

NABMA

the voice of markets



MEMBERSHIP
SUPPORTS &
BENEFITS

March 2026

A photograph of a market stall with various fresh produce. In the foreground, there are several clear plastic containers filled with bright red raspberries. To the right, there are more containers filled with dark blueberries. In the background, there are baskets of peaches and other fruits. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an outdoor market setting.

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your local
market



GREAT BRITISH MARKET AWARDS

NABMA MARKET AWARDS

WELCOME

About NABMA

The National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) represents all market operators. While we have a strong local government connection, we also have members from the private sector, Business Improvement Districts, community groups and local councils. Throughout the last one hundred years we have promoted markets on the national stage and provided a wide range of support services to our members.

We know that Markets contribute to local economies and act as catalysts for the high street brands of tomorrow. NABMA research demonstrates that markets are at the heart of their communities and continue to shape history, place and identity and we want to make sure that this message is delivered consistently.

Markets have an important role in building stronger communities, the level of social inclusion, and the use of the market by different groups. They can help support local jobs and entrepreneurs, increase local spending, and create a more circular economy.

We know there are many successful markets, but we also know that many are struggling to survive. NABMA is available to share information, good practice and help those that are struggling. We are here for our members and have an experienced in-house team of consultants who can help your market with any policy or operational issues you may face.

With a network of friendly, knowledgeable officers across the UK, there's always someone who can answer your questions and chat through ideas and issues. We are proud to be the voice of markets and look forward to working with you and helping you make the most of your NABMA member benefits.

David Catterall DL
NABMA Chief Executive



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BENEFITS & SUPPORT

Our NABMA Membership Offer

“I am deeply grateful for their professionalism, commitment, and support. Their service is an essential asset to anyone operating in the markets sector, and I would wholeheartedly recommend it to any member facing legal uncertainty or needing specialist management and operational guidance”

We are proud of our membership offer and the feedback we receive. Our key services are our legal and management/operational and training systems for market managers, backed up with specialist advisors for VAT and business rates. With just a small Team we also offer website, template documents and research. You can network with our membership through a virtual platform. Use our social media and receive regular newsletters and updates. We have market mentors available for help and support, and we are the lead voice in national representation to government. Professional development and events are NABMA priorities with conferences, events, training and qualifications. Look out for NABMA award programmes. You have access to our performance network, newsletters and you can be part of our campaigns such as Love Your Local Market.



YOUR VOICE

Working on your Behalf



“Without NABMA’s swift and expert assistance, the outcome could have been very different. Their service is an essential asset to anyone operating in the markets sector, and I would wholeheartedly recommend it to any member facing legal uncertainty or needing specialist guidance.”

The Voice of Markets

NABMA has representation on various platforms to ensure that markets continue to have a clear and loud voice in discussions at national level. As well as working with industry partners such as the National Market Traders Federation we also work with the Local Government Association, the Association of Town Centre Management, the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks to make sure that markets make a meaningful contribution to the central agenda and ensure direct contact with local councils with responsibilities for markets. At the national level through lobbying and partnership we have achieved many successes including safeguarding market franchise rights; influencing planning policy and promoting markets and the high street.



“I would thoroughly recommend the NABMA advice service and would suggest it is a vital resource for those of us running markets, especially in modern times with all the additional challenges they face.”

A Voice at Westminster

NABMA facilitates the All-Party Parliamentary Markets Group. This valuable conduit for markets in Westminster affords the regular opportunity to discuss the promotion and support for markets and market trading in the UK with connectivity to government in terms of the role and influence of markets in retail, tourism, employment, hospitality and leisure sectors.

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YOUR VOICE

The High Street Retail Forum

NABMA is a lead member of the Forum that works exclusively with the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and other national organisations with interests in markets and high streets. The Forum is a valuable conduit to civil servants to discuss policy and research and to lobby on behalf of our industry.



Markets and Regions

NABMA is an active supporter of bringing market professionals and decision makers together. It was a lead member of the first London Markets Board bringing together a group of sector experts, operators, business leaders, and entrepreneurs to support and promote the capital's wholesale, street and covered markets and help to deliver a London markets strategy. NABMA is now a lead voice in the setting up of a Market Partnership for the Greater Manchester Area to shape a vision to integrate national and local priorities and to create a resilient, inclusive, and forward-thinking market industry.

ADVICE & SUPPORT

“ NABMA’s Legal Department have been instrumental in the writing and redrafting of all Council Market Policies. They have also given invaluable advice on Market Rights, legal challenges and street trading. Membership has been vital in the progression of our Markets”

Free Legal Advice

The majority of NABMA members have at some time found the need for help and advice on market related issues. Market Law is a very specialist and complex area and NABMA has access to the best advice on the market. Free legal advice is available to NABMA members on any matter relating to markets. As well as direct access to our legal and policy consultant a plethora of template documents are available in our members area of the website.

Requests for legal advice and support will normally be provided as part of membership services but, on rare occasions where detailed work is required, NABMA reserves the right to seek an additional payment.

“Their knowledge of market law—particularly in relation to cross border issues—proved crucial. Thanks to their intervention, I was able to assert and enforce my market rights effectively, preventing another operator from encroaching on territory that was lawfully mine to manage.”

“The expertise provided was specialist, prompt, and truly invaluable at a time when I was facing a complex challenge”

NABMA Website and Members Area

The NABMA Website is a major and comprehensive resource, exclusively for members to access research documents, templates, publications, FAQs and more. It is the essential point of entry for help and support.

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**MEMBERS' AREA
EXCLUSIVE CONTENT**

ADVICE & SUPPORT

VAT and Business Rates

These are two areas that are frequent sources of required help. NABMA works with specialist advisors and often their assistance can result in significant financial benefits for the members involved

"I had the privilege of receiving legal assistance through NABMA's member service, and the support I received was nothing short of exceptional"

Research and Resources

Members receive exclusive access to our website information portal which has a library of research papers, policies and templates which have been commissioned by academics and experts and specialists in their fields. You will find a wealth of information about the health, issues and performance of the markets industry together with management, operational and safety guidance and templates. One-to-one advice on how to handle trader problems and improve markets management and trader licensing systems is readily available from our experienced consultants.

NABMA Newsletter

Market View, now the only industry news publication, is the regular NABMA newsletter and is produced as a downloadable booklet and sent to all members by email.

It features news; around the markets; legal desktop; market and market people features and updates from our sponsors and partner organisations.



ADVICE & SUPPORT

NABMA Support Sessions

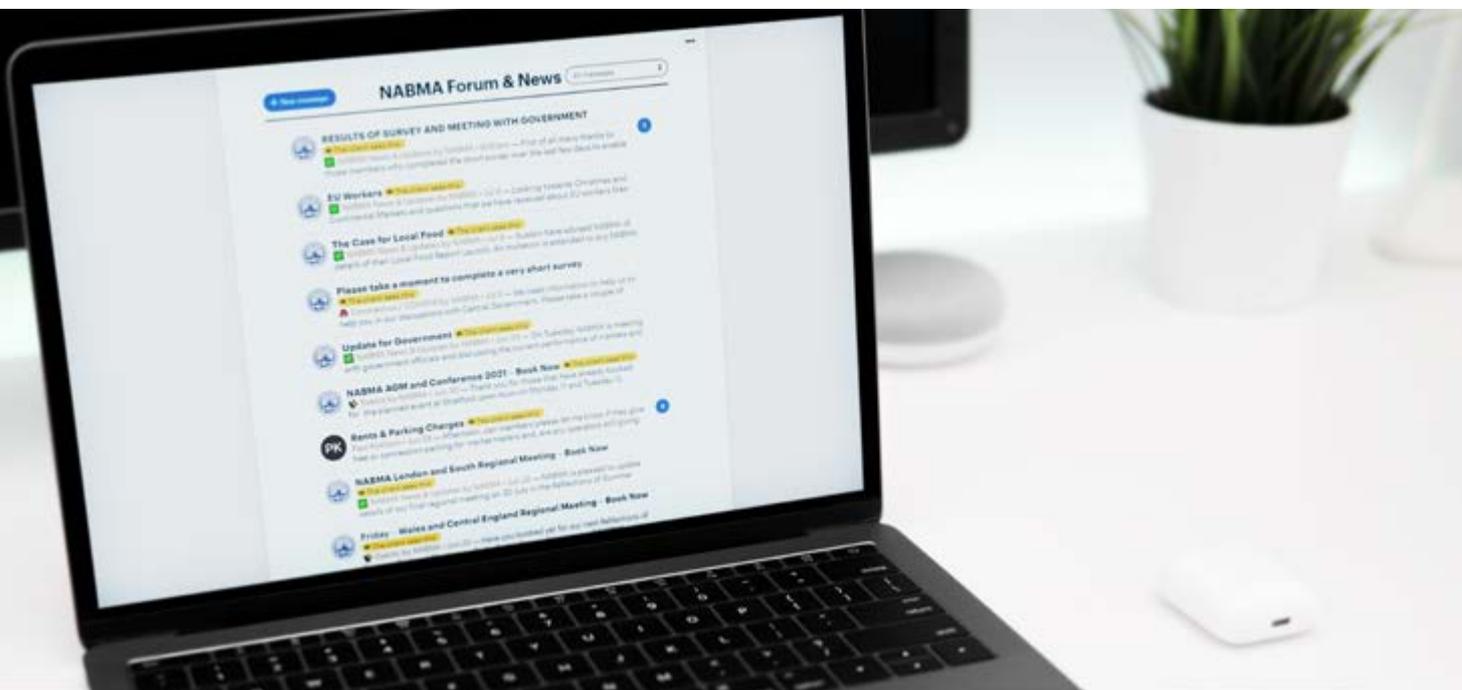
NABMA's Market Support Sessions are for market officers who would like to have a dedicated one to one meeting with a very experienced market manager who acts as an adviser to provide helpful guidance on operational, and other, market problems. These free one-hour Zoom meetings are followed up by a confirmation email on the key issues discussed. Market officers and managers who would prefer a visit to their market to facilitate greater knowledge of the local issues can arrange for an Adviser to attend the market to discuss matters as required at a cost to be agreed.

“The support services we receive through our NABMA membership play a vital role in ensuring the long-term sustainability of our markets. Chris New and Graham Wilson provide highly experienced guidance and advice on operational matters and specialist market law, while Steve Pickering delivers invaluable training through the Diploma in Market Administration. Together, this support makes NABMA membership exceptional value for money.” Tim Jones, Cambridge Markets and Street Trading Manager

Basecamp

Having the ability to ask someone for help and advice is central to NABMA's supporting role. You can also get feedback from colleagues on a wide range of issues.

NABMA membership provides access to a dynamic discussion app called Basecamp. Over 400 market professionals use the platform to ask questions, share information and offer support to colleagues. Whatever your issue there is always someone available to help out.



ADVICE & SUPPORT

Market Mentors

As a member, you will have access through our website, to a directory of contacts with email addresses and telephone numbers for NABMA colleagues who have skills and experience in various market related sectors.



Suppliers

The availability of specialist suppliers is important for all market operators and NABMA has good relationships with a range of sponsors and trade exhibitors including specialist insurance, food hall systems, market stall equipment, customer service training and digital solutions.

CELEBRATING MARKETS

Great British Market Awards

The annual Great British Market awards are the highlight of our September Conference and attract interest from national and regional TV, radio and press coverage. An accolade from NABMA is a benchmark of excellence which will raise your market's profile in attracting visitors and traders to your business. There are categories for all types and size of markets to enter. The crown of becoming Britain's Favourite Market is much sought after being selected following public voting.



Annual Industry Awards

Every year NABMA promotes a series of prestigious awards. These include Market Manager of the Year; Market Team of the Year; Market Innovation of the Year and Young Market Person of the Year. These are much acclaimed recognition by market peers. The main award for Outstanding Achievement is presented each year in memory of the late Krys Zasada, the former NABMA Policy Officer.

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CELEBRATING MARKETS

Love Your Local Market

Love Your Local Market is held on its traditional dates of the last two weeks of May. It is owned by NABMA and started in 2011 as a part of government initiatives to support the high street. Some 25 countries worldwide endorse the annual campaign. Over 450 markets across the UK register each year to take part in the campaign with numerous Young Trader initiatives taking place that showcase the entrepreneurial spirit of young traders. The campaign also provides an opportunity for markets across the UK to offer new trader incentives. For assistance with any LYLM matter then please email support@nabma.com



CAMPAIGNS & SURVEYS

Markets First

Following the results of the National Markets' Survey, published by NABMA in 2022 we launched "Markets First" – A vision for UK Markets, aimed at securing the future for UK markets. Our campaign engaged with our members, traders, government, partners, and the media to create a national dialogue about the future of markets. After a two-year period, we can point to a number of measurable outcomes in terms of publications, events, government decisions, etc. Look at our website for updates.

NABMA Performance Network

We lead the way in assessing market performance through national surveys, helping us advocate more effectively with government and national bodies. The NABMA Performance Network is the latest initiative to gather the essential data needed to understand and enhance market performance and provide the statistical evidence that is essential when lobbying government and other high street partners.

Our first Network Survey is now published with support from EDGE IT Systems Ltd and APSE and provides an analysis of the data produced and case studies. A further update is now underway.



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Diploma in Market Administration

NABMA is committed to professionalising the markets and delivers annually the Diploma in Market Administration, with the Institute of Place Management, the sector's professional body. This Level 4 Diploma sets the standards for market management in the industry. We also promote the London Diploma in Markets and Street Trading Administration. Successful completion of our Diploma courses leads to an NVQ Level 4 qualification.

Professional Development

We offer a series of online CPD courses on a range of market related subjects. We also have long established links with education partners and continue to assist each with research, information and partnership. In the months ahead we will be reforming our NABMA Education Board to coordinate and oversee the NABMA professional development programme.

Conferences and Events

Our two major events are the AGM and Conference, normally held in September plus the January One Day Conference. We encourage attendance at these premier events for Market Operators offering an opportunity to catch up, learn and network about what is happening in the markets industry. NABMA also promotes other seminars, such as legal events, to reflect the needs and priorities of our membership.



NABMA SPONSORS

Meet our Sponsors

NABMA would like to extend its sincere thanks to its sponsors, whose continued support helps us celebrate and promote excellence within the market industry.

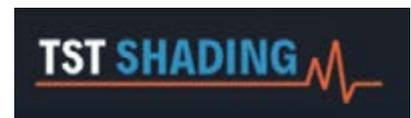
Principal Sponsor – Market Place

Market Place has been a long-standing supporter of NABMA, playing a crucial role in driving innovation and supporting markets across the UK. As a leader in event-led markets, Market Place works with local authorities and private landlords to bring high-quality market events to towns and city centres, boosting footfall and economic activity.



Their commitment to excellence, trader development, and customer engagement has helped shape some of the most successful markets in the UK. NABMA is proud to work alongside Market Place as our Principal Sponsor.

Find out more about Market Place here: [Market Place](#)



NABMA TEAM

Meet the Team



David Catterall DL - Chief Executive

David brings more than 20 years of leadership, operational expertise, and transformational change experience to NABMA. He has led and modernised public services into multi award winning operations, championing innovation, partnership working, and the future of UK markets.



David Preston - Consultant

David has been part of the NABMA family since his first conference experience as far back as 1976 at Llandudno. He looks forward to the future in an organisation that is supportive, friendly and so important in terms of its services, education and networking.



Graham Wilson OBE - Legal and Policy Advisor

Following Graham's highly respected leadership of NABMA over many years he continues to support the Association and its members as the acknowledged expert in the specialism of market law. Having notable experience in establishing partnership arrangements with governmental and institutional organisations he also provides advice on policy initiatives and on general legal matters. Graham is our representative on the London Markets Board. In addition, NABMA has for many years facilitated the Association of London Markets and the London Benchmarking Group and continues to support both Groups



Marina Atherton - Support Officer

Marina is our Support Officer working out of our SLA provider, Oswestry Town Council providing invaluable financial and administrative services on a day-to-day basis.



Chris New - Member Services Consultant

Chris is one of the most experienced and knowledgeable market officers in the country with an extensive background in local authority market management and also wide consultancy experience. He is responsible for the delivery and monitoring of a wide range of NABMA services including training, health checks and general help to members



Ian Holmes - Media & Technical Support Consultant

Ian looks after the NABMA and LYLM websites and also provides support with social media and communications. He plays a vital role in the LYLM campaign. NABMA is one of a number of companies, markets & leisure venues that he supports through his company Square Cactus.



Steve Pickering - Professional Development Consultant

Steve looks after NABMA's Diploma in Market Administration and our relationship with the Institute of Place Management. He also organises other training support. He is a very experienced markets manager having served at Warrington Council for many years.



Colin Wolstenholme - Performance and Research

Colin is the markets manager at Bradford and he is highly respected throughout the industry. He is responsible for the Mission4Markets survey with NMTF, NABMA's Benchmarking work with APSE and the annual Wholesale Markets Survey.



Rob Nixon - Market Support Sessions Manager

Rob is the key NABMA Support Sessions Manager who makes all the arrangements for Zoom support sessions and for Market Adviser attendances where required by Members.

CONTACT INFORMATION

NABMA
The Guildhall
Oswestry
Shropshire
SY11 1PZ

Phone

01691 680713

Email

General: **info@nabma.com**
Finance: **nabma@nabma.com**
Training: **diploma@nabma.com**
Marketing: **marketing@nabma.com**
IT / Web: **support@nabma.com**

Social Media

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The Guildhall,
Oswestry,
Shropshire,
SY11 1PZ

01691 680713
nabma@nabma.com



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