

Bromley Full-Fibre Broadband Digital Infrastructure Rollout Update

21st June 2022

1. Key Outputs:

- Full Fibre Broadband coverage across Bromley has increased to **35%**, which is primarily due to the Openreach current build programme in the borough and is **17%** above the average coverage by Openreach across London.

However, despite the progress made, Bromley remains below the average of **42%** for full-fibre broadband coverage generally available across London.

- The build **has been completed at the Orpington exchange** and is due to be completed at the other 4 exchanges within Bromley announced in the current build programme (i.e Farnborough, Biggin Hill, Chislehurst and Hayes Common) by the end of September 2022.
- Gigabit capability in general, has increased to over **92%** coverage of the borough (over 88% of coverage in Bromley is due to Virgin Media/O2 cable coverage and is amongst the top rates of coverage for boroughs across London).

2. Full-Fibre Broadband Rollout Progress:

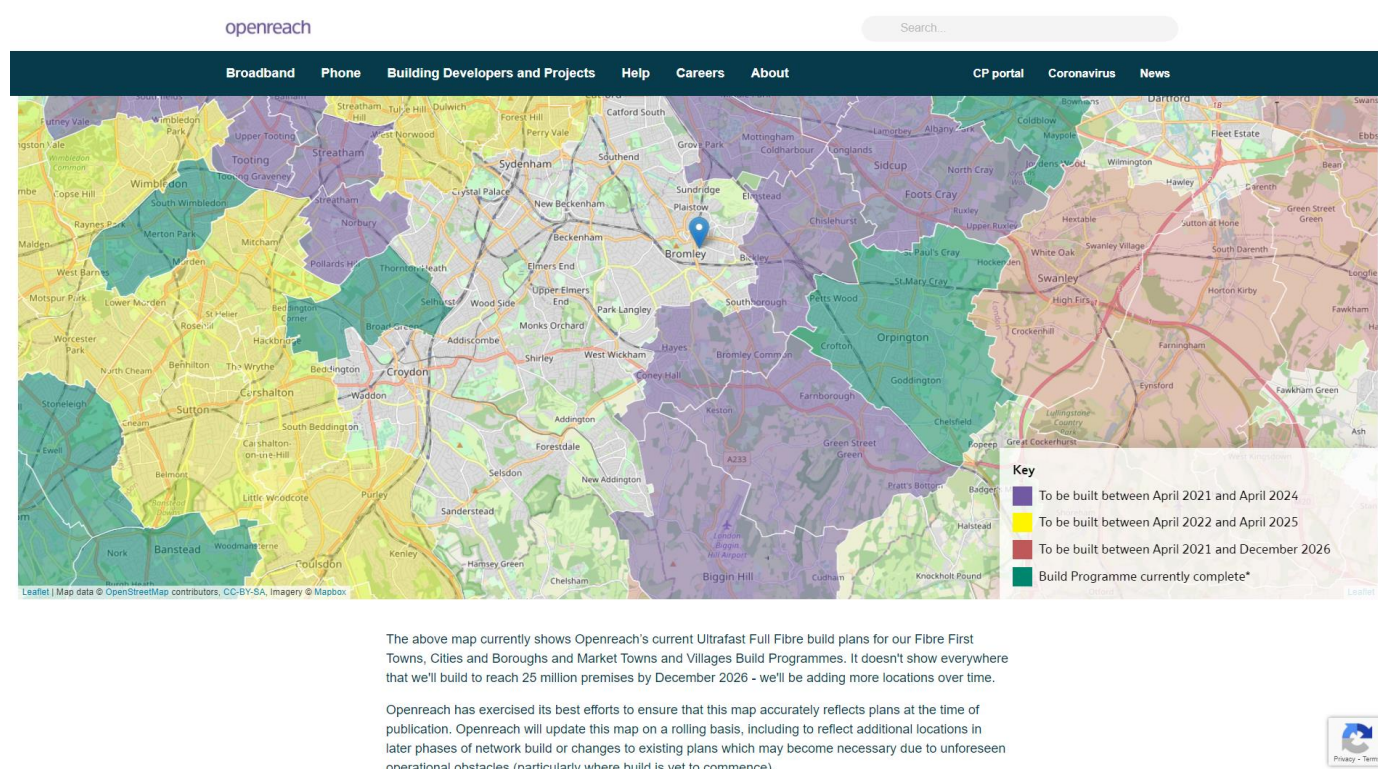
The Council has an existing MOU with Openreach (Digital Charter) in order to facilitate faster rollout of the digital infrastructure, but it does not have any influence over which telephone exchanges Openreach announce, or the build programme. Basically, it cannot determine the planned rollout investment, since this is commercially driven with much of the data relating to the build being commercially sensitive and not available publicly.

Telephone exchange boundaries do not line up directly with the boundaries of the borough. As such, there are a small number of areas within the borough that are covered by a telephone exchange that is not located within the borough. The current progress made in relation to the upgrade of telephone exchanges (which each have a completion target of **75%** for full-fibre broadband coverage) is outlined below, along with the current Openreach build plans:

- i. The 5 exchanges within Bromley originally announced in the Openreach current rollout programme
 - Farnborough - Full-Fibre build is on track (**59%** coverage) and due to be completed by end of June 2022.
 - Orpington – Full-Fibre **build is complete** (**78%** coverage as shown on the map below)
 - Biggin Hill - Full-Fibre build is on track (**69%** coverage) and due to be completed by end of June 2022.
 - Chislehurst - Full-Fibre build is on track (**68%** coverage) and due to be completed by end of June 2022.
 - Hayes Common – Full-Fibre build is on track (**19%** coverage) and due to be completed by end of September 2022.

- ii. The other overlapping exchanges on the periphery of the borough included in the current rollout plans
 - Grove Park (Lewisham) – Full-Fibre build is underway (**68%** coverage) and is due to be completed by April 2024
 - Sidcup (Bexley)– Full Fibre build is on track (**22%** coverage) and due to be completed by end of September 2022 (*Bexley borough Full-Fibre build is complete*)
- iii. Other overlapping exchanges that were not include in the current rollout plans
 - Knockholt (Sevenoaks) has not been announced
 - Beulah Hill (Croydon) To be built between April 2022 and April 2025
 - Catford (Lewisham) To be built between April 2022 and April 2025
 - Addiscombe (Croydon) has not been announced
 - Swanley (Sevenoaks) To be built between April 2021 and December 2026

The map below shows the areas where the Openreach full-fibre broadband build has been completed and areas where it is planned:

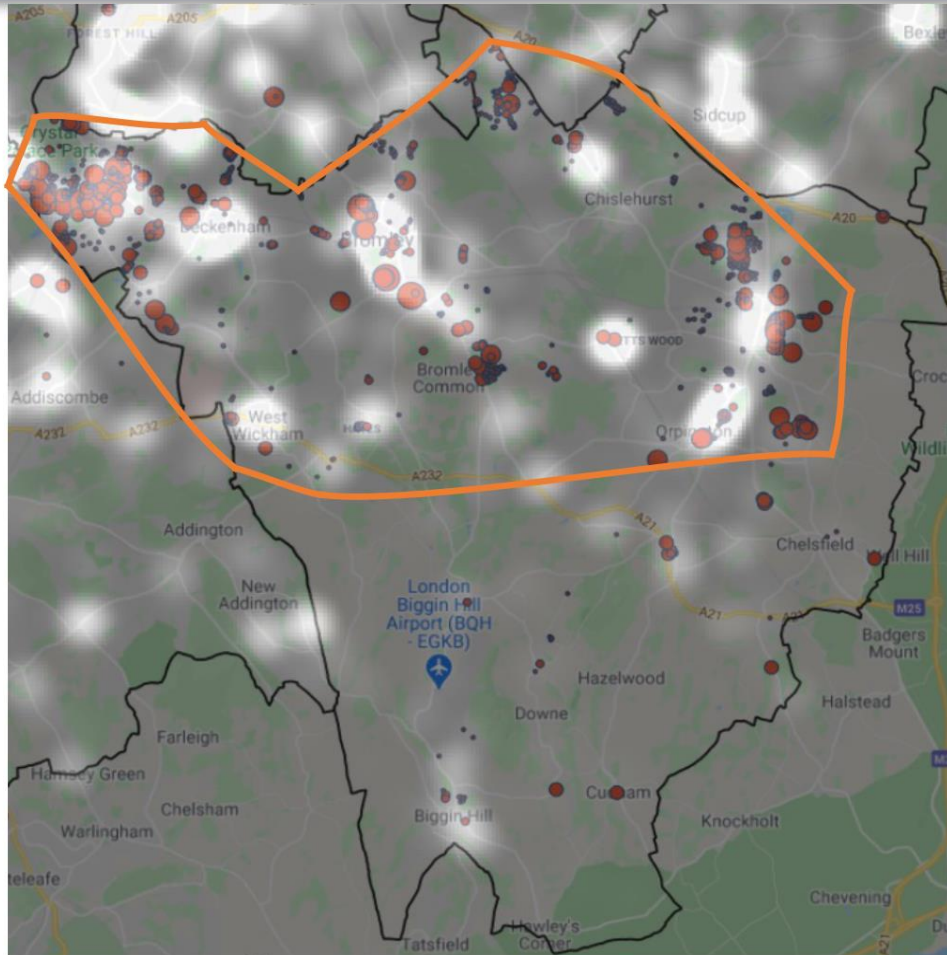


3. Progress made with other full-fibre broadband infrastructure providers

The Council's Economic Development team has also been liaising with other full-fibre broadband infrastructure providers (e.g. Community Fibre, Openreach and Hyperoptic), along with landlords of existing social housing (e.g. Clarion Housing) to investigate ways of addressing gaps identified in full-fibre broadband coverage within the borough, through wayleave agreements for multi-dwelling units/MDUs (these also align closely to the areas where many local businesses are concentrated in the borough, as shown on the map below).

A presentation to raise awareness of the digital infrastructure opportunities available from providers, has been arranged to take place at the next meeting of Bromley Federation of Housing Associations in September 2022.

Bromley Social Homes & Business Overlap



Key:



Bromley Council & Clarion
Owned Social Homes



Business
Concentration areas



A potential
Build Area

15,100 * Total Number of Businesses
in Bromley

12,202 ** Direct Business Overlap
with Social Homes

* Source: ONS - UK Business: Activity, Size and Location 2021. Numbers include microenterprises (<9 employees), small enterprises (10 to 49 employees), medium-sized enterprises (50 to 249 employees) and large enterprises (>250 employees).

** Source: Business locations come from current Land Registry data.

According to Land Registry data Clarion own 8,155 units in the borough. Around half of Clarion's units are in the north of the borough.

The largest three housing associations in the borough after Clarion are Optivo, A2Dominion and Hyde Housing (although they all have pretty small holdings

