



**Superfast
Broadband**
Digital Scotland



Fibre broadband reaches even more communities, whatever the weather



Fibre broadband continues to be rolled out across the country, with Linlithgow, Lochee and Mid Calder amongst the latest to benefit from faster broadband in the last few weeks. And as Christmas approaches, our Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband engineers are certainly not slowing down! The team from Openreach are ready to deal with snow, ice, wind or rain to ensure that the programme remains on schedule. Visit our interactive checker at www.scotlandsuperfast.com to see if you can order fibre broadband yet.

When will there be 100% superfast fibre coverage?



Although we're well on track to deliver fibre broadband access to 95% of premises across Scotland, we are very aware that some areas and premises still don't have access to fibre broadband. Understandably, one of the questions we're asked most often is 'What about me? When will I get access to fibre broadband if I'm not included in the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband programme?'

For this reason, the Scottish Government has committed to deliver 100% superfast (at least 30 Mbps) broadband access by the end of 2021, **so no one will be forgotten in the superfast roll out.** Having worked to understand existing coverage plans across the country, including engagement with potential bidders, the Reaching 100% team have recently launched the procurement process which will allow this to happen. We're also working with the UK Government to understand how their commitment to a [Universal Service Obligation](#) can best align with our *Reaching 100%* commitment. You can read more detail on the Scottish Government's Digital Strategy [here](#).

Meet the inspiring winners of Dragons' Lair initiative

Dalziel High School scooped top prize in North Lanarkshire's Dragons' Lair initiative, where budding entrepreneurs from five local schools pitched their business ideas. Marion Ballantyne (from our Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband team) was delighted to be one of the 'Dragons'. Congratulations to the winning team for their great idea 'We're C Cubed', a magnetic door lock that can be opened with a mobile phone with an inbuilt security feature of a fingerprint or face scanner.



Fibre broadband takes centre stage at Stirling Winter Festival



Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband are thrilled to be sponsoring the Stirling Winter Festival. This festive event kicked off with the spectacular switch on of Christmas Lights on 19th November, at which our team loved explaining how fibre broadband works with the help of the unique exhibits on our showcase vehicle. Carol concerts, Christmas fairs and other events continue throughout the month. Find out more at www.stirlingwinterfestival.co.uk

A word from Fergus Ewing MSP

As I reflect on 2017 for this piece, it has been a year where the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband programme has achieved so much.

Over 800,000 premises now have access to fibre broadband thanks to the programme, and across the country more and more families and business are signing up with a service provider and benefitting from fibre broadband.

However, there are still around 5% of premises across Scotland left to get superfast broadband. It's a percentage the Scottish Government take seriously and we are determined that by 2021 there will be 100% superfast broadband coverage across the county. The Reaching 100% team have recently launched the procurement process which will allow this to become reality.

In the meantime, I hope you and your family have a peaceful festive time.



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