

## **NRSWA Accreditation**

1. Section 67(1) and (2) of The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) requires undertakers to ensure that work that involves breaking up of the street or tunnelling or boring under the street is controlled by competent people. To meet the requirements set out in NRSWA, undertakers have to make sure that an operative with the appropriate qualification(s) is on site when works are in progress. In addition, in most cases, a suitable qualified supervisor must supervise street works. That supervisor does not need to be on site at all times, and can supervise more than one set of works. However, a supervisor qualification does not qualify the holder to work as a qualified operative or vice versa.

2. A person may only act as a trained operative for, or supervise, the type of work they hold the relevant qualification for. Therefore, it may be necessary for a number of people with different qualifications to be involved with the work during its various stages. There is no limit to the number of qualifications held by one person.

3. Section 67 of NRSWA gives the Secretary of State the power to make legislation which sets out how trained operatives and supervisors at street works may be awarded and the Street Works (Qualifications of Supervisors and Operatives) Regulations 1992 describe the qualifications needed for supervisors and trained operatives.

4. Under these 1992 Regulations, a supervisor or a trained operative has a prescribed qualification if one of the three approved Awarding Bodies has issued them with a certificate of competence showing that they have been assessed as having the relevant competence for the work being executed. These units of competence are set out in the 1992 Regulations and provision is made for the recognition of equivalent qualifications gained in other member state of the European Community.