How to start a Community Broadband Project

Before we get started:

£ UK Gigabit Voucher Scheme

The funding for Community Broadband Schemes in the UK (Wales – Gigabit Vouchers (culture.gov.uk))

Digital Powys

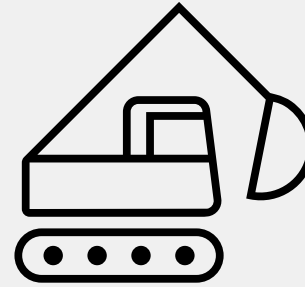General information regarding Digital Connectivity in Powys (Digital Connectivity - Powys County Council)

Is there a want/ need for improved fixed line connectivity within your community?

1 Contact Powys County Council's Community Broadband Officer (broadband@powys.gov.uk)

2 Form a project group

2a Contact your local community/ town council

2b Contact your County Councillor (Find my councillor - Powys County Council)

3 Contact broadband suppliers to enquire about working with them to connect the community, once you have the responses it will be time to choose

4 Define the scope of the project (this is commonly the community/ town council area)

Funding is only released to the broadband supplier once the properties have been connected

5 Working with your chosen supplier engage with the community to make them aware of the opportunity and gauge the level of interest.

➢ **From this point the chosen broadband supplier will tend to take the lead**

6 Once there is evidence of enough interest in the local community the broadband supplier will prepare and submit a funding application to the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in UK Government who are responsible for the UK Gigabit Voucher Scheme

7 When the funding is approved DCMS will contact all the interested properties to check that they would like to be connected by the scheme

8 The supplier will begin their detailed survey work and once this is complete the network build will begin

9 When the property is connected DCMS will get in touch to confirm this has happened. Once DCMS receive conformation they will release the voucher funding to the supplier

For more information, visit www.powys.gov.uk/digitalconnectivity