

# MAYOR OF LONDON

The Connected London team brings you updates on digital connectivity projects and policy in London. Get in touch by emailing the team on [Connected@London.gov.uk](mailto:Connected@London.gov.uk) if you have any questions or if you would like to be featured

## SEPTEMBER UPDATE



## CONNECTED LONDON TEAM UPDATE

### **Connected London Full Fibre Networks**

The Secretary of State and Ministers have decided to honour London's £8.5m funding awarded in Wave 2 of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS) Local Full Fibre Networks (LFFN) Challenge Fund. This decision has been made following a review of announced winners where connectivity providers have signalled some future investment. We understand this view has been taken on other wave 2 and wave 3 cities too. The Connected London team continue to meet with DCMS officers to progress the project through the assurance gateways and currently discussing London's site list eligibility to ensure compliance with criteria and state aid.

If you have questions about the LFFN project, or would like to discuss how the TfL network can benefit your borough including by connecting up key sites and managing assets on your behalf, please get in touch.

### **TfL Connected London Full Fibre Network**

TfL's [Telecommunications Commercialisation Project](#) (TCP) is progressing through procurement with a target to award the concession in the Summer 2020 with the first phase of the Evaluation process commencing on the 20th September 2019. The eastern half of the [Jubilee line](#) will get full mobile connectivity within station platforms and tunnels, with the exception of London Bridge and Waterloo stations which, subject to final approvals, will be added later during 2020.

### **Connected London Map**

The team worked with GLA's in house GIS team to create a useful tool for the public and boroughs to better understand fibre availability across London. The map informs coverage of broadband services by technology type from a London wide perspective through to postcode level. The data is sourced from Ofcom's Spring 2019 Connected Nations data and over time, we will be working with our GIS team to add historic and new data charting the progress of connectivity across London according to Ofcom data.

[View our map](#)

### **Connected London Blog**

The blog has been up and running since late July and gives useful information about the Connected London teams meetings and projects. This can be useful for stakeholders to better understand the breadth of the team's work and possible collaborative opportunities.

[Read our blog](#)

### **Standardised mobile agreement**

This has been developed in partnership with the British Standards Institute, and a Steering Committee made up of the top legal representatives of land owners and the

telecommunications sector. Historically, the property sector and the mobile industry struggle to reach agreements when it comes to using rooftops for sites. Due to be launched in the coming weeks, the Standardised Mobile Agreement is a template legal document, with guidance, for the property and mobile industry to use to reach agreements about sites more quickly. This initiative will help to address the city's not spots in mobile connectivity by facilitating more sites for mobile infrastructure, and prepares the city for 5G.

## BOROUGH UPDATES



### North East London – 16 July 2019

As part of the Local London Partnership, **Havering** Council successfully secured funding through the Strategic Investment Pot which will be used to improve digital connectivity within the borough. Havering also secured funding through the GLA's Good Growth Fund which will be used to create an innovation hub in the Rainham area of the borough. Havering Council remains committed towards enabling and improving connectivity to create an environment for businesses to thrive and grow.

## South London – 23 July 2019

**Richmond** continue to work closely with Wandsworth with whom they have a shared staffing arrangement. The Council is considering a number of ways to work with suppliers to improve connectivity especially in areas of particularly poor coverage. One of the benefits of the collaboration with Wandsworth is the potential for economies of scale when procuring infrastructure and a joint approach to most technology projects continues to be the norm, unless there are sound reasons not to. Richmond is about to launch its digital strategy and a draft is available [here](#) along with the [accompanying report](#).

**Croydon's** cabinet recently approved the borough's [digital strategy](#). Croydon plan to work with providers to bring full-fibre to all social housing across the borough, then use that opportunity to push providers to take the fibre to businesses and other areas. Croydon are working with South London Partnership (SLP), who have won [funding to deliver IoT platforms](#) across south London boroughs.

## North Central – 29 July 2019

**Westminster** has Cabinet Member sign-off for the city-wide wayleave approach. Wayleaves will be granted to interested providers. The Digital Street Markets Project has been agreed at outline application stage and will deliver free Wi-Fi to all markets and also deliver free digital training. The New West End Company have procured a partner to deliver connectivity to their BID area and the network will have full fibre backhaul. The Small Cell Concessionaire is deploying small cells within Trafalgar Square and is also deploying a point to point wireless solution to deliver business broadband. The Connect Westminster project has allocated £1.6m out of £2.5m to 603 businesses so far.

**Hackney** Council is currently engaging with residents and businesses about the Council's [connectivity vision](#) and seeking feedback to inform next steps. Hackney continues to work towards a borough-wide wayleave to deliver full fibre to social housing, and is exploring how it might open access to its own ducting and fibre network to support this. Hackney is also working on a quick wins programme to leverage its assets to deliver social value initiatives.

**Kensington and Chelsea** are focused on trying to replicate the work that Westminster have done. They are laying out plans to encourage fibre suppliers to roll out fttp as widely as possible within RBKC over the next three years, but as the resulting take-up is in its very early stages, it is not yet clear how well it will progress.

**Camden** is currently continuing its connectivity journey moving on from successful rooftops

and small cell deployments to enabling full fibre rollouts across the borough through the use of a master wayleave. Additionally, they are developing a more robust smart city strategy through explorations into LPWAN and use cases for sensors and monitors.

### West London – 8 August 2019

**OPDC** are working on their connectivity strategy for the Old Oak and Park Royal opportunity area and are looking for opportunities to introduce 5G small cell infrastructure in Park Royal Industrial Estate.

**Hounslow** are working on linking council houses and community assets to fibre, which will also positively impact commercial areas not able to access fibre. They've been in talks with a number of providers, and are looking at options for rolling out fibre to multi dwelling units (MDUs) and council assets with a cabinet paper due shortly. Hounslow, with the other West London boroughs, is still considering options for the SIP funding

Harrow are looking at ways to fund a post to take the work forward. They have had meetings with providers and are looking at agreeing corporately on how to ensure residents and the council get the best social value return from any investment. They have obtained Legal advice regarding using Wayleaves to secure social value.

**Brent** are currently in the process of updating their [digital strategy](#) which will ensure digital priorities are aligned with the new Borough Plan. A business case is being developed to support the new programme of digital work. The hope is to take the new Digital Strategy and supporting business case to Cabinet in October 2019. Full fibre providers, Community Fibre and Hyperoptic continue fibre roll out to housing stock across the borough through the master wayleaves agreements signed in 2018. Brent is reviewing community assets to connect; they've created a Brent Hubs model, which aims to support some of the most vulnerable residents in the community. The new South Kilburn Brent Hub has a gigabit capable connection which is enabling more effective access to services from the location. This connection has been provided by Community Fibre as part of their roll out to Brent's housing stock in the area. Plans are also being developed to deliver digital skills training for residents from the Brent Hub at South Kilburn. Brent are working on reviewing its list of sites which will be connected to fibre through SIP funding. They are ramping up their smart cities projects and are planning on trialling an air quality project in autumn.

**Hillingdon** aims to use the SIP Enablement Fund towards a short term technical post to assist with the full fibre programmes. Another priority for the borough is to review the list of locations near stations to be included in the TfL contract.

## South Central London – 29 August 2019

**Southwark** Council is developing a Connected Places Strategy for the next two years to cover connectivity, digital inclusion and smart cities. This will build upon the work delivered as part of their previous Digital Infrastructure Strategy which you can [find here](#).

The full-fibre broadband project to Southwark's estate is nearing completion with over 25,000 properties now gigabit-enabled as part of our collaboration with Community Fibre and Hyperoptic. This agreement includes a number of digital inclusion offerings including free connections to TRAs and community centres, laptops for a number of libraries, and digital inclusion training for residents in Southwark. If you're based in Southwark and are interested in becoming a Digital Champion or receiving digital training, you can apply [here](#).

The Digital Infrastructure Team and other LBS colleagues successfully bid for and won £210,000 from the TfL Lane Rental Fund to develop an innovative, spatial platform to help with the challenges in planning and managing disruption using anonymised population movement data from mobile operators. This project will be kicking off soon and project updates will be shared on our [Collaborative projects page](#).

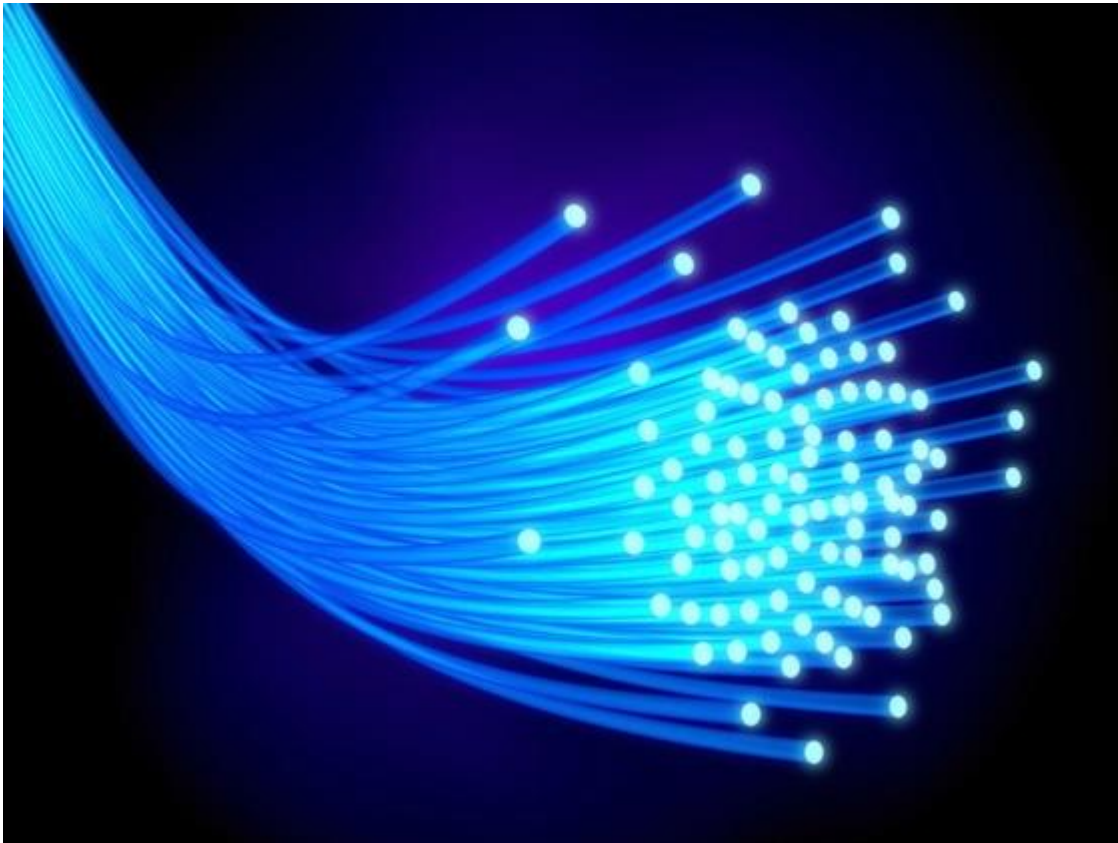
Southwark Council are running their second Digital Futures Month in February 2020. This month will be dedicated to events aimed at giving staff the opportunity to hear about some amazing current and future projects, improve their digital skills and contribute their ideas on how to embrace technology and innovation in our work to deliver better services. There will be four themes centered around digital transformation and innovation; Resident-Led Change, Connected Communities, Smarter Working, and Data & Analytics. If you're interested in giving a talk or being a part of this month, please contact [shade.nathaniel-ayodele@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:shade.nathaniel-ayodele@southwark.gov.uk).

**Lambeth** have worked with Virgin, Hyperoptic and Community Fibre to agree a template for a master wayleave but it has not yet been signed and work is still on hold for the time being. The IT director is presently recruiting for resources to manage all aspects of connectivity in Lambeth including fibre provision to council properties. His manager, the Strategic Director for Resident's Services has advised that this resource needs to be in place before the wayleaves can be signed. Once in place they will be responsible for managing the council's relationship with the fibre providers and this will include recruiting surveyors to carry out pre/post work surveys.

Meanwhile in **Lewisham**, with the appointment of Murray James as Lewisham Council's Director of IT and Digital Services this Summer comes a new drive forward of how Lewisham Council's digital infrastructure strategy will develop over the next few years. Registered Social Landlords in the borough are also mindful of opportunities which might come through the potential rollout of full fibre broadband to residents of Social Housing- with opportunities to

explore around this theme. The implied planning change coming from the 2020 London Plan introducing full fibre broadband within new build future developments are also to be welcomed and will be of great interest to Council Officers – there has also been interest shown in the content of the Connected London Teams new website content.

## PROVIDER UPDATES



### Three

Over the course of the session, they will introduce the upgrades they are carrying out to improve 4G coverage and they will show their plans to shake up the home broadband market with 5G.

The briefing will take place on **Wednesday 18th of September from 3.30pm to 4.30pm at Studio Three, 297 Oxford Street, W1C 2DY.**

The session will be held at their flagship store, where you will be able to experience the power of our 5G network.

If you have any questions or if you and/or one of your officers would like to attend. Please

RSVP to [public.affairs@three.co.uk](mailto:public.affairs@three.co.uk)

## Digital Connectivity in the news

- [Analysing digital connectivity in the UK](#) – 6/8/19  
Article discussing the Governments Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review (FTIR) and if it has helped digital connectivity in the UK
- [July 2019 update on broadband availability across the UK, nations and regions](#) – 7/8/19  
Table showing thinkbroadband's analysis of different broadband coverage across the UK
- [Smart cities: building the metropolis of the future](#) – 8/8/19  
An article on how technology is changing urban environments
- [Autumn National Infrastructure Strategy to boost UK full fibre funding](#) – 10/8/19  
The National Infrastructure Strategy (NIS) is expected to get a funding boost in the autumn
- [Is London Smart city initiative as smart as it could be?](#) – 16/8/19  
Article by George Adams – UK director of Energy and Engineering of SPIE, and his take on the Mayors smart city programme so far
- [£250,000 boost for broadband in conference centres](#) – 16/8/19  
Tourism Minister Rebecca Pow has launched a competition for UK conference centres to apply for funding to improve broadband infrastructure with the aim to host more international conferences in the UK
- [Mind the gap: Southwark's innovative approach to expanding connectivity](#) - 23/8/19  
Q&A with Davina Fell, Digital infrastructure Programme Manager from Southwark Council, about Southwark's plans for connectivity and challenges they are facing
- [5G: Rural areas could see bigger and taller masts](#) – 27/8/19  
Digital secretary Nicky Morgan, has launched consultation on plans to build “slightly taller” masts to improve mobile coverage in rural areas



- [£30m to spark rollout of next generation 5G in rural areas and help countryside capitalise on tech revolution](#) – 27/8/19  
DCMS have launched a UK-wide competition to spark tech revolution in countryside communities and help rural Britain seize opportunities of 5G technology
- [Video: Greenwich bids to become London's most resilient borough](#) – 29/8/19  
A conversation with Allan Mayo, Smart City Strategist in Greenwich, discussing Greenwich's plans and how they're planning to make Greenwich London's smartest borough
- [Vodafone hurls sueball at Ofcom over plans to relax BT leases](#) – 29/8/19  
Vodafone and TalkTalk have appealed against Ofcom's choice to relax BT's wholesale fibre leases, claiming it could cost businesses and customers millions of pound
- [August 2019 update on broadband availability across the UK, nations and regions](#) - 7/9/19  
Thinkbroadband analysis of superfast and full fibre broadband coverage across the UK
- [Openreach put the brakes on future UK G.fast broadband plans](#) - 11/9/19  
Openreach have informed ISPs they are no longer giving plans for their G.fast (ultrafast broadband)
- [Study shows benefits of 5G and full fibre to UK local authorities](#) - 13/9/19  
New research from Oxrea has helped to highlight some of the benefits that Local Authorities could expect from helping the 5G mobile and broadband rollout

## Newsletters

If you would like your update or event featured, please get in touch at [connected@london.gov.uk](mailto:connected@london.gov.uk)