



State Aid Public Consultation – Closure Note

North Lincolnshire Council's aspiration is to ensure that all properties across North Lincolnshire have access to superfast broadband. To advance this we will be extending our Northern Lincolnshire Broadband programme through a new £1m investment. This may increase to £3m should further funding be secured.

Procurement to further extend coverage of Next Generation Access (NGA) across the North Lincolnshire Council area

Published: February 2020

1. OUTCOME OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A Public Consultation to determine and validate the Intervention Area for North Lincolnshire Council procurement for Phase 3 of the Northern Lincolnshire Broadband programme closed on 25 November 2019. The Public Consultation followed an Open Market Review (OMR) with the telecoms market to which suppliers responded with information on their existing infrastructure and commercial plans in the project area.



Following this process, the eligible Intervention Area for the project has been determined; these are known as the 'White' areas. The final State Aid maps for Next Generation Access (NGA) Broadband and Basic Broadband are included below.

The Council intends to launch a public procurement to secure NGA network solutions to serve the identified Intervention Area.

2. TIME SCALES

The following table summarises the indicative timescales of the next stages of the procurement:

Activity	Start Date	End Date
Issue of Contract Notice	17/02/2020	17/02/2020
Closing date for Expressions of Interest	01/03/2020	17/03/2020
Bidders sign up to Code of Conduct	19/02/2020	18/03/2020
Bidder access to the Data Room	19/03/2020	14/05/2020
Clarification Question process	19/03/2020	07/05/2020
Bidders prepare responses	19/02/2020	14/05/2020
Evaluate bidder response and clarify where required	15/05/2020	05/06/2020
Local Body initial governance (e.g. sign off evaluation and preferred bidder)	08/06/2020	08/06/2020
Bidders notified of evaluation outcome (e.g. preferred bidder announced)	09/06/2020	09/06/2020
Standstill period – see section 3.2.3	10/06/2020	22/06/2020
Contract finalisation/Due Diligence	23/06/2020	07/07/2020
DCMS Approvals including State Aid and Funding	08/07/2020	22/07/2020
Local Body final governance (e.g. to sign off decision to award contract) and Contract Award	22/07/2020	22/07/2020
Contract Signature	22/07/2020	22/07/2020



3. REVISED STATE AID MAPS

The following criteria have been used to determine the NGA classification of areas:

- A postcode is turned 'grey' if there is only one broadband infrastructure operator providing NGA services (supporting minimum speeds of at least 30Mbps) to all premises in that postcode.
- A postcode is turned 'black' if there are at least two broadband infrastructure operators providing NGA services (supporting minimum speeds of at least 30Mbps) to all premises in that postcode.
- All other postcodes remain white.

In addition, the proposed Intervention Area includes a number of "under review" areas (coloured blue on the map). These are areas where there is uncertainty that NGA services have or will be delivered, or have been reported through the OMR as being 'at risk' of not being completed. Areas that potentially have NGA white premises but where individual premises cannot yet be identified have also been marked "under review". These areas will be subject to continued monitoring and verification of operator plans by the Council's Broadband Team within a 3 year period and in the event that these commercial plans fall away these premises will be mapped as NGA white and form part of the eligible Intervention Area via this aid measure.

The mapping analysis of existing and planned coverage (within the next 3 years) has identified remaining 'white NGA' areas. The outcome of the Public Consultation is summarised below in terms of NGA White, Grey, Black and "under review" premises in NGA White, Grey, Black and "under review" postcodes.

	Number of Postcodes	Number of White Premises	Number of Grey Premises	Number of Black Premises	Number of Under Review' (depicted as blue)
White	446	1959	2068	0	1629
Grey	2604	0	41302	1678	0
Black	739	0	0	14926	0
'Under Review'— [1]	992	0	14141	0	5288

The North Lincolnshire County Council Intervention Area includes 12421 NGA White premises, however there are an additional 16347 Under Review premises that could

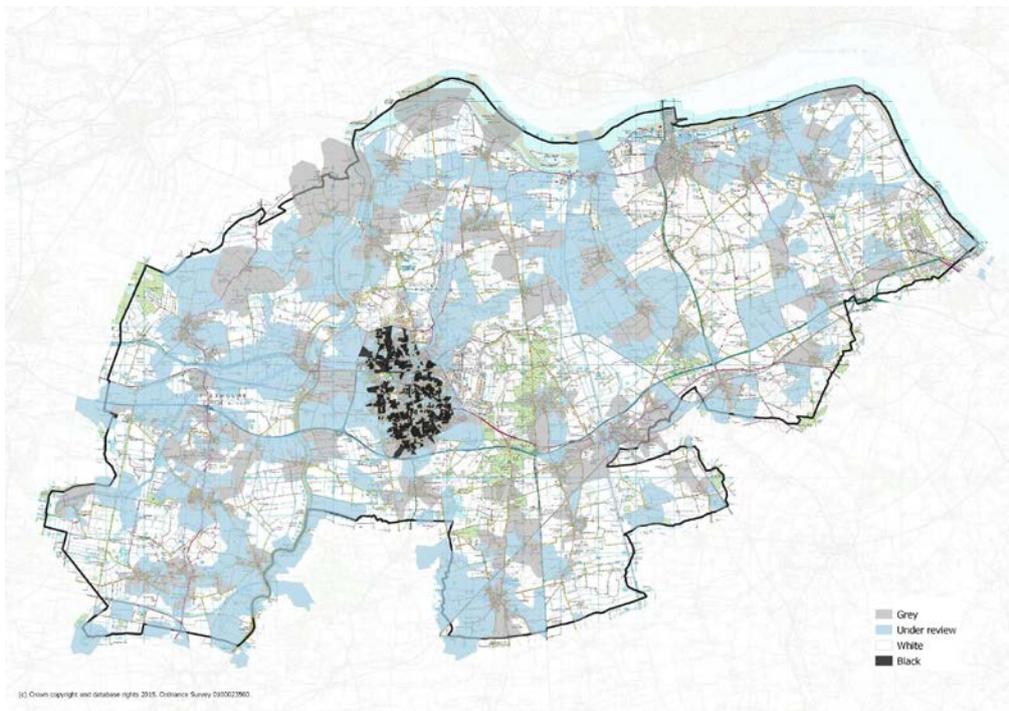
potentially be brought into scope of the procurement if plans are not completed and confirmed by the monitoring team.

All premises in the North Lincolnshire area are believed to have access to a Basic Broadband service through existing commercial operators.

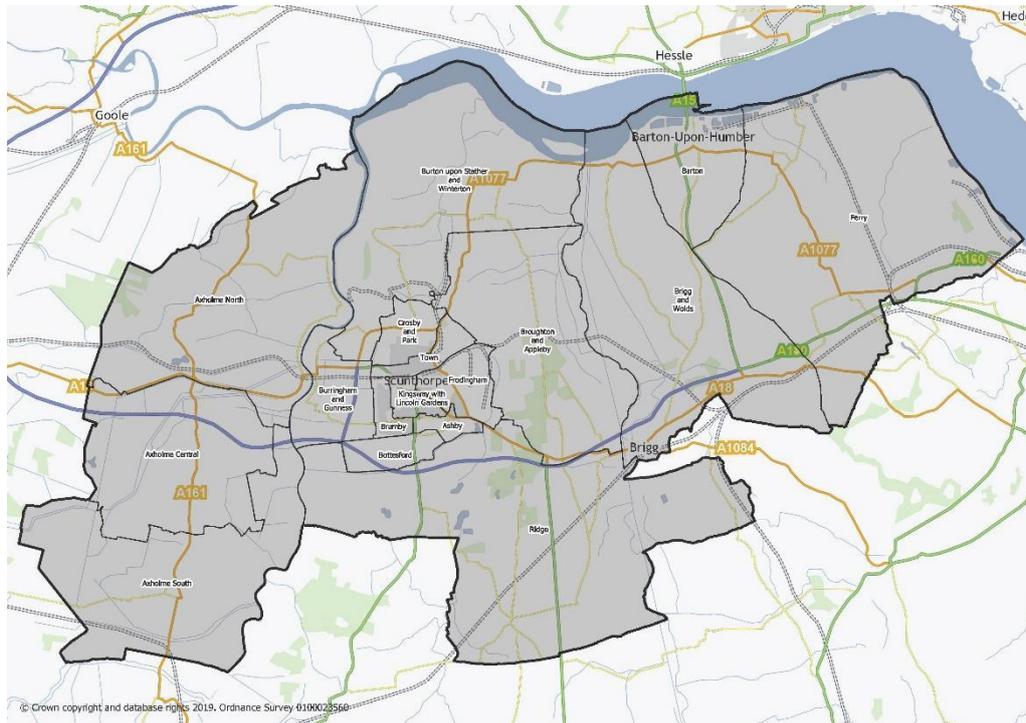
4. STATE AID MAPS

The State Aid maps for the Intervention Area are shown below for NGA Broadband and Basic Broadband respectively:

NGA Broadband Map:



Basic Broadband Map:



5. STATUS OF INTERVENTION AREA

The State Aid Public Consultation is now closed. The Council's Broadband Team have submitted a State aid (Part 1) notification to the National Competence Centre (part of the Department for Culture Media and Sport) which oversees the UK National Broadband Scheme. A decision on the eligibility of the proposed Intervention Area is expected in February 2020. If clearance is granted, the Intervention Areas mapped above will be confirmed as eligible for public sector intervention for the forthcoming procurement.

6. CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact:

Northern Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager

E: nlbb@northlincs.gov.uk



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

**North
Lincolnshire
Council**
www.northlincs.gov.uk