



July 2016 update

As of 14 July 2016...
53,445
homes and businesses
have been fibre
enabled thanks to
Connecting Shropshire.

Make the Switch!
To discover what fibre can do for you, you must opt-in by contacting your ISP

A roundup of what's been going on in the programme

Local Broadband Plan

Shropshire Council's cabinet has agreed to adopt the revised Local Broadband Plan for 2016-2020. The Plan sets out the approach for improving broadband speeds across the Shropshire Council area. The Plan emphasises that Shropshire Council remains committed to pursuing its broadband aspiration of providing all premises with access to superfast broadband by 2020. To read the Plan in full, go to:

<http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/local-broadband-plan/>

“Mole” helps make light work of Connecting Shropshire as fibre broadband roll-out “ploughs” on

Is it a digger? Is it a crane? No, it's a mole plough!.....

This may be an increasingly common sight this summer as the Connecting Shropshire roll-out of faster fibre broadband continues to extend to some of the more remote parts of the county.

Using a mole plough allows fibre optic cable to be laid more easily and quickly, minimising disruption to motorists using the county's narrow, rural lanes.

The specialist machinery - seen here at work in south Shropshire - creates a channel through the soil just big enough to enable engineers to lay the ducting, through which the fibre optic cable to be pulled through later.



Steve Charmley, Shropshire Council Cabinet member responsible for broadband, said: “Mole ploughing is one of the ways that we're taking fibre broadband to the most hard-to-reach parts of Shropshire. The Council remains committed to pursuing its broadband aspiration of providing all premises with access to superfast broadband by 2020. Access to faster broadband will help to drive Shropshire's economy and remains a top priority for the Council.”

Website refresh - <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/>

You may have noticed that the Connecting Shropshire website has had a refresh, making it easier to find the information you need. Do let us know what you think.

connecting Shropshire

Home About When and where? Why Fibre? News FAQs Useful links

Premises fibre enabled by the programme to date:

5 3 4 4 5

Check fibre broadband availability

Latest news

Supplier engagement event, 15-07-16

Connecting Shropshire is having a formal supplier engagement event as a precursor to our next procurement (defined as Phase 2b). If you are a broadband infrastructure provider with an interest in submitting a bid for our phase 2 procurement and ... [Continue reading >](#)

Open letter

Steve Charmley, Deputy Leader & Member for Whittington Ward, Shropshire Council writes ...

Sign up to our mailing list

Welcome to Connecting Shropshire

Connecting Shropshire is a government supported programme bringing faster broadband to the parts of the Shropshire Council area where it isn't economically viable for commercial companies to provide it.

Fibre Broadband is here

289 enabled

Follow this link to read more facts and figures

Compare fibre broadband prices

Your postcode (required)
e.g. NE83 9JZ

Phone number (more accurate)
e.g. 0191 880 3402

Check

Broadband in focus

Morris Corfield, agricultural equipment suppliers across Shropshire and beyond:

Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme



Margaret Davies uses a wireless broadband service

As part of the government's commitment to provide every property with access to a basic broadband service of at least 2Mbps, Connecting Shropshire is operating a Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme (funded by Broadband Delivery UK). The Scheme provides support towards the cost of the installation of a broadband connection so that a basic broadband service can be purchased for a first year cost of no more than £400 (taking account of any up-front costs and the 12 month service charges).

You will only be eligible if your premises has access to download speeds of less than 2Mbps. Further details about the Scheme can be found at:

<http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/basic-broadband-subsidy-scheme/>

Women and Broadband project

Women in Rural Enterprise (WiRE) recently finished delivering a second phase of the Women and Broadband project, this time covering all of Shropshire and Staffordshire. The project ended in March, and Connecting Shropshire hopes to be able to secure further funding later this year to enable WiRE to deliver additional workshops aimed at local business women.

More information about the project is available on the following website <http://www.wirechallenge.org/>. To read case studies from women who benefitted from the project, go to:

<http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Case-studies-Women-and-broadband-project.pdf>

Sarah Shakespeare, who runs a business designing and making jewellery from her home in Shropshire, said: "Women and Broadband offered up-to-date skills from experts and practitioners who really knew their stuff and enabled me to gain vast amounts of current knowledge in a digital world that is continually evolving. Being internet savvy is paramount for a small business, especially rural ones because we are so far from our customers".

72 exchange areas are now 'accepting orders' with one or more cabinets providing fibre broadband thanks to Connecting Shropshire:

- Ackleton
- Acton Burnell
- Albrighton
- Bayston Hill
- Bettisfield
- Bishops Castle
- Bomere Heath
- Bridgnorth
- Bromfield
- Broseley
- Bucknell
- Calverhall
- Childs Ercall
- Chirbury
- Chirk
- Church Stretton
- Claverley
- Clee Hill
- Cleobury Mortimer
- Clive
- Clun
- Cockshutt
- Craven Arms
- Cressage
- Cross Houses
- Dorrington
- Dudleston Heath
- Ellesmere
- Great Bolas
- Hadnall
- Halfway House
- Hanwood
- Harlescott
- Highley
- Hodnet
- Ironbridge
- Knockin
- Lee Brockhurst
- Leebotwood
- Little Brampton
- Llanymynech
- Ludlow
- Market Drayton
- Marshbrook
- Montford Bridge
- Morville
- Much Wenlock
- Munslow
- Nesscliffe
- Norton
- Oswestry
- Pipegate
- Pontesbury
- Prees
- Quatt
- Queens Head
- Richards Castle
- Sambrook
- Seifton
- Shawbury
- Shifnal
- Shrewsbury
- Stoke St Milborough
- Tenbury Wells
- Tern Hill
- Upton Magna
- Wem
- Whitchurch
- Whixall
- Worfield
- Worthen
- Yockleton

Enter your phone number or postcode into the checker at <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/when-and-where/> to find out about the availability of fibre broadband in your area.

Contact Details

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Women & Broadband Challenge