What is NUAR?

- The National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) is a repository of information relating to the pipes and cables buried beneath our streets

- It provides a consistent, interactive digital map of buried asset data, accessible when, where and how it is needed by those planning and executing excavations.

- Envisaged to deliver over £400 million per year of economic growth

- The 'public beta' version of the map is now live and covers the whole of England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Scotland currently benefits from a system similar to NUAR, known as VAULT).

![MHA+ Midlands Highway Alliance Plus]

Much more than a map…

Standardise
…data from 600+ asset owners

Secure
…data shared through the platform to safeguard and protect against misuse

Streamline
…data sharing between asset owners and those planning and carrying out excavations

Support
…improvement in data quality through missing or erroneous data being fed back

Safety
…improvements for workers through better access to data

What challenges is NUAR solving?

Problem

		Solution
Over 4 million km's of buried pipes and cable in UK held by ~650 asset owners	→	Data available in a single place
60,000 accidental strikes per year with estimated annual cost of £2.4bn	→	Supports Safe Dig process
Access to Asset Owner data take more than 6 days	→	Instant access, anywhere
Data is supplied in different formats and styles	→	Standardised data and styling

Security features

- NUAR has been developed in collaboration with:
    - **National Protective Security Agency** (formerly CPNI Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure)
    - **National Cyber Security Centre**
    - Asset Owners' **security teams**

- It operates an **Information Security Management System** (ISMS) based on the recommendations of I**SO27001:2022**, including risk management, business continuity, incident management, access control and much more

- There is **permission-based access control** for the specific use case of safe dig

Current state

- **Public Beta** launched and **Royal Assent** granted in June

- **324 Asset Owners** onboard, providing **~2.25 million km's** of underground assets

- **~8,000** active users, with **~50,000** transactions a month

- **NUAR Enhancement** project work continues

- **NUAR News;** regular workshops; quarterly sprint reviews; opportunity to feedback

- **Industry representation:** Strategic Advisory Group and NUAR User Group
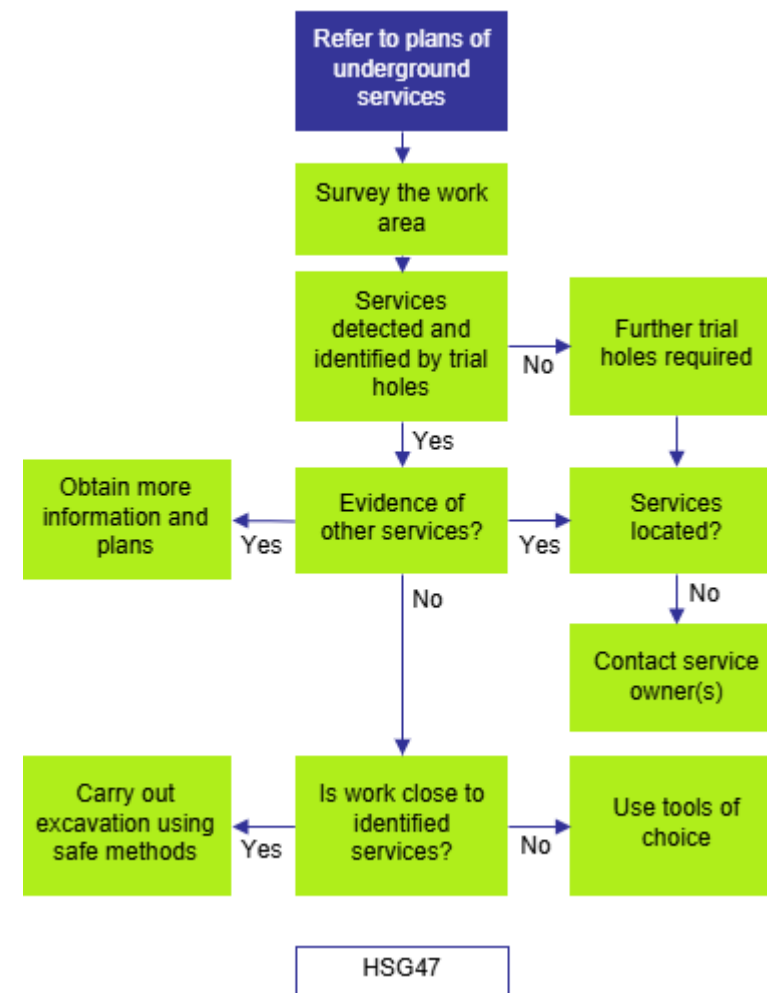
- **Openreach** agreement

Legislation

- The Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 received **Royal Assent on June 19**, 2025, and aims to reform data management in the UK

- The Act specifically mentions NUAR as "**The register of information relating to apparatus in Street in England and Wales**"

- GDS and Industry are working through what this means via **consultation**

- **Consultation is needed** to help form secondary legislation

Public Beta

- Service has been developed to the point where the operator is confident that it can **run at scale**

- There is **no longer any cap** on the number of eligible users (including contractors)

- Can be used as **a tool to refer to plans** of underground services.

- Remains **accessible only to asset owners and authorised street works contractors** working on behalf of these asset owners.

- Information on NUAR remains for **general guidance** and the Asset Owner continue to hold the definitive view as to what risks are posed by works on or near those assets

- Users must continue **to follow all applicable laws and guidance** (both HSG47 and Asset Owner specific) and take reasonable care when planning and carrying out works

- The data in NUAR represents **only the data supplied** by participating Asset Owners

Case Studies

"NUAR provided GTC with a centralised system, simplified tasks, improved geospatial activities and **increased efficiency**. Teams were able to make **more informed decisions in planning** and **improved safety** and coordination across various activities highlighted NUAR's value."

- GTC

"NUAR provides a central place for all asset owners information. This allows **processes to be streamlined** and the timeframe for gathering information to be significantly expediated, giving **time/efficiency savings of approximately 75%**"
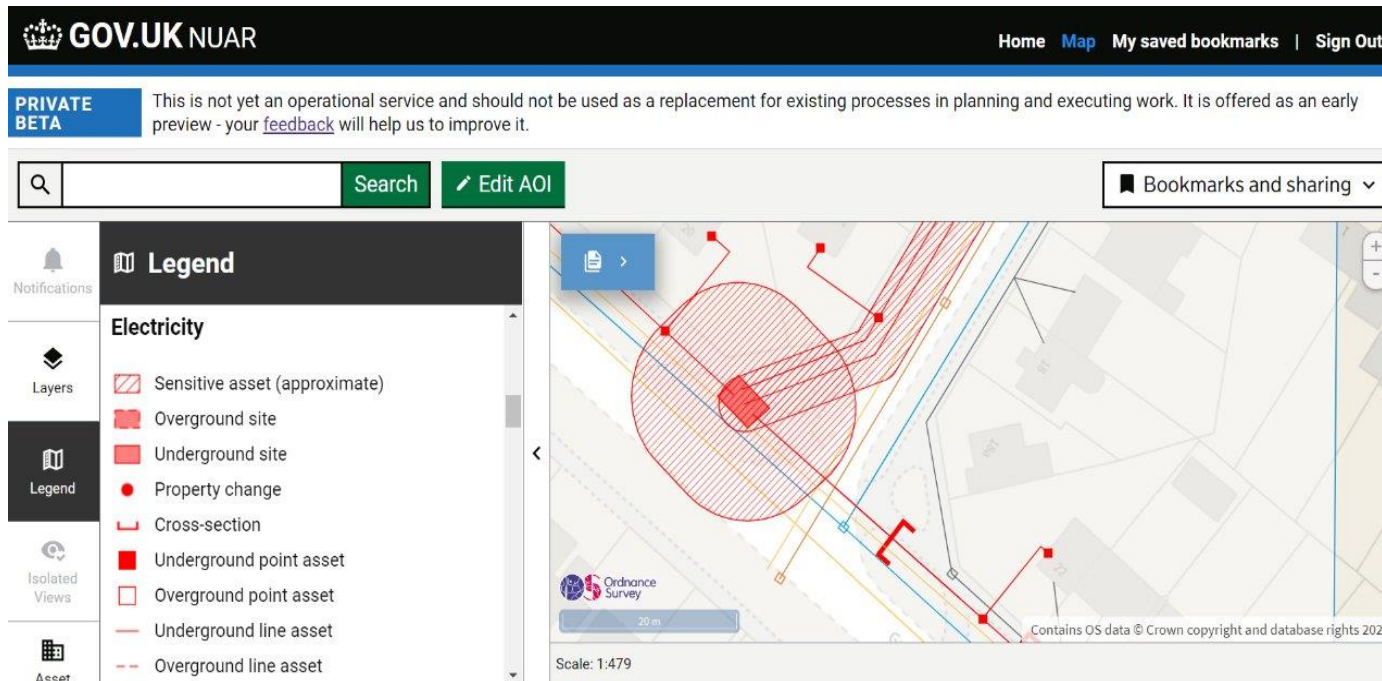
- Lincolnshire County Council

"The ability to view significant underground assets not available online allowed for **more efficient planning and better decision-making**. Team members experienced **streamlined workflows** and increased confidence in their planning decisions, leading **to improved project outcomes**"

- B4RN

Adoption Focus

- **Workshops** and sharing best practice

- Opportunity for **supply chain contractors**

- Targeted approach to offering **in-house training**

- **Online resources** in development

- Learning from users

How can you help?

- Get involved in industry consultation

- Make data available within the NUAR platform – take advantage of free data onboarding service

- On board supply chain or request supply chain access

- Use the platform and provide feedback through the community

Questions?