms and Safety WG's
- (KH) Kevin Hamilton Scottish Road Works Commissioner
- (JP) Julie Payne HAUC(UK) Comms Manager
- (FJ) Frank Jamieson National Highways
- (DT) David Thomson Co-Chair RAUC Scotland
- (AW) Alison Williams Net Zero Stakeholder Manager & Chair Diversionary Works WG
- (JC) Jan Chapman Performance Co-Chair
- (AB) Annie Bennett HAUC(UK) Community Support Assistant
- (MP) Mark Playforth Training & Accreditation Co-Chair
- (RJ) Rhiannon Jones Network Rail
- (DH) Dean Howard Co-Chair Welsh HAUC
- (MG) Mark Green Co-Chair Welsh HAUC
- (IL) Ian Law HAUC England Co-Chair
- (DC) David Capon JAG(UK) Strategy Manager
- (BR) Barry Rainger Co-Chair SROH
- (PL) Peter Loft HAUC England Co-Chair
- (SW) Sarah Widdows (JAG) Special Advisor
- (DE) Darren Edwards Co-Chair Infrastructure WG (SWUK)
- (JJ) Jane James JAG(UK) Vice Chair
- (GH) George Henry Transport Scotland
- (JD) Jack Darby DfT
- (RL) Robin Lush DfT

Guest speakers: Marisa Hayes (MH) Geoplace, Katherine Feathers (KF) Ordnance Survey, Tasneem McArther (TMc) WAComms

1. Welcome from SG and Apologies & non-attendance

- (CP) Chris Powell Communications Co-Chair
- (AR) Alan Rainford (SWUK),
- (NM) Nigel Myers Vice Chair (SWUK) HAUC England
- (NS) Nile Smith NIRAUC
- (BB) Ben Beachell Welsh Government,
- (JA) John Ashcroft Co-Chair RAUC Scotland
- (DL) David Latham (JAG)
- (TL) Tom Lambert Safety Co-Chair,
- (CR) Colin Rivett Co-Chair SROH



Welcome to George Henry (GH) from Transport Scotland who has taken over the responsibility for Kat
Quane's position and someone will be recruited into Kat's role in due course. Welcome also to Jack Darby
who has taken over from Sally Kendall at the DfT. Brief introductions were given by meeting attendees.

2a. Presentation from WAComms - Faces of Streetworks Video

- TMc gave a brief introduction to "Faces of Streetworks" which is a new campaign and joint collaborative project between HAUC (UK) and SWUK and funded by lane rental from TfL. The project comprises of a primary video (and subsequent individual excerpts) which showcase some of the people and job roles, nurturing the dedication, expertise and passion which thrives within the street works industry.
- CB this emphasises the collaboration and cooperation of Industry and has a nice link to the HAUC(UK) vacancy hub at the end. This is the 1st edition and we hope we can produce further editions and incorporate the water sector, new EVCP's (electric vehicle charging providers) HEAT and renewables. We want to incorporate this working into the HAUC Vision Pillar 2 which is gaining momentum in many directions. This is a HAUC(UK) product and we should share and repost, spreading the word.
- PC thanks was given to Tasneem and the WAComms team for pulling the project together and could eventually be used as a career training tool in schools. It was noted that JAG(UK) also supports this initiative. You can view the videos on vimeo via the HAUC website: <u>Faces of Street works</u>
 - **Action CB/SG to write a thank you letter to all those persons involved with the production**

2b. Presentation on NUAR update

- (MH) and (KF) gave a presentation on NUAR. Please see the update here: NUAR presentation
- Survey out now please share and respond closing date 15th October 2026 Government survey on NUAR
- New branding to help focus on scheme adoption
- Continues progress week on week
- User cap has now been removed and companies can add on their own users and contactors
- NUAR can be used with existing platforms

3. Actions and minutes from previous meeting

 Previous meeting minutes from April 2025 agreed. All actions resolved or ongoing. Discussion had on publishing the minutes on the HAUC(Uk) website. **Action JP to produce a redacted version for the website to be agreed with group before publication**

4. Key National Government Reports and HAUC/ RAUC Priorities

- England JD advised that due to a cabinet reshuffle Lilian Greenwood has been removed from her ministerial role at the DfT with Kier Mather taking over. But following the meeting, Lilian was subsequently reinstated back into the DfT where she was appointed to the new role of Local Transport Minister, responsible for local transport issues. ** update Simon Lightwood has been confirmed as covering street works**
- The Planning and Infrastructure Bill continue to progress through the House of Lords. Clause 47 will mean EV ChargePoint operators (EV CPOs) will no longer need to apply for Section 50 licences. Instead, they will be granted access to the street works permit regime, just like statutory undertakers. This won't come into effect once the bill has reached royal ascent, instead we need to implement this through a negative procedure SI (statutory instrument) which we're working up a timetable for now.



- The new legislation changes to FPN's, S74 charging and the 50%+ levy towards pothole funding will come into force in Jan 2026 if the SI is laid on the 13th October 2025 as planned. The co-ordination code will also be updated to coincide with the changes.
- Engagement with DSIT (department of science innovation and technology) is ongoing regarding the use of flexi-permits. They have engaged an independent research company and we will be looking to go out to public consultation based on their report and findings. The TSC (transport select committee) are working on a response to their investigations and will be publishing their recommendations. ** Update the responses were published shortly after the meeting and you can read the updates here: Transport Select Committee Response to its recent report on street works**
- *RL update on the Safety code. There is still some uncertainty regarding this, but we have agreed with the better regulation unit that a further impact assessment (which would take a couple of months) is not required. We hope the consultation to be released towards the end of the year with an approximate implementation date to be confirmed. BL We need a mutually agreed implementation date to implement the changes. PL advised that historically we always had a 6/8 month lead time.



Update from HAUC England:

- Northern Ireland There was no representative on the meeting but you can read the report here: Report from Northern Ireland Sept 2025
- Scotland GH apologised for the lack of a report but advised he had just taken over. Elections are taking place on the 7th May 2026.



• Wales – DH - please see attached update

5. HAUC (UK) Working Party Updates

a) **Communications** – JP – further updates to the website are being developed. A vacancy hub filter, new glossary page and an improved innovation hub. We are adding a HAUC app page and moving the Ask Annie function to make it more prominent on the landing page. There will be further updates to coincide with HAUC at 40 in 2026. There is a comms survey in progress – **Action – All - please can you complete and share with your colleagues and companies. The survey closes on the 31st October 25 and a report will be available for the next meeting. You can view and take the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CX5T2BB.

There is a new version of the HAUC Pulse newsletter, edition 3 was launched in August and you can view it here: HAUC-Pulse-Issue-3.

b) **Diversionary works** – DC – A huge thank you to Alison Williams who is now stepping down as Utility Co-Chair due to her retirement from Openreach. Alison has put in an amazing effort with this code review and progress would not be at the stage it is without her. Thank you Alison (**). Mark Unwin from Gigaclear will be taking over as the new Utility Co-Chair.

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The draft code will be sent to all 4 nations to review in detail during October 25. We can then move forward, hopefully without any major hurdles. Everyone has worked together and all nations have been on board. Next, we expect individual consultations to take place and subsequent HAUC supplementary operation guidance will be drafted to support the new code updates.



HAUC Reporting -

You can read a report from Alison here: Diversionary works S

- c) Infrastructure this group is currently sitting within the HAUC Vision pillar 3 Infrastructure team with Darren Edwards heading up the group as Pillar lead. It should take on natural progression as the vision work evolves.
- d) **Performance** PC advised he would be standing down shortly and Kevin Ferguson will be taking over as the authority Co-Chair with JC. Thank you to PC for his years of support with this working group 🐑 . PL asked if there was a possibility of the existing reports in Street Manager being enhanced due to the contract for the developer being renewed? JC took on the role but direct performance reporting will be useful. Kevin will be great in this role. We can do national reporting for England but there is no resource for the regional reporting. Using power BI with the data would be helpful. PL advised he'd had a good meeting with the Water businesses and signed off on new protocols which involves sharing data. There is a benefit in using some statistics which can identify trends with others, be it good or bad it's very useful. JC – identifying what we can all do better produces the basis for good practice as we can learn from each other. **Action JD to follow up with Paul Chandler **

SW – can everyone using Street Manager please complete the annual feedback survey so we know what we want to see in the future. **Action All – Street Manager users - you can take the survey here: Street Manager User feedback survey 2025

- e) Safety *update as per RL see earlier notes. Still awaiting the release of the consultation on the new code review.
- f) Training and Accreditation DC Both TAG 1 and 2 meetings were held in August. We are still in a holding pattern awaiting the review. The next meetings will take place in November. We are looking at training modules for accessibility and noise disorientation. Seema from Blind Ambition is helping with promoting this to the industry. MP – we are also looking at the competence of the training assessors. DC – the AO's (awarding organisations) get data on their performance. We have brought in several changes and it would be good to understand the value of what we have done. We want to let the data drive the agenda. TAG 2 are looking at these stats. MP – there are more than 50K registrations across the UK. KH – looking at virtual simulators for roadworks. It's a good way to engage with people in a positive way. It also allows you to test out scenarios and can allow online interaction. Its fully immersive and we need some tougher training.



g) **HV30 Vision Delivery Group** - CB – we have our next Vision delivery update meeting on the 29th Sept and are moving forward with our strategic plan.

6. Items for Discussion

- SG Discussion on HAUC Governance and future funding, SG presented a few slides on the future of HAUC (UK) and the role of the HAUC (UK) vice chairs to allow for succession.
- SB as funding is now required to pay the HAUC (UK) administration Comms and Support we need to be clear and correct (from a business perspective) and something more formal needs to be put in place.
- PL Funding shouldn't sit with HAUC (UK), the DfT should put in guidance to ensure new lane rental funds are being allocated accurately.

7. <u>AOB</u>

 Discussion on permanent signal turn offs. There are several issues and some standard guidance would be helpful. A national agreement is needed. KH – happy to look at but we will need representation. In Scotland there is a standard application where an authority sign off is required. SB confirmed there is currently no consensus on this issue.

8. Date of Next Meeting

** Wed 7^{th} January 2026 – via teams . 13.30 – 16.00 *

Please advise JP (<u>Julie.payne@geoplace.co.uk</u>) if there are any changes or updates to the current distribution list.