



Welcome...

A few months ago we launched a survey to find out how we could best share information and news about the programme. Many of you told us that although you found the regular email updates useful, you'd prefer something more specific to your area every so often. Here is our first quarterly edition of North West Leicestershire's newsletter.

Areas now live:

- **Appleby Magna**
- **Castle Donington**
- **Coalville**
- **Diseworth**
- **Donisthorpe**
- **Ellistown**
- **Griffydam**
- **Hathern**
- **Hugglescote**
- **Kegworth**
- **Kingston on Soar**
- **Long Whatton**
- **Oakthorpe**
- **Thringstone**

North West Leicestershire so far

By the end of our first contract we had installed fibre broadband to 65,000 properties across Leicestershire. In **North West Leicestershire** we have installed **34** cabinets, serving around **8,700** properties.

As a result we've managed to increase high speed broadband coverage in the district from **77% in 2013 to over 92% in 2016**.

In our second contract, that has already started, coverage in North West Leicestershire will increase further still; to 95%. Around 1,200 additional properties are due to gain access from 25 new fibre cabinets of which 12 are already live.

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North West Leicestershire so far (continued from page one)

In 2017 we will also be rolling out Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) technology to four areas in North West Leicestershire, bringing superfast broadband to another 150 homes and businesses.

Remember, speed uplifts are not automatic, you need to upgrade to fibre to enjoy the benefits of superfast speeds.

The fibre journey

The Superfast Leicestershire programme has two delivery phases which we call our contract one and contract two rollouts. Contract one was completed at the end of March 2016, contract two will run until December 2017. Across the entire deployment we will be enabling fibre broadband access to 85,000 homes and businesses for the first time and will see superfast broadband coverage across Leicester and Leicestershire increase from 83% to 96%.

Take-up success

Take-up across Leicestershire has been much better than expected and has now reached 34%. There's still much more to do to reach our aspiration of 50%. We want to ensure people understand the difference fibre broadband can make to everyday tasks you do either for leisure or business.

In the district take-up is currently at 36%. We know there's more to come and we welcome any support you can give by spreading the word that superfast broadband has arrived.

The final 4%

We have identified around 15,000 properties across Leicestershire that are not in any current high speed fibre broadband rollout plans; our final 4%. We are currently working on plans to reach more of these properties through a new phase of the programme.

£5.17 million has been made available for a new phase of the programme and we are currently reviewing how we can get the best coverage possible for this investment.

We'll have more details to share in the next newsletter – due spring 2017.

Better Broadband Scheme

The Satellite Voucher Scheme has had an upgrade! It now includes wireless broadband operators and has been renamed the Better Broadband Scheme.



The diagram above illustrates how wireless providers can help to get you connected to fibre broadband through the Better Broadband Scheme.

You can claim up to £350 towards the cost of installation. Eligible properties must currently have access to broadband speeds of less than 2Mbps and must not be due for upgrade as part of the Superfast Leicestershire rollout.

[Read more about the Better Broadband Scheme](#)

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Community Fibre Partnerships Grants

BT has made £2 million grant funding available as part of their Community Fibre Partnership scheme for eligible schools - bringing superfast broadband to the classroom as well as the home.

If you think your local school could benefit, [find out more information](#).

Areas coming soon

Areas in North West Leicestershire which will see new or additional coverage in the coming months include Ashby de la Zouch and Castle Donington.

Website changes

We've recently carried out a refresh of our website with new content and an updated interactive map.

Here's a selection of what's new:

- A new section detailing our new funding and next phase of the programme:

<http://www.superfastleicestershire.org.uk/register-for-notifications/the-final-4/new-funding/>

- Top tips on maximising the speed of existing copper broadband connections
<http://www.superfastleicestershire.org.uk/how-to-supercharge-your-broadband/>

- The interactive map now has a new layout and simplified map legend but with additional detail at postcode level:
<http://blpc.atkinsgeospatial.com/>

Do you have content for your website or newsletter?

Do you have your own council or community website or social media pages? We can provide content specific to your area when fibre broadband becomes available including tips and advise on how to get the most out of new superfast connections. Send us an email for more detail.

Happy Christmas!

Lastly we'd like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas. Keep an eye out for our Superfast Elves in their #candycaneclues countdown campaign on Twitter and give us a retweet!



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