

Digital Infrastructure and Inclusion Strategy

Appendix – Digital Place High Level Delivery Plan

The following is a list of new (started or bidding) and ongoing infrastructure, innovation, and inclusion projects with descriptions and start/end dates where known.

Embedded Digital Champions - Jun-21 to Mar-24

Encourage people in the community to use council online services, and utilise opportunities to increase their digital skills. Extend initial target of 1,000 frontline staff in line with demand from this and partner organisations

Volunteer Digital Champions - 2013 Ongoing

Remove the barriers to online connectivity for people. Extend the project to reach more learners by creating new opportunities for different demographics to access help.

Digital Doorway #1 and #2 - 2020 to 2025

Remove the barriers to getting online for people, use data to identify cohorts most in need eg digitally excluded child. Use creative means to maximise the number of devices donated to the community by working closely with VCSE partners.

Digital adoption (take-up campaigns) - 2014 Ongoing

Fixed connectivity - Maximise the number of people benefiting from improved broadband connectivity. Reduce impact of switch-offs.

Digital Skills Partnership - 2021 to 2024

Better understanding of the digital support available to Dorset's workforce and businesses in order to strategically plug gaps. Activities raising profile of digital among schoolchildren/students.

Digital Infrastructure Skills (Fibre Training) - 2021 to Aug-23

Explore opportunities to fill the skills gap and provide more trained fibre engineers to build the Dorset network

Pan-dorset digital literacy across ICS - 2023 to unknown

A unified approach to digital inclusion and messaging across entire ICS

Gigabit Hubs - hub projects - May-22 to September 2023 (+ ongoing management reporting)

Fixed connectivity - Maximise access to gigabit capable connectivity to residents, businesses and the public sector.

North Dorset - lot 14a - Project Gigabit - Sep-22 to Sep-25

Fixed connectivity - Maximise access to gigabit capable connectivity to residents, businesses and the public sector.



Dorset - lot 14b - Project Gigabit - Mar-21 to TBC

Fixed connectivity - Maximise access to gigabit capable connectivity to residents, businesses and the public sector.

Commercial gigabit coverage - Ongoing

Fixed connectivity - Ensure commercial provision of gigabit capable connectivity proceeds at pace.

Gigabit Vouchers - Sep-20 Ongoing

Fixed connectivity - Provide support for residents, businesses and suppliers to maximise utilisation of available government voucher funding for new gigabit connectivity.

Ultrafast (Superfast Contract 3) - 2017 to target date Q3 2023

Fixed connectivity - Utilise available BDUK, LEP and DEFRA grant funding to maximise delivery of Ultrafast fixed connectivity under legacy Superfast programme

SEP (Superfast Contract 2) - 2015 to target date Q2 2023

Fixed connectivity - Utilise available BDUK, grant funding to provide expanded Superfast fixed connectivity under legacy Superfast programme

Wessex DIA - 01-Apr-22 to 30-Sep-23

Fixed and mobile infrastructure - Portal showing council and other assets which can be used to help deliver digital infrastructure

Wireless Broadband Access (last mile connectivity) - Oct-22 to Mar-25

Investigate whether wireless technologies can provide transformational internet speeds to homes and businesses currently not due to receive fibre broadband via commercial or state supported rollouts.

Dorset Digital Innovation Network - May-22

The vision is one of an innovation network working together - both virtually and physically in Dorset - to provide solutions to the UK's (and Dorset's) biggest problems, whether that is a new generation of microchip to power an agricultural revolution, challenging the delivery models which have left rural areas of the world without mobile signal for the past 20 years, or a new funding and delivery paradigm for adult social care.

Farm of the Future - Oct-22 Ongoing

Continue the agri innovation started in 5G RuralDorset

5G Innovation Regions - TBC

Inward investment Regional approach

Innovation and Commercialisation business case - Feb-23 to May-23

Accelerate elements of the service



Dark Fibre / Fibre Spine - Feb-23 to Sep-23

Accelerate elements of the service Integrate with Levelling up programme in Weymouth accelerate connectivity

mmWave hackathon - TBC

Profile for Dorset and DIP Supports innovation network Builds relationship with Qualcomm

Open Networks Ecosystem bid - Mar-23 to Jun-23

National location for telecoms innovation

5G Coastal network - TBC

Bring legacy network into BattleLab ecosystem

Connected Autonomous Vehicle service - May-23 to TBC

A CAV initiative, possibly serving DIP/Weymouth

SIPP - TBC

Smart infrastructure pilot

Connected Place (Weymouth) - Nov-22 Apr-23

Understand how connectivity and tech can make a place better to live work and visit

Digital Dorset Programme - Ongoing

Awareness of Dorset as a digital place, increase opportunities for inward investment, closer co-operation

