Cheshire and Warrington
Local Enterprise Partnership

Purpose Pyramid Digital Connectivity Board

September 2021



Delivering our Vision

Board members will lead, advise and influence the delivery of our vision.

			100	
Our Role	Context	Priorities	Stakeholders	Vision Healthy, Sustainable, Inclusive and Growing
Slide 01 of 07 Board Awayday Conclusions				

.

To advise the Cheshire and Warrington Our purpose LEP on strategic digital connectivity policy, strategies and plans for the sub-region **Purpose Pyramid** To ensure that digital connectivity Our vision contributes to the sub-region being the healthiest, most sustainable, inclusive and growing economy in the UK Collaborative, connected, apolitical, agile and Our principles / values ambitious 1: Enable Gigabit Capable infrastructure across the C&W LEP sub-region; 2: Address areas of coverage inconsistencies and speed/service inequalities in recognition of changing work patterns, a mobile workforce, reliance on **Our strategy** connectivity and the convergence of fixed/mobile technologies; 3: Adopt/strengthen a **consistent barrier busting approach** to digital policy; **4**: Drive adoption of digital connectivity by increasing participation/skills and take-up of services. 1: Identifying the priorities for improving digital connectivity across the sub-region which will support and deliver the LEP's vision and wider priorities; 2: Influencing those organisations which can help to deliver the priorities, including Government Departments, Local Authorities, Connecting Cheshire, **Our deliverables** digital infrastructure companies; and 3: Working with, influencing, and taking account of the issues and priorities identified by relevant sub-regional structures including Employer Skills and Education Board, Digital Skills Partnership, other LEP Boards and partnerships. **Our core capabilities** Expertise, knowledge, influence and reach, partnerships, delivery capability, collective leadership A more inclusive, healthy, sustainable growing economy Outcomes

Suggested short-term priorities (to be agreed)

Policy and Strategy

 $\underline{\heartsuit}$

<u>ل</u>

- Ensure alignment and coordination of policies and strategies related to deployment of digital connectivity across the sub-region
- Work with the market to understand current challenges and pinch-points within existing policies and strategies to identify areas for improvement

Work with Connecting Cheshire to

- Develop a pipeline of 'shovel-ready' projects within the C&W LEP sub-region to improve digital connectivity for residents and businesses
- Develop and promote a narrative setting out the opportunities for digital innovation and testbed facility within C&W LEP subregion, highlighting key sector and regional strengths manufacturing, life sciences, energy & clean growth, finance & business services, and logistics & distribution.
- Engage with BDUK for advice on and to secure funding for identified programmes

Working with Neighbours

- Work with North Wales Economic Ambition Board to further develop plans and the business case to deliver a 'Connected Corridor' to extend digital connectivity across the major A55 / M56 transport route into Cheshire & Warrington
- Work with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority to further develop plans and the business case to secure funding to extend their 'Dig Once' duct and backhaul network into the Ellesmere Port area of the C&W LEP sub-region initially, whilst looking at other opportunities to extend this infrastructure into other parts of the C&W LEP sub-region



Target locations identified as having poor mobile coverage:

- Consider not-spot areas where premises are unable to access either Superfast or 4G connectivity, as a superfast connection offers options for WiFi calling where mobile coverage is currently poor, and mobile broadband offers an interim option for data connectivity where fixed line speeds are currently poor
- Consider the needs of priority businesses and locations, whilst seeking ubiquitous coverage across the entire C&W LEP sub-region to help facilitate remote/mobile working, tourism, etc.