

## Superfast Broadband briefing note for Wyboston Ward (updated October 2018)

Bedford Borough Council was requested by Central Government to aid the rollout of Superfast Broadband by suppliers in order to increase coverage across the country. The Government's policy is to provide funding to support the roll-out of superfast broadband to those areas of the UK where commercial roll-out is not economically viable. Left to the commercial market, in many areas, largely in rural areas, there would be no roll-out of superfast broadband at all, or at least not for the foreseeable future.

The Council is working in partnership with BDUK (Broadband Delivery UK, part of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport) alongside Central Bedfordshire, Luton Borough and Milton Keynes Councils, to administer the Central Superfast Programme ('the Programme') which is to upgrade the infrastructure in order to extend fibre broadband coverage across the four councils.

In terms of the Bedfordshire Programme, work is currently being delivered under contract by Openreach in phases. With a project of this size and complexity it is essential to have a stable and planned workload to ensure that all works are completed in the most efficient and effective manner. In the interest of fairness, the four councils have been very clear from the outset that they would not prioritise any geographical areas over any others. Modelling was therefore delegated to Openreach to ensure maximum coverage with the funding available. It is also for Openreach to decide what assets are useable (or not) for the individual upgrades. We believe that this is the fairest and most robust approach and will allow progress with minimum of delays and will represent the best value for money.

There are four projects which comprise the overall programme:

- BDUK 1 Superfast Broadband Project 2014-2016 (completed)
- BDUK 2 Superfast Extension Project (SEP) 2016 – 2019 (currently live & being delivered by Openreach)
- BDUK Gainshare Project 2017/19 (currently live & being delivered by Openreach)
- BDUK 3 2019/20 (currently in deployment negotiations)

Please find below details for each of the parishes...

Parish	Superfast enabled			In SEP/Gainshare plan		Eligible for future project funding	
Bolnhurst & Keysoe	MK44 2EL	MK44 2JF	MK44 2HJ	MK44 2EY		MK44 2PP	MK44 2JH
	MK44 2JE	MK44 2JA	MK44 2HP	MK44 2EX		MK44 2EP	MK44 2JJ
	MK44 2JB	MK44 2EN	MK44 2HN	MK44 2ES		MK44 2HB	MK44 2HU
	MK44 2 JD	MK44 2HW	MK44 2HR	MK44 2ET		MK44 2JQ	MK44 1AA
	MK44 2JG	MK44 2HX	MK44 2HS			MK44 2JP	
	MK44 2HT	MK44 2HL					
Colmworth	MK44 2NJ	MK44 2JT	MK44 2HE	MK44 2NR	MK44 2EY	MK44 2AP	
	MK44 2JY	MK44 2JX	MK44 2LY	MK44 2NS	MK44 2NU	MK44 2JZ	
	MK44 2JS	MK44 2LE	MK44 2LB	MK44 2QW	MK44 2NH		
	MK44 2NJ	MK44 2LL	MK44 2LA	MK44 2NT			
Little Staughton	MK44 2BL	MK44 2BH		MK44 2BT		MK44 2SX	
	MK44 2BY	MK44 2BS		MK44 2BX			
	MK44 2BU	MK44 2BW		MK44 2BP			
	MK44 2TA						
Roxton	MK44 3DX	MK44 3DR	MK44 3DS			MK44 3DS	
	MK44 3EF	MK44 3EX	MK44 3EL				
	MK44 3EG	MK44 3EE	MK44 3EP				
	MK44 3ER	MK44 3EB	MK44 3DQ				
	MK44 3EA						
Staploe	PE19 8JD	PE19 5HT		MK44 2LR	PE19 5BJ	PE19 5JB	MK44 2LD
	PE19 5HP	PE19 5HR		MK44 2NE	MK44 2LP	MK44 2NX	MK44 3AT
	PE19 5HQ	PE19 5JA		MK44 2LS	MK44 2LT	MK44 2LH	PE19 5JF
	PE19 5JX						

Wilden	MK44 2PY MK44 2QG MK44 2QQ MK44 2QH MK44 2PE MK44 2PB	MK44 2QN MK44 2QD MK44 2PB MK44 2QB MK44 2PA MK44 2QL	MK44 2PQ MK44 2PN MK44 2PD MK44 2QA	MK44 2PH	MK44 2PJ MK44 2PP MK44 2PT
Wyboston, Chawston & Colesden	MK44 3BH MK44 3BS MK44 3AG MK44 3BD MK44 3AB MK44 3BN	MK44 3AN MK44 3AF MK44 3AX MK44 3AD MK44 3BL MK44 3AU	MK44 3AE MK44 3AS MK44 3AP MK44 3AY PE19 8EN		MK44 2NX MK44 2NT MK44 3AZ MK44 3BW MK44 3AT MK44 3DA MK44 3BX

NB postcodes provided by Parish Clerks

### Current Project – BDUK 2 Superfast Extension Project (SEP) & Gainshare Project

- Project currently live with a further 5,000 premises in Bedford Borough expected to be enabled to receive superfast broadband. This will increase coverage to 97% coverage.
- There have been a number of operational issues that Openreach have, and are facing, with project deployment. The project is currently waiting for a Remedial Plan (we hoped to have one by now). This means that the completion of the work to supply superfast broadband to the area is now likely to be extended until June 2019.
- Please be reassured that we are putting as much pressure as we can on Openreach to deliver the project and we are encouraged by the resource and support they have for the deployment. Be assured if we can deliver it earlier, then we will.

### Next - BDUK3 Project

- Project 3 (BDUK 3) contract has been awarded to Openreach.
- Deployment plans are under review and we are waiting for agreement to be reached before sharing plans. Work is due to take place between April and December 2019.
- Openreach state that BDUK 3 timelines are not anticipated to be impacted by the BDUK 2 delays.
- This is currently the final project and seeks to get superfast coverage for the final 2-3% of the area, with speeds of no less than 30Mbps.
- All the remaining unserved premises in Bedford Borough were eligible for funding and there was a requirement to cover as many of the remaining premises as possible with the funding available, however, we cannot guarantee that all properties will benefit. The solution from the provider is Fibre to the Premise (FTTP).

### New - Gigabit Voucher Scheme

- Full fibre broadband connections offer the fastest and most reliable speeds available, and the government is committed to a vision of a full fibre Britain. As part of this commitment in March 2018 they announced a £67m Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.
- Gigabit vouchers can be used by small businesses and the local communities surrounding them to contribute to the installation cost of a gigabit capable connection. Businesses can claim up to £3,000 against the cost of connection either individually or as part of a group project. Residents can benefit from the scheme as part of a group project which also includes businesses, and can claim for a voucher of the value of £500.
- <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/>

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