

Appendix A - Draft Cumbria County Council Digital Infrastructure Strategy – SCOPE

Contents

1. Background	Page 2
2. Strategy Development	Page 3
3. Scope	Page 4
4. Mobile Infrastructure	Page 6
5. Public Wi-Fi	Page 7
6. Outputs	Page 8
7. Governance and Resources	Page 8
8. Action Plan	Page 10
9. Stakeholder Engagement	Page 11
10. Summary	Page 11
11. Appendices	Page 12
1) LGA councillor’s guide to digital connectivity	
2) DCMS digital connectivity portal 2018	
3) DCMS Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review (FTIR) 2018	
4) DCMS 5G Strategy 2017	
5) Ofcom Connected Nations Report 2019	
6) Connecting Cumbria Phase 1 Evaluation Report 2015	Page 13
7) Borderlands Growth Deal Newsletter (Heads of Terms) July 2019	
8) Letter dated 13 August 2019 from the Chief Executive of Public Health England on the Health Effects of 5G	

Cumbria County Council Digital Infrastructure Strategy SCOPE

1. Background

Digital infrastructure, both fixed line and mobile connectivity, is a critical programme within the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal and an important component necessary to deliver the Council Plan 2018-2022 which includes the following Corporate Priority outcomes:

- People in Cumbria are Healthy and Safe
- Places in Cumbria are Well-Connected and Thriving
- The Economy in Cumbria is Growing and Benefitting Everyone

This will mean:

- Putting Customers at the heart of everything we do
- Supporting communities to thrive
- Focusing on the most vulnerable
- Managing Demand

This will be delivered through embedding our new ways of working:

- Working Together
- Enterprise and Efficiency
- Digital Transformation
- Prevention and Early Intervention

Digital Borderlands has three strategic objectives:

- Borderlands to catch up with and match UK levels of connectivity
- Equitable coverage across the Borderlands area with no place left far behind
- Deliver the connectivity to enhance business productivity and to allow Borderlands to secure and retain globally excellent digital activity into the future

Providing digital infrastructure to all residents and businesses in Cumbria, either through supporting commercial deployments, or working with central government to secure funding where intervention is required is a key enabler to facilitate delivery of the Council Plan and Digital Borderlands strategic objectives. Digital infrastructure in this context includes fixed line gigabit capable connections, the availability of mobile 4G services and ensuring that Cumbria is able to benefit from new services enabled by 5G technology as it develops¹. The rural nature of Cumbria means that the digital infrastructure strategy will not be delivered through commercial provision alone. The strategy therefore recognises that funded intervention from central government will be required.

¹ Town centre Wi-Fi may also supplement these technologies.

2. Strategy Development

Development of the digital infrastructure strategy has addressed the following questions as set out in the council's strategy development guide:

- a. *What is the rationale for the strategy?* Digital infrastructure is required to deliver the council's Corporate Priority outcomes and a strategy is required to provide digital connectivity to all residents, businesses and visitors to Cumbria.
- b. *Which of the Council's customers is the strategy aimed at?* An important part of the digital infrastructure strategy is digital inclusion to ensure that all citizens have access to online applications and services. Equality of access to digital services is also aligned with the digital skills agenda as outlined by the CLEP.
- c. *What issues are the outcomes of the strategy looking to address?* The aspiration of the programme that the digital infrastructure strategy creates is to maximise the number of gigabit capable fixed line connections to premises across Cumbria, to make 4G services available to all and to leverage the opportunity provided by new 5G services as they evolve.
- d. *Do customers or partners need to be involved in the development of the strategy?* The programme will liaise with community and business representatives, suppliers of digital infrastructure, central government, district authorities and other partner organisations as appropriate such as the Cumbria LEP and the Lake District National Park Authority. (See section 8, Stakeholder Engagement.)
- e. *Is there any national or regional drivers that need to be considered in the development of the strategy?* The strategy takes into account UK Government policy as set out in the Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review published in July 2018 [see Appendix 3]:
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/future-telecoms-infrastructure-review>)
and other UK Government guidance:
(<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/digital-strategy-and-leadership#digital-infrastructure-strategy>)
The digital infrastructure strategy is also an enabler of the council's digital transformation plans and digital strategy and is aligned with the digital strategy work underway at the CLEP.
- f. *Does customer engagement and consultation need to be carried out?* Informal engagement and consultation has already taken place and the feedback is very clear in that digital infrastructure is critical going forward and should be made available to all.
- g. *Does a health or equalities impact assessment need to be carried out?* No, although it is important to recognise that delivery of the strategy provides digital inclusion so that no group of people are left behind.
- h. *What is the vision?* To provide high quality mobile and fixed line connectivity to all residents, businesses and visitors to Cumbria as quickly as possible, securing the necessary funding to ensure that no one is left behind.
- i. *What are the aims, objectives and outcomes of the strategy (including key partners)?* **Aims**²: to ensure that everyone has access to fixed line superfast services of at least 24Mbps download; to maximise the availability of full fibre to the premise infrastructure; to ensure that everyone has access to 4G mobile services both indoors and out and to ensure that Cumbria County Council leads the development of 5G technology within the Borderlands Partnership through working with other partners. **Objectives**: these are aligned with the

² It should be noted that the delivery of fixed line superfast services and 4G to all will require central government funding not yet secured.

Digital Borderlands strategic objectives referenced in the Background section above. **Outcomes:** delivery of superfast services at least in line with the UK average, currently 96.6%; delivery of full fibre to the premise³ infrastructure at least in line with the UK average, currently 12.4% but increasing rapidly; provision of 4G to 95% of the Cumbria landmass in line with the Shared Rural Network UK target and to be actively working on tests and trials of 5G services in Cumbria. (See Table 1.)

- j. *What member engagement has taken place?* Discussions have taken place with the deputy leader, portfolio holder and the leader has been provided with a bullet briefing on 18 November 2019.
- k. *What governance sign off is needed? (CMT Cabinet, Partnership Body)* Sign off will be needed from DMT, CMT, lead members and TISG, but further stakeholder engagement will take place. (See sections 6, Governance and Resources and 8, Stakeholder Engagement.)
- l. *Who will be responsible for delivering the strategy?* The Connecting Cumbria team led by the senior digital champions (see section 6, Governance and Resources).
- m. *What resources are needed to ensure delivery?* (See section 6, Governance and Resources.)
- n. *Is a communications and embedding plan needed?* Yes, and ongoing communication and engagement will take place with all relevant stakeholders on both the launch of the strategy and as its objectives are delivered. (See section 8, Stakeholder Engagement.)
- o. *Who will be responsible for monitoring the strategy?* The Connecting Cumbria Programme Board.
- p. *How will the strategy be reviewed?* By the Connecting Cumbria Strategic Management Board.
- q. *How often will the strategy be reviewed?* The digital infrastructure strategy will be reviewed and updated each year and/or in line with the availability of funding.
- r. *Who will the performance of the strategy need to be reported to? (CMT, Cabinet, Scrutiny)* Existing governance structures and reporting will include the performance of the digital infrastructure strategy and progress towards its desired outcomes.

3. Scope

The digital infrastructure strategy addresses the following primary themes:

- a. Extending full fibre broadband coverage, prioritising superfast not-spots. Thinkbroadband currently reports 94% superfast coverage above 24Mbps download speed in Cumbria. It is a priority to provide full fibre to the last 6% of premises in the county ahead of full fibre overbuild of fibre cabinet solutions that already provide >24Mbps, accepting that some commercial overbuild will occur in parallel. It should also be noted that full fibre is likely to be prohibitively expensive for the last 1% to 2% of premises where different technologies will be required such as 4G, 5G, fixed wireless or even satellite for the last fraction of a percent.
- b. Connecting public sector sites or community facilities such as schools to full fibre, prioritising superfast not-spots. If no commercial activity takes place at a non-residential premise then intervention can often take place without state aid. If the UK Government continues to fund such connections then they not only provide fibre to the premise, but facilitate further full fibre deployment to other premises nearby, perhaps in combination with a voucher scheme as referenced below.

³ Further deployment of DOCSIS 3.1 cable technology could also provide gigabit capable infrastructure.

- c. Gigabit⁴ capable community voucher schemes and voucher top-up. This theme is designed to deliver in part at least, full fibre broadband coverage and is dependent on funding. Because of the treatment of state aid and the quick start-up timeframe, voucher schemes are a very effective way of delivering further full fibre into superfast not-spots quickly. It should be recognised that community schemes need a community champion as well as support from the council's Connecting Cumbria team.
- d. Funding, or seeking funding for full fibre connectivity solutions. This strategy can only deliver through intervention, recognising the market failure in rural areas. How much of the strategy can be delivered has a direct relationship with the amount of funding that can be secured.
- e. Taking steps to boost mobile coverage (4G infill). As ever this requires funding and UK Government policy on mobile intervention will be important to that. This theme will deliver future proof infrastructure with the capability to host 5G services and indeed potentially use the 4G infill infrastructure to run 5G tests and trials. It is important to recognise that whilst 91% of the UK landmass has 4G from at least one MNO only 73% of premises have good 4G indoor coverage. Note that 4G carries 85% of data traffic, but only 7% of voice and so the 4G coverage figures understate voice coverage. 3G currently carries 81% of voice and 2G 12%. However, MNOs will switch off their 2G and 3G services at some point with Vodafone and EE already having announced plans to switch off 3G by 2022 and 2G by 2025⁵.
- f. Looking to the future in terms of 5G research and development. This will likely work in conjunction with the 4G infill theme described above, targeting tests and trials on an 'outside in' basis i.e. 5G research in 4G infill areas. This work will be done with industry and academic partners.
- g. Working with district councils to deploy town centre Wi-Fi where demand is demonstrated through business cases that can be combined into a county-wide programme subject to soft market testing and the availability of funds.
- h. Making Cumbria's voice heard so that the digital infrastructure needs of the county are understood and accepted by fund-holders, decision makers, partners and other stakeholders.

The scope recognises that all themes are dependent on deploying more fibre in rural areas, be that to service full fibre connections to residents and businesses, or backhaul to mobile mast infrastructure. This dependence on fibre also facilitates the convergence of technology to enable seamless connectivity to services and applications through the most appropriate route. That could be through a cable or Wi-Fi connection to in-premise fixed fibre, or through 4G or 5G mobile infrastructure, either indoors or outdoors, or indeed via fixed wireless or satellite⁶ solutions.

⁴ The strategy has a preference for full fibre as opposed to 'gigabit capable' infrastructure as the latter could include emerging 5G and cable technology. This recognises that mobile infrastructure is a different product to fibre with different pricing structures and that cable is not fully future proofed.

⁵ 2G will be retained for longer than 3G because of the number of 'big button' emergency phones that use this technology together with a lot of legacy Internet of Things (IoT) and Machine to Machine (M2M) devices.

⁶ Currently internet access by satellite is provided by geostationary orbit systems at a height of 35,786 km above the equator which results in low latency or time-lag in the transfer of data. However, low earth orbit (LEO) systems are planned at heights often under 1,000 km to address the geostationary internet issues, albeit many, many more satellites will be required for LEO systems.

5. Mobile Infrastructure

Mobile infrastructure is a critical component of the digital infrastructure strategy and the council will support further coverage in the following areas:

- a. The council will facilitate the granting of planning permission and securing the necessary wayleaves to ensure that mobile infrastructure can be deployed where appropriate and enable maximum mobile coverage. This will take cognisance of the National Planning Policy Framework⁷. All planning authorities will be encourage to mandate a digital plan in any new build development.
- b. Public assets should be made available to host mobile infrastructure where appropriate including buildings and street furniture. The procurement of new street furniture such as lighting should consider the ability to host mobile infrastructure recognising in particular that the deployment of 5G will require significantly more infrastructure than earlier mobile technologies.⁸
- c. Consideration should be given to waiving non-domestic rates to digital infrastructure albeit this is likely to be driven by national policy guidelines. See Appendix 2 – DCMS digital connectivity portal 2018. Guidance on other national regulations is also provided here.
- d. The importance of innovation and emerging technologies and in particular 5G as set out in Appendix 4 – DCMS 5G Strategy 2017 should be recognised and reflected in council strategy and policy.
- e. The council will continue to monitor any health impact as 5G technology evolves. However, it should be noted that 5G spectrum as adopted in recent trials has utilised the 700MHz spectrum previously used for terrestrial television (TV whitespace) and that this spectrum is of a lower frequency than that currently used for 4G. Full cognisance will be taken of Public Health England guidance. See Appendix 8, letter dated 13 August 2019 from the Public Health England Chief Executive.
- f. Whilst 5G is a critical emerging technology, it will frequently be built through enhancing existing 4G infrastructure and 5G applications may need to fall-back on 4G technology when 5G signal is not available. 4G infill solutions with therefore be required to extend existing coverage of 91% of UK landmass from at least one MNO and 73% of indoor coverage. The council will therefore be pro-active in trying to secure funding for 4G infill solutions through the Digital Borderlands Growth Deal and 5G research funding through other DCMS sources. Any 4G infill solution in Cumbria will be future-proofed as much as possible to enable the hosting of 5G infrastructure in future. However, it should be recognised that 5G requires more infrastructure than 4G because of the nature of the technology and the spectrum under which it operates. This is particularly true in rural areas where host infrastructure such as public sector buildings or street furniture is not available.
- g. The Shared Rural Network (SRN) is an agreement between DCMS and the MNOs which aims to increase UK geographic 4G coverage from all 4 MNOs to 95% through the sharing of existing infrastructure and the build of new shared infrastructure by 2025. This will use £500m of UK Government funding together with a £530m MNO investment. It should be noted that 95%

⁷ See in particular section 10 'Supporting high quality communications:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁸ 5G operates in higher frequency spectrum which increases the available bandwidth and capacity, but reduces the distance that signal can travel.

UK coverage does not mean 95% in Cumbria and so 4G infill as referenced above will be needed in Cumbria to supplement the SRN.

- h. The deployment of the Home Office Emergency Services Network will also help fill 4G not-spots, particularly with the Extended Area Services in rural and deeply rural places. However, it should be recognised that this aims to provide coverage to all A and B roads only, accessible through specialist antenna on 'blue light' vehicles. This coverage may therefore not be available to pedestrians, cars and commercial vehicles, nor indoors. It will however improve existing in vehicle transport coverage.
- i. Mobile connectivity is also of importance to provide coverage to visitors and suppliers at major events and special projects e.g. county shows.

6. Public Wi-Fi

District councils may be interested in providing free public Wi-Fi in part or all of some of their towns and indeed Carlisle City Council worked with BT to implement a public Wi-Fi solution in 2014 with a contract that runs until at least 2022⁹. South Lakeland District Council has also implemented a solution in Kendal at a cost of £20k. A Wi-Fi solution can allow access to council content primarily from outdoors e.g. events and tourist information, although Wi-Fi in shopping centres and on public transport can also provide benefits.

Public Wi-Fi is not a core part of the county council's digital infrastructure strategy as there is no funding stream currently available, but the strategy does recognise that this technology can deliver benefits, not least in terms of digital inclusion and in attracting and keeping visitors to the covered area. The strategy sets out the following principles:

- a. The approach to public Wi-Fi is owned by district councils.
- b. Funding sources are likely to be local e.g. business rates, Town Deals and the Future High Street Fund.¹⁰
- c. It is recommended that a business case is prepared by the district council if they wish to proceed with a public Wi-Fi infrastructure project.
- d. If there is demand from several districts across a number of towns, the county council will create a central programme¹¹ of soft market testing, solution specification, procurement and deployment with the successful service provider being responsible for ongoing service delivery and maintenance.
- e. Competitive procurement across Cumbria will deliver best value and could result in innovative solutions.
- f. The Wi-Fi infrastructure should be made available to host 4G and 5G network equipment.
- g. Consideration will be given to providing electric vehicle charging points as part of the project.
- h. The operating and maintenance model will address ongoing costs.
- i. The solution will be free to use.
- j. A content delivery plan will be part of the project.

⁹ The Carlisle City Council public Wi-Fi contract with BT has the option to extend for a further two years until 2024.

¹⁰ It is possible that MNOs or other service providers might install and maintain public Wi-Fi at no cost to the council in return for access to public buildings and street furniture that could host the infrastructure together with 4G and 5G technology.

¹¹ If demand is proven through district business cases then a terms of reference will be drafted by the county council to set out in more detail the scope of the project based on the points outlined above.

- k. Internet of Things use cases will be referenced for consideration e.g. river level monitoring and waste collection applications, but implementation of such use cases will be run as separate projects.

7. Outcomes

The following three outcomes are key deliverables of the digital infrastructure strategy. However, specific and measurable outputs will be detailed in each project or programme in the Action Plan.

- a. Boost economic growth and in particular in key industries such as agriculture (agri-tech) and tourism¹².
- b. Digital inclusion so that no resident or business is left behind.
- c. More effective and efficient provision of local public services.

Table 1: Current digital infrastructure footprint and target coverage.

Cumbria	Current	Target by 2025
Superfast coverage >24Mbps	94.3%	>99%
Full fibre coverage (gigabit capable)	5.8%	>99%
4G geographic coverage from at least one MNO	90.4%	>99%
4G geographic coverage from all four MNOs	55.9%	>95%
4G indoor coverage from at least one MNO	97.2%	>99%
4G indoor coverage from all four MNOs	57.5%	>95%
1.) Superfast and full fibre coverage from thinkbroadband.com		
2.) 4G coverage from Ofcom May 2019		

Delivery of these targets will be through the key projects outlined in the Action Plan section of this document.

8. Governance and Resources

The digital infrastructure strategy will be delivered within appropriate council governance processes as well as best practice programme and project governance mechanisms such as Managing Successful Programmes (MSP) and Prince2.

- a. There will be a senior digital champion (David Southward at Cabinet level, Angela Jones at CMT level) with specific responsibility for digital infrastructure.
- b. The strategy will be approved through the Transport and Infrastructure Strategy Group (TISG) and become an appendix to the Cumbria LEP Infrastructure Plan (CLIP).
- c. Each funding opportunity will be managed through existing investment panel structures.

¹² Agriculture and tourism are key industries and drivers of economic outcomes in rural and deeply rural areas of Cumbria and the broader Borderlands region. This strategy takes into account the benefits of digitisation and digital applications that improve productivity and safety in agriculture and improve the visitor experience and the attractiveness of the region to tourists.

- d. There will be a digital infrastructure steering committee or project board, although this may be coordinated through the existing Digital Borderlands governance mechanisms or through programme/project specific activity.
- e. There will be a Senior programme manager for digital infrastructure (currently Jonathan Harris).
- f. There will be a digital infrastructure coordinator to facilitate a joined up approach to planning, assets, street-works and suppliers, liaising with the relevant departments and responsible bodies as appropriate (currently Cathy Weldon).
- g. The digital infrastructure team will need to have the appropriate data and analysis and project administration skills and resources currently provided by the Connecting Cumbria team.
- h. It will be important to the delivery of the strategy to collaborate effectively with network providers such as Openreach, B4RN and the MNOs, as well as other suppliers of full fibre and mobile infrastructure in Cumbria.
- i. The Connecting Cumbria team will work with district councils in Cumbria to ensure that responsibilities and the division of tasks is clear, within a two-tier local authority and to ensure that any local digital strategies are aligned with the council's digital infrastructure strategy. Work will also take place with planning authorities to ensure that the need for a digital plan is highlighted in all new build development applications¹³.
- j. The Local Government Association has published a councillor's guide to digital connectivity which is attached in Appendix 1.
- k. The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) published a digital connectivity portal and this is attached in Appendix 2.
- l. UK Government digital infrastructure strategy and priorities are set out in the Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review attached in Appendix 3.
- m. DCMS has a 5G strategy attached in Appendix 4.
- n. Ofcom regularly reports on fixed and mobile services and their latest reports are attached in Appendix 5.
- o. The Connecting Cumbria Phase 1 evaluation report 2015 is attached as Appendix 6.
- p. The Borderlands Newsletter announcing the agreement of Heads of Terms on 01 July 2019 is attached as Appendix 7.
- q. A letter dated 13 August 2019 from the Chief Executive of Public Health England on the health effects of 5G is attached as Appendix 8.

In addition to TISG approval the digital infrastructure strategy will be approved within council governance processed following peer review.¹⁴ This will require sign-off at Assistant Director and Director (through CMT) at officer level as well as by Lead Members.

¹³ A particular focus here will be the Garden Village to the south of Carlisle.

¹⁴ Peer reviewers include Alison Hatcher, CCC Senior Programme Manager, Economy and Environment, Derek Graham, Scottish Future Trust Digital Infrastructure Programme Director and Timm Houlby, Building Digital UK Programme Director (BDUK, a part of DCMS).

10. Action Plan

Following approval of this strategy document a detailed Action Plan¹⁵ will be drafted that sets out the specific projects that will be required to deliver the strategy. This includes:

- a. Completion of the Connecting Cumbria superfast contract with BT that aims to provide >94% of premises with broadband infrastructure of at least 24Mbps download. All remaining deployment utilises gigabit capable full fibre infrastructure. Fully funded; completion by 31 March 2021.
- b. Facilitate full fibre connectivity to hub sites such as schools and GP surgeries. Such connectivity will then support expansion to other local residential and business premises, potentially supported by voucher schemes (see below). £200m of funding available across the UK from the Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) scheme until 31 March 2021.
- c. Securing funding and mobilising the Digital Borderlands voucher top-up scheme to provide full fibre to communities in the last 6%. £2m of Digital Borderlands funding in Cumbria to top-up the UK RGC funding referenced above. Target start date June 2020 with deployment until March 2022¹⁶.
- d. Work with UK Government to secure funding for gigabit capable connections in line with the policy of providing £5bn of subsidy for the hardest to reach 20% of premises across the UK and to ensure that Cumbria is not left behind. UK Government targets completion by 2025.
- e. Securing funding and mobilising the Digital Borderlands 4G infill scheme that aims to go beyond existing UK 4G targets through the deployment of 5G ready infrastructure. Business case for £13m of funding in Cumbria to be submitted in Q1 2021/22, procurement in Q3 2021/22 and deployment from Q1 2022/23.¹⁷
- f. Working with partners to secure 5G research and development funding to develop a toolkit that can be used to create trials in Cumbria and the broader Borderlands region subject to further funding. £5m of funding across the consortium with a project start in May 2020. It should be noted that this project is not about the roll-out of 5G, but Digital Borderlands will work within the consortium to access the toolkit and understand how rural 5G might be rolled out in future.

Each project will have the following characteristics:

- The governance processes as set out earlier in this document.
- A clear set of activities and deliverables that shows how the strategy will be delivered.
- Defined project timelines.
- A clearly set out list of any dependencies.
- A pro-active risk management plan quantifying each risk with ongoing updates to mitigation activity.
- The amount of funding required for each project and the sources of that funding.
- The Senior Responsible Owners for each project together with a clearly set out and resourced delivery plan.

¹⁵ The Action Plan does not yet include town centre Wi-Fi which needs further justification through business cases, soft market testing and the availability of funds.

¹⁶ UKG will be lobbied to see if this date can be extended together with the associated Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) scheme.

¹⁷ These timescales to be confirmed and are dependent on how the SRN programme develops.

- A communication plan including key stakeholders (see below).

The TISG digital pipeline is below, but note that this is a dynamic document that is subject to change.



TISG Pipeline Digital
V9.xlsx

11. Stakeholder Engagement

A communication plan will be developed that will include the following stakeholders as appropriate:

- The council's lead members
- The council's Corporate Management Team (CMT)
- The Transport and Infrastructure Strategy Group (TISG)
- The Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (CLEP)
- The Digital Borderlands programme board
- The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and Building Digital UK (BDUK)
- The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and the Scottish Government as appropriate within Digital Borderlands funding streams.
- District councils
- The Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
- Local tourism authorities such as Cumbria Tourism
- The Home Office and the emergency services
- The National Farmers Union
- Digital community representatives and their nominating parish councils¹⁸
- Suppliers of digital infrastructure.

12. Summary

Digital infrastructure is a critical component in the delivery of council priorities as well as the strategic drivers set out within the Digital Borderlands Growth Deal initiative. This strategy document demonstrates how fixed line and mobile infrastructure can be improved in the county with the aim of ensuring that no one is left behind. It recognises that there are significant challenges because of the rural nature of the county and the funding constraints imposed on local bodies. However, without improvements to digital infrastructure, economic opportunities will not be fully realised in key economic sectors such as agriculture and tourism. In addition the council's broader digital strategy that sets out how services will be delivered in the most cost effective manner using technology would be compromised.

¹⁸ A network of 'hub coordinators' already exists in Cumbria.

Appendix 1 – LGA councillor’s guide to digital connectivity

A report aimed at councillors that explains why digital connectivity matters, explains broadband and mobile connectivity together with the role of a councillor and the role of a council.



LGA Cllr guide to
digital connectivity.pdf

Appendix 2 – DCMS digital connectivity portal 2018

The digital connectivity portal provides guidance for local authorities and network providers on improving connectivity in local areas together with resources and guidance on digital leadership, legislation and regulation and planning and deployment.



DCMS Digital
Connectivity - March 2018

Appendix 3 – DCMS Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review (FTIR) 2018

The FTIR sets out UK Government strategic priorities with respect to digital infrastructure in terms of full fibre connectivity, 4G coverage and world leading 5G capability.



DCMS
Future_Telecoms_Infr

Appendix 4 – DCMS 5G Strategy 2017

This strategy document sets out the Government's aims in terms of accelerating the deployment of 5G networks, maximising the productivity and efficiency benefits to the UK from 5G and creating new opportunities for UK businesses at home and abroad, and encourage inward investment.



Next_Generation_Mo
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Appendix 5 – Ofcom Connected Nations Report 2019

This annual report tracks progress in fixed and mobile services in the UK and summarises the role Ofcom plays in helping to further improve them.



Ofcom
Connected-Nations-21

Appendix 6 – Connecting Cumbria Phase 1 Evaluation Report 2015

Whilst now over 4 years old this evaluation report by consultancy SQW still shows the benefits of deploying superfast broadband infrastructure. The £38.8m public funding programme delivered a Present Value of the net GVA impacts over the period to 2024 of £273m or a Net Present Value of approximately £235m.



Evaluation of
Connecting Cumbria I

Appendix 7 - Borderlands Growth Deal Newsletter (Heads of Terms) July 2019

This newsletter was drafted following UK and Scottish Government's agreement of a Heads of Terms setting out the projects and programmes that are included in the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal including Digital Borderlands.



Borderlands
Newsletter July 2019

Appendix 8 – Letter dated 13 August 2019 from the Chief Executive of Public Health England on the Health Effects of 5G

This letter provides reassurance that there is no convincing evidence that exposure to radio waves below guidelines from the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) results in adverse health effects for the general population.



Duncan-Selbie NHE
-to-Chair-re-Health-et