



NEWS RELEASE

5 January 2022

New set of Guernsey homes now fibre-ready

The Guernsey Fibre project is making significant progress as 75 homes are now ready to be connected to the new fibre-optic broadband network.

The project is currently in a pilot phase as Sure engineers work in concentrated areas to install the network infrastructure that is necessary to connect customers to the faster broadband technology.

75 fibre-ready addresses have been released today to the island's three broadband providers so they can get in touch with these homeowners to offer to connect them to the new service.

The homes eligible for connectivity are in the following areas: St Peter Port North including Rouge Rue, Le Grand Bouet, First Tower Lane and Les Banques. Following a successful installation in Victoria Avenue, more homes in the south of St Sampson are fibre-ready too. Not all homes on these roads will be ready for fibre yet but good progress has been made.

Justin Bellinger, chief executive of Sure in Guernsey, said that the project is going well and is anticipating further acceleration in 2022.

"Progress so far in the planning and testing phases is really encouraging" he said. "The engineers have been working hard to get everything in place for the new network and have made great progress in the pilot locations.

"That work means that 75 homes are now fibre-ready and can get connected to Guernsey Fibre through their broadband providers ISP of choice and another 75 will be ready by the end of January. Once the pilot is complete, we aim to have 700 homes a month fibre-ready by autumn and thousands ready to be connected by the end of the year.

"All of our lives are becoming increasingly digital and internet services are more vital than ever. It feels like a milestone for the project that now 75 homes are ready to be connected to Guernsey Fibre which provides a significant uplift in internet speeds. Thanks to the investment from the States of Guernsey, fibre will reach every home on the island within five years."

The £37.5 million investment, £12.5 million of which is coming from the States of Guernsey, aims to connect all 30,000 properties in Guernsey with unmatched broadband speeds by the end of 2026.

More information on fibre broadband is available on Sure's website: https://www.sure.com/guernsey/broadband-and-home/broadband/fibre-broadband/





ENDS

Issued by Sophie Gallienne, Orchard PR, 01481 251251, sophie@orchardpr.com

Notes to editors

<u>Guernsey Fibre</u> reflects an investment of £37.5m in a full-fibre broadband network. This project is being carried out by Sure, in partnership with the States of Guernsey who are providing part-funding of up to £12.5m. Working together in this way provides added reassurance that this is a long-term investment that will benefit Guernsey for years to come as it becomes a crucial part of the island's infrastructure.

Beginning in early 2022, Guernsey Fibre will be connecting around 30,000 properties. The plan is to deliver fibre to almost all properties on the island by the end of 2026.

Guernsey Fibre is going to cover the whole island. So no matter where people live or work, they will have access to a fast, reliable and stable connection.

This investment will be a boost to the local economy with the direct creation of additional jobs.