

REPORT FROM: PLANNING, BUILDING CONTROL & LICENSING MANAGER

TO: Barrowford and Western Parishes Area Committee

DATE: 8th February 2018

Report Author: Neil Watson
Tel. No: 01282 661706
E-mail: neil.watson@pendle.gov.uk

Roll Out of Open Reach Superfast Broadband

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- (1) To inform Committee of the options that have been put forward for the roll out and to agree the formal response of Pendle.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That Committee consider each proposed section and determine the Council's position on each section.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) In order to ensure the optimum roll out and to safeguard the special landscape quality of the AONB.

ISSUE

- 1** Under the provision of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 telecommunications code system operators are able to install superfast infrastructure without the need for planning permission. This is not spatially restricted and can be undertaken in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- 2** There is no requirement under planning legislation to consult but there is a code of practice for the telecommunications industry which requires consultation before work takes place.
- 3** The roll out commenced before consultation took place and the developer was contacted subsequently to discuss the roll out programme. Discussions have taken place since with Lancashire County Council representatives (who are part funding superfast rollout across the county), officers working for the AONB, elected councillors and planning staff.
- 4** The programme is to install telegraph poles in a number of locations in the AONB as well as installing lines on existing poles and underground. Attached at Appendix 1 are the maps

that we have been provided with showing the location of the proposed apparatus. There have also been other developments since.

- 5 The route along Ogden reservoir is no longer proposed to have any new equipment. The proposals on the main maps at Lower Spen Farm have been supplemented by the plan attached below.
- 6 Open Reach have also indicated that they will look at the possibility of undergrounding cables at Stang Top but no specific details of this have yet been received.
- 7 Members are asked to make comments on the acceptability or not of the proposals. Councillors will note that there is no requirement to accept those comments and that the developer is able to decide how and where to develop the super-fast infrastructure.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None

Financial: None

Legal: None

Risk Management: None

Health and Safety: None

Sustainability: The roll out of superfast will promote better communications in the rural communities of Pendle. There will however be landscape implications for the AONB.

Community Safety: None

Equality and Diversity: None

