







SUPERFAST BROADBAND SOLUTIONS FOR GRANGE PARK UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2015

Further to our regular monthly updates, the County Council and BT are pleased to bring further good news to residents of Grange Park and the prospect of a 'superfast Christmas'!

Many of you will already know that the County Council is working with BT to bring superfast broadband to areas of the county that otherwise wouldn't be served – this includes Grange Park. More than 50,000 homes and businesses across Northamptonshire are already benefitting as a result and more are coming forward every week.

This is made possible through significant public / private investment as part of the multi-million pound Superfast Northamptonshire project.

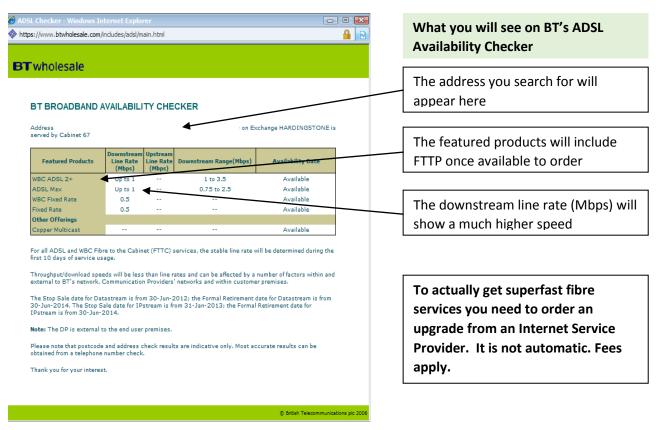
Work to deliver a solution to Grange Park is progressing really well. All of the planning and preparation is now complete and work is well underway to start rolling out Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) technology across the estate.

If all goes well, we are expecting all works at Grange Park to be completed by Christmas – this is 3 months earlier than the original date of March 2016. Work will be completed in phases. This means that not all homes and businesses will be served at the same time but there should only be a couple of months between those first able to take up services and those in the final phase.



It is not possible to provide more detailed information about phases. However, we will endeavour to notify residents when services are available to order. You may receive a "Go Superfast... Fibre Broadband is Here!" postcard through your door.

We will also be working with the Parish Council to help inform residents at Grange Park when areas go live. Alternatively, you can check availability yourself by going to <u>BT's ADSL Availability checker</u> and using your telephone land-line number or address to check line speed availability at your property. Once FTTP is available to order, you will see the downstream speed jump from a likely 0.5Mbps – 2Mbps available now, up to as much as 330Mbps.



In total, around 1,300 homes will benefit from the new fibre-to-the-premise technology being deployed at Grange Park.

FTTP is a different type of fibre technology to that being used across much of the county - most other areas are receiving superfast broadband from a shared cabinet (Fibre to the Cabinet technology) rather than direct to their individual property. This is because of the way the network has been arranged historically at Grange Park which means the standard FTTC solution is not appropriate here.

It means Grange Park will have some of the highest broadband speeds in Northamptonshire.

Please note that getting a superfast broadband service is not automatic. You will need to contact your internet service provider to ask about an upgrade.

Alternatively you can go online to comparison sites such as <u>'Uswitch'</u> or <u>'Cable.co.uk'</u> to find out which internet service providers are offering fibre broadband in your area and what deals they may have. Once you find a package or broadband service that meets your requirements then contact the service provider directly to place your order.

If you are already tied into a contract for broadband services, some providers may charge a cancellation fee if the minimum period of the contract term has not yet expired so its worth checking this with your provider.

You will no doubt see lots of activity taking place in the coming weeks and months as Openreach engineers, the delivery group of BT, continue to build and complete the network. To help avoid unnecessary delays, please try not to distract them from their work by asking questions.

Instead, you can keep in touch with progress at www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net. You will find lots of information about the project and the latest news as well as detailed FAQ's on aspects such as the technology, what's involved in the network build, why plans may be subject to change and the interactive When and Where map.

We hope you agree this is great news for Grange Park – superfast broadband is coming and even sooner than planned!