

# We're Connecting Cheshire

[www.connectingcheshire.org.uk](http://www.connectingcheshire.org.uk)

November 2015

## £3.4 million boost to Cheshire's fibre broadband rollout

Cheshire's digital revolution has had a multi-million pound boost to extend the reach of high speed fibre broadband across the county.

The £3.4 million is being made available as a result of a 'success dividend' in the first phase of the Connecting Cheshire programme. This allows revenue received from fibre connections to be reinvested over a number of years if take-up by local households and businesses is better than the 20% expected at the beginning of the rollout. The higher take-up rate to date means that the partnership now expects to reach at least 30% take-up. [Find out more here](#)



## Welcome to the fibre fast lane...

Further coverage now live in Knutsford, Chester Central, Bollington and Prestbury

### Phase 1 Facts & Figures so far...

- Over **900 miles** of fibre-optic cables laid
- 2,000 blockages** in underground ducting cleared
- Nearly **200 miles** of new duct installed
- 324 miles** of highways work under Temporary Traffic Control, each requiring individual permits from local Highways authority.
- 457 wayleaves** required
- 36,000 fibre splices**

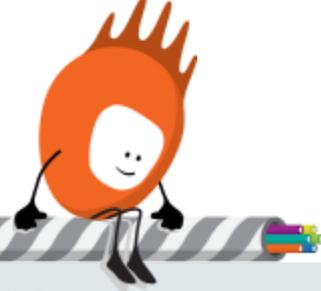
## Towards 100% Event

Thank-you to our speakers from BT, BDUK and to everyone who joined us earlier this month at our Towards 100% fibre coverage event. For a copy of the presentations see [here](#).



We have a [line/postcode checker](#) on our website and have produced new [maps](#) with details of our updated deployment so you can see which areas will be included between now and summer 2017.

# helping you do more



## Jono's Story: "Honestly we couldn't be happier, fibre really is amazing"

Jono Brain is a website developer and his wife, Susie is a graphic designer who works from home, in Winwick Park, Warrington. They have two young children Josh and Zac.

Life before fibre was frustrating for the entire household. An unreliable 2Mbps connection meant working from home, online gaming and streaming content was near impossible. Now enjoying a consistent 80Mbps connection means everyone can do their own thing online at the same time. Click [here](#) to read their story.



### Sell

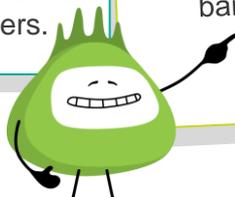
Last year, UK shoppers spent a staggering £810m during Black Friday and this year is set to break all previous records. For the first time ever, spending is forecast to top £1bn in one day, representing an enormous opportunity for UK retailers.

### Safety online

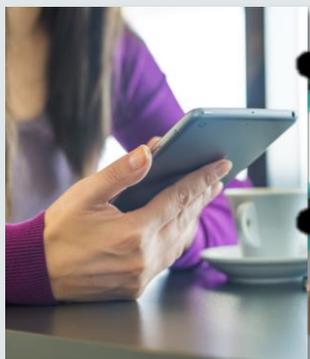
Black Friday and Cyber Monday – the two busiest online shopping days of the year – are almost upon us. While retailers will be slashing their prices, criminals are lying in wait. Stay safe and still bag some great bargains this holiday season, see 5 top tips [here](#).

### Shop

Recent research of the upcoming 2015 Christmas shopping desires by the leading Gamified eCommerce site, has revealed that Brits will be stocking up on technology gifts for Christmas this year. Apple products, such as the iPad and iPhone are the most desired brand, with over 50% wanting to unwrap an Apple gift on Christmas day.



## #Eveolution – Digital Skills for Women in Business



This is an exciting opportunity for women entrepreneurs and women-led companies to learn digital skills. Connecting Cheshire has received funding from the government's Equalities Office to run the #Eveolution programme in partnership with the Manchester Business Growth Hub. Forthcoming events:

- Build a Website with WordPress** 30th Nov - 1st Dec, 09.30 - 16.00 at MadLab, Manchester
- Are you Digitally Savvy? Introduction to Digital Marketing** 7th - 8th Dec, 09.30 - 16.00 & **Intermediate Digital Marketing** 14th - 15th Dec, 09.30 - 16.00 both at Stockport Business & Innovation Centre
- Social Media Surgery, Networking Breakfast** 4th Dec, 09.30 - 11.00 at Rise, The Manchester Escalator.

For details and to book, see [here](#), further events during spring 2016 will be held in Cheshire.

