

NBG Report for KCC Meeting 21 Nov 2018

BT Openreach continues to make some small, but visible, progress in Killearn. The new cabinet in Drumbeg Loan now has a number (3!), an updated status of Being Connected, and is now showing as being Live by Feb 2019. Otherwise there don't seem to be any changes in Killearn apart from a little more paint beside the inspection hatches in Lampson Road!

The volunteer team creating the Stockiemuir Community Internet network are very close to going live. Other local community projects, who have applied to Stirling Council for assistance via the new Rural Broadband Award Scheme, are still to hear whether they have been successful in getting Council support.

Blanefield/Strathblane now appears to be totally connected to the fibre network. The first of our villages to achieve it! There are many properties outside the village itself, however, that remain on long or EO lines that restrict the speeds available to them.

In Fintry, work has finally started to install the long-expected cabinet opposite the exchange, and work is also planned to upgrade the exchange itself to ADSL2+. The 1st of the 2 cabinets allegedly will be live by December, and the 2nd by July 2019.

The Drymen cabinet within Buchanan Castle estate has now in the process of 'Being Activated' which will enable orders to be accepted.

Elsewhere, more fibre is being run, for example, at Balfron Station and the Fintry crossroads, to enable FTTP (Fibre to the Premises) connections.

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 3 planned, supposedly to be live between Nov 2018 and July 2019, but locations unknown;
- Balmaha cabinets: there are still no cabinets shown as being planned;
- Blane/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). Cabinet PE1, location unknown, now live. All the village is now connected to fibre;
- Buchlyvie cabinets: P2 cabinet at FK8 3LP is live and services most of the village. Only 1 additional cabinet (P4) is now showing, but location unknown, in Field Survey and apparently planned for Mar 2019;
- 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, and P3 at G63 0BD). P4 is at Buchanan Castle Gdns in the Castle Estate at G63 0HT, is 'Being Activated' and might be Live by Nov 2018. This should have gone live in Feb 2018. Planning permission has been sought for a cabinet at G63 0BH that is possibly a cabinet listed as P6 (but location unknown) which is now 'Being Connected' and supposedly to be live by Feb 2019;
- Fintry cabinets: 2 cabinets are now listed. One unmarked cabinet has been erected opposite the church on the Crow Road and will therefore be either cabinet P2 or P3. P2 should be live by July 2019, and P3 by Dec 2018. Locations for these 2 cabinets are not shown however. Work has finally started on the cabinet opposite the Garage in Main St. Meanwhile 4G now available from the mobile masts may provide an immediate solution for many premises, especially those furthest outside the village itself;
- Killearn cabinets: 4 cabinets are live (E1 at Blane Smithy), E3 (at jn of Station Rd and Gartness Rd), P1 (beside Exchange) and P2 (at the junction of The Square and Crosshead Rd). Cabinet P3 has appeared halfway down Drumbeg Loan listed as 'Being Connected', to be live by Feb 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