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## **National Broadband Scheme for the UK: Supporting the local and community roll-out of superfast broadband**

### **State Aid Guidance: Open Market Review Template**

**[Name of local area/county]**

#### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

##### **1. INTRODUCTION**

[Introduction to your broadband objectives, your local broadband project and timetable, any project partners (e.g. neighbouring local bodies, communities), details of all Authority areas covered (e.g. Local , Borough, County etc) and put the project in context within your local area]

##### **2. GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE**

[Explain the geographical scope of your local broadband project, e.g. does it cover all/part of your local area/county, how does it fit with any other neighbouring local body's broadband project and does it encompass any RCBF or other Community Broadband initiatives (include location and scope)]

[The geographical information should be supported by a separate list of post codes and associated premises count. Include confirmation of the source of the postcode data (e.g.OS Code-point n/MasterMap with specific date and source of data identified)]

[Insert map of proposed local area to be covered including unitary authority/ward boundaries and this should be separately available in a GIS format upon request]

##### **3. PROGRESS TO DATE**

[Information on local broadband plan, timing of BDUK approval of that plan]

[Public/EU funding sought/approved, to indicate total level of public subsidy envisaged]

[Update on your confirmed procurement date for your local broadband project. **Note if operators fail to verify that your procurement is imminent, then there is a risk that they may not respond (particularly if their plans are due to change in the next few months and will result in abortive work both for yourselves and the operators)]**

#### 4. PURPOSE OF THIS OMR

This OMR is intended as a precursor to a formal public consultation document. The OMR, in contrast to that public consultation document, is not a specific requirement under the European Commission's Broadband Guidelines<sup>1</sup> or the National Broadband Scheme<sup>2</sup>. However, we consider that early market engagement at this stage is an essential and extremely important part of our early market research. The results of the OMR will assist us with understanding the broadband infrastructure (basic broadband and Next Generation Access (NGA)) already in place and where there are plans for investment in such infrastructure in the coming three years and a significant step in the design of your intervention area.

#### 5. YOUR RESPONSE REQUIRED

We are sending this OMR to all recognised broadband infrastructure and internet providers in our area. In addition, we are publishing this OMR document on our website.

We require responses by [insert date – suggest allow at least one month] to the questions set out in the Annex. When responding, we would be grateful if you could confirm your organisation's name and address, as well as the name, position and contact details of the person responding on behalf of the organisation.

Please send your responses to [insert details].

Please note that the data you provide in your response will be treated as commercially confidential to [insert name]<sup>3</sup>, albeit that it may be necessary to share/some all of your response data with our professional advisors and/or DCMS/BDUK, Ofcom, BIS State Aid Branch and the European Commission in the course of seeking State aid approval for our local broadband project. It should also be noted that it is a State aid requirement to utilise this information to produce State aid maps to define white, grey and black areas for basic and NGA broadband. These maps will be published as part of the Public Consultation process and will be utilised to define the intervention area. However, please note that these published maps will be assimilated utilising data from all relevant operators and will not be directly attributed to a single source.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact [insert name and contact details].

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<sup>1</sup> Community Guidelines for the application of State aid rules in relation to rapid deployment of broadband networks  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:025:0001:0026:EN:PDF>

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state\\_aid/cases/243212/243212\\_1387832\\_172\\_1.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/cases/243212/243212_1387832_172_1.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> We are also subject to legal obligations to disclose information in certain limited circumstances.

## ANNEX

**1. Please provide details and supporting evidence of any current or planned investment in broadband infrastructure (basic broadband and NGA broadband) in [name of local area/county]. In the case of planned investment, we are particularly interested in plans for the coming three years (by date). However, any plans for years beyond that would also be of interest. Any information provided should include but need not be limited to:**

- Detailed maps for basic broadband and NGA broadband showing the existing coverage and separately maps detailing the planned investment in the basic broadband and NGA infrastructure networks for at least the next three years;
- Exact detail of premises passed or covered, i.e. postcodes including information on the number of premises passed (in the case of a fixed network) or covered and able to receive services (in the case of a wireless/satellite network);
- Details of the technology and where these claim to be NGA, demonstrate how they meet the minimum standards as set-out in the BDUK Technology Guidelines<sup>4</sup>.
- Description of the services/ products currently offered and separately those to be offered within the next 3 years;
- Installation and rental tariffs for those services/products clearly identifying whether they are inclusive or exclusive of VAT;
- Upload and download speeds typically experienced by end users;
- Appropriate indicators of quality of the service e.g. contention ratio or bandwidth allocation per end user;
- Evidence to substantiate actual or planned coverage claims including business cases and evidence of available funding to enable plans to be fulfilled.
- Details and timing of roll-out for future investment; and
- Confirmation from an authorised signatory that all information provided is of suitable accuracy.

Please supplement with supporting evidence as you consider appropriate e.g. public websites.

**BDUK / July 2014**

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4

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