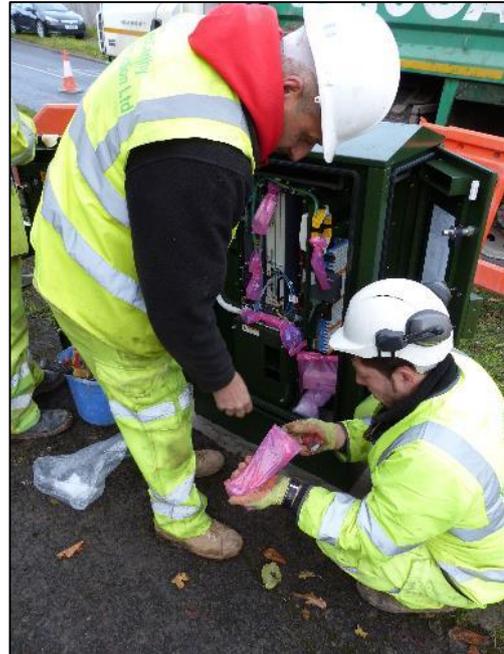


Superfast South Gloucestershire programme update August 2014

This is the fourth quarterly update where you can find out information about the progress of our 'big build' to roll out fibre broadband across South Gloucestershire.

The council's Superfast Broadband Project continues to make excellent progress across South Gloucestershire. New fibre cabinets in our first communities; Wick and Pucklechurch, are now live and accepting orders, as well as cabinets in Badminton, Barrs Court, Tormarton and Warmley.

Thirteen cabinets connected to the Almondsbury Exchange are now fibre-enabled, serving residents and businesses in Bradley Stoke, Lower Almondsbury, Olveston and Tockington.



Our target was to reach 5,000 premises by Summer 2014. We have now passed over 6,500 homes and businesses in South Gloucestershire, which is fantastic news!

Our ambitious new target is to pass 10,000 homes by Autumn, and our new THP counter will be updated as more fibre-enabled cabinets go live.

The deployment continues in a number of other areas across South Gloucestershire including; Charfield, Didmarton, Falfield, Filton, Henbury, Marshfield, Rangeworthy, Wickwar and Wotton Under Edge. A number of other cabinets in Abson, Badminton, Chipping Sodbury and Thornbury are also in the process of being upgraded to Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC).

Surveying in our fourth communities, Aust, Pilning and Severn Beach is progressing well. Once the surveying in these areas is complete we can move into the 'build' stage, which involves installing the new fibre-enabled cabinets and connecting them to the fibre network. Residents and businesses in our fourth communities will be able to order the new and improved service in Autumn 2014.

All the latest information about the project can be found on our web pages at www.southglos.gov.uk/broadband or you can follow us on Twitter: @sglosCouncil

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Pre-planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is continuing to assess the existing copper network, in order to provide accurate information to BT's engineers. • This work is ongoing as we progress through each area.
Exchange preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues in some of the key exchanges that link South Gloucestershire to the national fibre network. This work involves upgrading the existing hardware in the telephone exchange and installing the necessary new equipment to increase capacity.
Surveying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have now completed 74 surveys across South Gloucestershire. • These surveys include some of our Exchange Only (EO) line surveys. • This total will continue to increase as the survey work progresses.
Installation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have now passed over 6,500 premises with our new fibre network in South Gloucestershire. • We have switched on 28 new fibre-enabled cabinets. • 49 cabinets have been installed in their new locations - work is underway to connect them to the fibre network and get them live and ready for service. • We have laid over 44,951m of sub-duct and installed over 38,714m of fibre spine. • 40% of the South Gloucestershire Superfast Broadband Project is complete.

Falfield Exchange deployment update

The deployment in the Falfield Exchange has been very challenging due to the large amounts of mud and silt that the engineers found when they opened the underground ducts. This was as a result of the very wet weather we had earlier in the year, which effectively washed large amounts of mud, silt and sand into the ducts and filled them up.

As some of the ducts the engineers will be working in as part of the council's Superfast Broadband Project are in very rural areas, or haven't been opened or worked on for a number of years, we don't know what we will find until we get on site. However, with an engineering deployment of this size and scale, it is impossible to know how the deployment will progress until the first spade goes in the ground.

Some of the areas across South Gloucestershire will be more challenging than others to reach, but good progress is being made with the deployment in the Falfield Exchange, and

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we hope to have the new fibre-enabled cabinets live and ready for service by the end of the Summer.

EO lines update

There are some communities in South Gloucestershire, in Bradley Stoke and Marshfield for example, where there are a large number of Exchange Only (EO) lines. These are telephone lines that are connected directly to the local telephone exchange, and not via a green street cabinet, as is usually the case.

EO lines often experience slow speeds and so as part of the council's Superfast Broadband Project, we are re-arranging the existing network to connect EO lines to new fibre-enabled cabinets, which will hugely improve speeds.

The EO lines solution is much more complex than the FTTC upgrades and so will take more time to plan and deliver. Two new cabinets will need to be installed; a new Primary Connection Point (PCP – the green cabinets that usually exist but don't in the case of EO lines) and the new fibre-enabled DSLAM cabinet. In our more rural communities, finding suitable locations for this new infrastructure can be challenging, as options are very limited.

EO lines are then re-arranged and brought into the new cabinets, which are then connected to the new fibre network. Excellent progress is being made with the EO lines solution in South Gloucestershire, and we are working towards the first EO line cabinets being live and ready for service in the Autumn.

List of live cabinets

1. Abson cab 1 – Naishcombe Hill jnc Milford Avenue
2. Abson cab 3 – Westerleigh Road
3. Abson cab 4 – Hawkridge Drive
4. Abson cab 5 – Pucklechurch Trading Estate
5. Abson cab 6 – Abson Road
6. Abson cab 7 – High Street, Wick
7. Abson cab E5 – Holbrook Lane jnc Naishcombe Hill
8. Abson cab E7 – Oaktree Avenue
9. Almondsbury cab 1 – Gloucester Road jnc Hortham Lane
10. Almondsbury cab 2 – Hardy Lane, Tockington
11. Almondsbury cab 4 – Church Road jnc Walnut Tree Close
12. Almondsbury cab 9 – The Common jnc Gloucester Road
13. Almondsbury cab 22 – Brook Way
14. Almondsbury cab 26 – Hickory Lane
15. Almondsbury cab 32 – Brook Way
16. Almondsbury cab 34 – Brook Way jnc Savages Wood Road
17. Almondsbury cab 35 – Marjoram Place jnc Webbs Wood Road
18. Almondsbury cab 37 – Bradley Stoke Way jnc Spine Road
19. Almondsbury cab 39 – Haw Lane, Olveston
20. Almondsbury cab E1 – Florence Park jnc Gloucester Road
21. Almondsbury cab E4 – Woodlands Lane
22. Badminton cab 1 – Station Road jnc Old Down Road
23. Badminton cab 2 – Acton Turville Road jnc Church Road
24. Chipping Sodbury cab 8 – Station Road
25. Chipping Sodbury cab 21 – Old Sodbury jnc Church Lane
26. Kingswood cab 19 – Tower Road North, Warmley
27. Kingswood cab 50 – Stephens Drive, Barrs Court
28. Thornbury cab 13 – St John's Street