

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

**Held on Thursday, 21 July 2016 at 2.00 pm in the
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham**

PRESENT

Councillor E. Gould (Chairman)	Mr T F C Monument
Mrs E J Bishop	Mr R. R. Richmond
Mr R F W Brame	Mr A.C. Stasiak (Vice-Chairman)
Mr T. J. Jermy	Mr J Newton (Substitute Member)
Mr A.P. Joel	Mr P S Wilkinson (Substitute Member)
Mrs S.M. Matthews	

Also Present

Mr S.G. Bambridge	Mrs J Hollis
Councillor M. Chapman-Allen	Mr F.J. Sharpe
Mr S H Chapman-Allen	Mrs L.S. Turner

In Attendance

Ross Bangs	- Housing Support Manager
Stefan Clifford	- Communities Officer
Stephen James	- Communities Manager
Helen McAleer	- Senior Democratic Services Officer
Maxine O'Mahony	- Executive Director of Strategy & Governance
Teresa Smith	- Democratic Services Officer

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38/16 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The Chairman informed Members of the sudden death yesterday of Mr Harold Bodmer, Norfolk County Council Executive Director of Adult Social Services. Mr Bodmer would be sadly missed and she offered her condolences to the Norfolk County Council Officers, Ms O'Kane and Mr Cullum who were present today.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

39/16 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Apologies were received from Councillors Crawford, Oliver and Webb.

Councillors Newton and Wilkinson were present as Substitutes for Councillor Crawford and Oliver respectively.

40/16 URGENT BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEM 3)

None.

41/16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (AGENDA ITEM 4)

No declarations were made.

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42/16 NON-MEMBERS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Councillors Bambridge, M Chapman-Allen, S Chapman-Allen, Hollis, Sharpe and Turner were in attendance.

Mr Milner (Old Buckenham Parish Council) was in attendance for Agenda Item 6 (Broadband Update).

43/16 BROADBAND UPDATE (AGENDA ITEM 6)

Karen O’Kane (Norfolk County Council) accompanied by John Cullum (Better Broadband for Norfolk, Open Reach Lead), gave a presentation (copy attached) and explained the next stage of the roll-out and changes to the way in which information would be provided.

The main aim of the project was to achieve maximum coverage for the money. No community would be favoured over another.

The first contract had achieved 80% coverage. The second contract would be in two stages. The first stage would use money from the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), the County Council and the Government to increase coverage to 90%. The second stage would use the underspend (currently about £10million), clawback money (about £5million) and the money contributed by the District Councils to increase coverage to about 95% in Norfolk.

The way in which information would be provided and how the public would be able to access a mapping tool for address level checks on what coverage they could expect, was explained. Information on speed and access would be available to the public. More detailed information would be provided to District Councils quarterly, some of that information would be confidential.

The Chairman asked about the accuracy of the information and Ms O’Kane explained that 15,000 lines had been tested and feedback from the public had been collected to provide the figures. Some of the data was out-of-date and in those cases it was likely that properties would have better speeds than listed.

Councillor Bambridge noted that Lyng had got reasonable speed for Broadband but it had severe problems with internet and telephone landlines not working. As the village had no mobile coverage and no phone box some families were cut-off at times. Ms O’Kane said that she would look at Lyng as it sounded like there was a fault. She stressed the importance of people reporting issues to their service providers. The service providers would contact Open Reach if there was a fault. She explained that service providers gave different speeds. That might be due to the number of people sharing Broadband access. She encouraged people to ask their neighbours what speed they were getting. If people using different service providers were all suffering from low speeds it was likely to be a problem. If they were receiving different speeds it might be worth people changing provider. The ‘Think Broadband’ website had lots of useful information. Speed could also be affected by how far a property was from the box.

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Councillor Joel asked about Old Buckenham where there were three exchanges but some areas of very poor Broadband speed. Ms O’Kane advised that it was likely that 94% of the village would be covered by high speed Broadband and anyone that had made an enquiry would be contacted with that information.

The first contract had provided 680 additional cabinets. More would be needed for smaller communities, but they required a lot of work and forward planning as they involved road closures.

Councillor M Chapman-Allen asked about Blo’Norton. It was less than two miles from Garboldisham which had a major exchange, but it received slow Broadband speed.

Mr Cullum explained that Garboldisham was not a fibre-enabled exchange and that Attleborough was the primary fibre enabled exchange for Blo’Norton. There were 159 local telephone exchanges in Norfolk of which 18 were fibre enabled. They used different infrastructure.

Ms O’Kane advised that three quarters of Blo’Norton would be included in the next tranche of roll-out. The two contracts were being amalgamated to produce an optimum plan for the roll-out. It was being done in the most efficient order to reduce costs which was why they had got a £10million underspend.

She concluded the presentation by advising that those areas which had a red dot on the mapping tool would not be covered. However, there was a basic Broadband scheme and there might be a wireless solution which would be covered by the Government’s voucher scheme, as well as satellite provision.

Councillor Sharpe asked if the Council’s contribution had been spent and which areas had gained from that money. He was told that the Council’s money would be spent last, probably in 2019/20. At the moment the money was still held by the Council.

Councillor Joel asked about Broadband provision for a new school and Mr Cullum explained that developers were encouraged to register their sites. If they were over a certain size they would be offered fibre access. Below that threshold the developer would be required to provide a financial contribution to enable access.

Councillor Jermy thanked Ms O’Kane for her presentation and said he was impressed by the level of her knowledge, not just for Breckland but for the whole of Norfolk.

Mr Milner (Old Buckenham Parish Council) also thanked Ms O’Kane for responding to the many e-mails she had received about Stacksford. He asked why Open Reach did not consult residents as they could provide a wealth of knowledge of local anomalies and issues.

Ms O’Kane explained that Open Reach was prohibited from speaking directly to end users. That was why she urged people to contact their service providers as they then contacted Open Reach.

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Councillor M Chapman-Allen asked if the Council would have any input on where its money was spent. She was advised that the money was likely to be spent under contract three when there would probably be more claw-back money as well. However, there would have to be a full-blown procurement exercise to make a robust value-for-money case.

The Chairman thanked Ms O’Kane and Mr Cullum for attending.

44/16 GRANT PROCESS (AGENDA ITEM 7)

The Executive Member for Place invited the Communities Manager to give Members a presentation on the Grant process (copy attached).

He gave some background information on the different grants that were available which were:

- Match Funding – providing up to 50% costs for projects up to £5,000 and 30% for projects over that amount.
- Pride – (Money from 2nd Homes Council Tax) providing up to 100% of project costs.
- Gifted and Talented – grants up to £500 usually to support people engaged in sports at National / International level.
- Access Arts – grants up to £500 to encourage creativity.
- Policy DC11 – money from developers for outdoor sports and children’s play ‘free to access’ facilities.

The decision had been taken in November 2015 to transfer the processing of grant applications to the Norfolk Community Foundation (NCF). They could provide comprehensive support to applicants and also signpost other funding opportunities.

They had put forward some recommendations to improve the grant scheme which included fast-tracking for applications for DC11 money where only one Expression of Interest was received in relation to a particular parish cluster.

The Council also had contracts to part fund 25 Community Car Schemes. Each contract had a ceiling amount of funding and some of the schemes had overspent. A review would be carried out to determine if the ceiling limit should be raised.

Members were asked to signpost the guidance notes on the website and advise potential applicants to contact the NCF for advice.

The Chairman invited Members to comment on the grant process and reminded them that they also had the opportunity to ask questions of the Executive Member for Place as she was present.

Councillor Joel asked if the NCF made decisions on grant applications up to £5,000.

It was confirmed that the Council still made the decision for all applications. Councillor S Chapman-Allen explained that previously applications had been circulated to Executive Members and there had been a points system to grade them. Now, if the application met the required criteria it was forwarded to the Executive Members for

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discussion and decision.

The Chairman asked what benefit there was to the Council in using NCF and what their service cost.

The Communities Manager advised that there had previously been a Grants Officer post which was no longer required. The money from that post paid for NCF and provided a £6,500 per year saving. The Council paid 5% of NCF costs and also had the wider benefit of their knowledge.

Councillor Sharpe noted that there was a ceiling of £20,000 for large grants. However, he was aware that the Council had previously provided much more than that and he asked if NCF were aware that there was flexibility. He was also concerned that the Community Car Scheme was at risk because NCF were enforcing the ceiling. He asked when that figure would be reviewed.

The Communities Manager explained that NCF would transfer any applications to the Council which fell outside the normal grant scheme. He also said that it was right for the Council to enforce the Car Scheme ceiling as it was part of the contract terms. However, individual scheme organisers had been advised to contact the Council if they had problems.

Councillor Hollis asked if grant applications could still be made through the Council's website and she asked for specific help for a sports club that needed repairs.

The Communities Manager said that applications could be made through either the Council's or NCF's websites. NCF would help with the application process and he asked Councillor Hollis to test the process and contact NCF for assistance as that was what the Council was paying for and to let him know if she had any problems. He reiterated that information and guidance was available on the website.

Councillor M Chapman-Allen asked when the new process would be scored for Value for Money and the Executive Member for Place advised that that would be part of the review process. Members' views would be taken into account and she would be happy to bring it back to Scrutiny.

Councillor Wilkinson confirmed that the information on the website was very easy to follow and that Breckland Youth Advisory Board had used NCF for some years very successfully.

Councillor Bishop asked if there was a ceiling for capital grants and she was advised that there was not, but that a robust business case would be needed and the application would have to meet the relevant criteria.

Councillor Jermy recalled that the decision to use NCF had been agreed at Cabinet and one reason had been the potential to leverage other funds as well as the Council's. He asked if that would be a key factor in determining its success and whether Members would be given information on the criteria used for assessing its success.

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The Communities Manager confirmed that leverage would be taken into account and figures would be compared to previous years.

Councillor Jermy was concerned about the time it took for some DC11 grants to be approved and the Communities Manager explained the two step process which was aimed at trying to speed up the release of money and to promote the availability of the funding as widely as possible. Initially a brief expression of interest was invited. Those that did not meet the criteria were spared having to fill out the full application form.

Councillor Jermy said that he had attended a Community Action Norfolk meeting and he asked why the Council did not support them financially.

It was noted that they had not applied for a grant.

The Chairman asked why a two stage system was needed for DC11 grants and it was clarified that for parish clusters with no competing grant the money would be paid without delay. However, in areas where there were competing grants more information was needed to make a decision on which project to support.

In response to a question from Councillor Matthews the Communities Manager confirmed that some Community Car Schemes did not draw down the money allocated for them. They would be written to to find out if they were still active and if not the money would be allocated elsewhere.

Councillor R Richmond was concerned for Community Car Schemes which were operated by volunteers and did a very useful job. He hoped that extra money could be found for them.

The Communities Manager agreed and said that they were trying to work out future needs. At the moment over-spends were being met from within budget, but he wanted to encourage awareness of each scheme's budget and how it was progressing so that problems could be identified early.

The Executive Member for Place clarified that the schemes were only part-funded, not owned, by Breckland.

The Chairman thanked the Executive Member and the Officers for their presentation.

45/16 BRECKLAND HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY (AGENDA ITEM 8)

The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for People & Information introduced the report (in place of the Executive Member for Growth).

The report had originally been on the Council Agenda for 28 June 2016 but had been withdrawn to allow an opportunity for scrutiny. It set out the Council's priorities in allocating housing.

The Council received about 150 housing applications a month. The proposed changes would free up officer time to deal with those in greater need.

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Councillor Stasiak noted that in the report it said there was no interaction with the private sector. It was confirmed that although that was a future aspiration, at present the Council did not engage with the private rented sector.

The Chairman was aware that there used to be regular interactions and she asked why that had stopped. The Housing Support Manager explained that it had not been a formal decision but currently the Team did not have the capacity. It was hoped that the proposed changes would free up officer time giving the opportunity to engage in future.

Currently, applications to the Housing Register could be made on-line. Those applications received an automated banding which was then verified by an officer. It was proposed to move that verification process until after the applicant had made a successful bid on a property. A lot of applicants on the housing register were unlikely to be housed and yet they currently had to go through the two hour verification process. That was an unnecessary use of officer time.

The Chairman was worried that people might have filled their application form in incorrectly but they would not be assessed until after they had bid on a property.

The Deputy Leader explained that people with specific needs would receive help in filling in their forms.

Councillor Jermy had significant concerns about the proposals for fundamental change without a clear evidence base. He felt that there needed to be clearer understanding of why the Council was receiving 150 applications a month and how those figures compared to other Councils. Low wages could be one reason, together with high rents, especially in the private sector, leading to debt.

The Deputy Leader agreed that there were a variety of reasons for the volume of applications which was one of the highest in Norfolk. The aim would be to engage with the Housing Associations as early as possible to prevent people getting into debt and losing their homes. Discretionary Housing Benefit was available in some cases. Administering the large number of people on the Housing Register used up officer time and that needed to be sorted.

The Housing Support Manager explained that people didn't want to be on the Housing Register, they wanted a home and the job of the Team was to give them advice on their options.

Councillor Jermy suggested that the people on the Housing Register were people on a low income who could not afford private rented accommodation. He thought the solution was to employ more officers.

The Chairman was very disappointed about the lack of engagement with the private rented sector. However, the Deputy Leader pointed out that people on benefits sometimes had problems being accepted for private rental. He agreed to make the concerns of Members known to the Executive Member for Growth.

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Councillor Brame was worried about people who might lose a house if they had filled in their form incorrectly. If the process was all done on line it would be difficult for those that were not computer literate.

The Deputy Leader explained that the current process was not fit for purpose and sometimes people were put in the wrong banding. That needed to be addressed first.

The Housing Support Manager advised that it was proposed to hold pre-qualifying interviews with applicants to obtain a snap-shot of information. Officers would be able to give them the best advice and, where necessary, inform them if they could not be helped. It was important to provide realistic advice, rather than just add people to the waiting list.

The Chairman was concerned that public perception would be that the Council was trying to deter people from applying to be put on the housing register.

Councillor Hollis understood the need to downsize the list but said that a lot of people could not afford private sector rent. Benefits top-up was small and there was also no security in private rented accommodation.

The Deputy Leader said the proposals were in line with Central Government aspirations which sought to encourage shared ownership, etc. The Council had to provide for people in need, but also wanted to be able to help those that could use the private rental or shared ownership route.

Councillor Newton thought that if more people were pushed to the private sector it would increase rents.

The Housing Support Manager explained that they were not suggesting pushing people into the private sector they just wanted to be able to signpost opportunities for those that could afford it.

Councillor Wilkinson suggested that Flagship Housing should be encouraged to enter into the Right to Buy scheme. He said that the Government's criteria was that if people had £70 a week left to live on after paying their rent they were not eligible for social housing.

The Housing Support Manager explained that many of the people the Council was trying to house only had £70 a week in total. The applicant's full income and outgoings were taken into account.

Members were not minded to support the proposals and the Chairman asked them to put forward their suggestions for improving the report.

Councillor Jermy said that more evidence was needed. He was also concerned about the lack of churn in social housing and thought it was unacceptable that Registered Social Landlords left properties empty for long periods. He asked for that to be raised with the Executive Member for Growth.

Councillor Stasiak asked if there was any interaction with neighbouring authorities. He wondered if people might be on more than one waiting

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list.

The Deputy Leader said that every local authority had its own policies but it was unusual for someone to be housed if they did not have a local connection.

Members were encouraged to e-mail any further questions or suggestions to the Chairman. Responses would be circulated to all.

The report was deferred until the next meeting in September.

46/16 TASK AND FINISH GROUPS (AGENDA ITEM 9)

The Chairman asked Members to be aware that the two Task & Finish Groups (T&FG) were each being set up to deal with a specific task over a 12 week period. They would not look into small details but take a more general overview ensuring that the subject was providing value for money and value for residents.

Councillor M Chapman-Allen asked to transfer to the Performance T&FG.

47/16 OUTSIDE BODY FEEDBACK (AGENDA ITEM 10)

Councillor Wilkinson had been intending to provide feedback from the Norfolk Health Scrutiny meeting that should have taken place in the morning, but it had been cancelled due to the death of Mr Bodmer.

Councillor Bambridge was one of the Council's Internal Drainage Board representatives and he asked Members to contact him if they had any flooding issues.

The Chairman drew attention to a flyer from Wayland Partnership which had been distributed by Councillor Bowes.

Councillor Joel said that the Attleborough Plan Neighbourhood Steering Group had recently published its draft documents for six weeks consultation prior to submission to the Council. Things were moving forward at last.

48/16 SCRUTINY CALL-INS (AGENDA ITEM 11)

None.

49/16 COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION (AGENDA ITEM 12)

The Chairman referred to the recent flooding and particularly to the problems experienced by Elizabeth House. She asked for the emergency planning response for the Council to be provided to the next meeting as if the building was put out of action Members needed to know what the knock-on effects would be.

Councillor R Richmond noted that the South Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group was £7million in debt. One of the Dereham surgeries might have to close. He suggested that they should be invited to a future meeting.

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50/16 WORK PROGRAMME (AGENDA ITEM 13)

The Citizens Advice Bureau had been invited to the 13 October meeting and had confirmed their attendance.

The meeting scheduled for 5 January 2017 had been cancelled to avoid problems with agenda issue over the Christmas period.

The following items would be considered at the next meeting on 1 September:

- Emergency planning for Elizabeth House
- Quarter 1 Performance Report
- Anglian Water

51/16 NEXT MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 14)

The arrangements for the next meeting on 1 September 2016 were noted.

The meeting closed at 4.40 pm

CHAIRMAN



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July 2016

Karen O’Kane - Better Broadband for Norfolk Programme Director

Programme objectives



To achieve the maximum coverage for the available investment.

There are all types of users in all communities, both residents and businesses

Implementation only confirmed following survey

The most efficient rollout, to achieve maximum coverage for the available funding. This means rollout plans are flexible

No community prioritised over any other

2

Expected coverage by District



Coverage in Breckland via BT and/or Virgin Media was 30%. This increased to 79% of properties at the completion of the first Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) implementation (Sept 2015)

A second contract using BDUK, LEP and NCC funding was signed in December 2014. It will increase coverage to 88% of Breckland properties by mid-2018

Breckland District Council took a decision in January 2016 to contribute £950,000 towards BBfN. Predicated on increasing coverage within the district to 94%.

BT's final proposal confirms this level of coverage will be achieved.

Contract Report



The contract is based on data at full postcode level. This enables data to be mapped to District Council areas

Each quarter BT submit data at premises level. This shows the specific properties that received access to a fibre solution in the previous quarter. It also shows the speed available at each property

This data is validated and once signed off is then used to record progress at countywide and individual District level

An independent website is also used to monitor progress

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District Reporting



Three levels of information provision are intended:

Information on coverage via the Better Broadband for Norfolk website www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.gov.uk via a new mapping tool

Reports to the five District Council that are investing, and the Local Enterprise Partnership

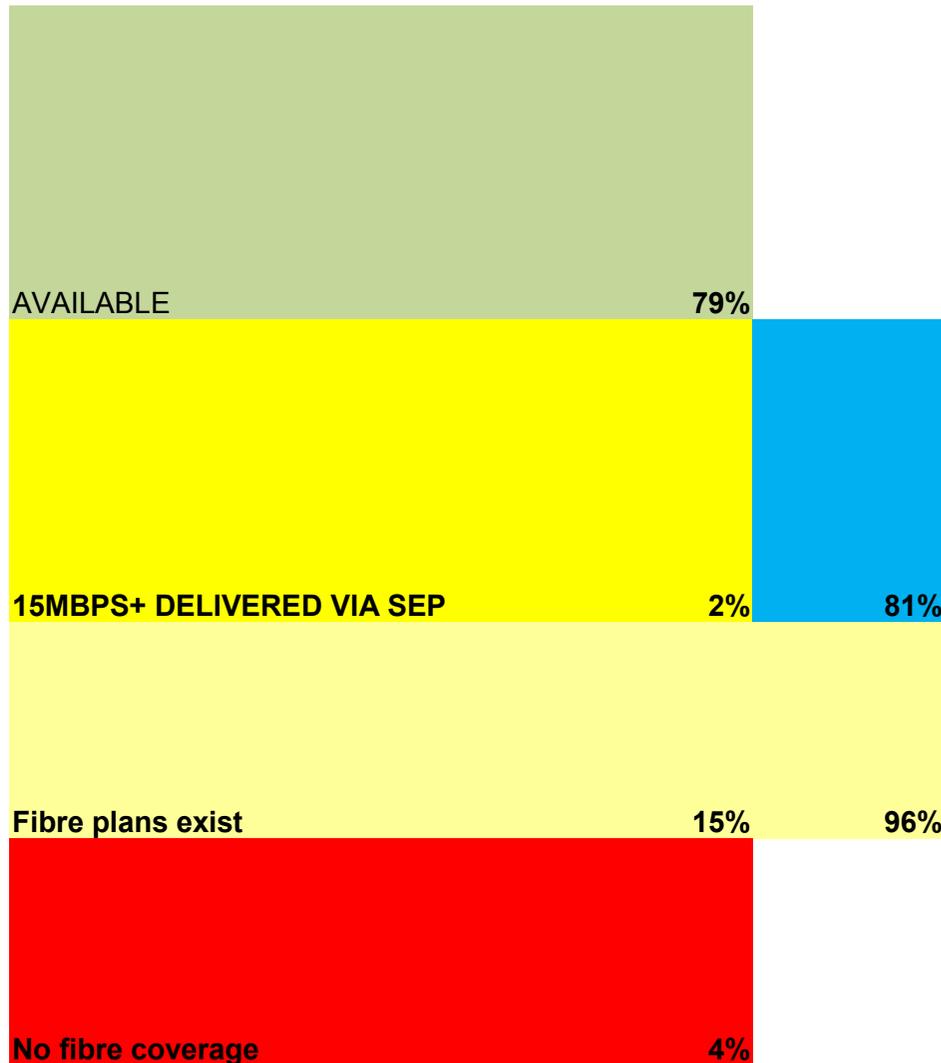
Some data is covered by a Non-Disclosure Agreement. Each District Council will be asked whether it would like to form a small Steering Group, members of each group would be asked to sign Non-Disclosure Agreements in order to allow reporting of commercially confidential information

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Breckland progress to date



9



15 Mbps coverage at the end of September 2015

Coverage already delivered by contract 2 as at end March 2016. With blue showing overall coverage

All premises within postcodes where coverage is planned, not all properties will benefit

Properties in postcode where no coverage exists and none is planned

Independent information source



Think Broadband is an independent site, that allows coverage at various levels to be viewed

- UK wide
- County
- District
- MP constituency

It shows coverage at various speed ranges and historical information

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Independent information source



<http://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/index.php?area=E10000020>

∞

Superfast UK (>24 Mbps):	81.54%	Below 2 Mbps (USC):	3.51%
Superfast EU (>30 Mbps):	79.76%	Below 10 Mbps (USO):	12.69%
Openreach (>30 Mbps):	79.76%	Below 15 Mbps:	15.76%
Ultrafast (>100 Mbps):	0.01%	Virgin Media Cable:	0.00%
Openreach FTTP (Native):	0.01%	FTTP or FTTH	0.01%

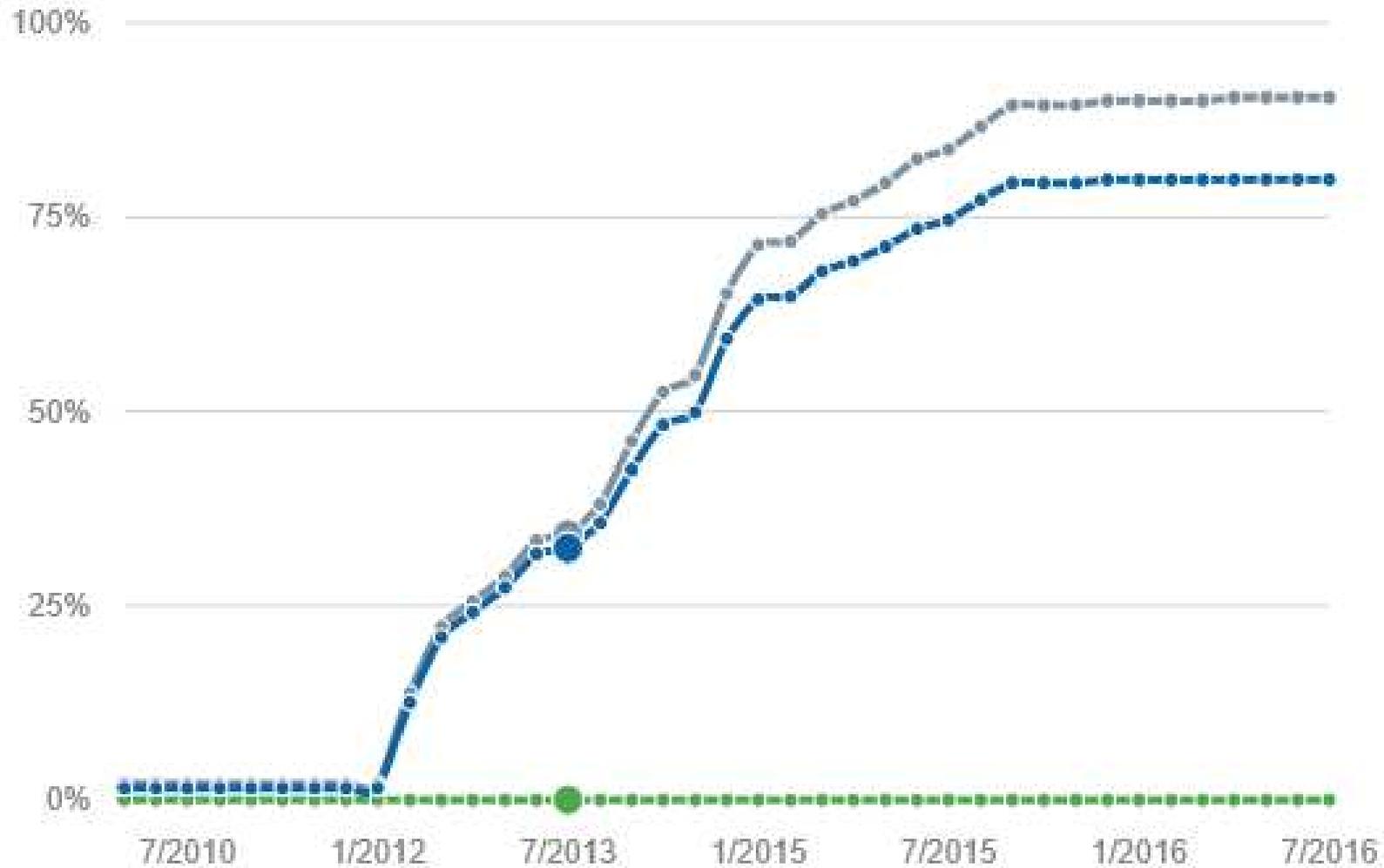
Data as at 16th July, however in common with BBfN data is reported three months in arrears

Independent information source



<http://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/index.php?area=E10000020>

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New mapping tool

Once the contract extension is signed the postcode data will be loaded into a mapping tool that has been developed by a Norfolk District Councillor. This will allow people to search by postcode or location

For each postcode a coloured dot will appear on the map:

- **GREEN** = 15 Mbps+ coverage exists for some or all properties, but there are no further fibre plans (most properties are 30Mbps+)
- **YELLOW** = there are plans for a solution for every property. Some coverage may already exist
- **GREY** = there are plans for a fibre solution for some properties, with advise to contact BBfN to see whether a specific property is covered
- **RED** – no properties within the postcode have access and there are no plans to implement a fibre broadband solution. Information on the Basic Broadband Scheme is provided

Making information available (cont'd)



Two numbers will also be provided for each postcode, e.g. 8 / 10

- The first number shows the number of properties that already have access to 15Mbps+ speeds
- The second is the total number of properties in that postcode. So 8/10 means eight of the ten properties already have access to speeds of 15 Mbps+
- The vast majority of properties will have speeds far higher than 15Mbps, however this is the speed above which State Aid prevents the deliberate application of public subsidy

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This data will be updated every quarter.

Online Checkers



People can check to see which BT structure their property is served from and available speeds using the BT Wholesale Line Checker

<https://www.btwholesale.com/includes/adsl/adsl.htm>

Search by phone number if you are a BT Internet Service Provider (ISP) customer

⇒

Customers of other ISPs should use the Address Checker option, then enter their postcode, press submit and select their address from the list

Once a fibre solution is available an “FTTC” option will be shown

Address GARVESTONE CO PRIM SCHOOL, DEREHAM ROAD, GARVESTONE, NORWICH, NR9 4AD on Exchange MATTISHALL is served by Cabinet 3

Featured Products	Downstream Line Rate(Mbps)		Upstream Line Rate(Mbps)		Downstream Range(Mbps)	WBC FTTC Availability Date	WBC SOGEA Availability Date
	High	Low	High	Low			
VDSL Range A (Clean)	51.1	38.2	11.3	7.3	--	Available	--
VDSL Range B (Impacted)	40	25	9.1	4.3	--	Available	--
ADSL Products	Downstream Line Rate(Mbps)		Upstream Line Rate(Mbps)		Downstream Range(Mbps)	Availability Date	
WBC ADSL 2+	Up to 1		--		1 to 3.5	Available	--
ADSL Max	Up to 1		--		0.75 to 2.5	Available	--
WBC Fixed Rate	0.5		--		--	Available	--
Fixed Rate	0.5		--		--	Available	--
Other Offerings						Availability Date	
VDSL Multicast	--		--		--	Available	--
ADSL Multicast	--		--		--	Available	--



Online Checkers



When a fibre cabinet is installed residents need to contact their Internet Service Provider, or any other. Speeds don't automatically increase – best to shop around for the best deal

<http://consumers.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio/price-comparison>

Basic Broadband Voucher Scheme for properties with less the 2Mbps



Central Government Scheme is available

Voucher for set-up and installation

Government's Guidance Note and Application Form on the Better Broadband for Norfolk website

www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk

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Breckland Community Funding

BACKGROUND

- Match Funding
- Pride in Breckland
- Access Arts & Gifted and Talented
- DC11 (Outdoor Sport & Play Fund)
- Community Car Scheme



WHO CAN APPLY

- Voluntary and/or community organisation operating in and benefitting the Breckland area and residents
- Parish or Town Council from within the Breckland area
- School from within the Breckland area looking to provide community/extra- curricular activity*
- Not for profit social enterprise or community interest companies
- Church/PCC for secular projects



GUIDELINES

- submit your application at least 3 months before your project is due to start
- you must have contacted your Ward Member(s) about your project
- evidence how your project aligns to 2 of the Breckland Council Corporate Priorities
- you must have secured pledges of match funding
- we can only accept one application per year from your organisation at a time and you must have claimed all monies awarded from previous grants
- for grants requesting funding of £5,000 or less we will aim to have a decision to you within 30 working days
- for grants of £5,001 and over, the application is assessed at Cabinet Member level so we aim to do this within 60 days



WHAT WE WON'T FUND

- activities that have happened or will start before we confirm our grant offer
- any costs you incur before submitting your funding application to us
- day to day running costs of your group/ organisation
- existing activities or repeated events unless you can show that the event or activity is either growing or has developed or is on its way to becoming sustainable
- projects that cannot be maintained because of high ongoing costs or the need for specialist skills
- projects that require planning permission but do not yet have it.



ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Value for money
- Sustainability
- Benefits
- Alignment to Council Priorities
- Evidence of Consultation
- Partnership Working



MATCH FUNDING

Small Match Funding Grants

- funding up to £5,000
- applicants can expect a maximum of **50%** of the total project cost
- match funding is required which can be from your own funds or other external funders



MATCH FUNDING

Large Match Funding Grants

- funding from £5,001 to £20,000
- applicants can apply for a maximum of **30%** of their total project costs
- match funding is required which can be from your own funds or other external funders



PRIDE IN BRECKLAND

- funding up to £1,000
- applicants can apply for up to **100%** of their total project costs
- finances for this funding stream come from the second homes council tax and is intended to improve the environment and lives of residents in the Breckland area



GIFTED AND TALENTED

- funding up to £500
- funding is aimed at individuals only and no evidence of match funding is required
- applicants may apply for up to £500 towards forthcoming costs yet to be incurred for competing in sports at a recognised 'high' standard
- National Governing Body reference should accompany your application clearly verifying your current level of performance



ACCESS ARTS

- funding up to £500
- support artists, groups or events which encourage creativity within the community
- funding can be used to facilitate activities, workshops, or individuals focused on developing the provision of arts based activities within the community setting



DC11 (OUTDOOR SPORT & PLAY)

- started in 2012/13
- £310,000 available to improve public outdoor sports facilities and children's play areas across the district.
- various amounts of funding are available in different clusters of parishes funding can be used to facilitate activities, workshops, or individuals
- community groups, sports clubs, charities and schools are able to apply
- funding must be used to provide new or enhance existing free-to-access children's play areas and outdoor sports provision



LAST YEAR

- awarded £53,972 of DC11 funding from 13 applications
- awarded £77,211 of Match funding from 10 applications which levered in £250,246
- awarded £1,683 of Pride in Breckland funding from 3 applications which levered in £706
- awarded £1,415 of Access Arts funding from 4 applications which levered in £8,941
- awarded £2,000 of Gifted & Talented funding from 4 applications



- all Grant processing transferred to the Foundation in April 2016
- administer Grants for a wide range of organisations from across Norfolk (including other District Councils)
- able to provide comprehensive support to applicants and refer them to any other appropriate schemes
- review the processes of our Grant schemes and offer recommendations for improvements (September 2016)
- re-branded the DC11 grant award scheme into the 'Breckland Outdoor Sport and Play Fund'

- launched on 5th April, 2016
- process consists of 2 stages. Stage 1 required applicants to submit an 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) briefly outlining their project plan, stage 2 invites all compliant EOIs to submit a full application
- Stage 1 closed on 11th May 2016 yielding some 42 EOIs to funds available across 20 of the 26 parish cluster groups in the district.
- Of the 42 EOIs received 35 (totalling a potential £175,000 spend) were deemed to be compliant, whilst 7 were deemed not to be compliant
- Of the 35 projects deemed compliant 4 are in parish cluster groups where no other EOIs were received
- Stage 2 assessment will be complete by 5th August 2016 to be approved by Members September 2016

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEMES

- 25 contracts with schemes across the district
- Part fund the schemes with Parish/Town Council's
- total budget of £32,000
- each scheme has its own agreed maximum funding amount
- review underway with new maximum funding amounts being approved



Any questions?

