

# Individual Executive Decision Notice

<b>Report title</b>	Full Fibre Rollout on Housing Estates - wayleave approval	
<b>Decision designation</b>	GREEN	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Louise Miles Cabinet Member for Resources	
<b>Wards affected</b>	(All Wards);	
<b>Accountable Director</b>	Charlotte Johns, Director of Strategy	
<b>Originating service</b>	Strategic Projects and Funding	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Heather Clark Tel Email	Service Development Manager Tel: 01902 555614 heather.clark2@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>		

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## Summary

To approve entering into non-exclusive block wayleaves to enable full fibre rollout on housing estates as part of the delivery of Wolverhampton's Digital Infrastructure Strategy.

## Recommendation for decision:

That the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Director of Strategy:

1. Approve entering into a non-exclusive block wayleaves.

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Signature

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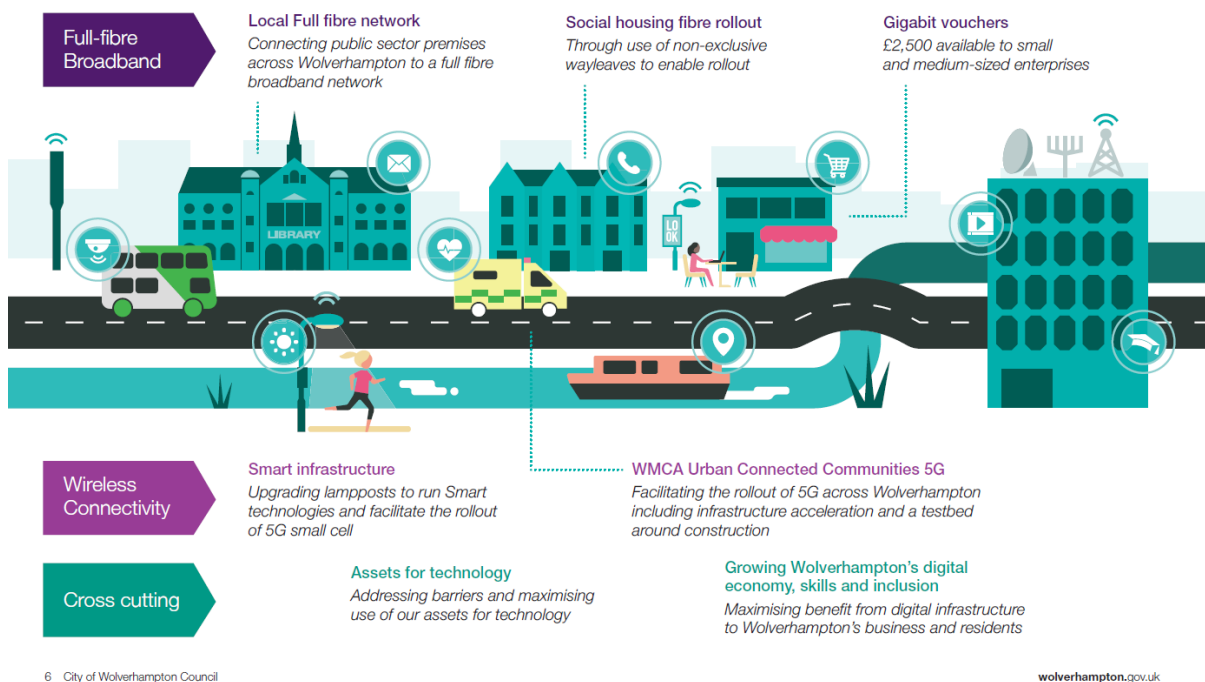
Signature

Date:

Date:

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 Cabinet adopted Wolverhampton's Digital Infrastructure Strategy to support the rollout of futureproofed digital infrastructure on 22 January 2020.
- 1.2 Having future proofed digital infrastructure is crucial to making Wolverhampton a more attractive place to live, run a business and invest. Futureproofed Digital infrastructure is the backbone of a modern thriving economy driving productivity and spreading growth and in delivering effective and efficient public services. The Digital Infrastructure Strategy and Programme was centred around three themes:



- 1.3 The Strategy recognised the importance of facilitating access to local authority owned assets and street furniture through putting systems in place to support the commercial rollout. This included agreeing a commercial model to facilitate the rollout and improving access arrangements including wayleaves and leases.

## 2.0 Full Fibre Rollout on Housing Estates.

- 2.1 The Strategy outlined an approach to supporting the rollout of full fibre broadband through implementation of the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) project to connect public sector premises and supporting the roll out of full fibre broadband across housing estates. The rollout of full fibre on housing estates could be enabled through the use of non-exclusive block wayleave agreements with fixed network providers to enable them to rollout full fibre broadband commercially. Block wayleaves cover the whole housing portfolio and are subject to final signoff of proposed routes through a permit system to ensure controls in place, allowing consultation and agreement from Wolverhampton Homes and internal Council teams including Assets.

### **3.0 Evaluation of alternative options**

- 3.1 Option 1: Do nothing. This would delay the rollout of full fibre broadband to residents impacting on the benefits that full fibre connectivity can bring.
- 3.2 Option 2: non-exclusive block wayleaves. This option facilitates the rollout of commercial full fibre broadband opening up the benefits that full fibre can bring.

### **4.0 Reasons for decision**

- 4.1 Option 2 block wayleaves is the preferred option since it enables the rollout of full fibre broadband and opens up the opportunities and benefits that full fibre can bring.

### **5.0 Financial implications**

- 5.1 The non-exclusive block wayleave agreements across Council owned housing estates are for nil consideration.
- 5.2 The rollout of full fibre broadband, enabled by entering into block wayleaves, is commercially funded by the operators so at no cost to the Council.
- 5.3 It is anticipated that any legal and surveyor costs incurred by the Council will be met from existing revenue budgets held supporting Digital Infrastructure programmes.

[TT/13112020/T]

### **6.0 Legal implications**

- 6.1 Independent State Aid advice has advised that there are no state aid implications for Local Full Fibre Network and the use of non-exclusive wayleaves. The Council's legal team have drawn up block wayleaves in conjunction with the Operators to enable the full fibre rollout to go ahead.

[TS/05112020/S]

### **7.0 Equalities implications**

- 7.1 Digital and smart technology could potentially have significant positive equalities implications, for example making it easier for people with health problems to live more independently through the provision of telecare and e-health solutions.

### **8.0 Climate change and environmental implications**

- 8.1 Digital Infrastructure enabling Smart technology can have positive implications on the environment and climate change, for example enabling the Council to capture environmental information and improve service delivery.

## **9.0 Human resources implications**

- 9.1 There are no human resource implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

## **10.0 Corporate Landlord implications**

- 10.1 Corporate landlord are fully involved in the Assets for Technology workstream of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy including mapping of assets to review their suitability for technology.

## **11.0 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

- 11.1 Fibre broadband will have health benefits arising from increased of technology in the delivery of health and social care.

## **12.0 Covid Implications**

- 12.1 The rollout of digital infrastructure is considered essential; therefore workers are considered key workers with the work able to proceed during lockdown.

## **13.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 13.1 Cabinet 22 January 2020 Wolverhampton Digital Infrastructure Strategy