

DIGITAL HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

HIGHLAND



WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?

Roll-out will continue into 2017, and there will be some additional coverage beyond the original project target of 84% of premises.

Additional funds have come back into the project because of strong take-up of services, and also from efficient project delivery. Coverage will increase to more than 88%.

This additional coverage is in some of the areas listed and is currently being modelled.

THE ROLL-OUT OF BETTER CONNECTIVITY IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS IS ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN EUROPE.

The Highlands now has mainstream fibre services available to eight out of 10 homes and businesses for the first time.

We can build on the core infrastructure to go further and faster in the future.

Areas with live services stretch across the region - from John O'Groats, to Uig in Skye, to Duror and to Aviemore. Latest cabinets include Applecross, Dornoch and Staffin.

For a full list of locations with live cabinets see

www.hie.co.uk/whereandwhen

FIBRE BROADBAND ACCESS



- MORE THAN 105,000** PREMISES IN FIBRE NETWORK IN THE HIGHLAND REGION
- 351 NEW** PROJECT FIBRE CABINETS

ROLL-OUT WILL CONTINUE INTO 2017

AND AREAS WITH COVERAGE TO COME INCLUDE:

Achnasheen, Altnaharra, Applecross, Aultbea, Badachro, Balmacara, Barrock, Boat of Garten, Broadford, Brora, Cannich, Carbost, Carrbridge, Culbokie, Daviot, Diabaig, Dochgarroch, Dornoch, Drumchardine, Drumnadrochit, Dulnain Bridge, Duntulm, Durness, Edinbane, Fearn, Gairloch, Glenelg, Glenshiel, Golspie, Gorthleck, Grantown on Spey, Invergordon, Inverness, Isle Ornsay, Kessock, Kilchoan, Kingussie, Kinlochewe, Kishorn, Kyle, Lairg, Latheron, Lochinver, Mallaig, Morvern, Muir Of Ord, Munloch, Nairn, North Erradale, Plockton, Portree, Raasay, Salen, Scourie, Shildaig, Skeabost Bridge, Sligachan, Spean Bridge, Staffin, Strathpeffer, Stromeferry, Talmine, Thurso, Wick



HOW DO I KNOW IF I CAN GET SUPERFAST?

Over 250 towns and villages across the region now have access to superfast broadband. You aren't automatically upgraded to the fibre broadband, you must contact an ISP and place an order to access a superfast service.

Check if you could be moving faster online.

www.hie.co.uk/hector



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

BACKGROUND

The £146m Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband project, when added to BT's 21% commercial deployment, will deliver access to the new fibre network for more than 86% of Highlands and Islands premises by the end of 2017.

In addition, Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) supports areas which won't benefit from the current DSSB roll-out look at community network options.

PROGRESS SO FAR

Three years ago 4% of premises in our region could access mainstream fibre broadband services.

The commercial market had identified that roll-out would happen in a handful of Highland's larger towns. Public investment was required to reach beyond that.

The £146m Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband project has created a brand new core fibre network.

It now supports fibre cabinets bringing services to communities, provides easier access to dedicated services for data hungry businesses, and the backhaul means mobile operators can extend their 4G services.

WHY CAN'T THE FIBRE ROLL-OUT REACH EVERYONE?

The current contract has been modelled on a value for money basis. It reaches as many people as possible within the available budget and technology.

Roll-out is ongoing. However, there are some areas, often those with smaller numbers of homes some distance from each other, we can't reach in this phase.

There are also others, who while drawn into a fibre cabinet, have been too far from it to benefit. This will be continually reviewed as we look at future coverage.

WILL I GET COVERAGE THROUGH A DIGITAL SCOTLAND PROGRAMME IN FUTURE?

While the current contract being delivered by HIE is exceeding its initial targets it can't reach everyone.

The Scottish Government has made a commitment that all Scottish premises will be able to access broadband with a download speed of at least 30Mbps by 2021. It is currently looking at how that will be delivered through a project called R100 (Reaching 100%).

In the meantime anyone who can't access at least 2Mbps download can apply to the **BETTER BROADBAND SCHEME** for help with installation of a satellite or wireless system as available.

As well as improved infrastructure HIE also works with partners to help businesses and groups make the best use of connectivity.

Check out our website for latest events and workshops.

FIND OUT MORE:

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