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# Street Manager: Optional Permit Response Times

DfT lane rental industry publication



# Introduction

Permit applications are required for all works that fall within the criteria of Registerable Activities (street works and works for road purposes), set out in the Permit Regulations, along with documenting the timescales in which permits must be sent and responded to. With the introduction of the Street Manager system, the DfT has also mandated that all permits for such works should be sent and responded to via this new system.

# The Project

Although permits for works falling outside of the 'registerable works' definition are not mandatory, having visibility of such activities is very useful to both works promoters and highway authorities. Optional permits within Street Manager provide a means for non registerable works to be permitted therefore aiding coordination and providing visibility of non registerable activities for all and therefore of relevance to all users of optional permits.

Despite the fact that optional permits are not mandatory, the rules for applying and responding to them are exactly the same as those for legally required permits. This can sometimes deter the use of optional permits for activities that take longer than 10 days to complete as they fall into the major works category and, as such, promoters of these activities need to send a PAA as well as a permit application and wait up to 30 days for a response from the authority.

The Project therefore involved reducing the response time for these permits from 30 days to 5 days.



# Outcomes/ Lessons Learnt

The project met its objective of reducing the response time for Optional Permits by negating the requirement for a PAA thus reducing the response time by 25 days and improving functionality for all users of Optional permits.

More engagement with the API developers may have assisted in a speedier outcome.

# Conclusion / Recommendations

Greater visibility of non registerable works aids coordination and minimises the risk of clashes with registerable works. There is also a greater opportunity for collaboration .  
Negating the need for a PAA and reducing the response time benefits all users of optional permits.

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# TfL Lane Rental Scheme

Optimising customer journeys through the delivery of safer, innovative and sustainable roadworks

