HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	11 December 2017
Title:	Superfast Broadband in Hampshire
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. Cabinet were provided with an update on the Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme in March 2016 and a subsequent report was given to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources in December 2016.

1.2. In the last 12 months, the Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme has made considerable progress. The Wave 1 contract has been concluded and has delivered connectivity to in excess of 80,000 premises, over 65,000 of which achieve superfast speeds (over 24 Mbps). The Wave 2 contract is underway and has upgraded connections to an additional 19,000 premises so far, with a target of 46,000 premises by the end of 2018 and 54,000 premises by the end of 2019. The combined number of premises reached by Wave 1 and Wave 2 of the programme to date is in excess of 99,000 premises.

1.3. The Hampshire programme continues to deliver on its targets, with strict budget control of the limited public funding available, assurance from central government and rigorously holding Openreach to account for delivery. However, it is important to differentiate between this success of the Hampshire programme and the wider, national broadband market failure which, in the case of the county of Hampshire, means that broadband providers still have no plans for the remaining 2.6% (circa 15,000 premises). The programme is acutely aware of the position of these residents in the last 2.6% and continues to look for innovative solutions to assist where this is possible.

1.4. Uptake of services continues to grow, with more than 43,500 paying customers taking a service from the improved broadband network. Nationally, the Hampshire programme is in the top quartile of take up of all programmes.

1.5. In January 2017, the County Council injected a further £6.8m into Wave 2. This funding has been sourced from savings in the delivery of Wave 1 and a rebate triggered by higher than expected uptake. This funding will enable an additional 7,500 premises to be upgraded during 2019, extending coverage to 97.4% of premises in Hampshire.

1.6. Technology has continued to develop during the course of the programme and consequently the delivery of Wave 2 includes a range of newer technologies. One of these is Ultrafast broadband, which has fibre provided directly to the premises (FTTP) and the potential for significantly faster speeds than superfast. More than 12,000 premises will be upgraded to Ultrafast FTTP broadband connections during Wave 2. The County Council is in discussion with the newly formed government body, Local Full Fibre Partnerships, regarding plans to extend this number even further and has recently submitted an Expression of Interest in response to a call from government for ideas to support the Full Fibre programme.

1.7. In June 2017, the County Council launched the £1M Community Match Funding Scheme (CMFS) to assist residents and communities who are not in current plans. This scheme will allow communities in the last 2.6% of premises (approximately 15,000) that are beyond the current programme to buy into the County Council's programme with Openreach to access an upgrade for their premises. The County Council will provide 50/50 funding towards the cost of an Openreach solution with a ceiling of £1,650 per property. A small community in Silchester has been the first to take advantage of this scheme and seventeen properties will shortly have access to superfast services that would otherwise have been left behind. A link to details of the Silchester scheme can be found here.

1.8. Recognising that the programme is delivering significant connectivity to areas that are not being served by the commercial sector, and the additional investment for the community schemes, the programme is constantly striving to do more to reach the last 2.6%. This includes seeking further funding from other sources such as central government, engagement with Town and Parish Councils and bolstering the team's resources to drive take up and maximise financial rebate to further delivery.

2. Context for Superfast Broadband in Hampshire

2.1. The demand for broadband connectivity continues to increase. The UK has the largest digital economy in the G7 after the USA and reliable high speed broadband is important to citizens and businesses as they seek to take advantage of the opportunities that the digital economy offers. High speed connectivity is becoming increasingly important in the delivery and efficient operation of public services, including education and care for the elderly.

2.2. At a more local level, access to superfast broadband is an issue which continues to grow in importance because of multiple factors, including:

- Flexible working arrangements with employees changing working patterns to work from home, with encouragement by employers to better employees' work/life balance and reduce commuting and congestion;

- An increasing shift for school children to complete their homework online;

- Access to employment and educational resources for adults;

- Entrepreneurs/ people running businesses from home or in rural areas need good connectivity;

- Helping reduce social isolation through allowing greater connectivity for the growing array of communication methods available;

- Helping elderly and immobile people to live independently for longer – reducing pressure on Adult Social Care budgets.

  All of these requirements make access to superfast broadband more essential than ever.

2.3. In common with almost all UK local authorities, delivery of Hampshire's Superfast Broadband Programme rests with BT Group and their arm's length infrastructure division, BT Openreach. Earlier in 2017, as a requirement of the telecoms regulator, Ofcom, BT agreed a formal legal separation of Openreach. All of the BDUK work is now delivered through contracts with Openreach.

2.4. BT Openreach installs and operates open access infrastructure which offers consumers access to a wide range of competing service providers including Sky, BT Retail, Plusnet, and TalkTalk. Access to this network also ensures that residents have access to pricing equivalence across the UK.

2.5. The County Council currently holds two contracts with BT to deliver superfast broadband infrastructure to areas where market failure has occurred. In this paper the two contracts are referred to as Waves 1 and 2.

2.6. Hampshire's programme has been running since 2012 and continues to be a success. This includes delivering against targets agreed with central government and also through developing innovative arrangements to go beyond these targets and help communities across Hampshire who are not in current plans.

2.7. The County Council has a strong and collaborative working relationship with Openreach but rigorously holds them to account for delivery of targets. Performance is monitored closely and assured by central government. The programme continuously seeks to accelerate delivery where possible and keep communities informed where there are technical delivery challenges.

2.8. The targets and funding arrangements for the programme have been well documented in previous reports, representing a complex picture of different funding sources, recycled rebate funding in the contract, additional monies through contract underspend and match-funding monies allocated by the County Council. For clarity, these are set out in the table below:

	Value	HCC Contribution	District Contribution
Wave 1	£ 10,000,000	£ 3,759,000	£ 1,241,000
RCBF	£ 1,040,000	Govt funded	-
Innovation Fund	£ 1,200,000	Govt funded	-
Wave 2	£ 16,450,000	£ 9,200,000	-
Wave 2 Extension 2017	£ 6,800,000	Gainshare	-
Total	**£ 35,490,000**	**£ 12,959,000**	**£ 1,241,000**

Note1: RCBF is the Rural Communities Broadband Fund, which is funding secured following a bid to DCMS.

Note2: Wave 2 Extension is a combination of gainshare and contract underspend from Wave 1.

2.9. The County Council has put nearly £13M into the programme for delivering infrastructure through the contract, as well as providing additional revenue funding to fund the Hampshire programme delivery team.

3. Progress in Hampshire

3.1. 2017 has seen continued strong growth in the delivery of superfast broadband services across Hampshire. 128 roadside cabinets have been installed across 79 different exchange areas, ranging from Abbotts Ann to Yateley, connecting more than 16,000 premises to fibre broadband in the year to date.

3.2. The scheduling of roll out has been covered in detail in previous reports but it is worth restating the principles for prioritisation. The contracts with Openreach were negotiated nationally between BT and Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK – part of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport). The contracts are predicated on maximising the number of premises connected for the public subsidy available, but only in the intervention area that is not covered by commercial providers' plans.

3.3. All electoral divisions in the County Council have seen an improvement in their connectivity, though some have seen a greater improvement than others. The overriding factor influencing coverage is property density per square kilometre. Areas with lower property density are more expensive to reach and therefore have lower availability figures. Appendix 1 contains a full list of project coverage by electoral division.

3.4. Table 1 provides details of the 11 electoral divisions which the County Council estimates will have coverage of less than 95% at the end of 2019.

Table 1 - Details of the 11 electoral divisions which the County Council estimates will have coverage of less than 95% at the end of 2019

HCC Electoral Division	Total Premises	% covered at end of Contract 1	Total Premises Upgraded During Wave 2	Number not in programme but potential for CMFS	% Superfast in Electoral Division
Alton Rural ED	6,792	60.7%	2,271	396	94.2%
Andover West ED	8,635	76.4%	1,531	509	94.1%
Baddesley ED	6,984	89.4%	350	389	94.4%
Basingstoke North ED	7,582	91.3%	51	608	92.0%
Brockenhurst ED	8,574	64.7%	1,273	1,756	79.5%
Lymington & Boldre ED	9,377	83.2%	968	607	93.5%
Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge ED	8,798	72.1%	1,873	585	93.3%
Petersfield Hangers ED	7,470	77.3%	1,259	440	94.1%
Romsey Rural ED	7,390	47.3%	2,435	1,461	80.2%
Test Valley Central ED	7,163	45.7%	2,484	1,406	80.4%
Whitchurch & The Cleres ED	7,474	70.5%	1,567	640	91.4%

3.5. The programme continues to face considerable technical challenges as it operates in some of the most tightly regulated environments in the UK. Most notable of these is the New Forest, which is regulated by the Verderers' Court, Natural England, New Forest National Park Authority, Forestry Commission and District Council. Considerable effort from all these parties involved has led to a successful conclusion regarding how and where to install the new additional hardware required. As a result, infrastructure is being installed to reach parts of East Boldre, Beaulieu and Brockenhurst with further installations being planned.

3.6. It has previously been stated that the numbers of premises delivered are done on a value for money basis. As the programme moves towards areas that are generally more sparsely populated, the cost per delivery of each premises increases. The graph below shows the average cost per premises of the various stages of the project. The first stage of Wave 2 will extend coverage from 90-96% and has a subsidy figure of £475 per premises passed.

3.7. The £6.8M extension to Wave 2, taking coverage from 96% to 97.4%, sees the subsidy per premises increase to over £800. This subsidy is from public sector contributions including central government as per the table in paragraph 2.8.

Hampshire County Council
Average cost per supefast premises passed
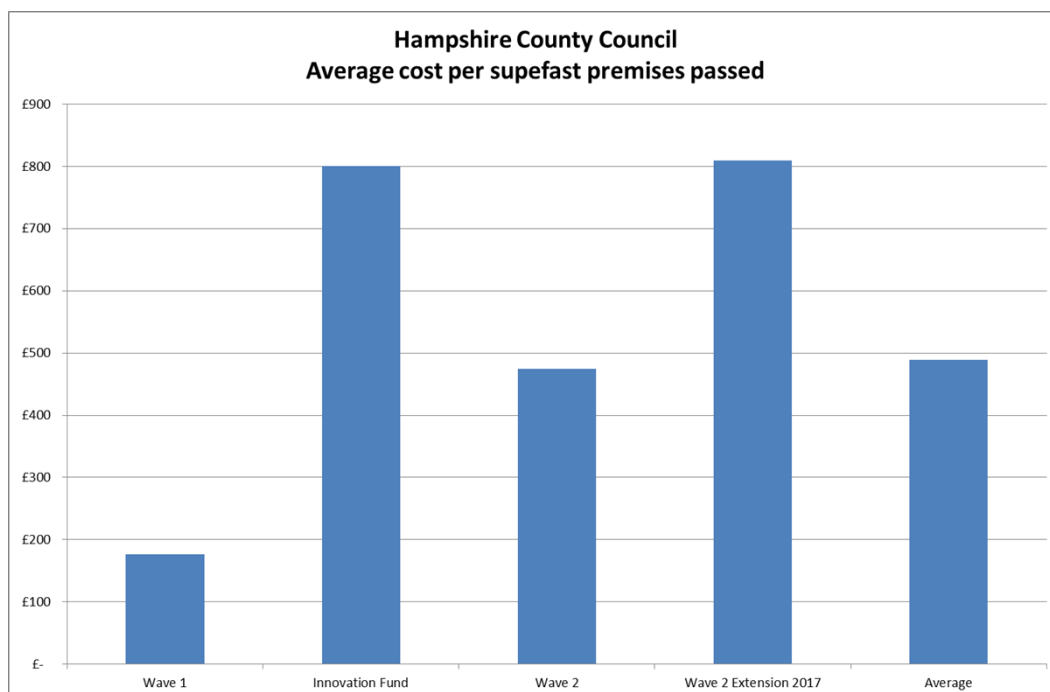
3.8. To illustrate the variation in cost per premises through the life of the programme, the results of the Innovation Fund Trial in Ropley, Bramdean and Froxfield are a case in point. Hampshire was selected to be one of the 10 national trials into technology options for the 'last 5%' set up by the Department for Digital, Culture Media and Sport (DCMS). In 2015, Call Flow was awarded a contract by DCMS and work started shortly afterwards. Members will note from the graph above that the average subsidy per premises passed for this project reached £800, a figure that we are not seeing across the rest of the programme until the 2019 phase. The residents of this area have therefore received a service some four or five years earlier than otherwise expected.

3.9. It should be noted that the average subsidy per premises passed for the entire project stands at slightly less than £500 per property enabled with superfast speeds.

4. Community Match Funding Scheme and Engagement

4.1. In June 2017, the County Council launched the £1M Community Match Funding Scheme (CMFS) to assist residents and communities who are not in current plans.

4.2. This scheme allows communities in the last 2.6% of premises (approximately 15,000) that are beyond the current programme to buy into the County Council's programme with Openreach to access an upgrade for their premises. The County Council will provide 50/50 funding towards the cost of an Openreach solution with a ceiling of £1,650 per property.

4.3. There has been considerable interest in the scheme and two communities have already raised funds and signed a contract with the County Council for

a bespoke solution for their area. One of these is a small community in Silchester, who was first to take advantage of this scheme and 17 properties will shortly have access to superfast services that would otherwise have been left behind. A link to details of the Silchester scheme can be found here.

4.4. The County Council's scheme is one of the first of its type in the country and similar schemes are now being developed by other county projects.

4.5. In addition to the CMFS, the programme team has been assisting a community in Test Valley in helping promote their Virtual Town Project, consisting of a number of villages where many of the properties are not in current plans for delivery under the HCC or private sector commercial programmes. The proposed scheme follows a successful campaign by residents in response to Virgin Media's 'Cable my Street' demand-led initiative. The residents have been able to attract enough signatures and expressions of interest for Virgin Media to proceed to the final design and build stage, and have undertaken to make a financial contribution to the scheme. The community hopes that Virgin Media will start building in 2018, delivering a fibre to the premises scheme.

4.6. The programme continues to administer the government's Universal Service Commitment (USC) scheme, which allows residents who experience broadband speeds of less than 2Mbps to apply for a voucher towards a bespoke solution. Residents are able to use the voucher towards the cost of an installation from a range of broadband suppliers and plans, with the potential to aggregate the subsidy towards a fixed wireless or fixed line broadband provision for the wider community. Hampshire has amongst the highest take up of the USC scheme in the country. This scheme was scheduled to come to an end in December 2017 but a recent announcement from government has confirmed an extension to the scheme.

5.   Challenges in Hampshire and Future Plans

5.1. As well as keeping focused on the delivery of the contracted programme that plans to deliver to 97.4% of the county, the team is constantly striving to do more to reach the last 2.6%. This includes seeking further funding from other sources such as central government and bolstering the team's resources to drive take up and maximise financial rebate to further delivery.

5.2. Central government has put forward a proposal called the Universal Service Obligation (USO) where, from 2020, all residents should be able to demand a minimum speed of 10Mbps to their property. The mechanism to achieve this has not been defined yet, but it appears likely that the onus will be placed on suppliers in the market place rather than local authorities.

5.3. Community engagement remains a significant part of the programme team's activity. At the end of October, the programme had received more than 4,000 enquiries via Twitter and email during the previous 10 months. The team also provides tailored briefings for Members, local Members of Parliament, Town and Parish Councils, specific communities and meetings

with individual residents. Additionally, the team supports these organisations/individuals at public meetings.

5.4. Take up continues to rise and forms an important part of the Council's forward strategy for reaching close to 100% coverage. Within the contract there are mechanisms that provide a rebate to the County Council when take up is greater than the original estimates in Openreach's commercial bid. To date, rebates and savings have added a further £7.8M of delivery to the programme without requiring additional capital funding. The Council expects a further rebate in the next 12 months, and additional rebates in subsequent years. The County Council could see up to an additional c.£4M made available in the next 12 months, though this is still to be confirmed by Openreach. The most expedient way to convert this to more coverage is through recycling this in the existing contract, which was the principle adopted for the previous rebate.

5.5. It should be noted that as the programme starts to deliver services to the last 2.6% of properties in Hampshire currently without superfast speeds, the difficulties encountered so far when operating in areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Parks and on Crown Estate land are only likely to increase.

5.6. The complexity of operating in these environments inevitably leads to delay and additional expense. It will be increasingly important and necessary to manage expectations, supporting the team in communicating with residents that this complexity and any resulting delays are often not the responsibility of the County Council or the company installing the equipment. The team will however continue to work with the various stakeholders to make the delivery as smooth as possible.

5.7. In respect of new housing sites, the County Council continues to encourage developers to engage with telecommunications suppliers to ensure that superfast services are installed on new sites from the outset. However, there are still instances where suppliers are involved too late in the build process, with new occupants in properties unable to access adequate infrastructure. The programme continues to engage developers and encourage Local Planning Authorities to explore opportunities to mandate superfast coverage as part of the planning approval process.

5.8. The programme continues to explore additional funding sources to help deliver to the areas where there are no plans currently. This includes recent engagement with the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and Local Full Fibre Partnerships (part of DCMS). On the latter, the County Council has recently submitted an Expression of Interest following a call for their Full Fibre Networks Programme, which is making a proportion of the £740M Government's Infrastructure Fund available nationally to support the deployment of fibre connectivity. A call for full proposals is expected later this year.

5.9. The County Council continues to engage with central government on wider broadband policy discussions given the importance of national policy and funding as principal drivers to address the last few percent coverage. There

is an increasing demand being placed on all residents to be able to interact with the public sector via electronic means, particularly with those central government services provided through GOV.UK. Without full coverage, residents, particularly in rural communities, are concerned that the expectation of this means of communication is not matched by central government action to address full coverage.

5.10. In addition to superfast and ultrafast broadband, there is increasing demand for improved mobile connectivity, particularly along main commuter routes, both rail and road. DCMS is exploring 5G pilots as a parallel piece of work to the Full Fibre Networks Programme and the County Council is already in discussions with DCMS on how to be a part of this.

6.   Conclusions

6.1. Hampshire's Superfast Broadband Programme continues to deliver on its targets, with strict budget control of the limited public funding available, assurance from central government and rigorously holding Openreach to account for delivery. However, it is important to differentiate between this success and the wider, national broadband market failure which, in the case of the county of Hampshire, means that broadband providers still have no plans for the remaining 2.6% (circa 15,000 premises). The programme is acutely aware of the position of these residents in the last 2.6% and continues to look for innovative solutions to assist where this is possible.

6.2. The Hampshire Programme has already taken coverage across the county from 80% to over 90% and has plans in place to take coverage to 96% by the end of 2018 and 97.4% by the end of 2019. More than 12,000 premises will be connected to ultrafast services. There is potential to increase coverage as further rebates (gainshare) are made available.

6.3. By the end of the programme more than £30M of public money, £13M of which has come from the County Council, will have been invested.

6.4. The broadband programme has been a successful pilot for the Government's Universal Service Commitment, and has amongst the highest take up of this scheme in the country. The programme has also been a successful pilot for the Government's last 5% trials with the highest project recognition status.

6.5. The programme continues to work with DCMS regarding opportunities for Full Fibre deployments and 5G networks.

6.6. Superfast broadband is a topical issue that concerns many thousands of residents across Hampshire and will experience increasing numbers of enquiries from the public. It will continue to attract criticism from those residents and businesses in the remaining few premises that are beyond current plans. Communication of these plans and progress, as well as community engagement, is critical.

6.7. Take up of superfast broadband continues to gather pace, indicating that demand for these services is considerable. Existing contracts with BT share the risk such that if take up is higher than expected, the public sector

receives a rebate, whilst if take up is below expectations the public sector is not liable for any further financial commitment. This illustrates the need to continue with the already successful marketing campaigns to drive take up and rebate for further reinvestment.

7.   Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

7.1. Notes the good progress on the delivery of the Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme for the public funding available, but recognises the wider broadband market failure which means that there are still 2.6% (circa 15,000 properties) where there are no plans currently.

7.2. Acknowledges that, even though there are areas where market failure has meant that plans are not in place and public funding will not meet the demand, the programme still continues to help all residents across Hampshire where possible through innovation such as the Community Match Funding Scheme.

7.3. Notes that the Community Match Funding Scheme is being positively received by communities across Hampshire.

7.4. Approves that the programme continues to extend and maximise coverage under the existing contracts by seeking to reinvest rebate (gainshare) and contract delivery underspend with the existing supplier and continue to apply pressure to the supplier to accelerate delivery of existing contract targets.

7.5. Agrees that the County Council should continue to proactively seek funding from the LEPs and DCMS, as well as other external funding sources, and considers running additional procurements if necessary or advantageous to residents.

7.6. Continues to support the programme through engagement with District Councils, Parish Councils, communities and residents.

Appendix 1 - Full list of project coverage by Electoral Division

HCC Electoral Division	Total Premises	% covered at end of Contract 1	Total Premises Upgraded During Wave 2	Number not in programme but potential for CMFS	% Superfast in Electoral Division
Aldershot North ED	7,455	95.3%	256	97	98.7%
Aldershot South ED	8,227	99.0%	72	7	99.9%
Alton Rural ED	6,792	60.7%	2,271	396	94.2%
Alton Town ED	8,408	97.5%	166	47	99.4%
Andover North ED	5,880	79.1%	1,036	195	96.7%
Andover South ED	8,662	94.0%	325	195	97.8%
Andover West ED	8,635	76.4%	1,531	509	94.1%
Baddesley ED	6,984	89.4%	350	389	94.4%
Basingstoke Central ED	8,718	97.1%	93	161	98.1%
Basingstoke North ED	7,582	91.3%	51	608	92.0%
Basingstoke North West ED	7,136	99.4%	36	10	99.9%
Basingstoke South East ED	9,533	92.3%	650	84	99.1%
Basingstoke South West ED	8,052	99.0%	67	17	99.8%
Bishops Waltham ED	7,673	75.3%	1,697	197	97.4%
Bishopstoke & Fair Oak ED	6,326	91.8%	368	153	97.6%
Botley & Hedge End North ED	6,449	95.1%	219	96	98.5%
Bridgemary ED	8,021	97.8%	167	13	99.8%
Brockenhurst ED	8,574	64.7%	1,273	1,756	79.5%
Calleva ED	5,582	69.3%	1,455	261	95.3%
Candovers, Oakley & Overton ED	6,474	75.6%	1,269	309	95.2%
Catherington ED	6,910	93.3%	367	99	98.6%
Chandler's Ford ED	6,574	96.2%	238	11	99.8%
Church Crookham & Ewshot ED	7,102	98.1%	99	38	99.5%
Cowplain & Hart Plain ED	6,882	99.3%	51	-	100.0%
Dibden & Hythe ED	8,628	90.1%	668	185	97.9%
Eastleigh North ED	7,537	94.3%	259	173	97.7%
Eastleigh South ED	8,143	94.3%	310	158	98.1%
Emsworth & St Faiths ED	8,036	97.8%	166	7	99.9%
Fareham Crofton ED	7,213	95.0%	339	22	99.7%
Fareham Portchester ED	8,110	98.4%	94	37	99.5%
Fareham Sarisbury ED	6,629	90.0%	630	36	99.5%
Fareham Titchfield ED	7,135	93.7%	312	136	98.1%
Fareham Town ED	13,729	96.7%	414	35	99.7%
Fareham Warsash ED	7,318	96.6%	228	18	99.8%
Farnborough North ED	7,551	99.2%	51	12	99.8%
Farnborough South ED	8,877	91.1%	643	148	98.3%
Farnborough West ED	7,727	99.8%	1	13	99.8%

HCC Electoral Division	Total Premises	% covered at end of Contract 1	Total Premises Upgraded During Wave 2	Number not in programme but potential for CMFS	% Superfast in Electoral Division
Fleet Town ED	7,946	97.2%	185	41	99.5%
Hamble ED	8,286	94.2%	446	37	99.6%
Hardway ED	7,772	98.7%	78	21	99.7%
Hartley Wintney & Yateley West ED	8,122	83.2%	1,109	256	96.9%
Hayling Island ED	8,871	95.2%	377	52	99.4%
Hedge End & West End South ED	6,343	97.5%	89	67	98.9%
Itchen Valley ED	7,488	66.2%	2,164	367	95.1%
Lee ED	7,015	97.8%	134	20	99.7%
Leesland & Town ED	14,698	98.0%	275	22	99.9%
Liphook, Headley & Grayshott ED	7,551	82.7%	1,118	190	97.5%
Loddon ED	7,732	94.3%	292	145	98.1%
Lymington & Boldre ED	9,377	83.2%	968	607	93.5%
Lyndhurst & Fordingbridge ED	8,798	72.1%	1,873	585	93.3%
Meon Valley ED	6,843	69.3%	1,782	317	95.4%
New Milton ED	8,768	97.6%	174	35	99.6%
New Milton North, Milford & Hordle ED	9,153	86.7%	1,047	172	98.1%
North East Havant ED	8,591	99.1%	73	8	99.9%
North West Havant ED	8,186	98.6%	108	10	99.9%
Odiham & Hook ED	7,229	79.8%	1,361	99	98.6%
Petersfield Butser ED	8,076	87.6%	787	213	97.4%
Petersfield Hangers ED	7,470	77.3%	1,259	440	94.1%
Purbrook & Stakes South ED	6,746	99.9%	-	4	99.9%
Ringwood ED	7,740	82.1%	1,065	318	95.9%
Romsey Rural ED	7,390	47.3%	2,435	1,461	80.2%
Romsey Town ED	8,097	93.3%	237	302	96.3%
South Waterside ED	7,121	94.7%	327	52	99.3%
Tadley & Baughurst ED	6,842	90.1%	589	88	98.7%
Test Valley Central ED	7,163	45.7%	2,484	1,406	80.4%
Totton North & Netley Marsh ED	8,041	93.3%	215	320	96.0%
Totton South & Marchwood ED	8,356	94.9%	335	91	98.9%
Waterloo & Stakes North ED	7,746	97.5%	152	38	99.5%
West End & Horton Heath ED	5,610	90.9%	435	75	98.7%
Whitchurch & The Cleres ED	7,474	70.5%	1,567	640	91.4%
Whitehill, Bordon & Lindford ED	6,983	92.7%	486	27	99.6%
Winchester Downlands ED	7,907	81.5%	1,286	180	97.7%
Winchester Eastgate ED	9,111	84.2%	1,367	77	99.2%
Winchester Southern Parishes ED	6,195	81.0%	1,014	162	97.4%
Winchester Westgate ED	6,924	97.3%	162	26	99.6%
Yateley East & Blackwater ED	8,048	97.3%	192	22	99.7%
Total	**593,073**	**89.2%**	**48,265**	**15,621**	**97.4%**

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document	Location
Hampshire Superfast Broadband – Getting Connected	EMPR 22/01/2015 Ref: 6456
Hampshire Superfast Broadband	Cabinet 21/03/2016 Ref: 7363
Hampshire Superfast Broadband – Beyond 96	EMPR 14 December 2016 Ref: 7926

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;

- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;

- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;

- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

1.2. **Equalities Impact Assessment:**

(a) The County Council is not entering into the provision of Superfast Broadband services to any individual or business. Residents in areas where these services are available will purchase services relevant to their requirements from private sector providers operating in the retail market. As the responsible 'local body', the County Council will seek to implement Government policy to make it possible for all residents and business premises to access a service capable of operating at a download speed of at least 2 Mbps.

1. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

1.1. None identified.

2. Climate Change:

2.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Positive impact.

2.2 How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Positive impact.