

**National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) Conference: January 2025**

The NABMA conference had presentations covering the following subjects:

- The link between high streets and markets
- Performance and data
- Driving change through markets
- Balancing history, tradition and regeneration
- Markets and Business Rates
- Attracting and retaining traders
- The wider value of markets
- Relationships with the community

The presentations were all based on large, well-established markets from cities and towns which were very different from Wem. However, some interesting ideas were gained including:

- Cirencester – occasional health & wellbeing events run with the NHS
- Harborough – events which draw people to the market are usually not money-makers, but raise the market's profile
- Harborough – vegetable coupons have been used to assist low-income households
- Generally – there is a need to encourage younger people to become market traders

A Roberts  
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