



## **NJUG Code of Conduct**

The National Joint Utilities Group Ltd (NJUG) is actively working together with street authorities, utilities, contractors and other key stakeholders to reduce the regrettable disruption sometimes caused by road and street works to road users, businesses and residents within the UK.

NJUG promotes active participation at co-ordination meetings discussing advance planning, joint working and collaborative practices and in particular the following:

### **Permitting**

NJUG offers to assist prospective permit authorities develop their proposed permit schemes to ensure that they will not only benefit the whole community but are also legally robust, workable and that the software systems are compatible and the necessary process changes are put in place and tested prior to going live.

### **Advance Planning**

NJUG members will continue to share long term plans for asset upgrades and major maintenance projects with authorities and utilities to promote greater opportunities for trench sharing, site sharing and accommodating authority planning as part of their commitment to encouraging enhanced co-ordination between all parties.

### **Use of Minimum-Dig Technology**

NJUG will continue to promote the use of minimum-dig technology where practical and safe to use, in order to reduce the size, environmental impact and duration of works.

### **Plating**

To ensure a rapid return of carriageways and footways to road users and pedestrians during traffic-sensitive times NJUG will encourage its members to consider the option of plating over, or applying bridging techniques to, utility excavations at sites where it is safe and practical to do so and does not unduly extend the duration of the works or adversely affect the highway structure.

### **Working Outside Peak Hours**

NJUG members will strive to work at the times of the day that minimise disruption to traffic and reduce excessive traffic delays. As part of the planning process including budgetary considerations and following discussions with environmental and highway departments along with affected stakeholders, we will consider the options of evening, weekend and 24 hour working at key locations where highlighted environmental concerns can be overcome and where disturbance to residents can be kept to a minimum and it is safe to do so for the workforce.



## **NJUG Code of Conduct**

### **Standard Information Signage**

NJUG members will continue to provide work site information boards at all sites containing contact details and provide additional unique information boards specific to long term (major works) projects displaying updates on progress and the estimated completion dates.

### **Inspections**

Worksites will be inspected at all stages including within the reinstatement guarantee period and will be promptly rectified if any aspects of the site do not meet appropriate standards.

### **First Time Reinstatements**

To ensure work sites are returned to public use at the earliest opportunity and help reduce any possible delays and disruption, NJUG promotes the use of first time permanent reinstatements wherever possible.

### **Good Practice Guide**

NJUG, along with HAUC(UK), is committed to sharing good practice to help raise awareness and drive performance improvement. We will continue to share examples of good practice on our web site and at events around the country, and adopt the highest standards that emerge from this awareness.

NJUG will regularly review its Code of Conduct to ensure that it continues to reflect good practice.

**June 2010**

<http://www.njug.org.uk/>