

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Update on the Digital Durham Programme
and Related Projects.**

Altogether better



Presentation

- Background to the Digital Durham Programme
- Progress with Contracts 1 and 2
- Current Position
- Planning for Phase 3
- Questions

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Background to Digital Durham

- Aim: To improve access to superfast broadband services for residents and businesses
- Part of Government's national programme
 - Broadband Delivery UK
- Durham County Council are the lead authority
- Several other Local Authorities are partners
- Openreach are the contractor
- Total budget £34.4m
- Timeframe: 2013 - 2022

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Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport

openreach



Contract 1

- Timeframe: 2013 – 2016
- Local Authority Partners: Darlington; Gateshead; Hartlepool; Middlesbrough; Redcar & Cleveland; Stockton; Sunderland
- Budget: £25.4m (£13.9m public funding for Durham)
- Targets:
 - 104,716 properties (fibre based connection at any speed)
 - 88,437 properties (superfast download speeds of >24Mbps)
 - 20% take up of services
- Achievements:
 - 105,333 properties (+617) / 89,223 properties (+786)
 - 503 fibre cabinets and 13 (fibre to the premise) PONs delivered
 - 53% take up (Dec 2018)

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Contract 2

- Timeframe: 2016 – 2018
- Local Authority Partners: Gateshead; North Tyneside; South Tyneside; Tees Valley Combined Authority (Middlesbrough/Redcar & Cleveland)
- Budget: £9m (£2m public funding for Durham)
- Targets:
 - 27,976 properties (fibre based connection at any speed)
 - 24,461 properties (superfast download speeds of >24Mbps)
 - 30% take up of services
- Achievements (Dec 2018):
 - 26,919 properties (1,057 shortfall) / 22,311 properties (2,150 shortfall)
 - 223 fibre cabinets and 36 (fibre to the premise) PONs delivered
 - 38% take up

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Current Position

- Total Number of Premises: 1,020,911
- Total Number of Target Premises: 154,444
- Superfast Coverage from Contracts 1 and 2: 111,544 Remaining Premises: 38,589 (potentially 41, 853 – 3,264 under review)

- Total Funding: £34.4m
- Total Spend: £23.4m
- Remaining Funding: c.£11m

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Planning for Phase 3

- Definition of superfast broadband has increased from 24Mbps to 30Mbps
- Originally anticipated c.13k premises would have less than 24Mbps
- Change in definition to 30Mbps means c.20k properties are without superfast
- County Durham Superfast Coverage: 95.2% (65% in 2013)
- Phase 3 Programme Funding: up to c.£12.2m
- County Durham: up to c.£8m

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Planning for Phase 3

- Timeline of activities:
 - February 2019: Discussion with BDUK – delivery options
 - March – April 2019: Open Market Review to establish new baseline
 - May 2019: Proposal to Digital Durham Board
 - June 2019: Develop Procurement
 - July 2019: Begin Phase 3

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Questions

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