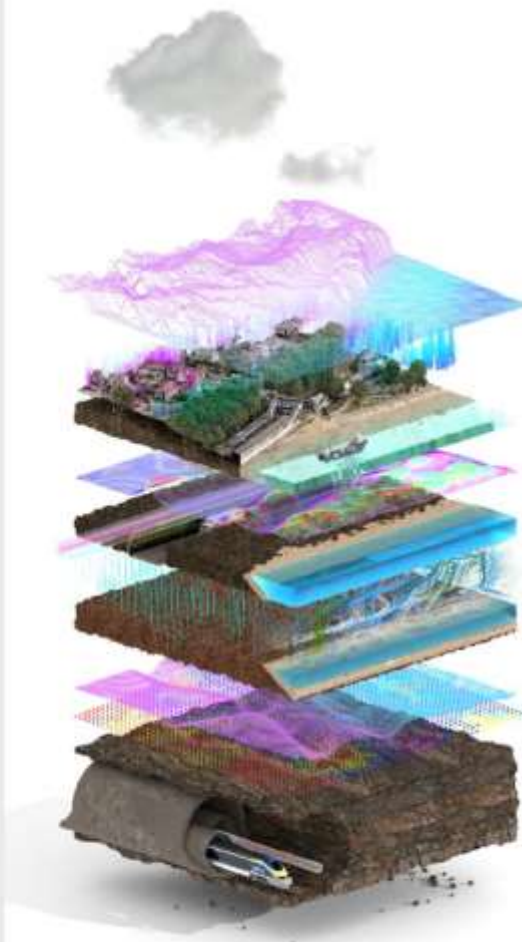Geospatial Commission

UPRNs and URSNs - Geospatial Commission

Holly West

Unlocking the power of location

By 2025 the UK will have a coherent national location data framework underpinning a flourishing digital society. This will lead to significant social, economic and environmental value.

Geospatial Commission

9 Location Data Opportunities

Infrastructure

Housing

Transport

Public Health

Emergency response

Environment

Finance

Ocean economy

Retail

Mission 1:
Promote and safe-guard the use of location data.

Mission 2:
Improve access to better location data.

Mission 3:
Enhance capabilities, skills and awareness.

Mission 4:
Enable Innovation.

Release under Open Government Licence

In 2020 we provided access to Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs) and Unique Street Reference Numbers (USRNs) free of charge under an Open Government Licence.

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- acknowledge the source of the Information in your product or application by including or linking to any attribution statement specified by the Information Provider(s) and, where possible, provide a link to the licence.

Why did we think UPRNs and USRNS were important?

"[the] Value of data is the insight you get when you link it." - Sir Tim Berners-Lee (ODI conference in 2018).

Identifiers such as UPRNs and USRNs can unlock value from geospatial data. We saw the potential in four main areas:

- Providing efficiencies and cost savings for public authorities and the commercial sector, filling gaps and eradicating overlaps to ensure that services are targeted at the correct addresses.
- Facilitating more effective transactions between different areas of government and the commercial sector.
- Improve the coordination and communication between local authorities and contractors delivering outsourced services.
- Supporting next generation technologies

What work is going on across government to embed them?

The Open Standards Board in the Cabinet Office have mandated the use of UPRNs and USRNs for gathering and storing address data in Government systems. They have published guidance for their use as part of the open standards for government.

Currently work underway with DLUHC, HMLR, OS and Geoplace to help us understand how this mandate is being put into practice.

UPRNs and USRNs are key data within the pilots and alpha stage platform supporting the Geospatial Commission's National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) programme.

What benefits have we seen so far?

- Datasets from a wide range of organisations and agencies can be linked
- Providing clarity around what can be published with a UPRN/USRN
- Supporting housing policies, and the "golden thread" of property data.
- Reducing barriers to valuable use cases, across the housing, planning, infrastructure and construction sectors.

UPRNs are now on the EPC dataset

Energy performance certificate (EPC)

Certificate contents

— Rules on letting this property
— Energy performance rating for this property
— Breakdown of property's energy performance
— Environmental impact of this property
— Improve this property's energy performance
— Estimated energy use and potential savings

Example house, London, UK

Energy rating

D

Valid until
8 May 2032

Certificate number
5220-0051-0016-1105 0000

Useful links

https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/

https://beta.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/products/os-open-uprn

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-standards-for-government/identifying-property-and-street-information

Geospatial Commission

You can find out more about our work at:

🌐 gov.uk/government/organisations/geospatial-commission

🗎 geospatialcommission.blog.gov.uk/

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