

Broadband and Mobile Fact Sheet



Fact sheet provides an overview of the current status of broadband and mobile coverage in East Hants and key government policy commitments. Data on Horsham and Ealing has been included to act as benchmark to measure East Hants against – Horsham represents a comparable market town in the South East, Ealing an example urban constituency

Broadband coverage*			East Hants	Horsham	Ealing
Fixed Broadband	Average Speed (Mb/s)	Download	18.3	19.3	30.2
	Availability (%)	Basic	95%	92%	98%
		Superfast	56%	79%	94%
Wi-Fi**	Public Wi-Fi	Hotspots	> 729	> 452	> 5969

Key Policy Commitments (and progress):

- Universal access to broadband at a minimum of 2Mbps (i.e. basic) by 2015
 - Progress: Nearly, but not entirely met (see table stats)
- Ensuring the UK has the best superfast broadband network in Europe by the end of this Parliament
 - The Government's current ambition is to provide 95% of the UK with superfast by 2017. This is on track.
- Testing project schemes
 - Rural pilot projects to help government find broadband solutions for difficult to reach areas
- Enabling and ensuring access to existing infrastructure
 - In October 2010, Ofcom issued new regulatory obligations for BT, ensuring they support investment and competition in superfast broadband

Funding and Delivery:

- Allocated £530m to achieving universal access to basic broadband and 95% access to superfast broadband
- Set up Broadband Delivery UK
 - Responsible for managing the Government's broadband funding. Individual projects are the responsibility of local authorities
- Innovation fund
 - Invested £10m in testing innovative broadband solutions for Britain's most remote places. Call Flow's pilot in East Hants is one of the successful shortlisted projects
- Growth and Infrastructure Act
- Super-connected cities
 - Invested £100m in 2011, and a further £50m in 2012, for an Urban Broadband Fund that will help create 10 'super-connected' cities

Area*	Superfast	Speed (Mb/s)
England	80%	24.1
Scotland	64%	21.3
N.Ireland	94%	25.0
Wales	60%	18.2
Rural town & fringe	45%	16.7
Rural village& dispersed	17%	8.5
Urban city & town	85%	25.6

Definitions:

Basic: greater than 2Mb/s

Standard: greater than 10 Mb/s

Superfast: at least 24Mb/s

Types of Fixed Line Broadband:

ADSL

- Most common
- Delivers broadband through the copper wires of phone lines
- Speeds are dependent on how far a premise is from the telephone exchange

Cable

- Delivers broadband via a fibre optic cable
- Speed is not lost with distance
- Capable of delivering superfast services

Fibre

- Delivers broadband via fibre optic clusters
- Two types (fibre-to-the-cabinet and fibre-to-the-premise). The most common is fibre-to-the-cabinet



Mobile coverage*			East Hants	Horsham	Ealing
Mobile	2G	Premises	98%	98%	99%
		Road	91%	94%	99%
	3G	Premises	88%	91%	99%
		Road	61%	75%	99%
	4G	Premises	0%	0%	99%
		Road	1%	1%	99%

Key Policy Commitments (and progress):

- Facilitate mobile broadband
 - In 2013 Ofcom auctioned off a new spectrum allowing the development of 4G
 - Ofcom included in the license an obligation to provide coverage to 95% of the UK population

'Partial not-spots' – this occurs where one operator has signal, but not all operators do. 85% of East Hants has 2G coverage for all operators, 51% has 3G for all operators*.

Overall Analysis

EH Mobile Analysis:

- 2G premises coverage is on a par with Horsham, a comparable constituency, and Ealing, an example urban constituency. Road coverage trails behind both, particularly Ealing, who have near universal 2G road coverage
- 3G coverage is worse than Horsham and Ealing in both premise and road coverage. Road coverage is especially poor – Ealing has more than 50% better coverage
- 4G is virtually non-existent, as in Horsham. This is in direct contrast to Ealing where it is near universal

Context**

95% of UK households have mobile phones
 16% of UK households are mobile only
 79% of SME's use mobile phones

Definition

2G

- Analogue
- Transmits information by voice signals
- Suitable for making calls and sending texts

3G

- Digital
- Makes it possible to access the internet more effectively through mobile phones
- Enables services like GPS, mobile television, video conferencing

4G

- Offers faster speeds – download times 5-7 faster than 3G
- Designed to make it easier to surf the web on mobile devices

EH Broadband Analysis:

- Download speeds fall in the 'standard' category
- Download speeds are lower than England, Scotland and Northern Ireland averages, however are marginally above rural town averages
- 5% of East Hampshire does not have access to basic broadband
- Superfast broadband availability is significantly lower than England and urban averages but above rural averages
- East Hampshire is currently benefiting from government funding into innovative broadband solutions for rural areas

*Ofcom: <http://infrastructure.ofcom.org.uk/#> (accessed on 18.02.15)

**Ofcom Infrastructure Report 2014