

NBG Report for KCC Meeting 18 Dec 2019

A brief report this month as the Digital Scotland WhereandWhen site is not showing any changes from last month.

The premises at the top of Drumbeg Loan, and others in this part of the village that might be similarly connected to the exchange, are still shown as being EO lines or in the FTTP plan, even though it seems the P3 cabinet is live. This is despite more activity being seen at the cabinet.

Outside the village itself, in Gartness there has been some progress, apparently due to efforts by their Community Group to gain a partnership with BT. Several premises have now been approached with the offer of an FTTP connection but I don't know if there are any conditions. The Stockiemuir Community Internet Service has also reached the stage of making the last few fibre connections and so is essentially finished offering a similar level of infrastructure as the Balquidder GigaBit project (of which more in the report on the Gartmore Smart Digital Villages event). So congratulations are in order to Euan who has done the vast majority of the work single-handed!

The meeting of the Broadband Delivery Forum that was proposed for November, when I expected we would get an update from Digital Scotland about the R100 programme, didn't materialise. I suspect because Digital Scotland couldn't attend.

I'm told that the Better Broadband Scheme is closing at the end of the year, and, as indicated above, I'm not aware of any replacement being made available through Digital Scotland.

As always, if you want to check your own specific situation and get the most accurate information, use the WhereandWhen page available through the Digital Scotland website:

(www.scotlandsuperfast.com/check-my-area).

Note that this website does not operate through a secure connection and so you may get a warning from your browser software.

Alternatively, the revised BT Openreach website (<https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband>) is available.

Doug Ashworth

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