



Summer 2016 - What's new?



Over the past few months we have made huge progress with the Better Broadband rollout, connecting more remote areas of Oxfordshire than ever before. In achieving over 90 per cent of our superfast coverage target, we celebrated with the residents and businesses of Steeple Aston and Ashbury to welcome the faster connection that will have no end of benefits. This brings us one step closer to reaching our target of 95% of Oxfordshire premises to have access to superfast broadband services by December 2017.

In this edition, find out when superfast broadband will be coming to a cabinet near you, read the coverage of our Steeple Aston and Ashbury events and learn about the independent assessment of superfast broadband coverage that is available from thinkbroadband®.

Councillor Nick Carter, Cabinet Member for Business and Customer Services

Coming to a cabinet near you!

Since 1 July 2016, thirteen more cabinets have gone live – including cabinets providing superfast broadband to premises in the vicinity of:

- **Letcombe Regis**
- **Thame town centre**
- **Christmas Common**
- **Woodcote, Reading**
- **Businesses in the Granville Way/Launton Road area of Bicester**
- **Fencott**
- **Burdrop**

- **Brewery Lane/Scotland End, Hook Norton**

In the coming weeks 4 more cabinets are expected to go live, providing superfast broadband to premises in the vicinity of:

- **Bletchington**
- **Southam Road, Banbury**
- **Shippon, Abingdon**
- **Long Wittenham**
- **Upper Heyford**

For further updates about our delivery plans see [the coverage map](#) on the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire website.



Better broadband reaches remote areas

Residents, local businesses and representatives from the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire partnership were in Ashbury on Friday 29 July to celebrate the village becoming the first area of the district to benefit from the second phase of the roll-out with around 230 premises able to access faster fibre broadband. [Read more...](#)



Victoria Prentis MP joins celebrations

Steeple Aston residents, businesses, and community groups were joined by Victoria Prentis MP on 15 July to celebrate even more of the village getting better access to the information superhighway. Over 500 homes and businesses in the village are now able to access high-speed fibre broadband. [Read more...](#)

Residents and businesses can follow the progress of the roll-out via the [Better Broadband website](#).

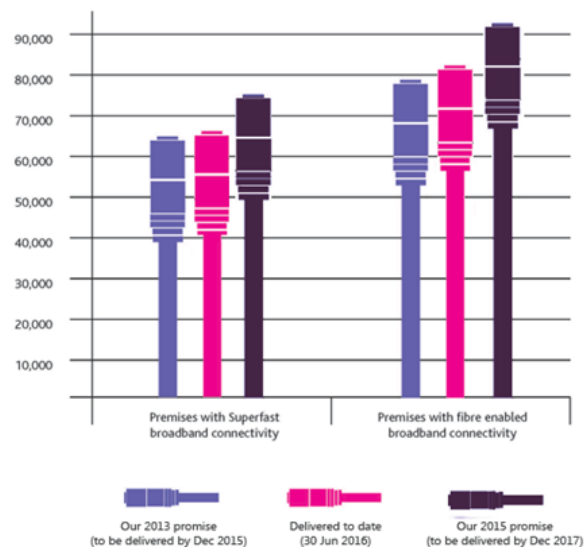
People opting for an upgrade will be able to access broadband download speeds of up to 80 megabits per second (Mbps) and uploads of up to 20Mbps*.

Because the network is being rolled out by Openreach – BT’s local network business – people have a wide choice of fibre broadband provider.

* These are the top wholesale speeds available from Openreach to all service providers; speeds offered by service providers may vary.

Premises delivered to date...

Since the roll-out began more than two years ago, Better Broadband for Oxfordshire has made faster fibre broadband available to more than 85,000 premises in the county – 67,500 of which have access to superfast broadband speeds of 24 megabits per second (Mbps) and above.



Getting connected

Use our [availability checker](#) on the Better Broadband homepage to see if you can access superfast broadband in your home or business. A full list of deals and contact details for your chosen service provider can be found by checking your postcode or telephone number.

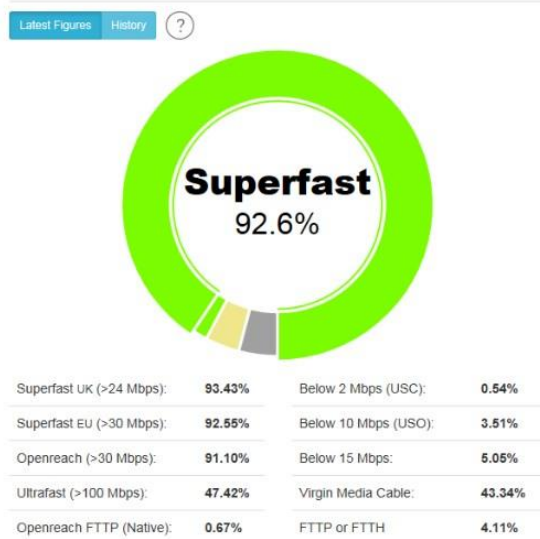
Better Broadband programme financial update

Our delivery of phase one of Better Broadband for Oxfordshire completed on time with 64,500 premises having access to superfast fibre broadband. In the process of reconciling this phase, we have evaluated actual spend on reaching this milestone and have now confirmed a significant saving has been achieved, which along with the early gainshare offer made by BT reflecting good take-up of fibre broadband in the county, will enable coverage beyond our current 95% target, moving into very rural locations. Further information on this (where and when) will be added to our website by late Autumn 2016.

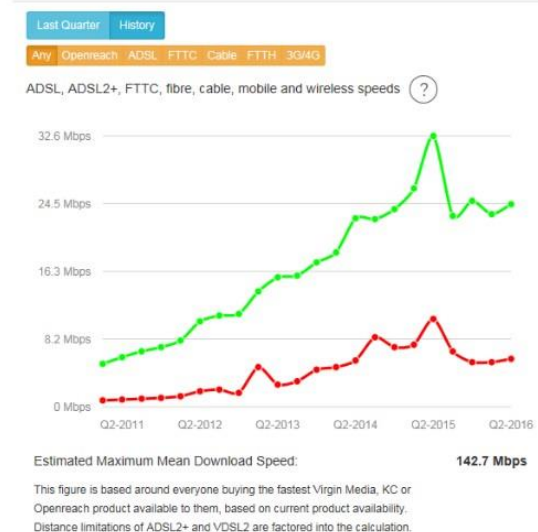
Thinkbroadband®

An independent assessment of superfast broadband coverage is now available from [thinkbroadband®](#). Over 92 per cent of premises in Oxfordshire have access to >30Mbps broadband.

Oxfordshire Superfast and Fibre Coverage



Oxfordshire Speed Test Results (Mbps)



This months frequently asked questions

Q. Your map showed my postcode as being covered by now – why has it still not arrived?
Dates on the map are provided as guidance only. Delays to individual cabinets are typically the result of awaiting wayleaves, needing to traverse private land, or extended traffic management order requirements.

Q. When will I get superfast broadband?

If superfast broadband is not currently available for your home or business ([check online](#)), then [register your details](#) and we'll let you know when it becomes available.

Q. Why am I not covered in your plans?

We have increased our coverage target from 90% to 95%, but as we attempt to move beyond this, the additional cost of getting to very remote and sparsely populated areas becomes increasingly expensive at a per-premise level. We are working hard with BT to extend coverage further by way of more investment accrued by savings achieved in delivery, and trialling new technologies. We expect to announce an extension to coverage by the Summer.

To see the full list of most frequently asked questions with answers, [visit our FAQs page](#).

Have you seen this sticker?

This sticker is placed onto a cabinet that has been delivered by the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire programme funding once it has been fibre enabled. This means that the cabinet has gone live and is now ready to take orders for fibre broadband with your chosen Internet Service Provider (ISP).



If you have a query or require further information you can email the Broadband for Oxfordshire Programme at broadband@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

Visit us at the [Better Broadband for Oxfordshire website](#) for more information.