

**BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL
CABINET
27 September 2012**

REPORT TITLE: Ultrafast Broadband (Gigabit Bristol)

Ward(s) affected by this report: Citywide

Strategic Director: Will Godfrey, Strategic Director

Report author: Kevin O'Malley, Connecting Bristol Manager
Stephen Hilton, Service Director, Bristol Futures

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Kevin.omalley@bristol.gov.uk

Report signed off by executive member: Guy Poultney

Purpose of the report:

To seek endorsement for the Gigabit Bristol project that will provide a significant step towards the 20-20 Plan target of 'putting in place a world class digital infrastructure that can be accessed by everyone.'

RECOMMENDATION for Cabinet approval:

- 1. To re-state the ambition for Bristol to benefit from a world-class digital infrastructure**
- 2. To welcome the Urban Broadband Fund investment from Government**
- 3. To approve the Gigabit Bristol project**

The proposal:

Guidance:

Background

- Cabinet has previously recognised the importance of digital connectivity – both as a cornerstone of modern business and as an enabler of social inclusion. The 20-20 Plan includes a specific target to 'put in place a world-class digital infrastructure that can be accessed by everyone'.
- The City Council's Bristol Workplace Programme relies on the availability of good digital infrastructure to support increased mobile and flexible working and customer strategy recognises the need to support delivery and take up of on-line services.
- Historically, Government funding for broadband has been targeted at rural areas and so has been unavailable to Bristol. Leveraging existing Council programmes rather than making significant new financial commitment has still enabled some

progress to be made. In recent years, action has been taken to improve the accessibility of the city's broadband and Wi-Fi connectivity including the roll-out of a network of B-Open Wi-Fi hotspots, an innovative computer re-use scheme and investment in B-Net, the Council's directly managed 'dark fibre' broadband network.

4. High-level discussions between the Core Cities and Government resulted in the Urban Broadband Fund - a new programme to target investment in high-speed Broadband and ubiquitous wireless connectivity in cities. The Urban Broadband Fund launched late in 2011 as a £100m competition to create 10 'super connected cities'. In March 2012, Government announced that Bristol would be amongst the first to receive funding from this programme.
5. Following submission of a bid, Government offered Bristol between £4m and £12m capital funding, the final amount being contingent on a detailed delivery plan which was submitted to DCMS on 3rd August 2012; the result should be known by end of September 2012.

Delivery

6. Project activities will begin after Government announces Bristol's final funding allocation. Updates to this report will be circulated to reflect this decision when announced.
7. Our approach to delivery is to minimise risk to the Council by transferring as much risk as is practical to the communications provider(s) who will develop the network.
8. To further minimise risk to the Authority the project has been structured to be scalable. Defined components can be removed from the delivery plan in the event that the Government's grant is lower than the maximum £12m, if generated revenues are lower than envisaged, or if the cost of developing the network is greater than current estimates suggest.
9. The proposal submitted to Government also requests a £930k contingency fund which would be used further to mitigate financial risk to the Council.
10. The project must be completed by 31st March 2015.
11. Gigabit Bristol focuses on three key objectives, (1) ensuring the availability of **superfast broadband** to all (up to 80mbps), (2) developing a **next generation** showcase (up to 1000mbps) and (3) providing wide scale open-access **Wi-Fi** coverage.
12. **Superfast Broadband**: the project is asking for **£3.36m** Government funding to engage a telecommunications provider to infill areas across the city that are currently unable to access superfast broadband (known as white areas). Approximately 10,000 premises currently fall into this category. This investment will ensure that at least 90% of the city can access superfast broadband.
13. **Next Generation (Gigabit) Network**: the project is seeking **£4m** Government funding to engage a telecommunications provider to roll out Ultrafast broadband to business, social housing, University halls, and residential consumers across a Central Zone designated as the Digital Enterprise Zone (see Figure 1).

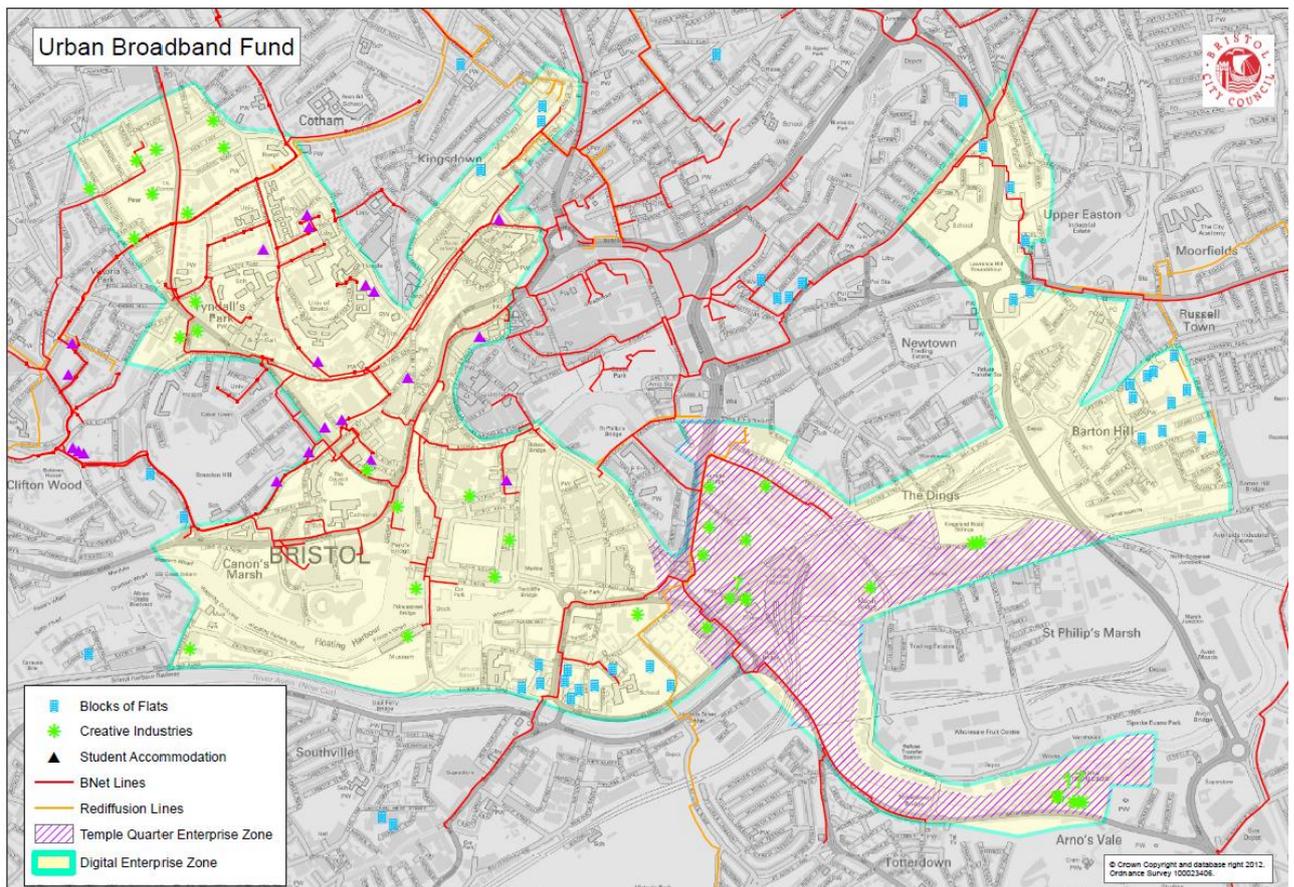


Figure 1: Digital Enterprise Zone

14. **Wi-Fi:** the project is seeking **£2.5m** Government funding to engage a telecommunications provider to deliver Wi-Fi to the 54 defined business growth areas across the City. A revenue-generating concession model will be employed to provide access to the Authorities' street furniture. It is intended that this revenue stream be reinvested to deliver Wi-Fi in less commercially attractive areas where there is identifiable demand over the 3 year life of the project.
15. In subsequent years the concession will be extended, renegotiated or re-tendered, providing the potential for a future revenue stream for the Council.
16. Other elements of the bid include a capital contribution towards a Growth Hub – a physical space in the Temple Quarter enterprise Zone that can act as a shop window for superfast broadband and a voucher scheme to encourage SME take-up.
17. In preparing our bid we have drawn on advice and support from industry experts, procurement specialists and legal consultants, and this is likely to remain so during the complex State Aid approval and procurement phase, which is a prerequisite of taking the project forward.

Finances

18. The total Government capital grant requested is **£12.24m**. The breakdown is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Breakdown of grant request (capex only)

Description	Grant requested £k
Equipment for Growth Hub	250
Duct network for Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone	500
Fibre to premises for SME s and Multi-dwelling Units	3,300
Fibre to cabinet to white areas	3,400
BNet Readiness	260
Citywide Wi-Fi	2,500
Voucher scheme to give SMEs access to Cloud Services	1,100
Contingency	930
Total	£12.24m

19. Table 2 sets out estimates for the total Operating Expenditure requirement to unlock the £12.24m capital investment in the city's broadband:

Table 2: Opex costs

Desc.	£
Project Management	£150k
Legal, Procurement Support, / State Aid consultancy	£150K
Telecoms consultancy	75k
Total	£375K

20. The government grant will be capital only. BCC has 50% of project management costs, but will need to identify revenue resources to provide the remaining 50% PM costs plus expert advice on legal / State aids / procurement and telecoms, commencing October 2012.

21. Leading industry advisors Analysys Mason have suggested that Private Sector partners would be willing to contribute 40% toward the total cost of the Infill and High Speed Network roll out, and 30% toward the cost of delivering Citywide Wi-fi. These assumptions are built into the financial plan and are additional to the capital that is being requested from Government.

22. We will seek to maximise private sector leverage as part of the procurement process.

23. Table 3 sets on any areas where ongoing spend might be required after this project has been completed:

Table 3: Potential ongoing costs

Activity	Ongoing Revenue Exposure	Reason
Superfast Broadband	None	The project will procure a Telecommunications provider to deliver broadband into under served areas. The provider will own and maintain the infrastructure and be responsible for all ongoing liabilities.
Next Generation (Gigabit) Network	To be Determined	The project will tender for a Telecommunications provider to deliver an Ultrafast network in the Digital Enterprise zone. The provider will own and maintain the infrastructure and be responsible for all ongoing liabilities. The project is proposing a limited scale pilot, to explore the impact of delivering broadband directly into social housing in multi dwelling units. Following an evaluation of this pilot the Authority may decide to withdraw the service or roll it out more widely using resources from the Housing Revenue Account.
Wifi	Limited	The project is seeking £1m of Government funding to upgrade existing street furniture to make it ready to deploy wifi access points. Liability for the maintenance, upgrade and end of life removal of these access points will be made the responsibility of the provider through the tender process. The project envisages that the concession model to access street furniture will generate income in the region of £1m during the life of the project. It is intended to use this income to extend the Wifi network into un-served areas. If this level of revenue income is not forthcoming then plans for additional roll out can be scaled down without exposing the Authority to financial risk.

24. Government has yet to agree the process for scheduling payments. The Gigabit Bristol project will request a significant upfront payment to cover delivery costs.

25. The Gigabit Bristol project has established a Project Board of senior stakeholders from the City Council, the University, from Business and the Community:

- Guy Poultney, Executive Member, Festivals and Communities
- Stephen Hilton, Service Director, Bristol Futures, Senior Responsible Owner (Chair)
- John Cockaday, DCMS, Programme Sponsor
- Paul Arrigoni, Service Director, ICT, Technical Expert
- Steve Barrett/Mary Ryan, Landlord Services, Senior User
- Senior representatives;
 - i. David May, University of Bristol
 - ii. Dick Penny, Director, Watershed
 - iii. Carolyn Hassan, Director, Knowle West Media Centre

Consultation and scrutiny input:

a. Internal consultation:

- Legal Department: Sinead Willis, Solicitor
- IT Department: Alex Simpson, Principal IT Officer, Trevor Welsman, Enterprise Architect
- Housing: Mary Ryan, Service Director, Landlord Services
- Procurement: Martin Strawson
- Enterprise Zone: Hywel Jones
- Engineering: Jon Sawyer
- Transport: Adam Crowther

b. External consultation:

- Taylor Wessing, specialist State Aid lawyers
- Analysys Mason, Telecommunications Strategy Consultants
- Department for Culture Media and Sport
- Bristol’s Digital Creative sector representatives (Dick Penny, Watershed, Paul Appelby, Bristol Media)
- Community representatives (Carolyn Hassan, Knowle West Media Centre)
- University representatives (David May)

Gigabit Bristol has published these plans via the Connecting Bristol website, inviting contributions, feedback and comments from businesses and members of the public. The project was presented to a wide range of local stakeholders for feedback at a workshop event held at the Watershed on 30th April.

Other options considered:

The Gigabit Bristol initial proposal was developed by the City Council in collaboration with city stakeholders and submitted to the Secretary of State for Culture as part of Government’s Superconnected Cities competition. A range of options and technology solutions were considered during the development of the bid. The proposal was considered and approved by Government making this one of ten winning bids nationwide and successfully secured a share of the £100m funding support. The detailed delivery plan for the Gigabit Bristol was then developed collaboratively by the Project Board and submitted to DCMS on 3rd August.

The implementation and roll out of the Gigabit Bristol project is not expected to be substantially underway until 2013. We intend to incorporate this project into scrutiny plans for 2013.

Risk management / assessment:

FIGURE 1

The risks associated with the implementation of the (subject) decision :

No.	RISK	INHERENT RISK		RISK CONTROL MEASURES	CURRENT RISK		RISK OWNER
		(Before controls)			(After controls)		
	Threat to achievement of the key objectives of the report	Impact	Probability	Mitigation (ie controls) and Evaluation (ie effectiveness of mitigation).	Impact	Probability	

1	Government provides funding at the lower end of the proposed scale (between £4m and £12m)	High	Medium	Government have allocated these funding scales due to concerns about state aid. The project has mitigated against state aid issues arising by engaging experienced state aid lawyers to help develop a comprehensive set of arguments to address these concerns	High	Medium/Low	Stephen Hilton
2	Commercial providers challenge the "Gigabit Bristol" plan as state aid	High	Medium	Bristol have been in discussion with key commercial providers from the outset, and as above, have engaged leading state aid law firm Taylor Wessing to provide support to our internal legal team.	High	Medium/Low	Stephen Hilton
3	Lack of uptake and enthusiasm for Ultrafast broadband in Bristol	Medium	Medium	The Gigabit Bristol project will be delivering a comprehensive programme of awareness raising and demand stimulation in advance of, and throughout the implementation.	Medium	Low	Stephen Hilton
4	Commercial providers do not demonstrate an appetite to contribute resources toward the project causing a resource shortfall	Medium	Low	Current advice suggests that this will not be the case. Project can be scaled to accommodate this with no additional financial risk to the Authority	Medium	Low	Stephen Hilton
5	Costs for deployment are greater than envisaged	Medium	Medium	Should costs be more than originally planned the scale of deployment could be reduced to remove financial risk from the Authority. The project has defined a 10% contingency allocation of approx £1m	Medium	Low	Stephen Hilton

FIGURE 2

The risks associated with not implementing the (subject) decision:

No.	RISK	INHERENT RISK		RISK CONTROL MEASURES	CURRENT RISK		RISK OWNER
		<i>(Before controls)</i>			<i>(After controls)</i>		
	Threat to achievement of the key objectives of the report	Impact	Probability	Mitigation (ie controls) and Evaluation (ie effectiveness of mitigation).	Impact	Probability	
1	Bristol's broadband capability falls below that offered by other major UK and European Cities. Birmingham, Bradford, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Newcastle, Nottingham, Manchester, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff, London will all be investing Urban Broadband Funds to enhance their connectivity.	High	High	Bristol could lobby commercial providers to accelerate fibre roll out in the City.	High	High	Stephen Hilton
2	Lack of Ultrafast broadband in the Enterprise Zone causes Bristol to fails to meet target to attract 250 new businesses to the zone as outlined in the LEP Vision for Economic Growth.	HIGH	HIGH	Bristol could lobby commercial providers to accelerate fibre roll out in the EZ, however the quality and cost of the service could not be controlled.	HIGH	HIGH	Stephen Hilton

Public sector equality duties:

Before making a decision, section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following "protected characteristics": age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

i) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.

ii) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic.

- take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);

- encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

iii) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

Guidance:

**** Insert a note on how the public sector equality duties are relevant to the proposals and how these duties have been taken into account in developing the proposals. Where an equality impact assessment has been undertaken, summarise its findings here, and provide a link to the full document, or include the equality impact assessment as an appendix. Where no equality impact assessment has been undertaken, give the reasons why this has not been carried out.***

Eco impact assessment

The significant impacts of this proposal are;

The short-term environmental impacts may include the increased consumption of fossil fuels, raw materials, production of waste & impact on local wildlife habitats & biodiversity during the deployment of digital infrastructure across the city. Additionally, there will be some local disruption & changes to the appearance of the city during installation, deployment & maintenance of such infrastructure.

The longer term impacts will include;

- Vulnerability to the effects of climate change & flooding (-ve)
- The ongoing consumption of energy use for use of existing & future digital technologies (-ve)
- Potential visual changes to the appearance of the city (-ve)
- Reduced consumption of non-renewable energy in the coming decade through improved digital communications, high quality ultrafast broadband & efficient working practices and the reduced need to travel (+ve)

The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts;

The environmental impacts raised above will be addressed through a number of mitigating measures. These include;

- Innovative technologies & smart joint working practices with other utilities will minimise disruption during the installation process.
- Wireless access points will be incorporated into existing street furniture to mitigate changes to the appearance of the city.
- The design, specification & procurement of the scheme will address the use of natural resources, energy use during installation, vulnerability to climate change &

- flooding & waste reduction.
- All other impacts will be resolved through consultation with the relevant statutory bodies & stakeholders.

The net effects of the proposals are;

Providing the above mitigation measures are successfully implemented, Gigabit Bristol will enable Bristol to become a creative, smart, green & connected city & will reduce emissions in the coming decade through improved digital communications, efficient working practices and the reduced need to travel.

Resource and legal implications:

Finance

a. Financial (revenue) implications:

Up front, one-off revenue costs are £375k. £75k will be funded from existing budgets with £300k coming from corporate reserves. As set out in table 3 there are no ongoing revenue implications from the project. There are potential revenue implications if the Council decided to continue with some of the pilot projects, these would be subject to future reports and business cases.

During the project a new revenue stream will be created from a concession to use Council assets / street furniture, these will be reinvested in the project. At the end of the initial concession period there may be potential to generate future revenue income.

Advice given by: Stephen Skinner, Finance Business Partner, Corporate Services

Date: 30/08/12

b. Financial (capital) implications:

As set out in the report the project is funded from between £4m and £12m from the Urban Broadband Fund as well as anticipated private sector contributions. The project is scalable dependant upon the level of grant and private sector investment.

Advice given by: Stephen Skinner, Finance Business Partner, Corporate Services

Date: 30/08/12

c. Legal implications:

Whenever the Council's resources (including any grants received from central government) are used to provide services and/or infrastructure in a commercial environment, there is a risk of State aid. (State Aid is illegal under the EU Treaty unless certain conditions are met, in which case the aid will be 'compatible').

The Council has engaged Taylor Wessing (a firm of solicitors with expertise in IT and State aid) to advise on how to ensure either that no State aid is present in Gigabit Bristol, or any aid present is compatible. Taylor Wessing have previously advised Birmingham City Council on a similar scheme, and assisted Birmingham with obtaining State aid clearance for the scheme from the EU. Taylor Wessing will assist Bristol City Council with obtaining

similar clearance for Gigabit Bristol, which will significantly reduce the risk of incompatible State Aid being present in Gigabit Bristol.

Whenever the Council procures goods, works or services over certain thresholds, it must comply with the Public Contracts Regulations. It is likely that as part of Gigabit Bristol, the Council will be procuring goods, works and services over the relevant thresholds, and as such must comply with the Regs. Provided the Council complies with the Regs, the risk of a successful challenge under the Regs will be low.

Advice given by Sinead Willis / Solicitor
Date 21/06/2012

d. Land / property implications:

Below ground works in the street are covered by Street Works Act but above-ground installations - masts, dishes, aerials, cabinets etc, require consent or are permitted development but subject to a prior approval process. The particular sensitivity of some parts of the EZ - and the City Centre for that matter - do require careful drafting of any LDO and a clear idea of the likely equipment that will be required and its visual impact. There is a need for a strategy also for minimising impact through the sharing of supporting infrastructure - ducting, masts etc.

Any plant or equipment to go on land or buildings that is not public highway will require consent from the owners. Any digging of public highway will be required to follow existing established procedures.

Advice given by Steve Matthews / Project Leader, Corporate Property
Date 10/09/2012

e. Human resources implications:

There are no significant HR implications. There may be additional resource requirements which will be sourced in line with the Council's Policies and Procedures.

Advice given by Rachel Falla, HR Business Partner
Date 14 September 2012

Appendices:

Guidance:

Appendix 1 – Full Eco impact assessment

Appendix 2- Full Equalities impact assessment

Access to information (background papers):

“Gigabit Bristol” Proposal

(<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/39469117/Gigabit%20Bristol%20Proposal>)

“Gigabit Bristol” Delivery Plan

(<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/39469117/Gigabit%20Bristol%20Delivery%20Plan>)

Guidance for submitting proposals to the Urban Broadband Fund

(http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/Guidance_UBF_proposals.rtf)

Template for proposals to the Urban Broadband Fund

(http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/Proposal_Template.rtf)

Appendix 1

Eco Impact Checklist

Title of report: Gigabit Bristol 2012-2015				
Report author: Kevin O'Malley, Connecting Bristol Manager				
Anticipated date of key decision: 25 th July 2012				
Summary of proposals: The Gigabit Bristol project will use Central Government funding to roll out Ultrafast broadband to a large, centrally located zone, and deliver wifi connectivity across the city.				
Will the proposal impact on...	Yes/No	+ive or -ive	If yes...	
			Briefly describe impact	Briefly describe Mitigation measures
Emission of Climate Changing Gases?	Yes	- ve	In the short-term, there will be increased emissions from the use of energy during the installation of digital infrastructure across the city.	This will be considered during the design, specification & procurement process for the scheme.
		- ve	In the long term, there will be some increased emissions from the provision & use of energy (electricity / heating / lighting) throughout the city for the use of digital ICT.	
		+ ve	Gigabit Bristol will reduce consumption of non-renewable energy in the coming decade through improved digital communications, high quality ultrafast broadband & efficient working practices and the reduced need to travel	
Bristol's vulnerability to the effects of climate change?	Yes	- ve	Digital infrastructure may be vulnerable to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tidal & surface water flooding. - extreme temperature variations. 	This will be considered during the design & specification of the scheme, & where necessary in consultation with statutory bodies.

Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Yes	- ve	Fossil fuels and other non-renewable materials & products will be used in the provision, maintenance and renewal of digital infrastructure.	This will be considered during the design & specification of the scheme.
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	Yes	- ve	Waste may arise during the deployment works of digital infrastructure across the city.	The successful contractor/s will be required to apply the waste hierarchy during the delivery of the contract.
The appearance of the city?	Yes	- ve	The installation process of the fibre-optic cables may have a short term impact on the appearance of the city.	Innovative technologies & smart joint working practices with other utilities will minimise disruption during the installation process, however once the fibre-optic cables are laid, any changes to the aesthetic appearance will be minimal.
		- ve	The installation of wireless access points may alter the appearance of the city.	Wireless access points, will be incorporated into existing street furniture to mitigate this impact. Where necessary, this will be considered during the planning process.
Pollution to land, water, or air?	Yes	+ ve	It is anticipated that the programme will reduce the need to travel and therefore may have a positive impact on local air quality.	
		- ve	Installation & maintenance works may bring about the pollution of the land, water or air.	The successful contractor/s will be required to meet all relevant legislation & adhere to Environment Agency Pollution Prevention Guidelines.
Wildlife and habitats?	Yes	- ve	Installation & maintenance works	Consult with Bristol City Council's Natural

		have the potential to impact upon wildlife and habitats.	Environment Team as part of the planning process.
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Consulted with: Matt Sands, Environment Adviser, Sustainable City Group

Summary of impacts and Mitigation - to go into the main Cabinet/ Council Report

The significant impacts of this proposal are....

The short-term environmental impacts may include the increased consumption of fossil fuels, raw materials, production of waste & impact on local wildlife habitats & biodiversity during the deployment of digital infrastructure across the city. Additionally, there will be some local disruption & changes to the appearance of the city during installation, deployment & maintenance of such infrastructure.

The longer term impacts will include;

- Vulnerability to the effects of climate change & flooding (-ve)
- The ongoing consumption of energy use for use of existing & future digital technologies (-ve)
- Potential visual changes to the appearance of the city (-ve)
- Reduced consumption of non-renewable energy in the coming decade through improved digital communications, high quality ultrafast broadband & efficient working practices and the reduced need to travel (+ve)

The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts ...

The environmental impacts raised above will be addressed through a number of mitigating measures. These include;

- Innovative technologies & smart joint working practices with other utilities will minimise disruption during the installation process.
- Wireless access points will be incorporated into existing street furniture to mitigate changes to the appearance of the city.
- The design, specification & procurement of the scheme will address the use of natural resources, energy use during installation, vulnerability to climate change & flooding & waste reduction.
- All other impacts will be resolved through consultation with the relevant statutory bodies & stakeholders.

The net effects of the proposals are....

Providing the above mitigation measures are successfully implemented, Gigabit Bristol will enable Bristol to become a creative, smart, green & connected city & will reduce emissions in the coming decade through improved digital communications, efficient working practices and the reduced need to travel.

Checklist completed by:

Name:	Tanya Saker
Dept.:	Bristol Futures, Chief Executive
Extension:	X24452
Date:	21/06/12
Verified by Sustainable City Group	21/06/12

Appendix 2

Gigabit Bristol EQIA (from now on called 'the proposal')

Directorate and Service: CX Bristol Futures Future City

Lead officer (author of the proposal): Ian MacDougall

Additional people completing the form (including job title):

Kevin O'Malley, Connecting Bristol Manager

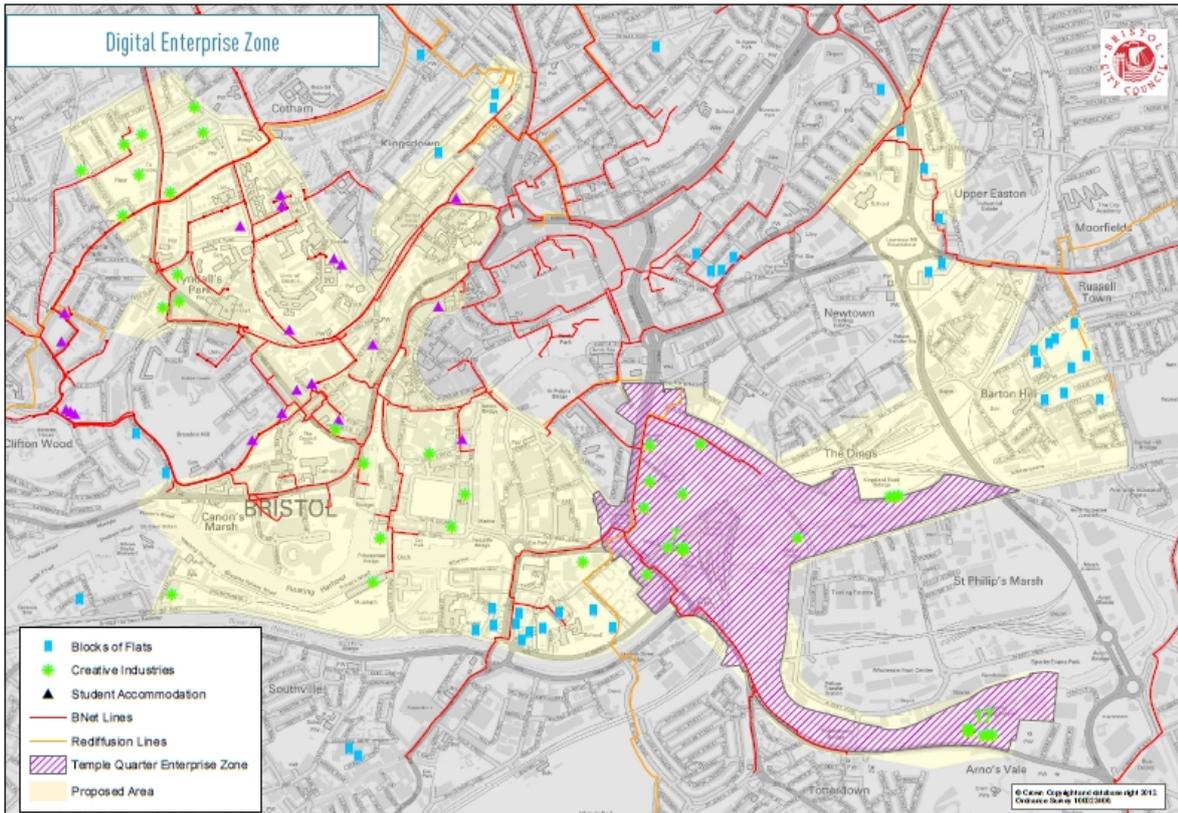
Equalities team, Simon Nelson

Start date for EqIA: 17th August 2012

Estimated completion date: 22nd August 2012

1. What is the purpose of the proposal?
Please summarise what is planned.

- 1.1 To enhance the existing broadband infrastructure, and develop WiFi access to 80% of the city's open space, including to businesses and to 5,000 social housing tenants.
- 1.2 The project will ensure that Gigabit Fibre Connectivity (approx 1000 megabits per second synchronous) is affordable and readily available to businesses and consumers across a large, centrally located "Digital Enterprise Zone".



This Digital Enterprise Zone (DEZ) will incorporate approximately 5000 residents of social housing. This roll out to social housing within the DEZ will be seen as a pilot for a broader citywide deployment to social housing if positive impact is demonstrated.

1.3 The project will ensure that wireless connectivity is available in all of the City's 54 business growth centres, and will subsequently roll out wireless connectivity in areas outside of these centres where demand is identified or where it would support the Council's flexible working ambitions.

	High	Medium	Low
2. Could this be relevant to our public sector equality duty to:			
a) Promote equality of opportunity	Yes		
b) Eliminate discrimination	Yes		
c) Promote good relations between different equalities communities?	Yes		

If you have answered 'low relevance' to question 2, please describe your reasons

3. Could the proposal have a positive effect on equalities communities?
Yes

Please describe your initial thoughts as to the proposal's positive impact

The Gigabit Bristol project will use between £4m and £12m to deliver significant improvements and access to superfast broadband across much of the city, addressing issues of market failure and digital exclusion. The project will stimulate take up of broadband usage, particularly amongst social housing tenants currently unserved by the market. The project will procure a service provider to ensure that all residents of social housing within the Digital Enterprise Zone have ready access to ultrafast broadband. The ultrafast broadband service would be offered to residents on a commercial basis. The precise commercial cost model has not yet been determined but our aim is to ensure that the services that are provided are not prohibitively expensive.

The project will also enable businesses in the DEZ to access ultrafast broadband, and those in our business growth centres to benefit from wifi, encouraging business competitiveness, growth and employment.

We have begun a process of user engagement with surveys aimed at assessing the requirements of residents and businesses. Examples of questionnaires are available at <http://www.connectingbristol.org/gigabit-bristol/>. This process of user engagement will continue throughout the project to inform our activities.

4. Could the proposal have a negative effect on equalities communities?
No

Please describe your initial thoughts as to the proposal's negative impact

If the proposal has low relevance and you do not anticipate it will have a negative impact, please sign off now. Otherwise proceed to complete the full equalities impact assessment

Service director.....Equalities officer
Date

2.1	Briefly describe the proposal and its aims? What are the main activities, whose needs is it designed to meet, etc.
2.2	If there is more than one service* affected, please list these:

Services* is used as a shorthand for services, strategies, policies, procedures, contracts, reviews, programmes or projects

2.3	Which staff or teams will carry out this proposal?

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3.1	Summarise how equalities communities are currently benefiting from your service* here (& add an electronic link to the information if possible).
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3.2	Then compare to the relevant benchmark (eg. the % of people from each community who use your services* with the % of people within the relevant equalities community who live in your local area or in the city of Bristol).
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3.3	Evaluate what the data in 3.1 & 3.2 tells you about how the current position affects people from equalities communities (see Guidance for further information and examples).
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Please note, your evaluation in 3.3 will be built upon in Step 5 where you will set out what you plan to do to address any issues for equalities communities

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This section refers to the proposal as described in step 2. When we propose changes to services*, it is important that we consult with service users, and staff or equalities community groups where relevant. Your proposal may be based on service users' suggestions that have been made in the past.

4.1	Describe any consultations that have taken place on the proposal. Please include information on when you consulted, how many people attended, and what each equalities community had to say (& provide a web link to
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	<p>the detailed consultation if possible). 1)</p>
4.2	<p>Please include when and how the outcome of the consultation was fed back to the people whom you consulted.</p>
<p>Please note details of the consultation findings in 4.1 will be built upon in Step 5 where you will set out what you plan to do to address any issues for equalities communities.</p>	

In this section you will consider the impact of your proposal on equalities communities, this will help you to develop a comprehensive service* which considers the needs of all communities.

The public sector equality duty requires us give due regard to the need to promote equal opportunities (create positive impacts where possible) eliminate discrimination (mitigate negative impacts where possible) and foster good relations. The process of giving due regard means that you should include all identified impacts, whether or not you plan to take actions to address these

Possible Impact column: Consider how the suggested changes in your proposal could affect different equalities communities, including how the proposal will meet the differing needs of equalities communities.

Actions to be included in the Proposal column: Include what you intend to do about the impact, ideally your actions will maximise opportunities to make improvements for equalities communities and mitigations for any negative impacts.

In this section you need to build on your data and consultation findings in steps 3 and 4. You may need also to consider people who could have high or differing needs within a wider equalities community such as children in care, carers, people who do not speak English, gypsies and travellers etc.

Possible Impact on Equalities Communities, whether or not you will address the impact	Actions to be included in the proposal
Age	
Disability	
Ethnicity	
Gender	

Possible Impact on Equalities Communities, whether or not you will address the impact	Actions to be included in the proposal
Pregnancy & maternity	
Religion and belief	
Sexual orientation	
Transgender	
Any other relevant specific groups	

5.2	Next Steps
<p>In the table above you have identified ‘actions to be included in the proposal’. Some of these will be in-hand (already acknowledged and mitigating actions are underway) but some may be new.</p> <p>So that we can more clearly demonstrate what has changed as a result of this equalities impact assessment, please list below new actions identified and say when and how you will put these new actions into practice.</p>	

<p>In this section you should summarise the relevant equality issues (including significant adverse impacts that you are unable to mitigate) and set out how consideration of the public sector equality duty aims has been taken into account in developing the proposal.</p>
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	Describe how, in completing steps 1-5, you have given due regard to the three aims of the public sector equality duty (a-c above).				
7.1	If your proposal is agreed, how do you plan to measure whether it has achieved its aims as described in 2.1. Please include how you will ensure you measure its actual impact on equalities communities?				
	Ensure the EqIA is signed off by a Service Director and the directorate equalities officer.				
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Signed</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Signed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Service Director</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Equalities officer</td> </tr> </table>	Signed	Signed	Service Director	Equalities officer
Signed	Signed				
Service Director	Equalities officer				
	Can this EqIA can be published on the web. Yes/No				
	If no, please explain why the proposal is confidential and cannot be published				
Contact Communications and Marketing Team or your directorate equalities officer to arrange to publish the equalities impact assessment on the Equality and Diversity web pages.					

Thank you for completing this document. We hope you found it useful to improve the overall quality of your proposal.

If you have any feedback on this process please contact the corporate equalities team at equalities.team@bristol.gov.uk

Services* is used as a shorthand for services, strategies, policies, procedures, contracts, reviews, programmes or projects

Directorate Equalities Contacts

Children and Young People Services – Su Coombes

City Development – Jane Hamill

Health and Social care – Jan Youngs

Human Resources – Jo McDonald

Neighbourhoods – Simon Nelson & Anneke van Eijkern

Corporate Resources – Anne James & Joanna Roberts