How can I get High Speed Broadband?

1. Use your Eircode to check your status on the National Broadband Plan High Speed Broadband Map: www.broadband.gov.ie

2. If you are in an AMBER area you will get high speed broadband under the State intervention of the National Broadband Plan.

3. If you are in a BLUE area access is, or will be, provided by a commercial operator. Contact a Retail Service Provider in your area to place an order.

4. If you are in a LIGHT BLUE area check the www.fibresrollout.ie website to find out when high speed broadband will roll out in your area.

5. Check out our website for updates and progress reports at www.broadband.gov.ie

For further information:

Visit:
www.broadband.gov.ie or www.dccae.gov.ie

Email:
broadband@dccae.gov.ie

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The National Broadband Plan is a Government of Ireland initiative, led by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

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What is the National Broadband Plan?
The National Broadband Plan is the Government’s plan to deliver high speed broadband services to all businesses, farms and households in Ireland.

It will ensure that everyone in Ireland will have equal access to a high speed broadband service.

What is high speed broadband?
The National Broadband Plan defines high speed broadband as delivering a minimum speed of 30Mbps download and 6Mbps upload in a reliable, high quality and consistent manner.

Benefits of high speed broadband?
Delivery of the National Broadband Plan will enable citizens throughout Ireland to seize the opportunities arising from advances in technologies across multiple sectors including Education, eHealth, Enterprise, Environment, Smart Farming, Social Inclusion & Rural/Regional Development, Tourism and Transportation, ensuring a state where every citizen and business can progress together.

How will the National Broadband Plan be achieved?
The National Broadband Plan is being achieved through a combination of:

• Commercial investment by the telecommunications sector
• A State intervention in those areas where commercial providers acting alone will not provide this essential service

How do I know if I am covered by either the commercial investment or by the State Intervention phase of the National Broadband Plan?
Check out the High Speed Broadband Map at www.broadband.gov.ie

High Speed Broadband Commercial Progress
• In 2012, less than 700k of all premises had access to high speed broadband.
• In April 2016, 1.2m or 52% of all premises had access to high speed broadband.
• As of December 2018, over 1.75 million or 74% of all premises can now access high speed broadband services provided by commercial operators.
• Commercial operators have invested over €2.75 billion in upgrading and modernising their networks over the past 5 years, and further investments are planned.

The commercial area is identified as BLUE and LIGHT BLUE on the High Speed Broadband Map.

The State Intervention
The State Intervention will ensure that high speed broadband is made available to all households and businesses in the country where there is no existing or planned commercial network.

The State Intervention area includes
• c. 540,000 premises
• 1.1 million people (23% population)
• 56,000 farms (68% of national total of farms)
• 44,000 non-farm businesses (mostly small and micro)
• 674 schools

The State Intervention area is identified as AMBER on the High Speed Broadband Map.

The State Intervention Procurement Progress
Following an extensive procurement process, in May 2019 the Government approved a company, National Broadband Ireland, as “preferred bidder”. This is the final stage before contract award.

National Broadband Ireland will be a wholesale operator. This means that it will sell services to retail operators (Retail Service Providers) and not directly to customers. Retail Service Providers will then offer services to home and business broadband customers.

When will deployment start?
Deployment will start as soon as possible once the contract is signed and will take up to seven years to complete.

What will the speeds be?
• Network will be predominately fibre
• Basic connection is a minimum of 150 Mbps
• Business connections up to 1 Gbps Connection speeds will grow over time with bandwidth demand

What technology will be used?
The new network will connect the majority of homes and businesses with a fibre connection (‘Fibre to the Home’ – FTTH). A small percentage of premises will be connected with alternative technology such as fixed wireless connections.

How much will I pay?
Customers will pay similar prices to those in urban areas serviced by commercial operators.

This reflects the significant cost of major essential infrastructure. For example, in the period 2002-2021 the State will have invested €36.9 billion in the road network and €10.8 billion in water infrastructure.

What will National Broadband Ireland be contracted to do?
Subject to conclusion of the procurement process, National Broadband Ireland will sign a contract with the Minister to build, operate and maintain the State intervention network and services over a 25 year period. National Broadband Ireland will be a wholesale operator. This means that it will sell services to retail operators (Retail Service Providers) and not directly to customers. Retail Service Providers will then offer services to home and business broadband customers.

How much is the State investing?
The total investment across counties is €2.143 billion (ex. VAT and contingencies), capped at €3 billion including VAT and contingencies, over 25 years.