

Councillors' Briefing Note No. 166

Department: Transformation

Further Enquiries to:
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Date Prepared: November 2013

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Wiltshire Online Programme – Broadband Update

Highlight

- We have published our most up to date fibre coverage map
- We will bring superfast broadband to over 10,000 homes and businesses by June 2014
- Royal Wootton Bassett, Purton, Alderbury, Downton, Kington Langley, Castle Combe, Broad Hinton, Broad Town, Whiteparish and Salisbury (expanding on the areas in Salisbury not picked up commercially) will be some of the first communities to be able to order a superfast service in summer 2014.

Message from Cllr John Thomson, Deputy Leader

The work of the Wiltshire Online broadband delivery team is constantly being recognised as best practice and the rollout is currently ahead of schedule. As explained in this update the detail in the contract is commercially sensitive and cannot be shared publicly. May I request all members consult the website for information and be mindful that contacting the small delivery team for more information they are unable to share is diverting them from continuing to effectively manage the rollout.

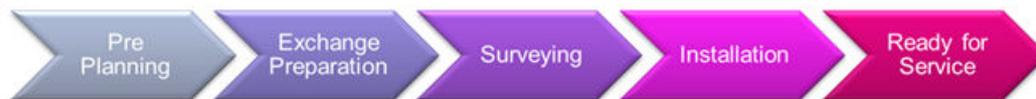
GWB Broadband rollout summary

Wiltshire Council is working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council as part of the Great Western Broadband (GWB) delivery project.

The partnership will ensure that By March 2016 at least 91% of all premises across Wiltshire are able to access superfast broadband (24Mb+) and that all premises in the intervention area are able to access a minimum standard broadband service (2Mb+).

To deliver fibre broadband requires the completion of a number of stages. As with any complex and wide scale infrastructure deployment there are areas which will be delivered earlier than others as the time it takes to work through each stage will vary from street to street, parish to parish. The rollout is due for completion in Spring 2016.

Below is a breakdown of the stages involved



The rollout is being designed to ensure the network provides the greatest possible coverage of superfast broadband with the available funding. We are taking into account many factors, including geography, planning requirements and the location of the existing telecoms infrastructure. These factors will dictate the order of the rollout. This approach will ensure the best value for money, but it does mean that we cannot prioritise specific locations and deviate from how the network will be rolled out across the area, as doing so would result in a time-consuming and costly project, and would ultimately reduce the number of premises to which we are able to deliver superfast broadband.

Progress to date

To date we have announced Royal Wootton Bassett, Purton, Alderbury, Downton, Kington Langley, Castle Combe, Broad Hinton, Broad Town, Whiteparish and Salisbury (expanding on the areas in Salisbury not picked up commercially) as communities who will be able to order superfast broadband by June next year as part of this programme.

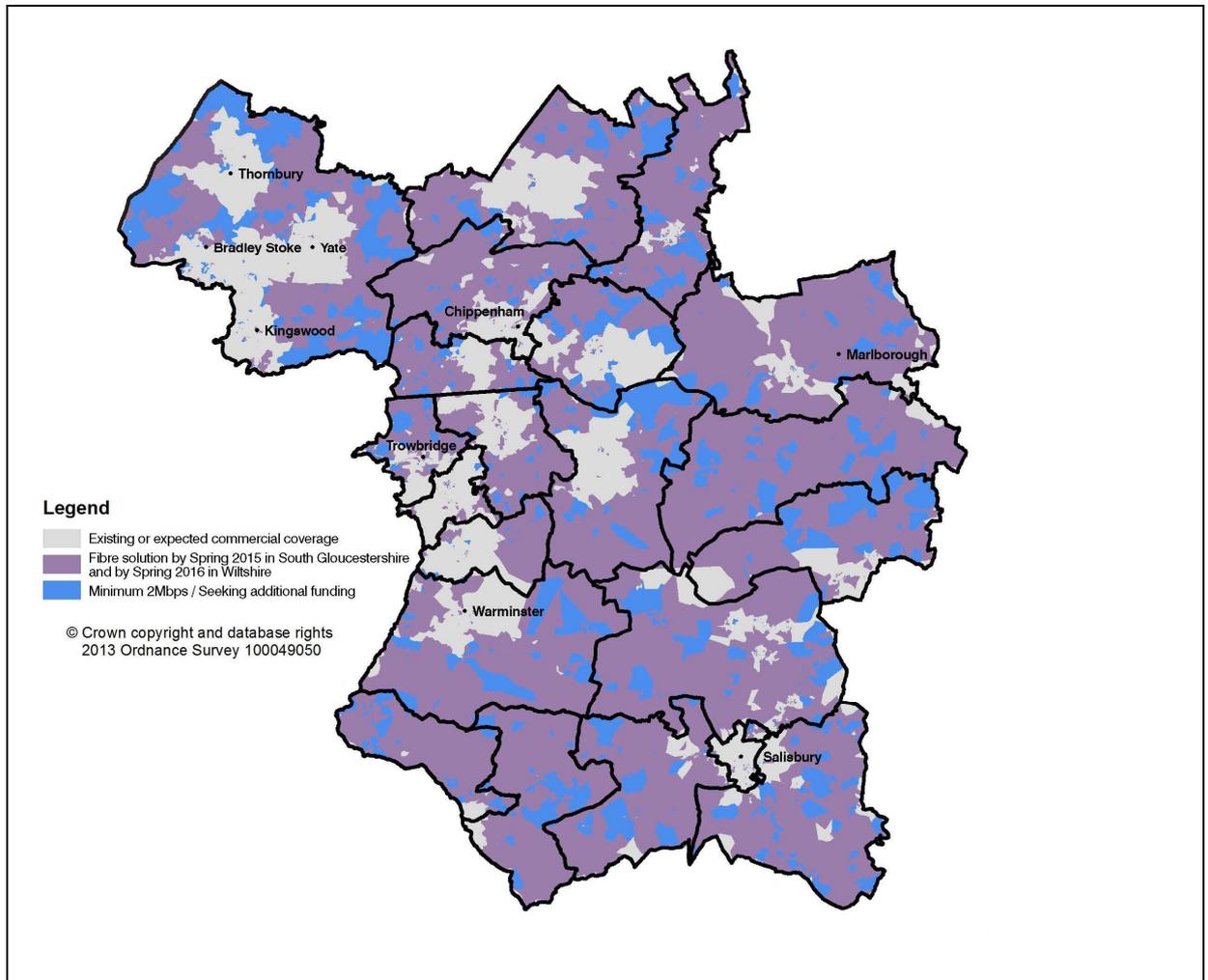
Sharing information about the project

Our website is kept up to date with as much information as we are able to share, we cannot share any further detail about the rollout. We are working on the first quarterly update on the progress of the rollout to date. We are committed to making quarterly community announcements and the next will be due in January 2014.

We are unable to share high level rollout plans publicly but the contract is carefully managed. The GWB (Great Western Broadband) board oversees the effective delivery of the contract and the activities of the project delivery team.

High level fibre map

We have been working closely with BT and BDUK (Government broadband delivery team) to release a high level map that provides a footprint of our expected fibre deployment. This map is subject to change and will look different as we work through the rollout and complete further surveys and should be used as a guide only.



How to use the map

- The purple on the map shows an overview of the expected rollout of fibre broadband as a result of investment from Wiltshire Council and South Gloucestershire Council.
- The grey on the map shows current or proposed commercial plans.
- The blue on the map shows areas that will meet the universal service commitment of 2Mbps minimum speed by March 2016. In June 2013 the Treasury confirmed that a further £250 million will be available nationally to increase superfast broadband coverage. Wiltshire Council and South Gloucestershire Council will bid for this funding when it becomes available.
- The map should be used for indicative purposes only. The map is not accurate at postcode or premise level and should not be interpreted as such. This is because the broadband network is a complex infrastructure that does not fit clearly into postcode areas.
- The map is subject to change. The modelling used to create the map is based on a number of assumptions which may change following detailed planning and surveying. Any issues encountered during this stage may result in changes to the rollout plan. The map will be updated at appropriate stages as the programme progresses.

- For information on specific exchanges, please refer to <http://www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when/>.
- Phased community announcements are posted quarterly on the Wiltshire Online and South Gloucestershire Council websites.

You can view a larger image of the map on our website [here](#).

General queries

The Wiltshire Online website (www.wiltshireonline.org) is intended to be the first port of call for any member of the public. We will regularly update the website throughout the course of the programme.

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Wiltshire Online