

Contract 3 now awarded

Following a rigorous procurement process, the CSW Broadband partnership has awarded all three Lots that comprise Contract 3, Part 1, to BT Openreach. The Contract will deliver high-speed fibre broadband to more than 15,000 additional premises in Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire. Most of these homes and businesses will get Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) technology capable of delivering ultrafast download speeds of up to 1 Gigabit per second (Gbps) and upload speeds of up to 220Mbps.

As with Contract 2, the CSW Broadband team has built headroom into the contract, meaning that if additional funding is secured then this can be rolled into the current contract without the need to go through a lengthy procurement process.

As the fibre broadband network is being installed by Openreach, households and businesses will have a wide choice of fibre broadband providers. Upgrades do not happen automatically. Residents and businesses wanting to benefit from the upgrade will need to place an order with their chosen fibre broadband provider once the work has been completed.

Openreach will use its existing underground ducting wherever possible, minimising disruption and the need to dig up roads and pavements.

The first locations to benefit are expected to be announced in early October. We are working on a new mapping system that will go live with the announcement of Contract 2, Wave 8. The Contract 3, Part 1, areas will also be shown on that map. As with previous contracts, details for Contract 3, Part 1, will be announced in Waves at 3-monthly intervals.

Updates on the roll-out are available from: www.cswbroadband.org.uk