

## **How to speed up broadband in Rogate and surrounding hamlets – Be quick as the Gigabit voucher scheme is coming to an end.....**

It isn't simple and it takes time, but it is possible and if you satisfy the eligibility criteria, it can all be paid for by WSCC under the Gigabit voucher scheme. But WSCC stop taking applications 31 March 2021.

On Dangstein Road, our best download speed is 7mbps currently and upload <1mbps. With FTTP (fibre to the premises-fibre wired into each property directly), the 17 properties which joined our CFP have been told to expect >300mbps. The only cost to individual sites is the commitment to a 12-month contract for ultrafast broadband with Openreach; in reality no cost, because you would want to use it once installed!

I know there are many pockets in and around the parish which still have terribly slow speeds and so I'd like to share our experience and offer a sort of template of how to go about securing a CFP for FTTP. Background to the scheme can be found on the WSCC site: [www.westsussex.gov.uk/business-and-consumers/broadband-in-west-sussex/gigabit-capable-broadband/](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/business-and-consumers/broadband-in-west-sussex/gigabit-capable-broadband/) For the sake of brevity, I will leave it to you to read but I have more details I can send if you contact me.

The costs of installation under the Gigabit scheme are shared by the Dept. Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and WSCC. The current offer is £4k per household which should cover the whole cost of installation (it did for our CFP), but if you are left with a small amount to pay, this can be divided between the participants.

There is quite a bit to the process and you need to be patient because Openreach has a long waiting list. Please let me know if you need more information or if I can help you get your own CFP going.

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