

# News

## Communications Unit

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## North Yorkshire on course for 100% broadband target

**The prospect of every home and business** in North Yorkshire enjoying access to high speed broadband moved a significant step closer today.

Members of North Yorkshire County Council's Executive this morning formally approved a further £3m in funding to the Superfast North Yorkshire (SFNY) programme. It matches £3m offered by the Government's Broadband UK initiative, and a further £2m from the European Regional Development Fund. In addition, the Superfast North Yorkshire contractor, BT, will add a further £2m.

"This is a massive step forward in our aim to establish high speed broadband accessibility for 100% of North Yorkshire by the end of 2017," said County Councillor Carl Les, the Chairman of the SFNY programme and Deputy Leader of the County Council.

"With this extra funding, we will be able to penetrate to the more remote parts of our very rural county, to communities and businesses which hitherto had little hope of reaping the advantages and rewards of high speed internet access."

The SFNY programme is already on target to complete its initial phase, offering high quality broadband connections to almost 90% of properties, by the end of October 2014. The project, funded by the Government's BDUK programme, the European Regional Development Fund, North Yorkshire County Council, and BT, has switched on almost 400 fibre-broadband cabinets across the county since its launch last year. New cabinets have been added to the fibre-distribution network at the rate of more than 25 every month.

Newly developed technology, including small cabinets capable of being attached to telegraph poles, will allow the SFNY team to penetrate the more remote parts of the county.

"Access to high speed broadband is vitally important to the economic prosperity of the county, and this new funding means we will be able to ensure that it is virtually universally accessible. Further funding is available and will be released once the impact of this latest £8m has been assessed." added Councillor Les.

## Ends

18-03-14

## Notes to Editors

The report to today's Executive which details the extension of the programme accompanies this press release.



North

Yorkshire County Council

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Superfast North Yorkshire was created in July 2012 following the signing of the contract between North Yorkshire County Council and BT. North Yorkshire is the first county in the UK successfully to deploy Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) funds, which will be used to extend the roll-out of faster broadband across the county. The project will reach those areas outside of any commercial roll-out using a partnership approach to ensure all communities have access to the fastest possible broadband speeds.

The Superfast North Yorkshire project is part financed by the European Regional Development Fund Programme 2007 to 2013. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the managing authority for the European Regional Development Fund Programme, which is one of the funds established by the European Commission to help local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support local businesses and create jobs.

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