

Inform the highway department of the ownership of the optical cable



Overview

Is there any way for me to find out who owns the fiber optic line on my road, what services are provided by it, and what companies provide those services?

Key Takeaways

To inform the highway department of the ownership of an optical cable, you must provide details of the apparatus and the responsible operator, following statutory and regulatory requirements. Steps to Notify the Highway Department¹. Identify the Responsible Operator: The optical cable must be associated with a legal entity authorized to provide electronic communication services.

This operator is responsible for maintaining records of the apparatus installed in public highways and ensuring compliance with regulations. ².

Record-

Keeping Requirements: Under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA), operators (undertakers) are required to maintain up-to-date records of all apparatus in the street, including fiber optic cables. These records must be made available for inspection by the highway authority as soon as reasonably practicable after installation, alteration, or relocation of the cable. ³.



Submit Ownership Information: Provide the highway department with the following details: Name and contact information of the operator Location and route of the optical cable Type of apparatus (fiber optic cable) Installation date and any relevant permits or licenses Any agreements regarding rights of way or crossing rights if the cable intersects other infrastructure

4. Obtain Necessary Permits or Licenses: If the operator does not have statutory rights to install apparatus in the highway, a Section 50 licence under NRSWA may be required. This licence allows the operator to install, maintain, or alter apparatus legally in public highways.

For statutory undertakers, a permit via the Street Manager service may be necessary before carrying out works.

5. Coordination and Compliance: Ensure that the submission aligns with local highway authority procedures.

Some authorities may require additional documentation, bonds, or formal agreements for right-of-way access, especially for highways or major roads. The highway department will review the information and update their records accordingly.

6.

Follow-

Up: After submission, confirm that the highway authority has acknowledged the ownership and updated their records. This ensures legal recognition and facilitates future maintenance or construction works without disputes. By following these steps, the highway department will be properly informed of the optical cable ownership, ensuring compliance with statutory requirements and smooth coordination for any street works or infrastructure projects.

Article Content

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