



CCS & CCSS

NEWSLETTER



Winter 2024



**CITY
OF
LONDON**

As the Nights Draw In...

It is the time of year where we can reflect on the preceding 12 months and enjoy the positives that have come our way and to hopefully learn from the challenges that have been thrown at us.

As the new year beckons, CCS Judging Day will quickly follow. The CCS and CCSS teams will continue to score our member sites and take note of who is going above and beyond in order to push for Gold and Highly Commended status. Often it can be the unseen work that the industry takes on that really lends itself to being a positive force in the community that they temporarily inhabit. From site visits for nearby schools, to championing a local charity or Take One, Leave One set ups that feature on Keltbray's hoarding located on Abchurch Lane. Spare warm clothing can be donated here for those that need it most. Please let us know how you are making a difference whilst pushing ahead with your project on the email address below.

We would like to thank you for the work that you have put in over the last year and wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.

Season's greetings,
ccs@cityoflondon.gov.uk



The Christmas Tree in Bow Churchyard



Keltbray's Take One, Leave One set up on Abchurch Lane



The Watling Street Christmas lights leading to St Paul's Cathedral

Moorgate, Moorgate - Collaborative Works



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Once again, a monumental collaborative project from the City of London and utility contractors. For 10 weeks Reach Active and Andels, have managed to coordinate electrical duct works for the Dovetail Project (115 Houndsditch) taking place along Moorgate, from Lothbury to London Wall. It covers roughly 400 metres of excavational works and an overall project spanning over 3KM from East to West of the Square Mile. With the other utility services present within the road, there are numerous obstacles in the way, with a lot of planning and great care taken to facilitate the safest possible route through the carriageway.



Whilst navigating their works along the carriageway, they have had the added challenges of the occasional crane operation during weekends, as well as making sure carriageway width is maintained for the Lord Mayor Show 2024 for floats and various other vehicles on the day. The team have liaised well with local building sites in order to maintain access for deliveries, and in turn they have been extremely helpful with the traffic management and pit lane requirements.



In addition to this the Streetworks Team have co-ordinated various other works to make the best use of the closures and minimise disruption on the network. These works have consisted of repairs to numerous damaged frames, covers and chambers situated in the footways and road, as well as pothole and patching works from our internal contractors FM Conways. Throughout the entirety of the works a cycle lane has been maintained. Additional works have been carried out by COLT, JSM Group, EU Networks, ZAYO, Verizon, GTT, Lumen Tech, Morrisons, Thames Water, JB Riney's and Advance Telecoms.



We would like to thank the contractors and the utility companies for their continued support, along with London Buses for facilitating diversions. In the new year, Reach Active will be looking to continue their works onto Gresham Street towards King Street.

We are proud of the collaborative works that are key to enhancing the city's network, whilst minimising disruption to all local stakeholders. Through this collaboration, the team and the contractors managed to save 64 days of disruption to the City's network.

We are excited to be re-launching the City Corporation Inclusive Access award, recognising great practice in removing barriers for disabled people across the City!

We want to showcase projects that improve the experience of City construction and to encourage innovation in this area. We will also be starting a regular 'Inclusive Access' series in future newsletters, sharing ideas on how to make a difference.

Disabled people make up approximately 24% of the UK population. We use the social model of disability which says that we all have a range of conditions, differences and impairments but we're only disabled when barriers get in our way. Those barriers can be physical - like steps or hazards - or they can be other factors like attitudes, processes, or the ways we communicate.

We are ambitious about achieving the highest standards of inclusive access across the City. Earlier this year we published our draft Transport Strategy (Second edition) which was developed with a range of stakeholders, including members of the City of London Access Group. At the heart of the draft Strategy is engagement, working with people with lived experience to identify barriers and then go on to develop solutions.

Good practice guidance on improving access has been around for some time including BS8300, Approved Documents M and K, Inclusive Mobility, TfL's Equity in Motion and various publications from the Mayor's office in 2022 PAS 6463: Design for the Mind - Neurodiversity and the Built environment, which gave us new standards for people with sensory and/or information processing differences. It highlighted the importance of light, sound, smell, touch and colour and how to limit sensory overload.

So tell us what you're doing to remove barriers and promote inclusion. You could be creating wider protected walkways with passing places and room for assistance dogs, reviewing text size and colour on hoardings, creating resting points, telling people about alternative routes, or coming up with a protocol for access audits or placing signage. Even ways you communicate on site.

We will be accepting submissions for the award in the New Year, so please look out for the email from our team. The challenge is on!

Symology Aurora Showcase



On the October 1st, representatives from the City of London Highways team were invited along to the annual Symology/Aurora event held at the West Poultry Avenue CCT Smithfield Centre.

A selection of presentations were given by a host of experts working within their fields. The day comprised of two separate forums one being Asset Management and the other Streetworks. Aurora deals with a number of company updates including road maps, customer services and updates on implementing lane rental charges.

Aurora is a new web-based programme that highway staff use to process all enquiries from scaffolding licenses, logging assets, wifi columns to new trees and even approving permits for utility and contractors to conduct their works.

The transition period of the City Operations Highway teams to transfer all asset management to Aurora should be fully completed by Spring 2025. This is Symology's next generation Integrated Asset Management & Street Works Solution. The aim is for the system to be easier to use and has been built by incorporating feedback from operatives who have spent 40 years working within the streetworks and highways sector. Its cloud base format has modern-day dashboard facilities providing bespoke design and scheduling reports daily. There will also be a mobile handheld version coming out in the Summer of 2025. We hope that this sort of innovation and forward thinking technology will make the industry safer and more efficient

We would like to thank all at Symology and Aurora for hosting a very insightful event and we are looking forward to the new system being in place!!

Hooray to Aurora!!!



The Symology team taking the audience through the new Aurora software



Michelle, Ed and Bill from the City of London Highways Team in attendance at the event

King William Street Project Signage



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Over the summer, works began on King William Street as part of the City Corporation's Pedestrian Priority Programme. The intention is to ensure that making your way around the City is safer, easier, and more accessible in the Square Mile.

One of the pillars of the CCS scheme is Communication. Whilst barriers and signage, clearly denote that works are safely taking place, it can often be an annoyance for City goers that their route to work or home now has a temporary layout for them to navigate. In order to positively engage with said people, the City is making use of the totems pictured. The totems are there to inform people of the works that are taking place, how the finished scheme will look and to give them a chance to make contact with those who are directly involved in the scheme, whether that be City officers or F M Conway carrying out the works. This allows open dialogue to quickly rectify issues should they arise. Further to this, the totems show information regarding the history of the local area.

The QR codes and high visibility of contact information further increase ease of communication. Experience dictates that people are often more receptive to change or upheaval, when they know what the end product will be. We have often seen hoardings across the City used as advertising for developers and their property managers in order to sell the new product. But we would like developers and their contractors to sell their product to the local stakeholders who have to endure the disruption that deconstruction or construction phases may bring. Use your hoarding to make us aware what we have to look forward to, whether it be new public spaces or improved public realm and accessibility after the project is complete. Or feel free to educate us about the history of the area the project finds itself in.

Dig deep and use the hoarding as a positive bridge between the project and local stakeholders. Don't dig too deep, you'll likely find something Roman...



Wishing happy holidays to all involved in the CCS and CCSS!



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For further information or to join the CCS Scheme, please contact us on:
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