
Briefing Note: COMMUNITY BROADBAND SCOTLAND. (CBS).

This briefing relates to activities which fall under SOA Outcome 2. The Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) activities are due to be completed by 2020 or before.

The briefing is for noting.

Summary

The Communities of Colintraive, Glendaruel, Tighnabruaich, and rural Bute have formed Kyles Community Broadband in order to serve their areas with Superfast Broadband. Argyll and Bute currently has more than 17,000 premises drawn into the DSSB fibre/copper network. There are 79 new fibre cabinets live across the area which, when added to commercial roll-out, are reaching around 76% of premises so far. Areas Live: Rothesay, Strachur, Tighnabruaich, Dunoon, Ford, Innellan, Kilmun, & Toward. Areas underway: Ardentinny, Kilchattan Bay, Kilfinan, & Lochgoilhead.

Further information is available on: <http://kcb.scot/> and

<http://www.hie.co.uk/community-support/community-broadband-scotland/default.html>

Key Points for Consideration

Community Broadband Scotland Project title: Kyles Community Broadband.

- Project Location(s): The Kyles of Bute
- Lead Organisation: Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust
- Project Overview: The project is now out to State Aid Public Consultation and Farrpoint consultants are undertaking the procurement process arrangements.
- Estimated number of premises: 346.
- Estimated total project cost: c.£250k

Key Points for Discussion

The Superfast Broadband projects under the auspices of DSSB Fibre and Community Broadband Scotland will meet Scottish Government targets of 100% coverage by the end of this parliamentary session in 2021. This transformational change in the way we communicate with each other and access our public and private services and economic opportunities has the potential to assist in the reversal population decline in our region. Members may wish to consider how they can contribute to the benefit realisation of this technology for Argyll and Bute by informing and educating in their sphere of influence.

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