



We're Connecting Cheshire  
www.connectingcheshire.org.uk

October 2015

## Phase 2 roll-out announced

Superfast fibre broadband will soon be available to an extra 10,000 homes and businesses across Cheshire, Halton and Warrington – thanks to a second phase of roll-out by Connecting Cheshire.

The new cabling work to boost the network coverage has already started and will see more than £6m invested by summer 2017 to provide fibre broadband technology to many areas that were unable to benefit from previous roll-outs.

Rural areas such as Arley, Burleydam, Gawsworth, Huxley and Wincle will join the fibre fast lane for the first time as the network is extended. Additional coverage will also be provided, building on the coverage provided during Phase 1, in some remaining urban areas, whilst more rural and outlying areas such as Malpas, Cholmondeley, Bunbury, and Mobberley are set to benefit.

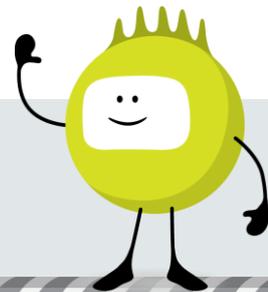
For full details of the areas included, to download detailed maps and details of a public information event on November 6, see [here](#). To date the Connecting Cheshire Partnership with BT has given more than 85,000 premises access to high speed fibre. More than 450 street cabinets have already gone live and our new maps set out the expected timetable for the roll-out up to the end of the current programme in 2017.

Connecting Cheshire is also actively seeking additional funding to extend the network beyond its current plans and to increase speeds in the most rural and technically challenging areas.



### Welcome to the fibre fast lane...

Eccleston & Tilston, plus additional coverage in Alsager, Bucklow Hill, Chester Central, Culcheth, Prestbury, Sandiway and Winwick Park



### Next event: Towards 100% Fibre Coverage

10am – 12pm, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Alderley Park Conference Centre, Alderley Edge

As our Phase 1 roll-out draws to a close, find out more about our plans for Phase 2 – and beyond, as we strive to reach 100% fibre broadband coverage for Cheshire, Halton & Warrington. Topics covered will include the challenges of reaching dispersed rural communities, alternative solutions including satellite broadband, future technology solutions and the importance of investing in digital skills.



**Book your place now!**

Speakers will include Bill Murphy – Managing Director, Next Generation Access, BT Group and Chris Townsend OBE - Chief Executive, Broadband Delivery UK.

Book your place [here](#)



## Community Broadband Schemes



For those areas outside our current plans, or where the community have looked into establishing their own community scheme, it can be a daunting process.

However two communities in Gawsworth and Whitegate have been active in looking at alternative delivery options including wireless technology. Both schemes are keen to make contact with other areas to explore opportunities to collaborate and expand their proposed schemes. To find out more see their respective websites:

[Gawsworth](#) (plus they are holding an information event on 31<sup>st</sup> October, from 12 – 4pm see website for more details)

[Whitegate](#)



### Connect more

#### Easy Switching between providers

Ofcom have brought in changes which recently came into force which make it easier for millions of consumers to change to a new broadband or landline deal.

A new 'one touch' process will place the responsibility for the broadband or landline switch entirely in the hands of the company to which the customer is moving, see [more](#)

### Learn more

#### Improve your digital skills

e-skills UK has launched GO ON you can do IT

[www.go-onyoucandoit.co.uk](http://www.go-onyoucandoit.co.uk)

A free website designed to give job seekers the digital skills they need both to search and apply for vacancies online and use technology once they enter the workplace.

### Sell more

Learn more about how eBay works and find out what's really selling on eBay

See [more](#)



## Is technology reinventing the living room?



[Microsoft](#) recently researched the habits of 1,500 UK families and found that the average home has ten connectable devices, six of which are connected to the internet. They also found that the busiest room in terms of technology use was the living room. This reinforces the concept of 'second screening' where families are watching TV whilst using second devices such as a smartphone or tablet. So it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure that superfast broadband is an enabler for a faster, smoother and no doubt harmonious family life.

