



Geospatial
Commission

National Underground Asset Register

UKOPA Strategy Update, Leeds

1st March 2023

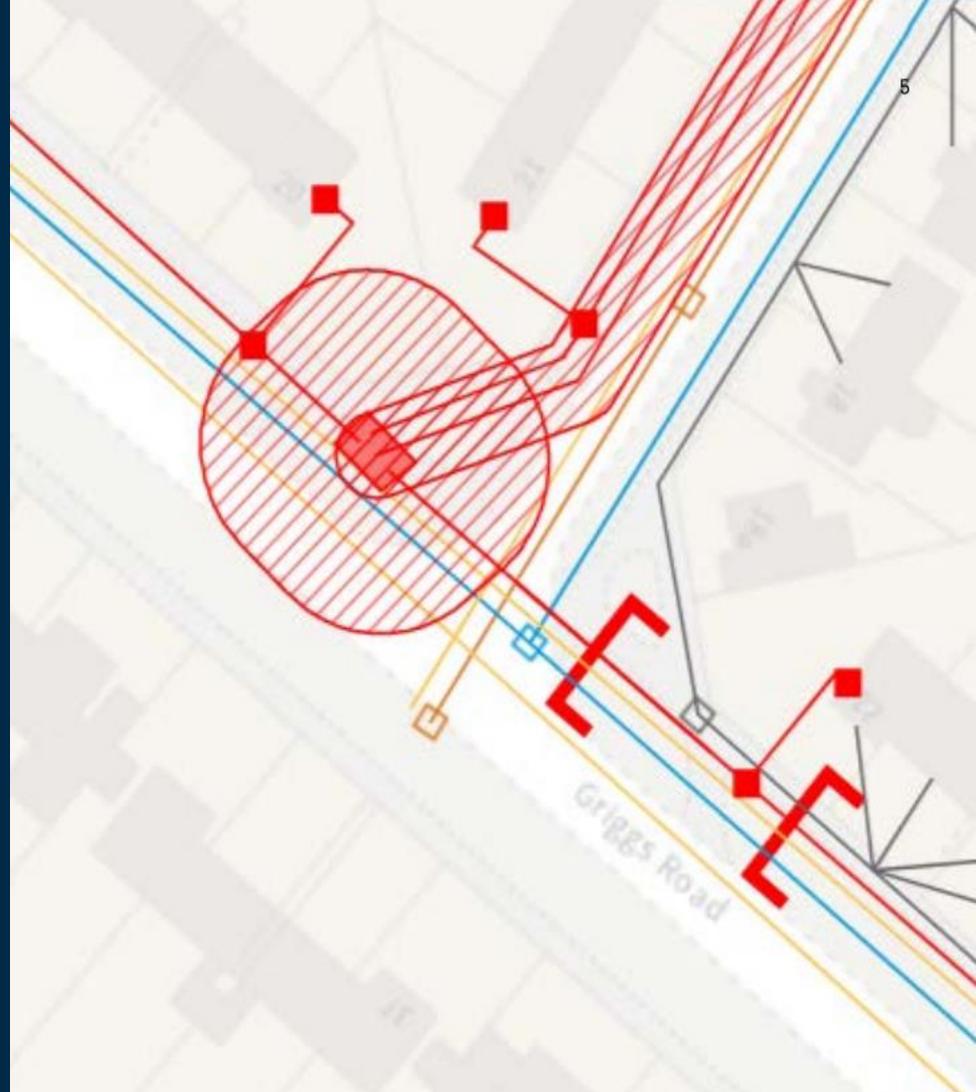


Agenda

- NUAR – What and Why?
- Timeline
- Progress Nationwide & across sector
- Special considerations
- Demonstration
- Q&A
- Next steps

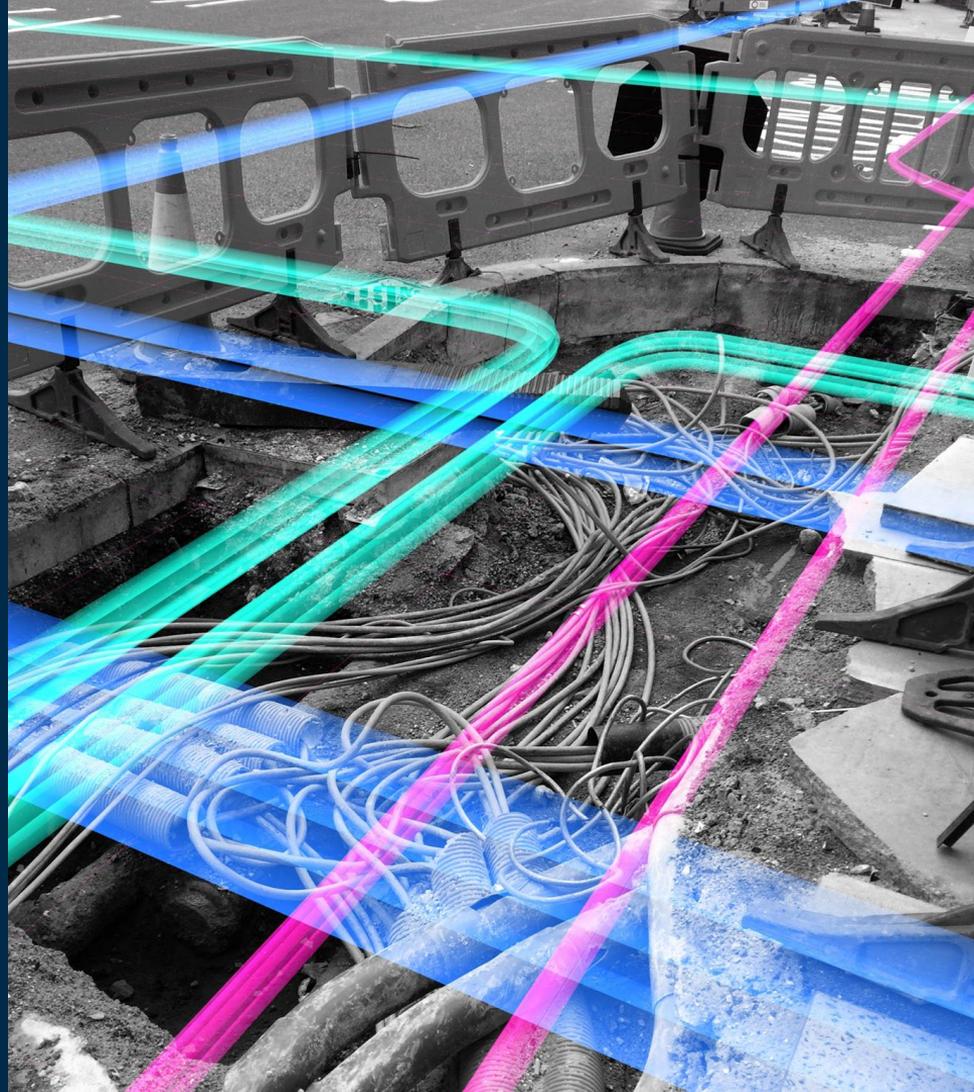
What is NUAR?

- NUAR is a secure, interactive, digital view of underground pipes and cables.
- **Streamline** the way data is shared between owners of underground assets and those who dig up the ground.
- Data from 650+ asset owners will be **standardised** in it.
- The data will be held **securely** and made immediately available to those excavating.
- Improvement in data quality through missing or erroneous data being fed back through **support** systems.



Why?

- The estimated economic cost of accidental strikes on underground pipes and cables is £2.4 billion a year
- The economic benefits of NUAR are estimated to be £350m per year
- This consists of benefits in efficiencies, reduced asset strikes and reduced delays to the public and businesses
- 2022 Consultation confirmed a preference for a single database containing all data to be controlled by government due to legitimate commercial and security sensitivities
- Inefficiencies with current business as usual approach.





Timeline

2018

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established

NUAR research
phase starts

2019-20

Pilot projects
completed

Preparation phase
starts

Sep 2021

NUAR build
programme starts

Mar 2023

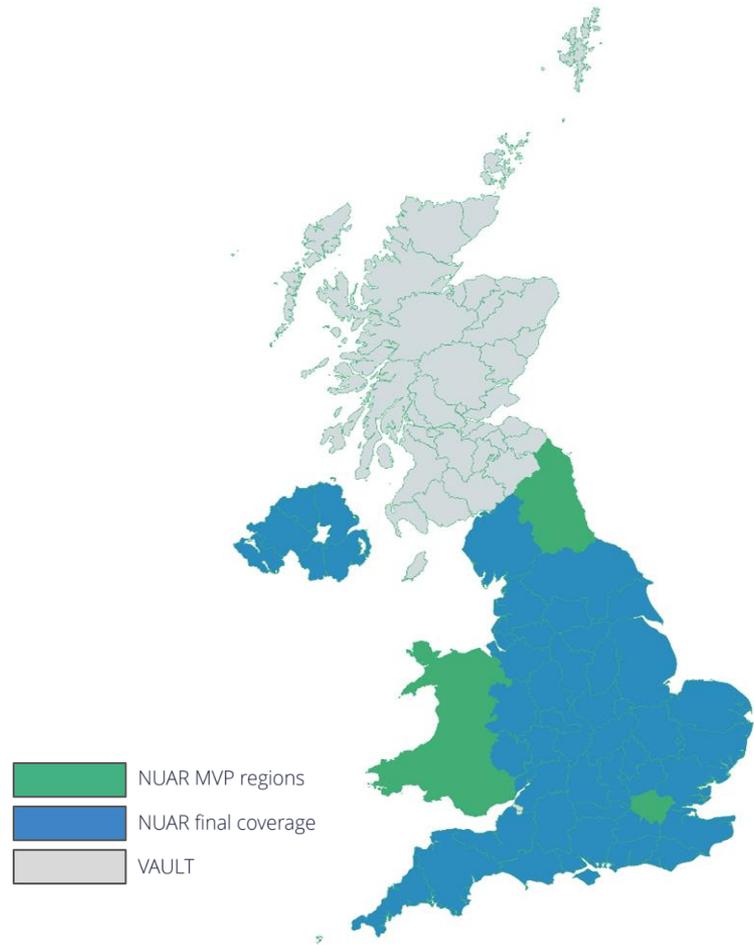
Platform operational
in North East
England, Wales and
London

Sep 2024

Platform operational
in rest of England
and Northern Ireland

Progress

- **631** Asset Owners have now been engaged
- Over **271** Data Exploration Agreements (DEA) have been signed across all sectors and data is being analysed and validated
- **180** organisations have uploaded their data through the secure portal
- **128** organisations have signed the Data Distribution Agreement
- MVP Launch in March 2023



UKOPA Members





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Special Considerations for UKOPA Members

- NUAR is more than just a map; Digital + Feedback Loop
- Aligns with HSE Pipeline Safety Regulations (1996) includes provision to identify hazard, manage sensitivity and criticality
- Built-in constraints
- User base to include pipeline owners and supply chain/maintenance
- Data Model and existing processes
- Proximity and risk-based triage

164

RESPONSES IN TOTAL

Public consultation

A preference for a single database containing all data to be controlled by government due to legitimate commercial and security sensitivities

No consensus on who should fund NUAR in the operational phase but general agreement that those who benefit from the service should contribute

Acknowledgement that legislation is required to maximise the value of the service

A potential opportunity for NUAR to be commercialised beyond the intended use case



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NUAR Open Session

20th March 2023 at Atkins, Birmingham
2 Chamberlain Sq, Birmingham B3 3AX

For more information tim.over@atkinsglobal.com



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You can find out more about NUAR at:



gov.uk/guidance/national-underground-asset-register-nuar



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