

Superfast Broadband – is Live for Some

We now have Superfast Broadband in the Village
BUT
It's not available to everybody in the 760XXX range!

We are however now able to get clearer information as to how the village phone network is laid out and to check our own numbers.

The village phone service is distributed via four Green Street cabinets.

Cabinet 1	on Park Road opposite Rushton Lane
Cabinet 2	on the A 49 by the Cotebrook pillar box
Cabinet 3	at the junction of Mill Lane and Park Road
Cabinet 4	immediately outside the telephone exchange on Vicarage Lane (Recently installed)

It is only this 'Cabinet 4' that has the Superfast service!

You all now have the ability to determine which of the cabinets your phone is connected to. If you go to <https://www.dslchecker.bt.com/pls/adsl/ADSLChecker.TelephoneNumberOutput> you are able to put in your phone number (without spaces) and be told which cabinet you're connected to. Notice that if it is to Cabinet 4 it discloses in the top two lines that FTTC ranges are 'Available'. This is a technical indication that its fibre!

BT BROADBAND AVAILABILITY CHECKER

Telephone Number 01829760422 on Exchange LITTLE BUDWORTH is served by Cabinet 4

Featured Products	Downstream Line Rate (Mbps)		Upstream Line Rate (Mbps)		Downstream Range(Mbps)	Availability Date
	High	Low	High	Low		
FTTC Range A (Clean)	46.1	33.1	10	6.6	--	Available
FTTC Range B (Impacted)	39	22.4	10	4.8	--	Available
WBC ADSL 2+	Up to 17		--		10 to 19.5	31-Jul-15
WBC ADSL 2+ Annex M	Up to 17		Up to 1.5		10 to 19.5	31-Jul-15
ADSL Max	Up to 8		--		7 to 8	Available
Fixed Rate	2		--		--	Available
Other Offerings						
Fibre Multicast	--		--		--	Available

If your service is via Cabinet 4 you can, right now, contact your ISP and discuss changeover dates and costs. If you're happy you can order.

I know of at least 3 subscribers who have done so, and are now live; achieving broadband speeds of 20-40 MB.

I've come up with a few pleasant surprises by using the Availability Checker across telephone numbers that I know.

Cabinet 4 connections:

- run ALL the way up Mill Lane as far as Coneygreaves, Arthur Robinsons and Alan Platts. It does not reach Grange Farm though!

- also extend down the Private Drive is far as Darley Hall.
- and seem to run also down to Whitehall including Helensmere, but maybe not all the phones in Whitehall?

Please check your own number to establish the situation.

Phone numbers connected to the other Cabinets 1, 2 and 3, and therefore not Superfast connectable, will display as follows:

BT BROADBAND AVAILABILITY CHECKER

Telephone Number 01829760 [REDACTED] on Exchange LITTLE BUDWORTH is served by Cabinet 2

Featured Products	Downstream Line Rate (Mbps)	Upstream Line Rate (Mbps)	Downstream Range (Mbps)	Availability Date
WBC ADSL 2+	Up to 1	--	1 to 3.5	31-Jul-15
WBC ADSL 2+ Annex M	Up to 1	Up to 0.5	1 to 3.5	31-Jul-15
ADSL Max	Up to 1	--	0.75 to 2.5	Available
Fixed Rate	2	--	--	Available

Connecting Cheshire and BT have indicated that service to these cabinets is now being considered in the next phase of the Superfast project. But I do not advise holding a breath in the intervening period!

There is a glimmering light at the end of the tunnel though, and I can't yet get a clear understanding of what it means.

Notice that in both the above examples ADSL 2+ is scheduled to be available on 31 July: that's less than 2 weeks away! It seems that there is an overall UPGRADE TO THE EXCHANGE in train. It's got nothing to do with the fibre service.

ADSL 2+ may well give improved broadband service to non-fibre connected broadbanders.

If I find out any more and establish whether that date actually happens I'll let you know.

Geoff Johnson

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20 July 2015