

Islington Broadband

Update on programme delivery

As at May 2024, the estate broadband programme has been ongoing for over a year since commencing in January 2023. It has been gathering pace over the past few months and we continue to work with each of the providers to reach our goal of delivering fibre broadband to 90% of council homes across the borough by the end of the programme in 2025. Some highlights include:

- Over 50 blocks across the borough now cabled and live with residents able to connect to services
- Hyperoptic have live connections in over 10,000 council-owned homes as part of this project and a total of 20,790 homes live across the whole borough.
- Community Fibre have live connections in over 4,360 properties as part of this project and a total of 15,122 homes live across the whole borough.
- GNetwork did not start cabling our blocks until January 2024 but now have live connections in over 1620 council owned homes and a total of 4219 live across the whole borough.
- In addition to Peregrine House and Popham, further community centres at Chestnuts, Highbury Grange, Hargrave Hall and Kings Square all now have live free connections.
- The IMAX team have started to promote the providers' low cost (social tariff) options to their clients and we have received feedback that residents have been taking these up.

Comparison with neighbouring Boroughs

All London boroughs now have current estate broadband programmes underway and are working through wayleave agreements with a range of providers. The borough programmes are being delivered to different timeframes and through varying local models. For example, Southwark commenced their programme with Hyperoptic and Community Fibre in 2018 (delivering 41,000 connections) and now have a subsequent programme with BT Openreach which ends in 2024; Hackney commenced their programme in 2021.

The most comprehensive broadband connectivity information publicly available is collected and published by Ofcom. Collated by Connected London, the total (estate-based local authority programmes and all other connections) comparative broadband coverage is presented in a mapping tool¹. Table 1 shows the fibre broadband data for Islington compared to the London average and neighbouring boroughs. Also to note is that the tool uses the latest Ofcom data from September 2023 and therefore does not reflect a completely up to date picture.

Table 1: Broadband coverage by Borough (% premises connected, September 2023)

Borough	Full-fibre coverage (% premises)
London average	58%
Islington	55%
Camden	58%
Hackney	63%
Tower Hamlets	70%
Southwark	69%
Lambeth	64%

To inform our programme delivery, the team continue to share peer-to-peer learning with Centre London Forward (GLA) and our established contacts in other boroughs.

G-Network

G-Network have completed a number of installations with live connections now available to residents on Ringcross, Mersey, Percival, Lorraine, Bemerton and Popham estates. Cedar Court, Fieldview Court and John Kennedy Court.

Community Fibre

Community Fibre have chosen to pause all installation works across London. They will have completed all their programmed installation works in Islington by the end of April and the delivery team are now working with the other providers to take forward the survey packs already agreed.

Estate blocks already cabled with live connections available as at April 2024 are Spriggs & Barratt House, Kestrel House, Peregrine House, Gambier House, Poynder Court, Halton Mansions, Hornsey Rise Estate, Manchester Mansions, Redwood Court, Tansley Close, Bowerman Court, Hornsey Lane Estate, Jacobin Lodge, Shaw Court, Hillside Estate, Daren Court, Wakelin House, Tufnell Park Estate, Coleman Mansions, Margaret Bondfield House, Moelwyn Hughes Court, Hillrise Mansions, Wilfred Feinburgh Court, Pleasant Place Estate, Tyndale Mansions, Loraine Mansions, Pollard Close, Girdlestone Estate and New Orleans Estate.

We are hopeful that Community Fibre will recommence installations in the future.

Hyperoptic

We continue to work with Hyperoptic who have excelled in delivering the programme. They continue to receive support from the delivery team through a well-established good working relationship.

Estates now cabled by Hyperoptic with live connections available include: Kings Square, Pleydell, Whitbread, Cumming, Stafford Cripps, The Triangle, Wenlake TMO, Redbrick, Blackstock TMO, Highbury Quadrant, Mayville, Taverner Square TMO, Park View, Spring Gardens, Crouch Hall Court and Bennett Court.

BT Openreach

We have completed wayleave negotiations with BT Openreach and are expect that the wayleave document will be signed imminently. In the meantime, the delivery team have carried out several pre-mobilisation meetings and site visits so that we are ready to immediately start.

Information for residents

The [Broadband | Islington Council](#) webpage provides information about the programme and includes links to the providers' pages where residents can check whether live connections are available to them. The delivery team can be contacted by email: islingtonbroadband@islington.gov.uk.

ⁱ [London Connectivity](#)