

NABMA

the voice of markets

**YOUR
MARKET:
ASSET OR
LIABILITY?**

30th

January
2025

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**NABMA ONE DAY
CONFERENCE**

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OUR INVITATION YOUR MARKET: ASSET OR LIABILITY?

Our NABMA Conference 2024 highlighted the very different picture being experienced by many markets within their local communities. For some the future is optimistic but for others, still recovering from the pandemic, and now the ever-mounting problems of local government finance, then it is a very different picture. As an example, one of NABMA's founder members has sadly ceased market activities in 2024 due to substantial financial issues. This is a real wake up call of the industry pressures.

The last NABMA Retail Markets Survey revealed that the significant number of markets are now being managed or controlled by local authorities. This being the case, then serious risks apply to the industry. Their future is linked to the crisis that has led to the retail decline of town and city centres and their high streets. In 2025, with a relatively new government, what will be the impact of annual funding settlements for local authorities; and with markets as a non-statutory service, then what should the industry expect?

Markets are facing their biggest challenges in over 100 years of NABMA history. Underpinning the future of our industry is the discussion being created by the NABMA #MarketsFirst national campaign, now entering its final months.

Harrogate 2024, and our campaign, gave much food for thought. It was summarised that going forward markets that are an asset will be based around their trader offer, customer experience, atmosphere, management and leadership. They will be the social glue that bring together their community and visitors to both interact and support local high street businesses. They must integrate tradition with modern retail, community engagement and importantly, understand and react to the changes to consumer habits. Their function and promotion will be part of enhanced digital communication. A measure of the success of a modern market will also be its social value moving beyond just finance, to engage with people to understand the impact of decisions on their lives.

Without doubt the market industry is therefore changing, encouragingly with many pioneers. There is a growing wave of local councils wanting to manage their local market, perhaps looking to reverse a current local liability into a community asset. Is your market part of a change agenda, or is it continuing its historical and tried and tested path? There are many questions to ask.

For 2025, we return to our conference venue to the Macdonald Burlington Hotel, in the centre of Birmingham. Our programme will look at the views of government and high street leaders, the various industry aspirations for change, and the future of the industry itself set against the progress of #MarketsFirst and its key priorities.

As always, our thanks are extended to Blachere Illuminations UK for their generous sponsorship of the Conference.

I look forward to meeting you at Birmingham in January.

Councillor Chris Poulter
NABMA President



OUR CONFERENCE VENUE

The Macdonald Burlington Hotel is in the centre of Birmingham and is just a 2-minute walk from New Street Station. It offers a luxury hotel experience in the grandeur of a magnificent Victorian building.

<https://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/burlington>

The NCP New Street Multi-storey car park with post code B5 4AN has 24 hours per entry.

There is also parking available at post code B4 6DG which is a short 9 minute walk from the hotel.



CONFERENCE OFFER 2025

Are you a Member of NABMA, ATCM or NMTF?

If you are then your delegate rate will be **£175 exclusive of VAT** that includes refreshments and a two-course hot lunch.

We also offer three delegate places for **£450**. (All fees are exclusive of VAT). Places are strictly limited so book early.

DRAFT PROGRAMME HEADLINES

The View from Government

What is the direction and support for the high street and markets with a new government

Place Management and Markets

What next for the high street and who are the leaders?

Markets and their Wider Role

The influence of local markets in local regeneration.

Out with the Old and in with the New

Replacing history and tradition as one market closes and others open.

Retaining and Attracting Traders

A fundamental MarketsFirst priority. What can we learn from NABMA Market Award Winners 2024.

Meeting the Challenges to Shape the Future

Examples of markets and their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Tradition v Change

A panel session to look at the future of the industry. Are event and food markets changing the traditional landscape for ever?

Business Rates

We look at revaluations and the impact on traditional and event markets

The NABMA Performance Network

With your feedback we assess the health of the industry and the evidence to make our case for support from government and high street partners.

Market Place Great British Market Awards 2025

The awards ceremony to announce the winners of the various categories and, of course the prestigious title of Britain's Favourite Market, will be a focus of celebration.

MEET OUR SPONSOR



Blachere Illumination UK has an international reputation as the leading supplier in outdoor Christmas and festive lighting. We pride ourselves on our high standards of customer service, quality of product and energy efficiency.

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Phone: 01337 832910 Fax: 01337 832919

Email: info@blachere-illumination.co.uk

AND THE WINNER IS...

The seminar will also be used to announce the winners of the Great British Market Awards 2025.



BOOKING FORM

First Name

Last Name

Email

Local Authority and/or Market Name

Are you a NABMA, ATCM or NMTF Member

- Yes
- No

Number of Delegates

Delegate 1: Name

Delegate 1: Email

Delegate 2: Name

Delegate 2: Email

Delegate 3: Name

Delegate 3: Email

Delegate 4: Name

Delegate 4: Email

Delegate 5: Name

Delegate 5: Email

Information for Invoicing (Address, Additional Instructions)
Invoices will be sent for all bookings.

Purchase Order Number (Enter "None" if not required)

PRICING

NABMA, ATCM and NMTF member discounted price:

- 1 Conference Delegate (£175 + VAT = £210)
- 2 Conference Delegates (£350 + VAT = £420)
- 3 Conference Delegates **Special Discount** (£450 + VAT = £540)
- 4 Conference Delegates **Special Discount** (£600 + VAT = £720)
- 5 Conference Delegates **Special Discount** (£750 + VAT = £900)

Standard non-member delegate price:

Conference Delegate (£250 + VAT = £300)

BOOKING

Please return your booking form below as soon as possible to:

NABMA
The Guildhall
Oswestry
Shropshire
SY11 1PZ

Numbers are strictly limited. To be certain of your place book today.

Prefer to book online? Visit this link - <https://bit.ly/NABMA-Conf-Jan25>



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