

South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan Scope

26th October 2021

Overarching Key Priority

The SYMCA and Local Authorities form a successful and productive relationship with all key digital infrastructure providers to ensure all South Yorkshire authorities develop productive working relationships that ensure as much gigabit coverage as possible by 2025. Specifically, prioritising additional actions and interventions to address the **c170,000 premises gigabit coverage gap** (based on current projections - to be refined through further data analysis).

Alongside this, it will be important to develop an ongoing communications plan for the development & delivery of the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy & associated activities.

Strategic Goal	Proposed Priority / Short-Term Actions and Interventions	Medium Term Actions and Interventions
1. Ensure South Yorkshire's superfast broadband and 4G success is repeated for Gigabit broadband and 5G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide non BDUK state aid friendly interventions where appropriate to incentivise or encourage industry to accelerate delivery of gigabit-capable broadband • Map the digital infrastructure industry providers, including smaller providers, and develop a holistic and continuous engagement programme. • Enhance ongoing dialogue / relationships with both major and smaller local digital infrastructure suppliers, and identify and oversee consistent 'barrier busting' measures being put in place to support the industry infrastructure roll-out; • Identify support requirements and secure the necessary officer resources to support the DCMS Project Gigabit (£61m - £103m) Programme in South Yorkshire. • Map public assets in relation to the premises not scheduled for gigabit connectivity by 2025 to identify potential 'anchors' and utilise enabling public assets to support industry gigabit connectivity roll-outs. • Close and monitor the SFSY Programme contracts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider a 'drive by' rural mobile survey across South Yorkshire to map the true state of rural mobile coverage, identify gaps, and seek industry resolutions. • Undertake further focussed mapping of the public assets across South Yorkshire including buildings and street furniture, to support further 4G and 5G coverage. • Undertake periodic 'Market' engagements to track progress by the industry in rolling-out and upgrading mobile coverage. • Work with Mobile Network Operators and Local Authorities to facilitate the appropriate location of new infrastructure, encouraging the sharing of infrastructure wherever possible, and educating decision makers and the public. • Explore funding a "top up" of the Gigabit broadband voucher system to further incentivise rural deployment • Explore potential to establish a "GigaHub" project approach.
2. Support the social and economic priorities set out in the SEP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and develop a demand stimulation programme for existing SME businesses and new start-ups aligned with and supporting gigabit connectivity roll-outs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission activity to develop a South Yorkshire Digital Branding Strategy for the digital industry sector. • Explore further the potential business case, technical and resourcing requirements for the '5G in a box'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore proposals for a Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme to support and promote business and residential take-up of gigabit opportunity. • Continue to provide advice on connectivity for residents and businesses across South Yorkshire, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural areas ○ Business connectivity issues ○ Community / Third sector connectivity issues ○ Multiple Dwelling Units 	<p>innovation model to accelerate 5G adoption by the South Yorkshire manufacturing sector.</p>
<p>3. Form an inclusive platform that enables better outcomes for all sections of society.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission research to fill the information gap relating to the real extent of digital poverty in South Yorkshire, and the actions to address this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage Local Authorities, Housing Associations and the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre (AMRC) to maximise digital inclusivity within lower income tenants and explore the opportunity for ‘Social Connectivity’ pilots. • Commission joint work with health and care providers to explore digital infrastructure opportunities and requirements to support the growth of digital health and welfare.
<p>4. Be supported by the Governance and data-driven approach needed to maximise the digital potential of South Yorkshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission and utilise consistent data sources to inform policy, delivery, and funding bids and programmes’ • Adopt consistent ‘best practice’ planning policies and ‘barrier busting’ approaches/measures across South Yorkshire to support and accelerate industry roll-outs. • Continue to provide consistent expert strategic advice and support to Local Planning Authorities and developers on digital infrastructure requirements within new developments as well as mobile telecommunications requirements and discharge of planning conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Digital Forum comprising representatives from the public sector, local businesses and digital infrastructure providers
<p>5. Position South Yorkshire as a leading centre of applied digital innovation and adoption.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively work with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on future digital initiatives to capture funding and delivery opportunities for South Yorkshire, including demonstration ‘pilots.’ • Encourage and support new innovations / projects such as Yorkshire Water’s proposals to deploy fibre in water to access poorly served communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the opportunities for accelerating 5G adoption by the South Yorkshire manufacturing sector • Commission research with the AMRC on future 5G business needs in South Yorkshire • Commission research to identify the extent of existing and future datacentre capability, and test viability,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore the opportunities for rolling-out a digital flood warning system for the whole South Yorkshire flood catchment.• Work with public partners and utilities to identify and develop business cases, where applicable, to develop Internet of Things / Smart Cities pilot systems.	market appetite and business needs for future additional edge datacentre infrastructure.
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