

## **Do you run a business and need faster broadband?**

CSW Broadband are the project that is installing a fibre broadband network to areas that are not considered to be commercially viable. Over 49,000 premises are now able to connect to the new network.

However, even with all of this work there will be significant areas that will have no superfast coverage, and these include businesses. CSW Broadband are acutely aware of the particular issues that businesses face, and work closely with both the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and The Federation of Small Businesses to more fully understand and address the economic impacts of poor broadband.

The team has recently submitted a bid to the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership for £4.3m Local Growth Deal funding that is specifically aimed at addressing the connectivity problems that businesses face. They are also in discussions with Coventry City Council about extending this rollout into the city area. The outcome of the bid is expected as part of the Autumn Statement and CSW Broadband are actively seeking additional funding to take the network still further. A new procurement will be required, so it is likely to be some considerable time before they get close to modelling the further coverage, but will keep everyone updated on progress.

In order to work on this bid CSW Broadband need to know where all of the businesses are in Warwickshire and Coventry. On the latest map business premises are shown with a red border. The team would like to thank everyone who has sent through further information and they are working on this to further refine the map. However, if you are running a business, please take a moment to check the map and report if your premises are not shown or if they do not have a red border. <http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/your-area/broadband-checker>

Although the additional funding is focussed on businesses, residential properties will also benefit as the network expands, so it is in everybody's interests to make sure that the data is correct.