

Slow internet speeds will soon be history

Superfast fibre broadband is now in Cove

We all know Cove suffers from slow broadband speeds, but this is about to end. Superfast fibre broadband is here and it will open up a whole new world.

By selecting a broadband service from a communications provider, you should be able to take advantage of download speeds of up to 80Mbit/s*. You'll be able to download entire albums in seconds and watch live HD or 3D streaming movies to your TV without irritating pauses. Or you can post videos and photos to social networking sites in an instant, and catch up with friends and family in far-flung places through video calls, either from your PC or TV. Or you could indulge in a spot of online gaming with millions of other players all over the world.

Whatever you're into, superfast fibre broadband will make it easier. It isn't just about doing one thing online faster. It's about everyone in the home being able to do their own thing online **all at the same time**.

But how will fibre broadband improve our download speeds? The network that delivers today's phones and broadband was an all-copper based infrastructure. Distance doesn't affect the quality of voice services delivered over copper but, it does affect the quality and speed of data transmission. That's because copper was designed to carry the human voice – not big chunks of data.

The longer the distance from the exchange you are, the slower your broadband speed. The exchange serving Cove is over 4km away in West Tullos, so that's why we have been limited to much slower speeds than others areas get.

Openreach is in the middle of a £2.5

billion optical fibre investment programme to upgrade the copper network. Fibre optic cables are revolutionising the communications industry. A single fibre is capable of carrying much more information than copper, and does so in a far shorter space of time. Fibre can carry massive amounts of information as pulses of light over far longer distances, without any reduction in quality.

So what is changing? Fibre has been overlaid onto the copper infrastructure running from the exchange to cabinets in our streets. Copper will still be the final link (i.e. from the cabinet to your home or business). The street cabinets are much closer to our homes than the exchange, so we will see a dramatic increase in broadband speeds. So a part-fibre, part-copper solution will be capable of delivering download speeds of up to 80Mbit/s and upload speeds of up to 20Mbit/s*.

So that's what superfast broadband is all about – not just substantially increased speeds, but the opportunity for everyone in the home to do what they want online, when they want to and it's future proof !

To find out whether or not you'll be able to get superfast fibre broadband for a specific property, use the line checker on your preferred telephone or internet service provider's website or search online for "superfast broadband".

***Typical maximum speeds. Source is from www.openreach-superfast.co.uk and is dependant on line conditions and distance from the cabinet to the premises. Information provided by Openreach on behalf of the UK communications industry.**