

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

10 OCTOBER 2016

SUPERFAST BROADBAND - UPDATE

Summary

1. The Panel is to be updated on delivery of superfast broadband across Worcestershire.
2. Representatives from the Council's Superfast Worcestershire Programme and from BT have been invited to the meeting.

Background

3. The Council's contract with BT as broadband infrastructure supplier (set up in August 2013), asks for an annual report to be submitted to scrutiny, summarising programme activity, achievements against milestones and how public concerns and demand have been managed. An update is attached at appendix 1.
4. The Panel will be aware that the County Council and BT formed a partnership known as Superfast Worcestershire, which aimed to deliver high speed broadband to 90% of Worcestershire homes and businesses (including 55,000 in rural locations) by 2016.
5. The plan for delivery and roll out was discussed with the then Economy, Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 September 2014 and an update was provided on 20 May 2015. This Panel received its last update on 30 September 2015.

Purpose of the meeting

6. The Panel is asked to consider the latest information provided on superfast broadband in Worcestershire, and:
 - consider whether any further information or scrutiny is required at this time
 - determine any comments or recommendations to Cabinet
7. In doing so, the Panel may wish to consider
 - How value for money is being ensured
 - How customers are being engaged
 - Future plans

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Update on Superfast Broadband

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of:
 - Agenda and Minutes of Economy, Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 17 September 2014 and 20 May 2015
 - Agenda and Minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 30 September 2015
 - Agenda and Minutes of Cabinet on 5 February 2015

Minutes and Agendas are available on the Council's website at

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/democratic-services/minutes-and-agendas.aspx>