

There have been some fantastic broadband developments in Worcestershire. We have released details about the first two phases of the Superfast Worcestershire programme and by working together, BT and the County Council are moving seamlessly from BT's commercial roll out into the partnership with the first Superfast Worcestershire partnership cabinets having now gone live.

More details on the above as well as a further funding boost for broadband in Worcestershire are included in this newsletter.

If you haven't already, don't forget to register at www.superfastworcestershire.com to receive regular updates.

Boost for Malvern Businesses – first cabinets go live thanks to Superfast Worcestershire

More than 50 businesses on the Enigma Business Park in Malvern were celebrating a new digital dawn on 30 May after becoming the first premises to benefit from Superfast Worcestershire.

Representatives from Worcestershire County Council and BT welcomed Harriett Baldwin MP in Spring Lane for the official 'switching on' of the new road-side cabinet that is needed to make the high-speed fibre broadband network available to 56 premises on this part of the business park.



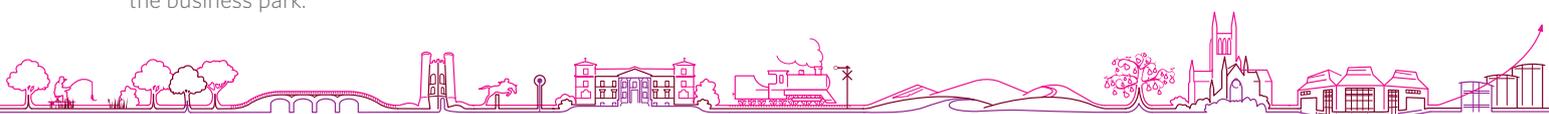
From left: Cllr Simon Geraghty, Harriett Baldwin MP, Bill Murphy from BT and BT engineers Dave Bant and Luke Townsend

Seventy-nine homes in the nearby Leigh Sinton Road area can also now benefit from the multi-million pound roll-out, as a roadside fibre broadband cabinet on Leigh Sinton Road went live on the same day (30 May).

Businesses have said how important high-speed connections are for them to compete. The Superfast Worcestershire partnership recognises how important high-speed fibre broadband is to

support the local economy under the council's priority to ensure Worcestershire is Open for Business and this is a taste of what is to come around the County.

The full information released is available here: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/apps/NewsArticle.aspx?News=2171>



Superfast Worcestershire is a partnership between

First communities set to get faster speeds announced

In total, nearly 55,000 businesses and homes are set to benefit from the partnership roll out which will make high-speed fibre broadband available to more than 90% of Worcestershire businesses and homes by June 2016.

In January, we announced that Ashton-under-Hill, Badsey, Broadway, Cropthorne, Hallow and Harvington would be among the first communities to benefit. In addition parts of the Malvern district, including a number of premises on Enigma Business Park, will be able to access fibre as a result of the partnership roll out in this first phase, which will also extend the availability of high-speed broadband to some areas of Evesham and Worcester city centre not previously enabled by any commercial programme. This first phase will be deployed by September 2014. [A link to the information issued at the time is available here.](#) You can also view the [cabinets scheduled to be upgraded as part of Phase 1](#) (surveyed to date).

We recognise how important information is for local people and in particular, local businesses to plan ahead and so have released indicative information as early as possible.

In phase 2, parts of communities served by exchanges in Belbroughton, Blakedown, Chaddesley Corbett, Clows Top, Cutnall Green, Eckington, Elmley Castle, Great Witley, Hanley Swan, Hartlebury, Kempsey, Knightwick, Leigh Sinton, Ombersley, Peopleton, Powick, Rock, Upton Snodsbury, Wichenford and Wolverley will be among the next to benefit – accessing fibre broadband for the first time. High-speed broadband is due to be switched on in exchanges in these areas between October and December. At the same time, the technology will also be made available in parts of Bewdley, Kidderminster, Pershore and Stourport, not previously



enabled by any commercial programme. [The information that was released is available here](#)

Please be aware that not all premises / cabinets in an exchange area will be upgraded as part of the programme or necessarily at the same time. Unfortunately we are unable to confirm cabinet level information for Phase 2 at this time, however, we expect this information to be available in coming months as cabinet surveys are completed, please keep an eye on the website as we will provide this information as soon as we are able to.

Town centres and business parks set to benefit

We know that high-speed broadband is crucial to local businesses and Worcestershire's future economy.

We also know that businesses need information as early as possible in order to be able to plan for the future. A list has therefore been produced which outlines business parks and town centres, that subject to final surveys, are expected to benefit from the deployment of fibre broadband in the Superfast Worcestershire programme.

The indicative dates provided are those where we expect the first premises in those areas to be able to connect to fibre broadband. Please be aware that until surveys are complete, these dates and areas may be subject to change and we will provide further updates

[The list is available on our website here.](#) Businesses are also encouraged to register to be kept updated. [Registration is via our website](#)

Broadband funding boost in Worcestershire

In April, it was announced that more communities in Worcestershire will be connected to fibre broadband thanks to a funding boost of over £1m from the Government's Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) arm of DCMS to bring high-speed broadband to Worcestershire's rural areas.

The funding of £1,147,032 awarded to the County Council is in addition to the £3.35m already being invested by BDUK for Worcestershire's broadband.

Thank you to community representatives in the areas of Abberley; Defford and Besford; Honeybourne and Pebworth; Ombersley, Doverdale and Holt; Welland, Castlemorton and Birstmorton who have worked with the County Council for two years to secure the extra funding and congratulations on this achievement.

The County Council is exploring how and when this additional funding boost will be used to extend the reach into more rural areas. [The full media release can be accessed here.](#)

Find out if you can get high-speed fibre Broadband today

We are receiving some queries on how to find out if you can access high-speed fibre broadband and how to connect. You may already be able to upgrade and so it is worth finding out today.

Here is a quick guide:

- Check your line checker on www.superfastworcestershire.com/when-and-where. If your number can't be matched here, please contact your service provider directly to check fibre availability.
- Check the anticipated deployment map available on www.superfastworcestershire.com (to see if your area will be covered by the deployment) – use the postcode checker to identify the exchange you are connected to.
- Visit the interactive map on www.superfastworcestershire.com/when-and-where to find out when the first programme activity is planned in your exchange area.
- New cabinets will be added on the 'news' page as surveys are completed (2-3 months before planned build)

Please note the team are currently in the process of improving the search functions on the website to improve the experiences of the users and provide further clarity. Further updates will follow.

Also, look out for stickers and in some cases full cabinet wraps (above right) appearing in your area which wherever possible, will be included on upgraded cabinets.

If you spot the stickers or wraps on the cabinet in your area, contact your ISP to upgrade to the faster service. On rare occasions, in some areas it won't be possible to include the stickers, for example in Sites of Special Scientific



First two Superfast Worcestershire cabinets to go live in Malvern

Interest and so if in doubt, visit the www.superfastworcestershire.com website or contact your ISP.

A step-by-step guide is also now available on our website on how to upgrade to a high-speed service when it is available – this is designed for people who either live in Worcestershire or run a business here. The website also includes links to Internet Service Providers to help you find the most appropriate broadband package for your home or business. [A step-by-step guide to upgrade is available here](#)

High-Speed Crossroads: Council And Bt Celebrate Pivotal Moment For Pinvin

In April 2014 Simon Geraghty, deputy leader of Worcestershire County Council, joined Ian Binks (BT's regional manager) and County Councillor for Pershore, Liz Tucker, to celebrate another milestone in the roll-out of high-speed fibre broadband across the county.

They are pictured celebrating the 'switch-on' of the last road-side fibre cabinet to be enabled in the Pinvin area as part of BT's £2.5 billion commercial investment to bring the technology within reach of two-thirds of the UK's homes and businesses.

Work is now underway to connect the surrounding areas to the new high-speed fibre broadband network as part of Superfast Worcestershire, the multi-million pound partnership between Worcestershire County Council, BT and the Government's Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) programme.



From left: Ian Binks from BT, Cllr Simon Geraghty, Cllr Liz Tucker

Find out more:

www.superfastworcestershire.com
www.facebook.com/broadbandworcs
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All information is available on the website and updates appear on the latest news section www.superfastworcestershire.com/news however, if you do need to reach the team, please email superfast@worcestershire.gov.uk

Superfast Worcestershire is a partnership between