



ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE
(SCOTLAND)

ADVICE NOTE 21

APPARATUS IN ROADS AT SHALLOW DEPTHS

Version 1.1
September 2022

APPARATUS IN ROADS AT SHALLOW DEPTHS

Version History

Version	Date	Notes
1.00	Nov 2012	1 st Draft by John Gooday. Approved by RAUC(S) on 5 December 2012.
1.1	Sept 2022	References to NJUG publication and website updated to reflect change to Street Works UK.

Roads Authorities & Utilities Committee (Scotland)

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1. The Roads Authorities and Utilities Committee (Scotland) (RAUC(S)) recommends that undertaker apparatus be placed in roads at the locations and depths recommended in the Street Works UK publication “Guidance on the Positioning and Colour Coding of Underground Utilities’ Apparatus” which can be found on their website at streetworks.org.uk.
2. It is recognised that in some roads there will exist apparatus which has been placed at a shallower than recommended depth. There might also be a limited number of occasions where apparatus requires to be placed shallower than the recommended depth because of the congestion of existing apparatus. In such cases the apparatus shall only be placed at a shallower depth with the written permission of the road works authority.
3. Apparatus at a shallower than normal depth poses an increased danger to anyone requiring to undertake excavations. As such, RAUC(S) recommends that undertakers which are aware that they are responsible for such apparatus, should discuss this issue with the relevant road works authority and where appropriate agree that the road within which the apparatus is placed, be designated as having “special engineering difficulty” under section 122 on the NRSWA.