

PAS 256 project overview

A PAS is a sponsored fast-track standard that is developed through a consensus-building process facilitated by BSI Standards Limited. A PAS should not be regarded as a BS, EN or ISO standard.

Identifier	PAS 256
Title	Buried services – Collection, recording and sharing of location information data – Code of Practice
Sponsor	Institution of Civil Engineers
Project Manager	Laura Cordell, laura.cordell@bsigroup.com
Key dates	Expected date of public consultation: 15 July 2016 (~4 weeks)
	Expected date of publication: December 2016

Background

The UK has a vast network of utility and local authority infrastructure buried beneath highways, footways and verges in the UK. The combined network of water, sewer, gas and electricity services extends to over 1.5 million kilometres of infrastructure. Data for telecommunications cables and local authority infrastructure (e.g. cabling for street lighting and traffic lights, highway drains etc.) are less widely known but it is estimated that when included, the total length of buried infrastructure is in excess of 4 million kilometres. A common methodology to locate and map these assets through a common approach and make this data available to all entitled highway staff is required.

Utility and local authority infrastructure data is also held in multiple different formats, which makes coordination of information challenging, costly and bureaucratic. Such challenges will often lead to cancelled permits, delays and re-work all adding to the cost and disruption.

Draft scope

This PAS will give recommendations for the collection, recording and sharing of location information data relating to:

- underground assets and any associated above ground assets;
- decommissioned assets; and
- abandoned assets.

This PAS also sets out a consistent, accessible data protocol to enable effective recording and sharing of the location, state, and nature of buried assets, and recommends how existing asset records should be updated, recorded and collated.

This PAS will also cover:

- the gathering of geospatial data using absolute or relative accuracy, plus associated evidence (such as photographic evidence);

- measurable deviations from straight line installations, where appropriate;
- the absolute depth of the asset;
- the number of days to record and make available the asset data, once collected; and
- the sharing of collected asset data.

This PAS does not cover recommendations on how or where the data is stored, or how data integrity is assured.

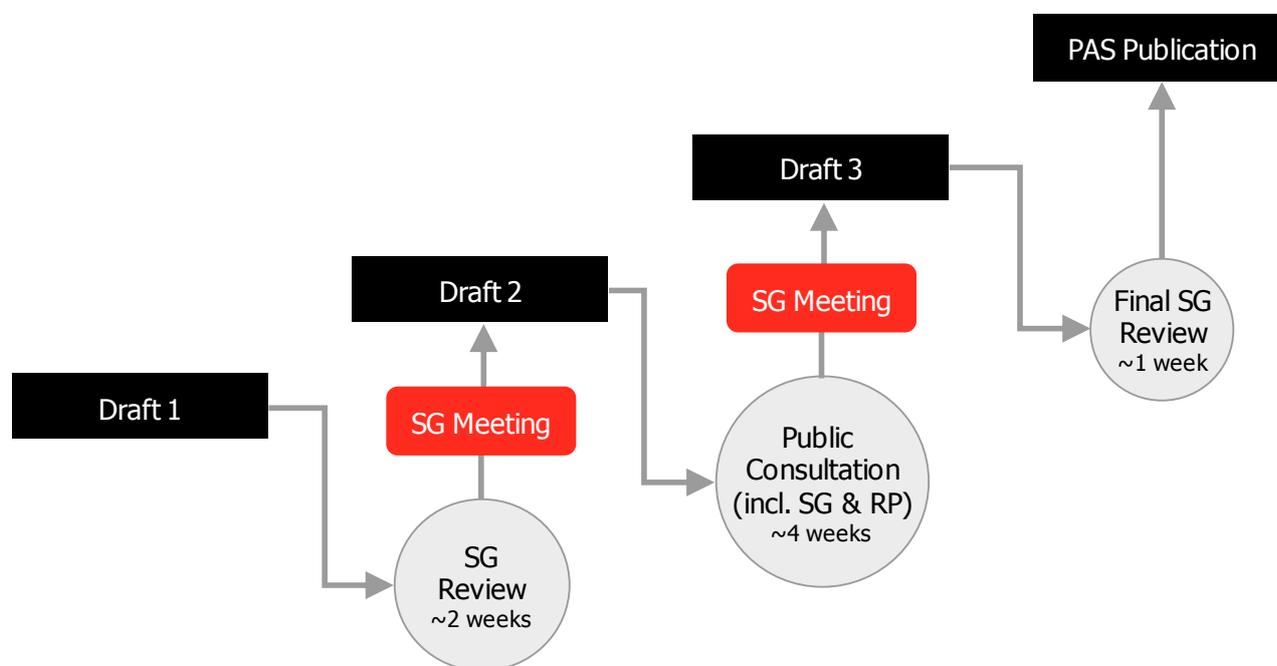
Responsibilities of the Review Panel (RP)

The RP is a wide formation of organizations and individuals representing those stakeholder groups that may be affected by the implementation of a PAS, even if only peripherally affected. Consultation with the RP is vital in terms of building consensus in the development of a PAS.

RP members will be invited to submit comments electronically during a public consultation via the BSI [Draft Review System](#) in July/August 2016. **There are no RP meetings.**

Due to the time constraints of the project, comments received after the deadline or in any format other than online via the BSI Draft Review System cannot be considered.

PAS process



SG	steering group (8 to 15 stakeholders)
RP	review panel (targeted stakeholders, including BSI technical committees)
SG Review	draft is made available to SG only, for technical review
Public consultation	draft is made publicly available for technical review through BSI's online Draft Review System
Final SG Review	draft is made available to SG only, for final (editorial) review
SG Meeting	meeting where comments are resolved by the steering group members