

LGA Special Interest Group Annual Report to LGA Leadership Board

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| SIG Name: | The National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) |
| Lead Member: | |
| Lead Officer: | Mr Graham Wilson OBE, Chief Executive |

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Aim

To facilitate communication between Members and others, and between the Association and Departments of the Government and other public bodies on matters of common interest affecting the administration of markets and matters incidental thereto (a) in promoting or opposing new legislation; (b) in amending existing legislation; (c) in regard to the administration of legislation, relating to markets and matters incidental thereto.

Key Activities / Outcomes of work undertaken

2018/19 was another successful year for NABMA. Engagement with Government was through the All-Party Markets Parliamentary Group and Bob Neil MP was welcomed as the new Chairman.

The Love Your Local Market campaign went worldwide, promoting entrepreneurship, and the involvement of young people in markets. We continue to work with partners in WUWM that enabled the concept of Love Your Local Market to go global.

NABMA had a sustained membership and our Conferences and other events attracted a large number of delegates.

The Annual Conference at Stratford Upon Avon attracted a record number of delegates and the One-Day Seminar at Birmingham was highly successful with Mark Lloyd, the Chief Executive of the LGA presenting the Great British Market Awards.

The Great British Market Awards, promoted by NABMA, provided a wide range of entries for each category and demonstrated the quality and innovation clearly evident at many markets across the UK.

NABMA continues to emphasise that markets should not be seen in isolation. This is now particularly important with the launch of the Future High Streets Fund when NABMA has provided references for many members in their bidding for the important funding that is available.

As a Special Interest Group, NABMA can only operate successfully if there is a framework within the LGA which enables the LGA and Special Interest Groups to work together where the flow of information is both effective and meaningful. Discussions have taken place with the LGA to achieve this but, with the Future of the High Street so high on many agendas then NABMA believes, as a key organisation, that it is worthy of a seat at the table when town and city centre strategies, and consultations are promoted.

2019 is a landmark for NABMA as it celebrates its centenary. It has appointed a new Chief Executive who will take up office in October 2019. It now operates as a separate company in terms of trading but its aims, objectives, and work programme remain consistent with its heritage.

In summary, 2019 is a very important year for NABMA and as such dialogue and involvement with the LGA to promote markets in a wider forum is regarded to be essential.