

EXETER BOARD

OPEN FORUM

19 NOVEMBER 2015

BROADBAND SPEED

QUESTION FROM DAVID RUSSELL

Why is there no pressure on Open Reach from the City Council to improve the inadequate 2 MBTs of download speed for the inhabitants of parts of Marsh Barton Trading Estate and the new developments off Old Rydon Lane, Exeter.

Having approached our MP, Hugo Swire to no avail, when is the Exeter City Council going to do something about improving this. At present there is no date from Open Reach to even start work on this problem.

ANSWER

Working together with Virgin Media we have now got the whole of Marsh Barton covered by fibre and the City Council is working with them to fibre other areas of the city. Regular meetings are held with BT who have now reached the end of their commercial roll out and are unlikely to invest in any further fibre in Exeter without some sort of subsidy.

There has been a successful bid into the government's Super Connected Cities fund earlier this year which enabled 98 Exeter businesses to be issued with vouchers of up to £3,000 towards better broadband.

At the end of October data was fed to the Connecting Devon and Somerset project on areas where there is still poor broadband, to inform their next phase of roll out.

With limited funds and competing priorities, there are other priorities for the City Council.

Other Exeter residents get in touch on a regular basis about their poor broadband.