

Better Broadband for Norfolk Information Sheet 20 (27 April 2015)

In December 2012 Norfolk County Council and BT signed a deal that means more than 80% of Norfolk's homes and businesses are expected to be able to access superfast broadband (24 Megabits per second plus) by the end of 2015. In addition to this, the Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) programme aims to make minimum broadband speeds of 2Mbps available to all Norfolk premises by the end of 2015.

An extension to the programme has since been announced, which will make better broadband available to even more Norfolk premises and contribute to the national target of granting access to superfast broadband to 95% of the UK by the end of 2017.

We aim to keep the people of Norfolk updated about the programme on the BBfN website (www.betterbroadbandfornorfolk.co.uk) and via these information sheets every three months. Read on for our latest update.

What's happened since the last update?

We've made a big leap forward with more than 80 additional areas now able to receive superfast broadband. This has taken the number of Norfolk homes and businesses that can now buy a better broadband service as a result of the BBfN programme to 141,077. These areas have been added to the BBfN website's 'Where and When' map. You can check the latest additions on the news section too.

Unfortunately roadside broadband cabinets rarely cover neat geographical areas, so when a cabinet is 'switched on' and new broadband services go live it will, on the whole, only be parts of a town or a village that will benefit. We know this understandably causes frustration sometimes.

We can offer some reassurance that BBfN is getting homes and businesses in Norfolk connected at a faster rate than most if not every other like for like project in the country, and with the contract extension that was announced in January, more parts of Norfolk will be going superfast over the next few years than originally planned.

Remember, when new superfast services go live existing broadband packages won't be upgraded automatically. You can check whether your property can get faster broadband speeds via the BBfN website and then you'll need to talk to either your current internet service provider or other companies about how to benefit from the faster speeds.

Which areas will receive better broadband next?

We've just announced the areas that are due to be able to access high speed broadband by the end of September 2015. These are parts of Aldborough, Attleborough, Bawdeswell, Brancaster Staithe, Brooke, Burnham Deepdale, Burnham Overy Staithe, Buxton, Costessey (Longwater), Cromer, Dersingham, Diss, Easton, Erpingham, Fakenham, Foulsham, Fundenhall, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Gressenhall, Harleston, Hethersett, Hillington, Hingham, Holt, Hockering, Horning, Horstead with Stanninghall, Loddon, Long Stratton, Poringland, Shelfanger, Sculthorpe, Wacton Green and Wreningham. We can also tell you that parts of Foulton are due to get superfast broadband by the end of December 2015.

As services become available, people can check whether their home or business premises can receive better broadband services as a result via the BBfN website.

If you require further information please telephone Norfolk County Council on 0344 800 8020.