



Bringing faster broadband to our rural areas

Project Update December 2015

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231 cabinets live to date

Over 43,000 properties able to connect to the fibre network

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Contract 2, Wave 1 cabinets announced

Thousands more Warwickshire homes and businesses are to benefit from the multi-million pound extension of superfast fibre broadband.

Aston Cantlow, Avon Dassett, Edge Hill, Farnborough, Fenny Compton, Great Alne, Norton Lindsey, Oxhill, Radway, Ullenhall and Upper Tysoe are among the first communities in Wave 1 to be connected to the fibre network.

More than 43,000 homes and businesses are already able to access faster fibre broadband thanks to the CSW Broadband partnership, and a multi-million pound expansion of the programme will begin in the New Year when engineering work starts giving another 14,600 homes and businesses access to fibre broadband.

The high-speed technology will become available for the first time in areas of Aston Cantlow, Avon Dassett, Edge Hill, Farnborough, Fenny Compton, Great Alne, Norton Lindsey, Little Kineton, Oxhill, Radway, Ullenhall and Upper Tysoe.

Engineers from Openreach – BT's local network business – will begin installing the new network in January. The first premises will be able to access fibre broadband from Summer 2016, reaching 3,600

additional homes and businesses by the end of 2016, and the majority of the remainder by the end of 2017.

During this period, the CSW Broadband programme will also be extended in parts of Alcester, Bidford-on-Avon, Brailes, Claverdon, Furnace End, Harbury, Haseley Knob, Pailton, Rugby, Snitterfield and Southam. At the same time, the technology will be made more widely available in areas of Coleshill, Curdworth and Wellesbourne.

It's around 18 months since CSW Broadband started connecting the first premises in Warwickshire, Solihull and Coventry to faster fibre broadband. Since then, Openreach engineers have installed more than 230 new road-side cabinets, making fibre available to more than 43,000 homes and businesses.

Councillor Alan Cockburn, deputy leader of Warwickshire County Council, said: "It's great news that the first communities to benefit from the additional roll-out of the fibre network can now see where they are in the pipeline. Further announcements regarding the roll-out will be made in April next year, and then quarterly thereafter."

"However, that's not all. The CSW Broadband team has been working on new mapping which now goes right down to property level. This shows the results of the property-level data that has been collected, and we believe CSW Broadband is the first broadband project in the country to have mapping to this level of detail."

Bill Murphy, BT's managing director of next generation access, said: "Our project teams are working hard to make fibre broadband available to as many communities as possible, as quickly as possible, especially in the harder to reach parts of Warwickshire."

"Every day we're seeing how this technology is changing the way people communicate and do business for the better. Whether it's families trying to connect different devices to the internet at the same time, or firms needing to share information with their customers or suppliers – everything is easier and quicker with fibre broadband. CSW Broadband builds on BT's commercial roll-out which has already made high-speed broadband available to nearly 300,000 premises across Warwickshire and Coventry."

New mapping – right down to property level!

We have been working hard to bring more detailed mapping, and our latest version takes things to a different level – literally! We have introduced:

- Postcode and line-checker searches
- Zooming directly to your property
- Street-level detail with road names
- Area-level information showing where you are in the build pipeline
- Property-level connectivity information

PLEASE NOTE: the property-level connectivity is still in its infancy. We have over 500,000 properties in our database and need you to check your property and to report back to us if there are any inaccuracies. This will help us to improve our data further for future iterations of the map.

The new map can be found at: <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/your-area/broadband-checker/>

Satellite subsidy scheme announced

Under Contract 1, BDUK has committed to make available over 2Mbps to all properties by 2016. This is through a subsidy scheme that will cover the costs of satellite installation. Rental and ongoing costs will fall to the user. For more information on this scheme

visit: <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/your-area/currently-under-investigation/satellite-broadband-subsidy-scheme/>

We appreciate that satellite is not the ideal solution for everybody, but it may be an option as an interim whilst the fibre network is being rolled out, and the speeds available are generally far in excess of 2Mbps!

What next?

We do appreciate that some areas are still waiting to find out when they will be reached. As with Contract 1, we are hoping to accelerate the rollout, and have had some success in this – for instance the original contract end date was to be 2018 and this has now been brought forward to 2017.

Wave 1 has been announced as early as possible. Wave 2 will be announced in April 2016, with following Waves coming quarterly thereafter. As we are now moving towards the more challenging areas, each Wave may take up to 12 months to complete.

Copy for your own website or newsletter

We regularly produce updates of around 350 words that can be used on your own website or in newsletters. There are a selection of articles available for download and you can select the most appropriate depending on where your particular area is in the rollout pipeline. Copy can be found at: <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/about-the-project/copy-to-use-on-your-own-website-newsletters-or-flyers/>

Questions and Answers

Here are some of the Q&As raised at our local briefing events. Our newly revamped website will have an updated set of Q&As.

Why isn't my area in Wave 1?

BT advise us that when planning the roll-out of the fibre optic network for the CSW Broadband project, Openreach (BT's local network business) designs the network in the most efficient and effective way to reach as many people as possible with the funds available. In doing this they take into account many factors including local demographics and geography, planning requirements, the existing engineering infrastructure and the availability of suitable technologies to provide a service.

Due to the size of the project, it must be conducted in stages, meaning that some areas will be enabled before others. This may mean in some instances that parts of the same community have fibre rolled out at different times. We understand that it is frustrating if your area is one of those to be upgraded later in the programme - our goal is to reach as many people as quickly as possible and if, in the meantime, there are opportunities to speed up the process we will do so.

When will I know what's happening in my area?

Wave 1 has been announced as early as possible. Wave 2 will be announced in April 2016, with following Waves coming quarterly thereafter. As we are now moving towards the more challenging areas, each Wave may take up to 12 months to complete.

Because we are trying to accelerate the programme, some areas may come forward earlier than expected. To be sure of knowing when work will be happening in your area please register your details at: <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/get-involved/register-for-more-information/>

How long will Contract 2, Part 1 take to complete?

Contract 2, Part 1, was originally scheduled to completed in 2018 and we have now pulled this forward to 2017. We will be doing all that we can to accelerate the programme still further.

Why are you talking about Waves instead of Phases?

We had a lot of discussion about this one! In Contract 1 we had Phases, and these continue to be rolled out. To differentiate Contract 2 rollout from Contract 1 we now have Waves. It also helps us internally as both BDUK and BT use the term Phases in completely different ways and it was just getting too confusing.

What about the Government's promise of 10Mbps for everybody?

In November 2015 the government announced a new Universal Service Obligation which would give a legal right to all householders to receive at least 10Mbps by 2020. No further details have been announced as yet, but we have always maintained that once the fibre is in the ground and with improvements in technology, then pushing broadband faster and further becomes far more viable.

The intention of this project remains with the achievement of 98% superfast coverage for Warwickshire by 2018, and we are aiming (dependent on funding) to achieve the EU target of 100% superfast coverage by 2020.

More frequently asked broadband questions can be found on our website at: <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/faq>

Send this email on to all your contacts! We need to reach as many people as possible as quickly as possible. Please send this email to your contacts and encourage them to send it further. It's probably best to remove the contact details above our logo at the top of the email otherwise it could get to be a very long string before the email itself appears!

CSW Broadband now on social media – come and join the conversation

We are now on the major social media channels and are already creating a buzz. Join in for up-to-date information and an opportunity to influence how the project develops:

Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/CSWSuperfastBroadband>

Twitter - https://twitter.com#!/cswbroadband_

LinkedIn - <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/CSW-Superfast-Broadband-4403473>

Don't forget our new email addresses!

Don't forget that we now have new email addresses and that using these will help us to better respond to your enquiries:

Newsletter BroadbandNews@cswbroadband.org.uk

All enquiries Broadband@cswbroadband.org.uk