

## Progress update: Connecting Devon and Somerset

The Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) programme is still on track to deliver 91% (incl. private sector plans) high speed fibre by the end of 2016. Recent survey work for the initial phase is nearing completion and the programme has announced the first seven communities across Devon and Somerset to benefit from high speed fibre broadband.

Although planning for the first areas to receive high speed broadband under the project did not include the B&NES area, the fact that progress is being made on the rollout elsewhere in the region is encouraging.

However surveying is planned to start in B&NES in spring 2014 with first services live by the end of 2014.

**Maps:** CDS has recently published a [final coverage map](#) for the programme, available via the website

<http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/final-coverage-map/>

This map shows where we anticipate the roll out to have reached by the end of 2016 based on current information. This information is subject to change as the programme progresses and further survey and planning work is undertaken.

To reflect the dynamic nature of the rollout CDS also make use of an [interactive coverage map](#), which looks up to 12 months ahead and will be updated every quarter. Together with the final coverage map, which will be updated every 6 months, any changes to the coverage areas will be reflected as the programme progresses.

<http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/where-and-when/>

**Community broadband:** CDS is working in partnership with DEFRA, DCMS and BT to support community broadband initiatives and the few communities that fall into the final 10%. Recently, CDS submitted an RCBF application for both the National Parks (Dartmoor and Exmoor).

As well as seeking additional funding and examining the alternative technologies we can deploy to these areas, CDS is looking to find out how we can access some of the further £250 million investment announced by the government last June.

**For further information please visit [www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/](http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/)**