

Is this a review of an existing BIA?	N
Is this a new proposal and a new BIA?	Y

Ref No: *for BID office use*

Business Impact Assessment ¹

Proposal: - Financial contribution towards the Connecting Devon and Somerset superfast broadband rollout programme

Aims of the Proposal: - To provide additional superfast broadband coverage across Teignbridge

Environment impacts - The proposal indicates the following impacts on the environment.

	<i>Please score</i>
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> +3 ← 0 → -3 </div>
Natural environment (wildlife, landscape, trees)	0
Built environment (townscape, design, archaeology, conservation)	0
Climate change (adaptation, mitigation)	0
Resource use (land, energy, water, minerals)	0
<p>The project will result in rural areas accessing more services and opportunities via improved broadband speeds. Improved connectivity will give greater opportunity to communicate without the need to travel, reducing carbon emissions. However, there is also an environmental impact of large scale data servers.</p> <p>The approach currently being taken includes laying a network of cables underground, so once complete the visual impact will be negligible. However, there are also other ways to rollout broadband, including wireless technology, satellite dishes and telecommunications antenna. While these physical structures are not currently proposed, as this is a retendering process and that masts are the main source of delivery on Dartmoor we cannot rule this out.</p> <p>The impact is scored at 0 for environmental impacts as there are notable positive and negative impacts from greater use of digital communications and expanding the rural economy, which are considered to balance each other out.</p>	

Value and financial impacts - The proposal indicates the following financial impacts.

	<i>Please score</i>
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> +3 ← 0 → -3 </div>
Jobs or training opportunities	+2
Business investment within the area	+2
Tourism	+2

¹ Guidance notes are available to help fill in this form at www.teignbridge.gov.uk/biaguidance.

The supply or quality of housing	0
Access to services and benefits	+2
Reduce cost or increase income	+2
Increase capital receipts/funding	+2
<p>The Government's own impact assessments and evaluation of earlier phases (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evaluation-of-the-economic-impact-and-public-value-of-the-superfast-broadband-programme) shows a growth in the productivity of rural businesses by 0.32%, with employment rising by 0.8% and turnover growing by 1.2%. The report also noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme created incentives for suppliers to extend coverage to premises that would not have otherwise received it • Over 70% of premises upgraded with Building Digital UK (BDUK) subsidies would not have otherwise received coverage within 2 years of the upgrade • Commercial viability increased with time as take up rates rose • The underspend and take-up gainshare mechanisms (where BDUK could clawback some of the money it had invested where commercial take-up was higher than anticipated) played a significant role in protecting the value for money associated with the programme <p>Improving rural broadband speeds will have a positive impact on existing businesses in those areas and will create a better environment for new businesses to start or existing businesses to relocate.</p> <p>From a Teignbridge perspective, with the rollout of the Council's Digital First approach this project helps more residents and businesses access digital routes of interaction and communication. This is also true for the increasing number of online routes being promoted by the Government for tax returns, benefits, etc.</p>	

Social impacts and duties

The proposal indicates the following social impacts.

	<i>Please score</i>
	+3 ← 0 → -3
Age	
Children (Under 16) – 16.3%	0
Young (16-24) – 9.0%	0
Working age (25-59) – 42.8%	0
Older (60+) – 31.9%	0
Men – 48.4%	0
Women – 51.6%	0
Transgender – c. 0.01%	0
BAME (Black, Asian, minority ethnic) – 3.8%	0
LGB (lesbian, gay, bisexual) – c. 5%	0
Marriage and Civil Partnership - 52%	0

Religion and belief – 71.9%	0
Disability – 20.6%	+1
Pregnancy and Maternity	0
Rural – 27%	+2
Economic Deprivation – 21.8%	+1
<p>The project will have positive impacts for residents and businesses in rural areas, which will include people with mobility and accessibility restrictions. It needs to be noted that at this stage we don't know exactly how many areas/premises will be connected to superfast broadband as a result of the next stage of the project – that information will only be available once the contract has been awarded and the successful bidder has set out their programme.</p> <p>While there are no rural areas in Teignbridge within the top quartile in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, there are many places that lack access to facilities, services and opportunities. This project would help to improve accessibility and opportunities.</p>	

* **Bold** = 'Protected characteristics'

Have representatives of those likely to be affected by the proposal been **consulted**?

Are there ongoing plans to **monitor** the impact of the proposals?

Are there any relevant **Human Rights** considerations?

(If yes, please detail here.)

Summarise potential impacts and planned mitigations:-

- The project progress is scrutinised on a quarterly basis as part of the Council Strategy project 'Investing in Prosperity'.
- A member of the Connecting Devon and Somerset project team presents annually to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- A TDC Councillor sits on the board of CDS
- Once the contract is awarded the successful bidder will set out the areas to be covered and timetable for delivery. This will then be the subject of ongoing monitoring
- The overall programme is subject to periodic reviews to evaluate its impact. We will need clarification from CDS about the local level evaluation requirements as part of the new contract tender process.

Duties

Under the Equality Act 2010 s.149 the Council must annually publish what actions we have taken in response to our 3 equality duties.

This proposal contributes to the duties in the following ways:

- 1) The elimination of discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other prohibited conduct by ensuring a consistent, transparent and fair approach is taken to delivering the project.
- 2) The advancement of equality of opportunity by giving people and businesses in rural areas the opportunity to take advantage of superfast broadband.
- 3) The fostering of good relations between people by clearly showing support for areas that would not otherwise get access to superfast broadband.

Managers' evaluation

- No major change required.
- Adjustments have been made to better advance equality.
- Continue despite having identified some potential for adverse impacts.
(Please detail your justification here.)
- Cease the proposal. It shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination.

Recommended Actions:-

Enter comments here

Sign Off	
Service Manager	Signed <u>Kay O'Flaherty</u> Date <u>24th September 2019</u>
BID	Signed <u>Neil Blaney</u> Date <u>24th September 2019</u>
	Date the BIA should be reviewed/renewed <u>Date 24th September 2020</u>