

Environmental Information Regulations – Response - 27364

I am writing to make a formal request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the ongoing Project Gigabit broadband rollout within the Suffolk County Council area.

While I understand that Project Gigabit is managed nationally by Building Digital UK (BDUK) and delivered by CityFibre, Suffolk County Council acts as a key stakeholder, consulting partner, and highways authority for this rollout. I am therefore requesting the most up-to-date information, data, or internal reporting held by the Council regarding the following points:

1. Current Delivery Figures: How many premises (homes and businesses) within the Suffolk County Council jurisdiction have successfully been supplied with, and now have active access to, gigabit-capable broadband speeds under this project to date?

The Suffolk Economy team has no information on this

2. Future Rollout Plans: What are the current, mapped-out phases for future rollouts across the remaining underserved or "hard-to-reach" areas of Suffolk? Please provide any available timelines, lists of parishes/locations, or upcoming scheduled works.

The Suffolk Economy team has no information on this

3. Expected Completion Date: What is the currently projected or expected full delivery/completion date for the Project Gigabit rollout across the entirety of Suffolk?

Suffolk Economy has no details on this.

A search of our records has produced the two attached emails:

- Email 24-06-2024 - broadband_redacted.pdf
- Email 25-06-2024 - Project Gigabit National Rolling Open Market Review May 2024_redacted.pdf

Redacted Information

All information released in response to a Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or Environmental Information Regulation 2004 (EIR) request is deemed to be in the public domain. As such we must consider whether or not the requested information qualifies as personal information and should therefore not be released into the public domain.

The council has determined that this is personal information and is therefore exempt from disclosure under **section 40** of the FOIA and **regulation 13** of the EIR.

The Council considered the following, including the possible consequences of disclosure for the data subjects concerned and their reasonable expectations as to the use of their data:

- expectations of the individuals concerned about personal information being put into the public domain;
- reasonable expectations - the data subjects concerned would have a legitimate expectation of privacy concerning their personal information and would not have anticipated this being put into the public domain;
- whether or not the requested information could be anonymised; and
- balancing the individual's rights and the legitimate interests - In past cases the Information Commissioner has weighed the individual's rights to privacy against the public interest in disclosure. There is no presumption in favour of releasing personal data.

This is an absolute exemption, which means that if the condition is satisfied there is no additional public interest test to consider.

In assessing fairness, the Council considered the likely consequences of disclosure of the requested information. Personal information should not be used in ways that have unjustified adverse effects on the individuals concerned. The council also considered whether such disclosure would be within the reasonable expectations of the individuals, given that any response to a request under the FOIA or EIR is deemed to be in the public domain. The council believes that in this instance it is not fair to disclose personal data and is therefore withholding the requested information under section 40 of the FOIA and regulation 13 of the EIR.

Subject: FW: broadband

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 June 2024 10:36
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>
Subject: RE: broadband

Hi TBH I'm in much the same boat workload-wise , so maybe best just to encourage individual responses that namecheck the Digital Champions group and work.
Does that sound reasonable? Am happy to cascade around the group

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Economic Development Manager
Suffolk County Council

[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/>



During July 2024, we're holding workshops to help shape the Suffolk Economic Strategy. If you haven't already signed up you can do here [Economic strategy development workshops - Suffolk County Council](#) .

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 10:27 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: broadband

[REDACTED] hi

Might you be happy to engage with the Group to ascertain whether a collective view is achievable/desirable (a sort of short-term T&F Group)? That would be very much within the collaborative culture we're trying to inculcate here. The deadline is tight and the timing is unfortunate (we're pretty much maxed with General Election and post-4th July delivery and planning at the moment), but worth a go? Otherwise, I think the best we can do is to encourage individual responses.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

██████████
Head of Public Affairs & Strategic Communications
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
01473 694822|██████████



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From: ██████████ <██████████@suffolk.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 June 2024 10:17
To: ██████████ <██████████@suffolkchamber.co.uk>
Subject: RE: broadband

Hi

Many thanks

Are you happy for partners to do their own responses or should there be one on behalf of the group?

██████████ ██████████

Economic Development Manager
Suffolk County Council

██████████@suffolk.gov.uk

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/>



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From: ██████████ <██████████@suffolkchamber.co.uk>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 10:14 AM
To: ██████████ <██████████@suffolk.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: broadband

██████████ hi

We can certainly send to the Digital Champions Group for them to cascade etc.

██████████

██████████

██████████
Head of Public Affairs & Strategic Communications
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
01473 694822|██████████



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manages
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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 June 2024 09:29
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>
Subject: FW: broadband

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well
Please see below.
Does this come under the remit of the work that you are doing?

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Economic Development Manager
Suffolk County Council

[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/>



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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 8:57 AM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk>

Subject: broadband

Morning [REDACTED]

Is this something we should be inputting into by the close date of 1st July, via the Chamber led project?

[Project Gigabit National Rolling Open Market Review May 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Assistant Director for Housing, Economic Growth and Planning
Suffolk County Council
07704 018372

[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk

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[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Project Gigabit National Rolling Open Market Review May 2024

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 June 2024 10:59

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@mobileuk.org>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@maritimetransport.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@eastofengland.coop>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@anchorstorage.co.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@suffolkchamber.co.uk>

Subject: Project Gigabit National Rolling Open Market Review May 2024

Dear colleague

Please see details below of a consultation being undertaken by Building Digital UK.

As time is short (the deadline is July 1st) there is not really time to do a joint response, but please feel free to do your own individual responses and mention the work with which we are involved

[Project Gigabit National Rolling Open Market Review May 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/project-gigabit-national-rolling-open-market-review-may-2024)

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Economic Development Manager
Suffolk County Council

[REDACTED]@suffolk.gov.uk

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**SUFFOLK
ECONOMY**

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