

**BREAKING NEWS:** The new fibre cabinet (Cabinet 3) near Meonstoke School went live earlier this week; and Cabinet 5 (on A32/Warnford Road, opposite Meonstoke Post Office) is about to go live.

**PLEASE TELL NEIGHBOURS & FRIENDS ABOUT 'SUPERFAST' AND FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR LOCAL MAILING LIST**

**From Peter O'Sullivan, Meonstoke & Mick Baugh, Corhampton**

**Note:**

- We have no financial or other interest in the broadband solutions to which this newsletter refers
- We continue to struggle to fully understand the range and coverage of these services; you only know what, if anything, you will be offered, if and when you are offered it.
- We are not experts on the solutions (at least Peter is not; Mick's pretty good!) and have had no involvement in the superfast plan; we will however do our best to find help for you – email [TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com](mailto:TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com)

**GREAT NEWS**

After waiting a number of years fibre-enabled 'Superfast Broadband' has been delivered to about 90% of our residential and business premises 'Hampshire Superfast Broadband', a partnership between Hampshire County Council and BT/Openreach has delivered the programme; with significant investment from the partnership, the Westminster government and Europe.  
... which of course means by us and other tax payers; and customers of Openreach (which most of us are).

This means that most of our business and residential premises now (or by the end of April 2018) have the opportunity to access broadband at speeds:

- up to 330 Mbps for those who are offered FTTP (Fibre To The Premise), or
- up to 80 Mbps for those who are offered FTTC (Fibre To The Cabinet, existing copper/aluminium from new fibre cabinets to the premise).

**Note:** That speed of connections to the new 'FTTC' cabinets degrades over distance (along the road, not as the 'crow flies') from the cabinets

If you are within 1.5 km you will be offered a significant improvement (up to 12 Mbps), but it may not achieve the 'superfast' threshold of 24 Mbps.

These speeds compare with pre-fibre speeds of 2+ Mbps

**NOTE:** Those of us that are missing out on this phase of delivery, will probably be offered an upgraded opportunity by the end of 2019.

**SO FIRST LET'S CELEBRATE & SAY 'THANK YOU' TO OURSELVES AND THE HAMPSHIRE SUPERFAST PARTNERSHIP, AND THE WESTMINSTER GOVERNMENT & EUROPE**

**NOW, WHO WILL GET WHAT?**

**FTTP – Openreach's 'Fibre to the Premise' delivering up to 330 Mbps**

Some residents and businesses in the following villages and locations are offered this opportunity

- Droxford
- Wallops Wood Farm (Sheardley Lane) – businesses, residential properties and holiday lets
- Corhampton

- Exton
- Meonstoke (a few)

**FTTC – Openreach’s ‘Fibre to the Cabinet’, existing copper/aluminium from the new fibre cabinets to the premise; delivering up to 80 Mbps**

There are four new fibre cabinets; three are live, the fourth will go live in next week or so; these are their locations

- **Cabinet 3** (Meonstoke, junction of Chapel Road, School Lane and High Street) – connected to premises on south half of High Street, and on Chapel Road, south half of Fry’s Lane and on New Road
- **Cabinet 4** (Meonstoke, Pound Lane, junction of Rectory Lane, Pound Lane, High Street and Bucks Head Hill) connected to premises on north half of High Street, Rectory Lane (some), Allens Lane (some?), Pound Lane, Pound Cottages, Bridge Mead (some), Fry’s Lane (North End) and Stocks Lane
- **Cabinet 5** (A32/Warnford Road, opposite Village Store & Post Office) – connected to premises in Corhampton, Meonstoke (some?) and Exton
- **Cabinet 6** (Droxford, Union Lane) connected to premises in Droxford (including the surgery at The Parks) which are currently connected via ‘exchange only lines’ (EOL) directly to the Droxford Exchange

**NOTE:** Some premises will be connected to both a fibre cabinet and also with an opportunity of Fibre to the Premise.

**NOW, LET’S THINK ABOUT**

- a) How I found out if I am included?, and if I am,
- b) How do I check its benefits and sign up to it if I want it

**SO, AM I INCLUDED?**

1. Go to the Openreach checker; key [www.openreach.co.uk](http://www.openreach.co.uk) into your browser
2. Enter your landline number (regardless of who your telephone provider is) or your post code (and select your property) if you do not have a landline

If you are (or about to be) connected to fibre you will see

- ‘Superfast (or Ultrafast) Accepting Orders’ (already available), or
- ‘Activate’ (about to become available); check daily to see if it has changed to ‘accepting orders’

When available you will also see whether you are connected via:

- Superfast FTTC to one of the new cabinets (“Cabinet number: X Technology: FTTC”), or
- Ultrafast FTTP

**NOT INCLUDED?**

If you are not included you will probably see “Exchange name: Droxford; Exchange status: Fibre enabled; Cabinet number: 1; Technology: - (blank)”

... and maybe “you’re scheduled to be upgraded and we’re surveying your area to make sure our initial fibre plans will work in your community. You can’t order a fibre service today but typically it’ll be available to your premises within the next nine months.” This means that you will probably be considered for inclusion in the 2019 superfast plan.

Please send us an email giving your name, address and landline number – to [TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com](mailto:TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com).

We will use this information to identify excluded zones to inform planning by the Hampshire Superfast Broadband partnership and alternative providers.

## **IF INCLUDED & STATUS IS 'SUPERFAST (OR ULTRAFAST) ACCEPTING ORDERS'**

You will see something like "Great news, Superfast fibre is in your area. Find out which Service Providers could offer you Superfast fibre broadband today.

... by going to <https://www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/superfast-broadband/superfast-fibre-buy-it-now>

and then clicking on either

- Get Superfast broadband for your home, or
- Get Superfast broadband for your business

These links will display the logos of the superfast service providers which can provide you with a fibre enabled service

You can now contact your existing provider (if their logo is included) and/or another provider to request options and costs of superfast broadband service

It is worth comparing providers and also asking about full packages – including landline and possibly mobile and possibly TV services.

...and comparing costs to the cost of your existing services.

Some residents have already been able to negotiate much improved broadband speeds, and in some cases, at lower costs than they were paying for the slow speeds we have been used to.

**STORIES** - Do you have a story to tell about your 'superfast' connection experience, who your provider is, cost etc... please let us know so that we can share it with others - [TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com](mailto:TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com)

## **DO I NEED 'SUPERFAST' BROADBAND? WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL IT MAKE TO ME?**

**WHICH MAGAZINE ARTICLE** - What broadband speed do I need?

"Superfast broadband sounds appealing. But just how fast is it and do you really need it? Read on to find out.

(The article includes the image attached to this email newsletter.)

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/broadband-deals/article/what-broadband-speed-do-i-need>

**This is an extract from Money Supermarket -**

<https://www.moneysupermarket.com/broadband/speed/>

"Before going all out with your broadband connection, take a quick look at your internet usage as a household, as sometimes it might actually make sense to go for a less expensive option which will suit your needs, rather than an expensive one that you won't be using as much. Basically, just because super-fast speeds are available, it doesn't mean that you should necessarily pay for them if you use the internet infrequently.

Here are the speeds we recommend at [moneysupermarket.com](https://www.moneysupermarket.com) based on your internet usage:

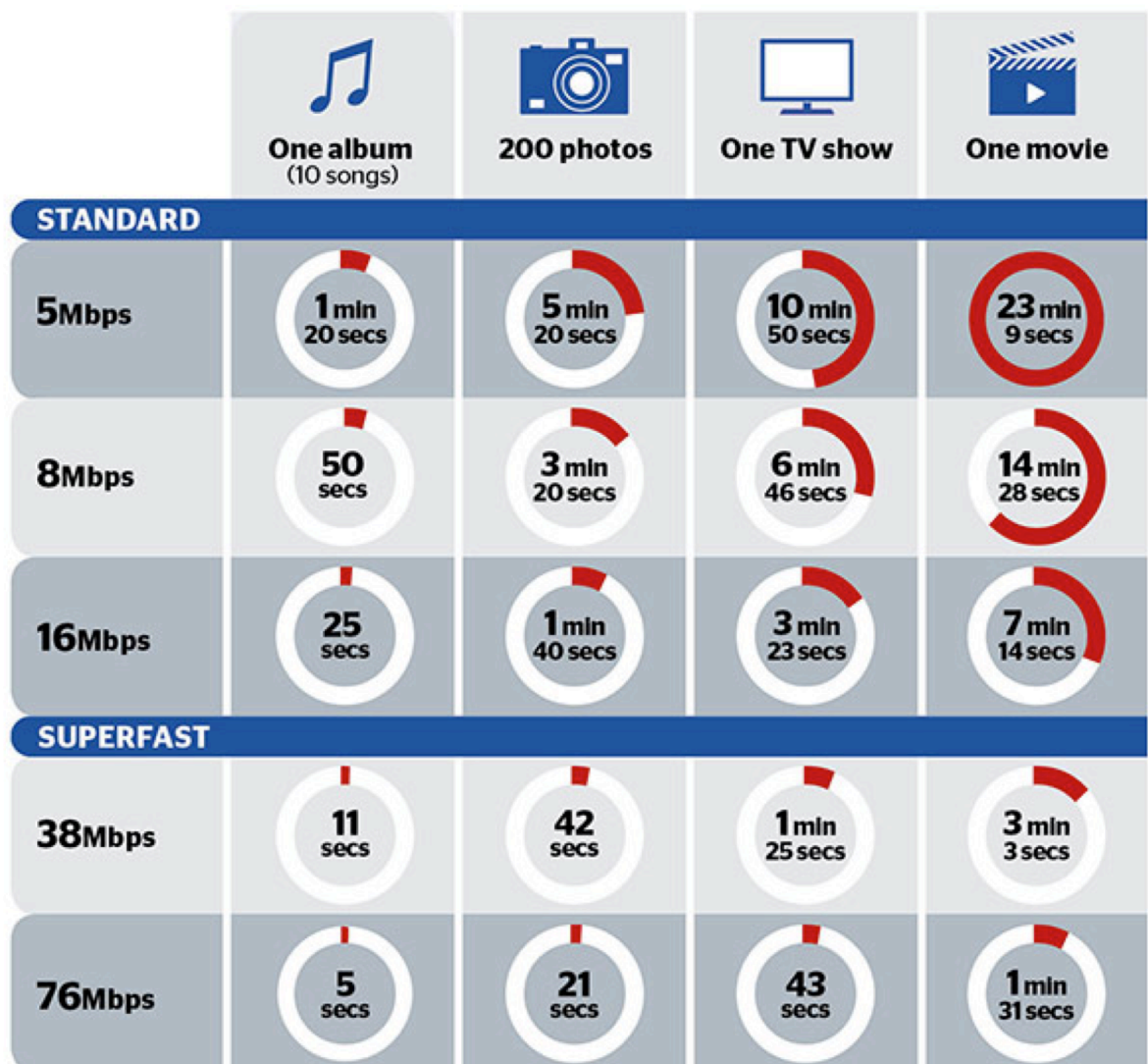
- **Light broadband internet users:** If you don't use the internet all that often, maybe just a few times a week to check emails and briefly surf the web, there's little point in paying for high-speed downloads. There are many packages available at around 3Mbps, which are cost-effective starter packages and should be suited for your needs as a household. Besides, if you do feel a little held back, you can always upgrade to a faster connection at a later date.
- **Medium broadband internet users:** If you find yourself on the internet each day of the week, maybe scrolling through your Facebook feed, checking emails, watching videos and maybe streaming some television services, you're likely to be in the medium usage bracket of broadband users.

Download speeds should be fairly important to you, whilst upload speeds might not be as much of a forethought for you. If you're in this bracket you should probably look for a service of around 10-20Mbps to keep you going each month.

- **Heavy broadband internet users:** For serial internet users out there who use the service to its full potential, and by this we mean spending hours on end watching cat videos on YouTube, downloading films and music regularly, streaming hours' worth of TV shows and playing online games until the early hours, you'll be safely considered a high-usage customer. You should definitely put download speed as a priority in your broadband search, and seriously consider an unlimited download limit along with a decent upload speed. The generally accepted speeds for you should be upward of 30Mbps, but serious users should look for services offering maybe 100Mbps to be safe."

30 March 2018

**END OF NEWSLETTER**



Based on MP3 song size of 5MB per file, photo size of 1MB per file, [video](#) [size](#) [table](#)