

**TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE**

**31 OCTOBER 2019**

**PART I**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Connecting Devon and Somerset contribution</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To decide if Teignbridge District Council should continue to commit £250,000 to the Connecting Devon and Somerset rural broadband rollout programme, following the cancellation of the original contract and proposal to go back out to tender.
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. To consider the view from Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the Council's commitment to contribute £250,000 to the Connecting Devon and Somerset broadband rollout programme.</b></li><li><b>2. To make a recommendation to Council on the next steps.</b></li></ol>
<b>Financial Implications</b>	<p>£250,000 is currently allocated to Broadband provision in the capital programme. This funding could be used for the existing scheme or reallocated to an alternative scheme.</p> <p>Financial implications are detailed in 2.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny report.</p> <p>Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01626 215246 Email: martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
<b>Legal Implications</b>	<p>There are no legal implications.</p> <p>Paul Woodhead, Legal Services Team Leader and Deputy Monitoring Officer Tel: 01626 215 Email: paul.woodhead@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	<p>Risk assessment consideration is set out in 2.3 of the Overview and Scrutiny report.</p> <p>If the Council decides not to fund the programme, the risk is that some rural areas of Teignbridge will not be covered in the Phase 2 rollout programme that may otherwise have been included.</p> <p>Neil Blaney, Economy Manager Tel: 01626 215233 Email: neil.blaney@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>

<b>Environmental/ Climate Change Implications</b>	Environmental and Climate Change implications are detailed in 2.4 of the Overview and Scrutiny report and the accompanying Business Impact Assessment. Overall the impact of the proposal is not significant.  David Eaton, Environmental Protection Manager Tel: 01626 215064 Email: david.eaton@teignbridge.gov.uk
<b>Report Author</b>	Neil Blaney, Economy Manager Tel: 01626 215233 Email: neil.blaney@teignbridge.gov.uk
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Cllr Nina Jeffries, Portfolio Holder for Business, Economy and Tourism
<b>Appendices / Background Papers</b>	Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee report 15.10.2019 (agenda item 10) <a href="http://democracy.teignbridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&amp;MId=1495">http://democracy.teignbridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&amp;MId=1495</a> Appendix 2 – Minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting – (to be inserted)

## 1. REPORT DETAIL

- 1.1 On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 a report was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee, recommending that the Council supports the ongoing financial commitment to the Connecting Devon and Somerset Programme. That report is included as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee did not support the recommendation as set out.
- 1.3 Concern was expressed that there was no assurance that the Council's contribution would be used entirely for improving broadband speeds and coverage for Teignbridge residents, when Teignbridge was the only Devon Authority that had previously agreed to financially commit to the CDS project. The minutes of the Committee is included as Appendix 2 to this report.
- 1.4 The Executive are therefore requested to consider the outcome of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and set out any recommendations they may have to Council on how it can support the rollout of broadband infrastructure in rural parts of the District. It should be noted that the Council does not have the resources or in-house expertise to be able to deliver its own broadband programme.