



CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MEETING	AGENDA ITEM No: 6
26 OCTOBER 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1. To respond to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's request for an update on the Digital Connectivity Programme.

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
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| (1) Note the update on the Digital Connectivity Programme. |
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2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Digital Connectivity Programme is managed by Cambridgeshire County Council's Connecting Cambridgeshire team, which was set up in 2011 to facilitate Superfast Broadband delivery across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 2.2. An update on the programme was taken to the Combined Authority's June Housing and Communities Committee and included approval for a reduction in the overall budget allocation. This paper has been included in this report.
- 2.3. Since the June Housing and Communities Committee, there have been two significant areas of progress within the programme, which will be of interest to Members.
- 2.4. As part of the Keeping Everyone Connected work stream, a 'top-up' mechanism funded by the Combined Authority (to support the Government's Rural Gigabit voucher scheme) was launched in September. A number of rural communities have already engaged with the scheme and some have accessed

the vouchers which will enable full fibre connectivity to be delivered to some of the most challenging rural areas. More information on this work stream can be seen in paragraph 2.6 of the Connecting Cambridge June Housing Committee paper.

- 2.5. Public access Wi-Fi rollout is continuing in East Cambridgeshire, with deployment to Littleport underway and to Huntingdonshire Market Towns. The Huntingdonshire service was launched this week in St Neots. More information can be seen in paragraph 2.9 of the Connecting Cambridge June Housing Committee paper.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Appendices

- 5.1. Digital Connectivity Housing Committee report June 2020

[Connecting Cambridge June Housing Committee paper](#)

<u>Source Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>