What is the Underground Asset Register (UAR)?

The UAR is an online map which unifies utility data from various organisations into a single view. It colour codes utility networks and displays detailed information on each asset when clicked, including useful information such as which utilities operate in user defined areas. It also allows users to create and review records of excavation findings, providing continuous feedback to improve safety and productivity in infrastructure maintenance and delivery.

Launched in July 2024 as a pilot in Wellington, it's a continuous journey of user-guided development to ensure that the tool meets all requirements and aids in excavation and work planning.

About the pilot project

The Underground Asset Register was launched as a pilot in Wellington, in partnership with Wellington City Council and initially funded by the Department of Internal Affairs.

The project stemmed from the need to improve access to underground asset data to infrastructure stakeholders in the Wellington region. The infrastructure sector has told Wellington City that having access to this information on a single platform is vital, not just for knowing where underground lifeline assets are located, but for understanding other risks of working in the environment. Over time, having a trusted source of underground information in one place enables better strategic planning, helps mitigate the impact of construction on communities, improves the assessment of risk and improves access to critical information.

The UAR was built in collaboration with Digital Built Aotearoa, a charitable foundation formed to provide a national, neutral home for tools such as the NZ Forward Works Viewer and the UAR and to encourage collaboration to improve infrastructure resilience throughout the country.

Also involved in the project has been a Technical Reference Group who are representatives of the wider infrastructure sector in Wellington, including civil contractors, surveyors, network utility operators, locators, developers, archaeologists and engineers. Having this knowledgeable group of people has been invaluable in understanding the needs of end users and the associated processes policy and regulatory change.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us:
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