

Newsletter 5– May 2012

This is the fifth newsletter produced by Northamptonshire County Council on the *superfast Northamptonshire* initiative. This edition spotlights our work with active local communities.

What can you do to get involved?

The *superfast Northamptonshire* initiative has seen fantastic support to date and so far we have worked with many local communities, and we want this to continue to increase.

One way you can get involved is to complete a demand survey. This local information is extremely helpful and enables us, and importantly potential suppliers, to understand exactly the type of demand a local area is seeing for superfast broadband.

Several local communities have already carried out their own local broadband survey to identify the current broadband capabilities in their area and the demand for superfast broadband services.

The County Council has recently worked with communities in the Welford exchange area to develop a survey. This received a very good response from residents and local businesses in the villages of Welford and South Kilworth. They even used the local Scouts group to collect up their surveys!

The County Council can help if you would like to carry out your own broadband survey. We have a template questionnaire which can be used. This can be completed by local communities on-line or you can use hard copies.

The intention is to make the information from these surveys available to broadband providers to illustrate demand.

If you would like further details please contact bigidea@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Rural Community Broadband Fund

In January 2012, Northamptonshire submitted three bids in the first round of the Rural Community Broadband Fund (RCBF). All three community projects have been endorsed and will now progress to Full Application stage.

The first round of funding saw 16 Expressions of Interests (EOI's) endorsed nationally, 9 in the East Midlands with Northamptonshire hosting three of the successful candidates which is a fantastic achievement.

The three projects that were successful in the first round were;

Tove Valley Community

The Abthorpe Broadband Association (Abba) are aiming to bring a fibre optic cable to a point of presence within the village, then provide a wireless service to Abthorpe and a number of neighbouring villages including Slapton and Wappenham. At present they serve 60 customers but hope to raise this to 450.



Yes - You !!! We need some information !!!

Broadband Survey.

Please fill in the reverse side of this form if you already have broadband.

If you do not have broadband, please answer the simple questions below.

Thank you.

This information is being requested by your **Parish Council** for submission to Northamptonshire County Council so that Welford will be included in their bid for Superfast Broadband funding in rural areas.

Your Postcode	Your House Number
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A) In the next 5 years, do you think you might subscribe to Broadband ? Yes No

If your answer is No, that's it thanks!! This is still important information we have been asked for regardless of your response, so please be sure to keep this until it is collected.

If you would consider subscribing to broadband what monthly fee would you be prepared to pay inclusive of your existing Phone Line Rental ? Please tick the appropriate boxes.

B) For your Phone line rental and a Broadband Internet connection would you be prepared to pay a monthly fee of £ 20 2 £ 25 5 £ 30 1 £ 40 2 £ 50 or more 0

C) For your Phone line rental, an Internet Connection and Broadband TV would you be prepared to pay a monthly fee of £ 25 0 £ 30 2 £ 35 3 £ 45 4 £ 55 or more 1

These are only suggested indicator prices. Actual prices would depend on what you would want to do with your Broadband and how much you are prepared to shop around. Some offers don't include line rental. Watch out for this !!! Standard BT line rental at the moment is £14.60 per month.

Please do not throw this away. A scout will collect it from you on Sunday 4th March.

The scouts will receive a small donation towards their next camping trip for every form they collect. Help them - Help us.

If you won't be in, please tape a small corner of it to your front door, leave it in an obvious place where it won't get wet or blow away, or leave it with a neighbour. Thank you. We need your information !

Warmington and Lutton

This community project intends to use a fibre optic back haul and a new antenna mast to provide superfast broadband to these villages through a Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) and wireless solution.

Rockingham Exchange

This project will form part of the wider *superfast Northamptonshire* roll-out plans with a predominantly Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) solution provided to the Rockingham exchange area. The exchange serves approximately 1800 residents and 41 businesses.



The second round of RCBF funding opened on the 10th May 2012 and the deadline for receiving Expressions of Interest (EOI's) is the 6th July 2012.

Further information on RCBF can be found [here](#) or alternatively please visit our blog site.

If you are interested in bid for RCBF please do let the Broadband Delivery Team know at bigidea@northamptonshire.gov.uk

When will I know when my community will receive superfast broadband?

This is a question asked by many people and local businesses.

The majority of communities will be covered by commercial upgrades which will enable access to superfast broadband. News on the latest upgrades announced by BT is provided below.

For the areas which are not covered by commercial upgrades, that is where public subsidy is required to make investment viable, the process is different. These are referred to as 'white areas'. For more information on where these areas are please see our consultation document [here](#)

The roll-out to these areas is programmed to start by 31st March 2013. Regular updates and information on the roll-out programme will be provided via the blog site.

Latest roll-out plans for superfast broadband

BT has recently announced that the Corby exchange area has 'gone live' with superfast broadband. Superfast broadband is now available to around 15,000 homes and businesses in the Corby area.

Further major investment is under way. For example, BT has announced plans for its superfast fibre network to pass another 82,000 premises in the county later this year. The latest information on the upgraded exchanges in Northamptonshire can be found [here](#)

Together with access to superfast broadband via Virgin Media which covers large parts of the towns, this means that we are well on our way to hitting our target that two-thirds of premises will be able to access superfast broadband by 2014.

E-petition Update

The County Council's e-petition enables you to register your interest in superfast broadband. There have currently been over 3,000 signatures to our online e-petition. To sign up please click [here](#)



Further Information

For more information on *superfast Northamptonshire* please visit the blog site. The site now has a new web address;

<http://superfastnorthamptonshire.net/>

You will find the latest news from the sector, case study examples, and a featured blog from the County Council's Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Public Protection Councillor Andre Gonzalez De Savage.

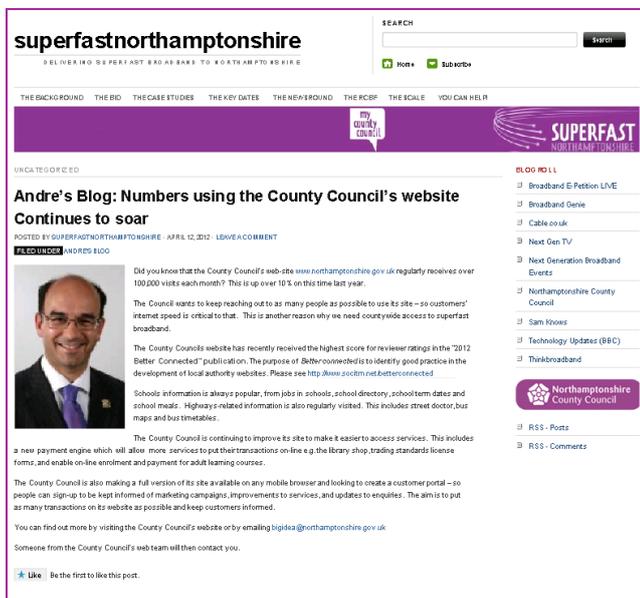
For further information on anything you have read in the newsletter, please contact the County Council's Broadband Delivery Team at Bigidea@northamptonshire.gov.uk

The County Council thanks you for your continued support.

The Prosperity Agenda

For information on other activities being undertaken by the County Council to support businesses, create new jobs, and help attract investment please visit: <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/environ/economic/pages/economic-development.aspx>

Alternatively contact the email address above.



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DELIVERING SUPERFAST BROADBAND TO NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

SEARCH

Home Subsites

THE BACKGROUND THE BID THE CASE STUDIES THE KEY DATES THE NEW BROADBAND THE RCFB THE SCALE YOU CAN HELP

UNCA TAGGED

Andre's Blog: Numbers using the County Council's website Continues to soar

POSTED BY SUPERFASTNORTHAMPTONSHIRE APRIL 12, 2012 16:06 A COMMENT

LINKS TO: [WDRS BLOG](#)

BLOG ROLL

- Broadband E-Petition LIVE
- Broadband Guide
- Cable.co.uk
- Next Gen TV
- Next Generation Broadband Events
- Northamptonshire County Council
- Sam Knowles
- Technology Update (BBC)
- Thinkbroadband

Northamptonshire County Council

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