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Improving Digital Connectivity | Broadband & Mobile

Progress Update 5 - October 2013

The CNPA continue to work with Partners to improve Broadband in the National Park.

Scottish Government (SG) and Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) are working with BT to deliver superfast Broadband to the whole of Scotland by 2020 with a stepchange by 2015. The aim for 2015 is to have 84-95% of the population receiving 40Mbps or above – the remaining 16-6% should have at least 2Mbps.



Exchange Upgrades

The first areas which will go live as part of the superfast broadband rollout in the Highlands and Islands were announced this week (Tuesday 15 October).

The good news is that the exchanges at Tomintoul, Glenlivet and Ballindalloch are all due to be upgraded by the end of 2014.

The announcement is the first in a series of updates which will be made quarterly for the life of the project as the fibre network rolls out across the region. If you would like to

Corgarff & Glenbuchat pioneer project

Corgarff and Glenbuchat consists of a number of small dispersed settlements. The area is also remote from serving BT exchanges with many residents currently relying on a satellite broadband provision. The Corgarff & Glenbuchat pioneer project is located in Aberdeenshire on the edge of the Cairngorms National Park and hopes to serve over 100 properties in the region.

The Community is working with CBS on this project, with additional advice and support given by Deeside:Donside Development Project, Aberdeenshire Council and CNPA.

Corgarff Glenbuchat Broadband Project

Tomintoul & Glenlivet

understand the current status of the exchange in your area you can use the tool provided by BT - <u>find out more here</u>.

Anyone interested in more detail about the superfast broadband rollout can keep up to date on a new Scotland wide website www.scotlandsuperfast.com introduced by the Scottish Government this week.

Community Broadband Scotland appoint a new director

Mark Tate, formerly HSBC's Head of Commercial and Business Banking in Scotland, has this week taken up the post of Development Director for Community Broadband Scotland (CBS).

CBS is a partnership which brings together SG, HIE, Scottish Enterprise, COSLA, the Carnegie UK Trust and our National Parks.

CBS's aim is to provide support, expertise and funding to communities in the most challenging locations to help them deliver their own broadband solutions.

Mark commented: "Providing world class connectivity is one of the Scottish Government's key priorities and I am really excited to be helping to drive the delivery of this ambitious agenda in our hardest to reach areas."

"Working with our key partners to find innovative and pioneering ways to get those communities connected will make a huge difference to how our rural communities live and work." To find out more click here.

CBS Pioneer Projects in the CNP: Pioneer projects have a dedicated page on the <u>CBS website</u>, which will be further populated over the coming months with updates and blogs sharing their experiences and learning.

Tomintoul and Glenlivet and Corgarff & Glenbuchat are both working closely with Community Broadband Scotland and CNPA and are both currently undertaking mapping exercises to assess the geographical and technological challenges involved.

For more information contact David Watson.

pioneer project

Tomintoul and Glenlivet contains a number of remote, inland mountain communities.

Tomintoul and Glenlivet
Development Trust are working
with CBS to assist in an area that
will cover an estimated 800
properties. The area also has
patchy mobile coverage.

TGDT have just appointed a consultant to deliver a technical options appraisal for the community broadband scheme. Three key pilot areas have been identified, all of which currently receive under 2Mbps download speeds, and will be the initial focus for the broadband project. These areas are the Braes of Glenlivet/Auchnarrow, Auchbreck/Mornish and A'anside, outlined in the picture below.



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