

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date:	14 December 2016
Title:	Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme – Beyond 96%
Reference:	7926
Report From:	Director Culture Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

That the Executive Member for Policy and Resources approves the following:

- a) Notes higher than expected take-up and the significant underspend achieved during delivery of Wave 1.
- b) Notes continued progress with delivery of Wave 2 and the nine month acceleration of the deployment timeline achieved thus far.
- c) Agrees that the Council continues to work with BT and other suppliers to accelerate deployment and extend coverage wherever possible.
- d) Approves continued partnership with BT and reinvestment of underspend and gain share totalling £6.83m to extend coverage to a further 8,500 premises by 2019 – subject to confirmation from DCMS that this offers value for money to the taxpayer.
- e) Approves release of up to £1m (from existing funding) to support community initiatives and notes that this may encourage competition from alternative suppliers.
- f) Writes to District and Borough Councils to seek additional funding contributions towards the programme.
- g) Writes to the M3 Local Enterprise Partnership and Solent Local Enterprise Partnership to seek financial contributions towards the programme.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

To ensure the Hampshire Superfast Broadband Programme allows for 97.4% of premises in Hampshire by 2019 using the following mechanisms:

- a. Extend coverage through existing contracts with BT Group.

- b. Match funding scheme to help communities outside the current programme.
- c. Better Basic Broadband Scheme to help residents in premises with speeds below 2Mbps.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- a) The County Council has considered running a procurement exercise to extend coverage with the funding identified. This option has been rejected for the following reasons:
 - 1. Not all of the funding identified can be extracted from the existing contract and used for an additional procurement at this point in time.
 - 2. An additional procurement would place considerable demand for resources internally, could take up to 12 months to complete, and even then may not achieve better value for money.
 - 3. The Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) has indicated that when compared nationally the proposals presented so far by BT represent value for money to the tax payer.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- a) Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None
- b) Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

14 December 2016

**Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Councillor Roy Perry**