Cambridge Digital Connectivity Overview – June 2025

Broadband

Fibre broadband coverage in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough is above the national average and ahead of Government targets

In Cambridge:

- >99% of premises can access partial/full fibre broadband with download speeds >24Mbps*
- >95% can access gigabit capable broadband with download speeds of at least 1000Mbps (1Gb)*

Gigabit capable fibre broadband coverage is increasing at pace through direct government intervention and commercial deployment, meaning this area exceeded the target of 85% coverage by 2025 a year early.

- A number of commercial providers are active in Cambridge including, but not limited to: CityFibre, Virgin Media (Nexfibre), Gigaclear, County Broadband and Openreach.
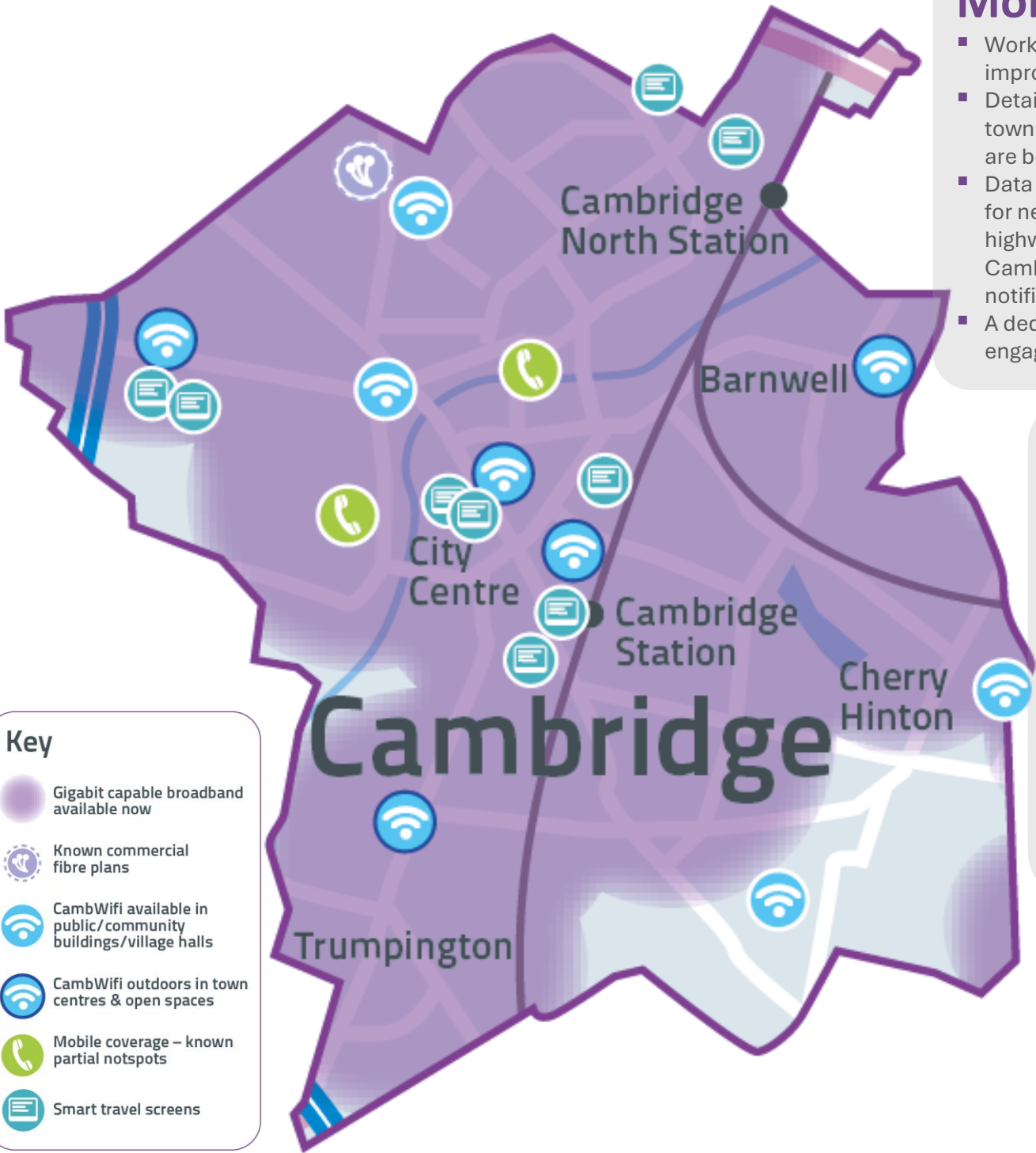
➢ View our active suppliers list for more info

- Project Gigabit, delivered by City Fibre, is combining government funding with commercial investment to extend gigabit capable fibre coverage to fill the gaps.

- Gigabit Broadband Vouchers may soon be available again to cover the cost of installing broadband for eligible groups of rural premises that are not in commercial plans or covered by Project Gigabit.

➢ View our broadband postcode checker and check eligibility for Gigabit Vouchers.

Work is underway to improve broadband coverage and connection speeds for social housing, though our liaising with leading housing providers, UK Government and telecoms networks.

Mobile coverage

- Working with local authorities, leading businesses and network providers to improve mobile coverage and capacity including commissioning local surveys.
- Detailed coverage testing surveys (February 2025) of 'partial notspots' in market town centres, business parks, major roads and train stations showed results that are being analysed to identify areas for further improvements.
- Data analysis shows a slows down in the number of planning applications/notices for new/upgraded 4G/5G masts required for digital connectivity for rural areas, highways and urban networks. Total of 28 applications/notices covering Greater Cambridge from April 2023 up to April 2025 of which 14 were approved including notifications.
- A dedicated digital connectivity planning officer has been appointed to proactively engage with network providers, planning teams and local communities.

Smart technology

- Real time travel and information screens installed in libraries and offices including South Cambs Hall, University of Cambridge, and business sites including Cambridge Network and Astra Zeneca.
- An outdoor digital information wayfinding totem can be found outside Cambridge railway station.
- Pocket SmartPanel app offers real time bus and train information via smart phones.
- LoRa sensor network installed in Cambourne enabling residents and businesses to install sensors and collect environmental data.
- Small Cells trials using specially designed lighting columns to host telecoms equipment to improve mobile connectivity and support the deployment of other technology such as Air Quality sensors, traffic monitoring and CCTV have been installed in and around Cambridge Market Square.

Key

- ● Gigabit capable broadband available now
- Known commercial fibre plans
- CambWifi available in public/community buildings/village halls
- CambWifi outdoors in town centres & open spaces
- Mobile coverage – known partial notspots
- Smart travel screens

Cambridge North Station · Barnwell · City Centre · Cambridge Station · Cherry Hinton · **Cambridge** · Trumpington

Local plans

- The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Digital Connectivity Strategy (2025-2029) highlights the importance of Digital Connectivity to support business and communities.
- The Greater Cambridge Local Plan, includes a Digital Infrastructure Policy to ensure the delivery of high-quality gigabit-capable digital connectivity across South Cambs and Cambridge City.

Public Access Wifi

- Free and secure public access wifi (CambWifi) is widely available in public and community buildings, libraries, leisure centres, park & ride sites, and council offices across Cambridge.
- On-street CambWifi is also available in the market square and green spaces in Cambridge city centre through the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme, in conjunction with the University of Cambridge.

➢ View our CambWifi map and postcode checker

Digital Inclusion

- Enabling local Digital Hubs via small grants for connectivity and devices.
- Co-delivering the Cambridgeshire Digital Partnership with Support Cambridgeshire to train and empower VCS groups.
- Co-delivering a new Digital Inclusion Directory for the County alongside Cambridge Online and Cambridge City Council,
- Running a public awareness campaign on the Digital Switchover.
- Embedding digital inclusion into district council service delivery.
- Promoting a tech repurposing through a partnership with Sustainable Tech 4 Good.

Business Support

- Digital Switchover webinars and in-person workshops are being delivered by FarrPoint throughout 2025 to raise awareness of how the Switchover will affect businesses, and how to prepare for a successful transition.