



We're Connecting Cheshire  
[www.connectingcheshire.org.uk](http://www.connectingcheshire.org.uk)

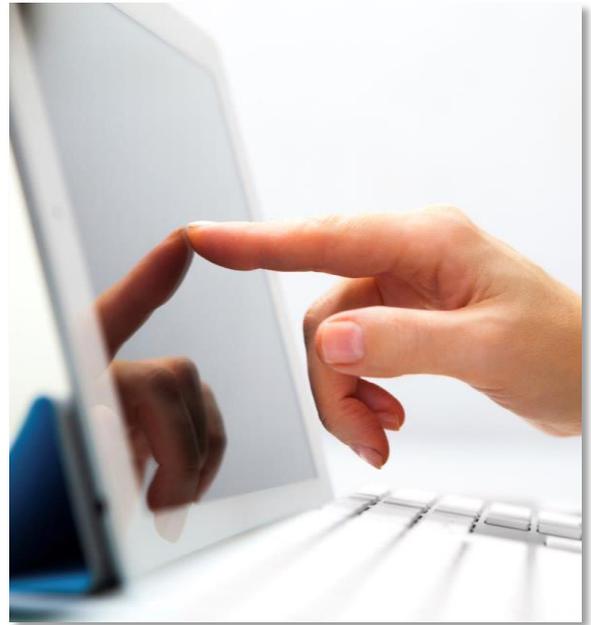
April 2016

## Consultation into faster broadband coverage

This consultation is to confirm areas (classed as white) that do not receive a broadband speed of at least 30Mbps, or where there are no plans to provide such infrastructure over the next three years. This will be used to inform our Phase 3 roll-out which is being undertaken as part of our 'gainshare' arrangements with BT.

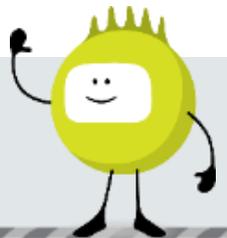
We would like to ensure that Connecting Cheshire can reach as many areas as possible, but under our current and proposed funding we are unable to guarantee to reach all areas, although we expect further funding will enable us to increase the scope of the roll-out funding via Connecting Cheshire. Other providers are also expected to increase their coverage under their own commercial criteria over the next 3 years.

We wish to clarify all those areas receiving less than 30Mbps. If you feel we have not classed your locality **correctly** please let us know following the instructions outlined in the consultation document. If your locality is classed as white we do not require any further confirmation from you at this stage. The consultation will run until 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016. To access the consultation document, map and list of postcodes please see more [here](#).



## Welcome to the fibre fast lane...

Wettenhall, plus additional coverage now live in Mobberley, Widnes, Tattenhall, Audlem and Northwich



The  
**Skills & Growth**  
Company  
A Cheshire East Council Company

## Connecting Cheshire now part of The Skills & Growth Company

On 1<sup>st</sup> April a new 'arms length' company owned by Cheshire East Council was launched to bring together various skills and growth services under one structure.

Connecting Cheshire is part of the Innovation & Growth Team, and will remain the lead for the project with our partners across 4 Cheshire councils and BT. There will be no change in the day to day running of the project, but new opportunities for collaboration across the Council's skills and growth teams will enable us to ensure the benefits of faster broadband can be realised by both residents and businesses. To find out more see our website: [www.skillsandgrowth.co.uk](http://www.skillsandgrowth.co.uk)

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[ConnectingCheshire](https://www.facebook.com/ConnectingCheshire)

# helping you do more



## Broadband without brakes!



Connecting Cheshire is gearing up to go superfast in preparation for Britain's biggest cycling event – Tour of Britain. On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September cyclists will be travelling 120km across Cheshire East from Congleton to Tatton Park and our Fibre Guys will be joining in the fun and sponsoring the event.

Watch out for our Fibre Guys on their bikes spreading the good news that fibre broadband is here and help Cheshire go “wheely speedy” with competitions and cycling themed giveaways this summer.

To find out more see [www.cheshiretourofbritain.co.uk](http://www.cheshiretourofbritain.co.uk)



### Play

With Facebook messenger and WhatsApp overtaking traditional texts, we've found [10 top tips](#) to help you join the 800 million other users and discover what you can do in the Facebook messenger app beyond instant messaging.



### Watch

With superfast fibre broadband at home you'll soon be able to enjoy a concert experience from the comfort of your home as [YouTube live-streams in virtual reality and 3D sound](#).

### Connect

According to a [new survey](#), 3 in 5 people claim fast broadband is more important than an extra bedroom when buying a house. It found house hunters would even shell out 11% more for a home with broadband speeds of 100Mbps or more.



## New digital growth fund launched for Cheshire East

A new partnership between Cheshire East Council and Creative England has been launched to provide an initial investment fund of £200,000 to support the growth of small and medium-sized businesses within Cheshire East.

The programme is targeted only at eligible companies operating in the digital sector – such as digital media, web design and software development (including games and app development), e-commerce and software solutions – and targeted at businesses looking to scale-up via the development of existing or new technology, products and services. For further information, please contact the Programme Manager, Paul Chapman on: 07580 861 306 or [paul.chapman@skillsandgrowth.co.uk](mailto:paul.chapman@skillsandgrowth.co.uk)

