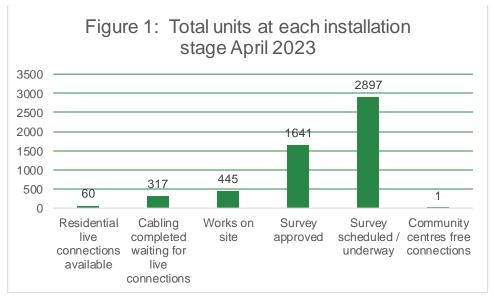# Islington Broadband

Update on programme delivery

Currently there are 46 active sites in the programme across the borough. Surveys have been completed and survey designs approved for 28 sites (133 individual surveys since January 2023), 17 further sites have surveys scheduled or currently underway and cabling is complete or nearly complete at 8 sites (awaiting the final cabinet connection for services to go live). We are waiting for the providers to give us installation dates for 16 sites for which the survey designs have been approved. Appendix 1 summarises the connection status of the programme sites by each ward at 26th April 2023.

Since the last update in March, no further service connections have been made live by the providers (60 at Spriggs House and Barratt House as at the date of the last report 1 March). The live services is dependent on the providers' networks which they are building concurrently with the estate installations. A further 400+ live connections were anticipated to come online April/May 2023 but we have been informed by providers that this is now likely to be mid-May/June. However, by this time further live connections should be available to connect the already completed cabling works.

Figure 1 shows a snapshot of the number of units at each stage of the installation process at 26th April 2023.

Hyperoptic have provided a free connection to Popham Community Centre and we will continue to liaise with colleagues in Community Partnerships in aiding delivery of this service for our centres and residents.

The Broadband Delivery Team continue to have weekly mobilisation meetings with Hyperoptic and Community Fibre. The Steering Group is due to meet in May 2023 to monitor programme delivery and ensure that social value benefits are being realised.

G-Network

G-Network have advised that there will be further delays in their signing of the master wayleave and we have now asked them to provide written indication of when they will be in a position to start their mobilisation. We have sought to understand the reasons for the delay and whether an interim, ad-hoc site-by-site approach would be desirable to them. However, we have not yet received a clear response as to what the issues are nor whether the proposed interim approach would be of interest to them.

BT Openreach

Negotiations with Openreach are ongoing. They have previously requested significant changes to the terms of the master wayleave document that the council and ISPs are working to. They are unwilling to make any specific social value contribution within the borough and want to pay a set amount per property retrospectively. This means that the council will need to bear the cost of facilitating their rollout in advance and may not recover the full amount by the end of the process, meaning it will be subsidised by tenants.