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| <b>Subject:</b>                 | <b>Wiltshire Online: Connectivity and Provision</b>                  |
| <b>Officer Contact Details:</b> | <b>Wiltshire Online Team</b>   |
| <b>Weblink:</b>                 | <a href="http://www.wiltshireonline.org">www.wiltshireonline.org</a> |

### **Summary of Announcement:**

The Wiltshire Online Programme aims to bring availability of standard and superfast broadband to homes and businesses across the county.

The main aims of the programme are:

- A minimum of 85%, hopefully up to 95% of premises being able to access superfast broadband by 2015
- All premises to have access to a minimum broadband service of 2Mbps by 2015.

The procurement for superfast broadband was launched on 2 July with British Telecom being announced as preferred bidder on the 12 November. Following a period of contract finalisation and final approval by the government, Wiltshire Council is anticipating signing the contract at the end of January.

In February, the Wiltshire Online Programme should then be able to provide details about the overall percentage coverage of superfast broadband, the technologies to be used and high level information about the rollout plans. An update will be given to Area Boards either by providing a chairman's announcement and links to the Wiltshire Online Web site, or by a presentation.

Once the contract has been awarded, BT will build their delivery team and start upon their detailed surveying of the infrastructure across Wiltshire. Surveying will occur in phases across Wiltshire with the network rollout following shortly afterwards in that area. The timescales for this and the number of surveys to be completed will be shared after the award of the contract.

Though specific information about each community area will not be available from February, the Wiltshire Online Programme will be able to provide more specific information as the project progresses through the phases of implementation. Ahead of each phase each Community Area affected will be provided with detailed information about the forthcoming rollout particulars, including, practical advice and also guidance on how to respond to any questions.

At any time the website [www.wiltshireonline.org](http://www.wiltshireonline.org) will have the most up to date information and the Wiltshire Online Team is available to speak to.