NBG Report for KCC Meeting 19 June 2018

Good news! The new cabinet (P2) in Killearn is now live and accepting orders! Unfortunately the current connections to this cabinet are rather few and limited to G63 9NE, G63 9PX, G63 9PY and G63 9RL and not all of the premises on even these postcodes. You will need to check for an individual situation. A further cabinet P3 (location unknown) now also appears proposed to be live by March 2019.

In Balfron no premises appear to have had upgraded landline connections in the past month. Cabinet P5 (location unknown) has slipped a month, being connected but now being live in Oct 2018. Cabinet P2 that appeared to be planned at G63 0RA (Ballat Pipeline bridge) now appears to have removed from the plan. The 2 others planned remain, supposedly live for July 2018, but still at Field Survey stage.

Landlines for Balmaha premises are again unchanged this month apart from a few coming back 'In Scope'.

In Blanefield/Strathblane no premises appear to have had upgraded connections in the past month. The cabinet status remains the same.

In Buchlyvie, no premises appear to have had upgraded connections in the past month. However, a 3rd cabinet now appears planned (location unknown), both additional ones shown in Field Survey, the one previously visible still due Dec 2018 and the additional one due March 2019.

Drymen is now showing a further cabinet proposed to be live by March 2019 but location unknown. Otherwise premises seem unchanged this month. Also the cabinet that should have been operational in February has apparently not moved forward. Croftamie premises appear unchanged.

For Fintry nothing much seems to have changed apart from the possibility of another cabinet being planned (location unknown). The status of this is also Field Survey planned to go live in March 2019. The dates for the other three cabinets are the same i.e. 1 indicating that it should be live already, although still no work has started beside the exchange; and the dates for the 2 other cabinets to go live are still Sept and Dec 2018. Due to the upgrade of local mobile masts to 4G however, a solution for individual premises using this method now seems viable and offers very good speeds.

Remember the status of your individual connectivity can be checked on either of the WhereandWhen pages of the BT Openreach or Digital Scotland websites. The additional 'refinements' of status from the BT Openreach Where and When website are shown at the end of the detail section overleaf.

Do not forget the Digital Scotland "Better Broadband Scheme" provides a subsidy to establish a better connection using either satellite or fixed wireless for those currently getting download speeds of less than 2Mbps. With improved mobile connectivity available now, this alternative may be a viable solution to a poor landline connection, but not it seems included in the voucher scheme. See the KCC website for specific links.

The latest status of cabinets in each of the villages is shown overleaf:

- **Cabinet status summary**:
  - Balfron cabinets: 2 live (P1 at G63 0LH & P3 at G63 0NA) plus a further 4 live between March & Oct 2018 but locations unknown. About 85% of the village (by postcode) is now Accepting Orders. The majority of other premises are shown as In Scope, although some are downgraded to Exploring Solutions. Planned cabinet P2 at G63 0RA now removed;
  - Balmaha cabinets: some postcodes are showing as back In Scope i.e. more advanced than Exploring Solutions;
  - Blanefield/Strathblane cabinets: 3 live (P1 cabinet at Netherblane; P2 cabinet at G63 9BY, and P3 cabinet showing as Field Survey, location unknown, but now supposedly live). Over 85% of the village (by postcode) is now shown as Accepting Orders for fibre (subject to distance). The remaining postcodes (i.e. G63 9AH, G63 9EH, G63 9ET, G63 9EU, G63 9EX, G63 9EY, G63 9EZ & G63 9HA) are showing as in Build but connected to cabinet PE1 that confusingly shows as unavailable;
  - Buchlyvie cabinets: P2 cabinet at FK8 3LP is live and services most of the village. Some more premises are connected now while other premises are still Exploring Solutions. Two additional cabinets are showing, locations unknown, in Field Survey and apparently planned for eithr Dec 2018 or Mar 2019. Premises at FK8 3LS & G63 0QU remain Exploring Solutions. About 88% of the village (by postcode) is now shown as Accepting Orders for fibre (subject to distance);
  - Croftamie cabinets: P2 live (at G63 0EP between village and A811 junction to Balloch). Cabinet P5, on the corner of Buchanan Cres and the A809, is apparently live and been available since Dec 2017;
  - Drymen cabinets: 3 live (P1 at G63 0BY, P2 at G63 0EP i.e. Croftamie, and P3 at G63 0BD). Additional premises are shown as Accepting Orders (within G63 0NH) using a cabinet number 3 at G63 0AA. P4 has appeared at Buchanan Castle Gdns in the Castle Estate at G63 0HT with premises being Connected. This should have gone live in Feb 2018, with 2 further cabinets: P5 also at G63 0BB i.e. in Croftamie (allegedly already live from Nov 2017), and E10 in Field Survey supposedly going live in July 2018, but location unknown. Planning permission has been sought for a cabinet at G63 0BH that is possibly the 2nd of these cabinets i.e. E10. A further cabinet seems proposed P6 (location unknown) also in Field Survey and to be live in March 2019;
  - Fintry cabinets: 4 cabinets are now shown, E1 (location unknown but possibly opposite the Garage in Main St) allegedly scheduled to be live in Sept 2017 (although no actual work has actually started) and E2 (location also unknown and scheduled to go live in Sept 2018. A 3rd cabinet (again location unknown) scheduled to go live in Dec 2018, and a 4th one scheduled to go live in Mar 2019. The fixed-wireless solution similar to that delivered to Auchengillan is now on hold indefinitely due these plans by BT. 4G now available from the mobile masts may provide a solution for many premises;
  - Killearn cabinets: 3 cabinets are live (E1 at Blane Smithy), E3 (at jn of Station Rd and Gartness Rd) and P1 (beside Exchange). 2 further cabinets (P2 & E6) appear to be proposed (although neither location is known) however the expected cabinet at the junction of The Square and Crosshead Rd has now appeared although both still appear as at 'Field Survey'. P2 is now live and E6 allegedly live by Sept 2018. Additionally a further cabinet P6 is in Field Survey due to be live by Mar 2019;
  - Milton of Buchanan – see Balmaha above.

Note that the reliability of dates shown is uncertain, as are the specific locations, which refer to the often large areas within a single rural postcode. You can check your own situation using the BT Openreach WhereandWhen website.

Note: the stages in "the Fibre Journey" are:
Exploring Solutions, In scope, Design, Field Survey, Build, Connect, Activate, Accepting Orders.
The timescale for "the journey" is likely to be about 12-18 months.

Status 'refinements':
Exploring Solutions: We're working with government and industry to explore ways to bring Superfast fibre to as many people as possible but don't have a plan for your area yet. You might consider co-funding fibre access in your community. Knowing there's a healthy demand in your area can also really help.
In Scope: You're in a plan to get Superfast fibre but we haven't started work yet. It'll be built either as part of our fibre programme or through a partnership with your local authority.
In scope – FTTP: Your area is currently in our plans to be upgraded with Fibre to the Premises (FTTP), however we follow a different design and build process for FTTP so you won't see updates at each stage. Once the engineering work is completed there is a commissioning period of up to eight weeks before an order can be placed. When you are able to place an order you will see the Accepting Orders message.
Accepting Orders but line Too Long: Your cabinet is enabled for Superfast fibre however you're not able to order fibre just yet. This might be because the length of the line is too long to get Superfast speeds. We're actively looking at other options.

Doug Ashworth
Chair, Killearn Broadband Group