

Superfast Cornwall Update August 2018



European Union
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Development Fund



The 'Big Build' Continues ...

Our 2018-2020 £17.6 million programme will upgrade around half the remaining slowest (sub 15Mbps) premises in some of Cornwall's most remote places.

Funding for this new initiative comes from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) which will provide £8.5m¹; Openreach £5.1m; the Government's Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) programme £3m; and Cornwall Council £1.1m. The programme is being managed by Cornwall Development Company.



The geography being tackled represents some of the most challenging rural areas to be upgraded with 'Fibre to the Premises' (FTTP) anywhere in the country. To help approach this, Openreach have developed and adopted new working practices in Cornwall, led directly from their Chief Engineer's office. This includes far more detailed 'on the ground' locally controlled surveying and planning. On

such a major infrastructure programme some disruption is inevitable, but we try and work closely with our Highways department to minimise this.

Our approach, along with our well established collaborative partnership with Openreach, is yielding significant benefits – the first phase of this new rollout is achieving over 40% better coverage than specified in the contract.

The postcodes where the rollout has been modelled and surveyed are published at www.superfastcornwall.org/current-programme². There is an online map at <https://map.cornwall.gov.uk/website/ccmap/>.

Leading the UK in Full Fibre (FTTP) Coverage

Virtually all of the 2018-2020 rollout is Full Fibre or Fibre to the Premises (FTTP). This is building on our 30%+ Full Fibre coverage – the highest of any county in the entire country! Full Fibre, where the fibre runs all the way to the building, is the completely future-proofed solution that experts now agree should be available across the entire country by 2033. Cornwall took the strategic decision to invest significantly in Full Fibre back in 2009, so if your business needs Full Fibre – Cornwall is the place!

¹ The project is also benefitting from £0.5m of revenue funding from the 2014-2020 ERDF Programme.

² Once more detailed planning and surveying is undertaken, unforeseen circumstances can mean that upgrade plans for a given area may change. In some cases this can mean an area is economically unviable to complete

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Latest Independent Economic Analysis of Superfast Broadband

Our robust independent economic evaluations show the huge impact superfast broadband has had on the economy of Cornwall. Our latest report, published in June 2018 and undertaken by PFA Research, shows that there are around 103,000 live connections, including around 19,000 business connections. This strong take up has resulted in 3,500 jobs created and 4,200 jobs safeguarded, with an overall economic impact of over £300m.

Our findings also show that superfast broadband is a platform for entrepreneurship, with an amazing 3,900 new businesses being set up. And 'Flexible Working' continues to grow, saving people time, money and travel costs. 66% of household survey respondents say that they or someone in the home uses their home connection to do work or business related activities.

Alternative Solutions and Grants

There are a number of alternatives that you could consider if your existing speeds are insufficient and you are not covered by our roll out plans. These could include satellite broadband, mobile 4G broadband, wireless or a privately funded community fibre scheme. Funding is available from a number of sources outlined at www.superfastcornwall.org/alternative-solutions including the Council funded Superfast Cornwall Grants Scheme (up to £1700 for eligible premises) and the Government's Gigabit Voucher Scheme (up to £3000 to businesses). Businesses may also be eligible for the [Avanti Superfast Satellite scheme](#).

2016-2017 Superfast Extension Project

This project, funded by the Government's Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK), Cornwall Council, Openreach and Local Enterprise Partnership funding (Growth Deal and Regional Growth Fund) aimed to upgrade an additional 7,700 premises and connect 215 businesses. The final figures are in - over 10,000 premises were upgraded and 600 businesses connected, concluding another successful partnership project between Cornwall and Openreach.

Future Opportunities

Cornwall Council are applying for additional funding from DEFRA to further extend the roll out to rural areas. If secured, the funding should enable a further 800 premises to be upgraded, and a number of remote rural small business parks will be prioritised.

Staying Informed

The latest information, including an overview of the programme, the latest postcodes in build, a link to coverage maps on the Council's mapping portal and information about whether or not a premise can connect is available on the Superfast Cornwall website at www.superfastcornwall.org. Any questions that are not answered by the information provided on the website can be sent to info@superfastcornwall.org or call 01872 324991.