



Case study: The Benefits to UK PLC: Oxford Cambridge Arc

A national digital service has the potential to reduce planning times, simplify investment decisions and improve the conveyancing process

New communities

Currently, a developer looking to explore areas for new housing, would need to wait between 1 and 20 days to get the information about the restrictions on the area. They would pay between £12 and £85 for a search of **each** plot of land depending on the local authority. When they receive the information, each local authority would provide the data in different formats, which would need to be analysed manually.

East West Rail

The proposed East West Rail line will pass through nine local authorities. To inform their planning decisions, they would need to lodge separate applications with each local authority area affected by the scheme. Each local authority would return these complex search results at different times and for a different cost. The results would be in a variety of formats and standards.

Once all 26 LAs have transferred their service to the national, digital register, the data required for these housing and infrastructure decisions could:

- be viewed across LA boundaries, free of charge and instantly through a single request;
- be provided for a fee, in one official document; or
- be exchanged as data to ingest into the developers own software systems, to speed up analysis.

The official report would also contain the spatial data detailing the land affected by the charge, speeding up understanding and decision making.

The Oxford and Cambridge Arc



HMG's ambition is that by 2050:

- 1 million new homes
- New communities
- Better transport links

Substantial additional infrastructure, including utilities, digital connectivity, health and education.