



<b>Decision Maker:</b>	<b>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</b>
<b>Decision date:</b>	<b>27 December 2019</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Fastershire Broadband Strategy 2019-2022 Amendment to section 10</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Operational Manager</b>

Amendment to Section 10 of the draft strategy published as appendix 1 to the report as follows to give further clarity regarding 5G coverage and the project's role within that:

## **10. 5G Mobile Coverage**

5G is increasingly being associated with full-fibre broadband in the public discourse around future connectivity but they are very different technologies. 5G is not part of the Fastershire programme. However, it is recognised that extensive fibre network will support emerging technologies including increased mobile coverage.

5G is the fifth generation of mobile networks following previous mobile generations 2G, 3G and 4G. Compared to most of the current networks (which primarily use 4G and 3G technology), 5G is set to be far faster and more reliable, with greater capacity and lower response times. Unlike previous generations of mobile network, 5G is unlikely to be defined by any single form of technology. It is often referred to as "the network of networks" for the way it will bind together multiple existing and future standards, including current advanced LTE (4G) networks.

Beyond a simple performance increase, 5G is set to open up a whole new set of use cases such as: superfast 5G broadband with no need for landlines, remote/ distance health care for patients, car to car and car to infrastructure communication, driverless cars, holographic technology, the arrival of 5G phones and devices such as 5G TVs.

To be clear, the role of councils in the deployment of 5G will be limited. The mobile providers will make their own decisions over deployment timescales and locations and often no planning permission will be required due the existing national legislation of permitted development.

The councils are also aware of public concerns over potential health impacts of 5G, and will work with organisations such as Public Health England to understand and disseminate relevant information.

The recommendations arising from this report are therefore revised and now read as follows:

**Revised Recommendation(s)**

**That:**

- a) the Fastershire Broadband Strategy 2019-22 at appendix 1, as amended by supplemental paper 1, be agreed;**
- b) the criteria for Fastershire Community Broadband Grant are agreed (paragraphs 21-27); and**
- c) the Assistant Director Corporate Support be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the grants scheme and award grants up to a maximum of £500,000 in accordance with agreed criteria and available funds.**