



### **NJUG welcomes road policy report from the Confederation of British Industries (CBI)**

NJUG welcomes the release today of the CBI's report on "*Tackling congestion, driving growth*". The document makes a number of recommendations to Government, including commenting on current and future street works policy.

Les Guest, NJUG Chief Executive Officer said: "I am delighted to see such a prominent voice as the CBI highlighting the importance of robust and effective street works policy. I am pleased that their recommendations on lane rental mirror those of Transport for London, who are investigating the possibility of a targeted lane rental system on key routes at traffic sensitive times. Only through such an approach is there likely to be any change in operational behavior, since this would allow utilities to prioritise their works on those roads that suffer from the greatest congestion."

Les added, "I am also pleased to read of CBI's recommendation for a Road Works Commissioner for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. John Gooday, the Scottish Road Works Commissioner, has made significant progress since he was appointed in 2007, by acting as a neutral regulator of the industry and overseeing both local authority and utility works in Scotland. Currently local authority works are not regulated to the same high standard as utility operations, and the success of John's position should be mirrored by the other home nations to ensure the travelling public feels a decrease in the amount of unfortunate disruption they experience from all works."

-ends-

#### **Notes to Editors**

For further information about the National Joint Utilities Group please go to [www.njug.org.uk](http://www.njug.org.uk). To arrange an interview please contact the NJUG press office at [pressoffice@njug.org.uk](mailto:pressoffice@njug.org.uk) or telephone 020 7340 8737.

CBI's press release:

<http://www.cbi.org.uk/ndbs/press.nsf/0363c1f07c6ca12a8025671c00381cc7/ac77d2168797ed7f802576e3004dc9d3?OpenDocument>

CBI's report:

[http://www.cbi.org.uk/ndbs/press.nsf/0363c1f07c6ca12a8025671c00381cc7/ac77d2168797ed7f802576e3004dc9d3/\\$FILE/Tackling%20congestion,%20driving%20growth%20-%20A%20new%20approach%20to%20roads%20policy.pdf](http://www.cbi.org.uk/ndbs/press.nsf/0363c1f07c6ca12a8025671c00381cc7/ac77d2168797ed7f802576e3004dc9d3/$FILE/Tackling%20congestion,%20driving%20growth%20-%20A%20new%20approach%20to%20roads%20policy.pdf)

#### **About The National Joint Utility Group (NJUG)**

NJUG is the only UK industry association representing utilities and their contractors on street works issues.

Our full members include the Energy Networks Association (representing electricity and gas companies), Water UK (representing water and waste water companies), National Grid, Openreach, and Virgin Media. Our Associate Members are Clancy Docwra, Skanska Utilities, Balfour Beatty, Morrison Utility Services, Morgan Est, NACAP, PJ Keary, First Intervention, Carillion, Enterprise, Laing O'Rourke, AMEC and SQS. Including members through trade associations, NJUG represents thirty-nine utility companies and thirteen utility contractors.

NJUG is the utility arm of the Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee representing street works in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales known as HAUC (UK). Please see <http://www.hauc-uk.org.uk/> for further information.

NJUG's focus is on promoting best practice, safety, quality and co-ordination of works as well as representing utilities in discussions with Government and other stakeholders on street work issues.

Utilities undertake street works for four primary reasons – safety, security of supply, to connect or upgrade customers' supplies, or to divert apparatus to facilitate major transport or urban regeneration projects. Examples include Crossrail, the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, tram projects, or new urban and housing developments.