

# Orkney Digital Forum

27 October 2023



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

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Director

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# The Council Plan 2023-2028

- Aim to remove barriers to digital connectivity
- Aim to have the digital connectivity needed to support sustainability and equality across our communities and businesses.



# Orkney Digital Connectivity Strategy and Delivery Plan

- ▶ The Council agreed a draft Orkney Digital Connectivity and Delivery Plan in 2022 to support measures to improve local connectivity.
- ▶ Our current ambition is to facilitate full coverage of gigabit capable broadband and 4G mobile coverage in Orkney
- ▶ Our recommended approach is to facilitate telecoms infrastructure investment and stimulate market demand, rather than taking a role as a telecoms operator
- ▶ The Orkney digital connectivity strategy and delivery plan aims to:
- ▶ **maximise the impact of the R100 voucher scheme to our residents and businesses through proactive advertising and advice**
- ▶ seek UK and Scottish Government funds to improve connectivity
- ▶ make our assets available to support affordable community connectivity
- ▶ continue to lobby to overcome Government policy barriers and regulatory hurdles

# R100 Planned Works – Orkney

R100 North Contract  
Planned Build by Exchange  
November 2022

<u>Exchange</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>	<u>Contractual Phase</u>	<u>Expected 'Ready for Service' by</u>	<u>Contracted Premises</u>
BALFOUR	Orkney Islands	Phase 10.4	30 June 2024	183
BIRSAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 9.4	30 June 2024	142
BURRAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 16.4	31 December 2025	20
DEERNESS	Orkney Islands	Phase 16.4	31 December 2025	77
EDAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 12.4	31 December 2024	123
EVIE	Orkney Islands	Phase 6.4	30 June 2023	76
FINSTOWN	Orkney Islands	Phase 3.6	31 December 2022	126
HARRAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 8.4	31 December 2023	133
HOLM	Orkney Islands	Phase 2.4	31 March 2023	64
HOY	Orkney Islands	Phase 19.4	31 December 2026	184
KIRKWALL	Orkney Islands	Phase 2.4	31 March 2023	112
LONGHOPE	Orkney Islands	Phase 18.4	30 June 2026	228
ORPHIR	Orkney Islands	Phase 7.4	31 December 2023	87
PAPA WESTRAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 18.4	30 June 2026	66
ROUSAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 11.4	31 December 2024	162
SANDAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 14.4	30 June 2025	318
SANDWICK (ORKNEY)	Orkney Islands	Phase 8.4	31 December 2023	200
ST. MARGARET'S HOPE	Orkney Islands	Phase 18.4	30 June 2026	344
STROMNESS	Orkney Islands	Phase 6.4	30 June 2023	166
STRONSAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 15.4	31 December 2025	206
TANKERNESS	Orkney Islands	Phase 2.4	31 March 2023	85
WESTRAY	Orkney Islands	Phase 11.4	31 December 2024	216



# 3318

Properties in Orkney are to gain  
fibre broadband by 2026 under  
the R100 Programme

# Scottish Broadband Voucher Scheme (SBVS)



# SBVS in Orkney

- ▶ To date **124** addresses have received help from the SBVS.
- ▶ There are still **938** properties in Orkney that could be eligible for the SBVS.
- ▶ SBVS is for those properties that are not covered in the works planned for the R100 programme mentioned earlier.

# Limitations to the voucher scheme



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Budget is limited therefore less than optimal technical solution

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Requires an interested ISP

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High cost of building infrastructure to support upgrades

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The time and effort of developing community or aggregate solutions





We know that this is a lot of  
information to take in....

# Don't worry!

You can contact Orkney Islands Council at [digital@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:digital@orkney.gov.uk) or by phoning 01856 873 535.

We can help provide more information or answer any questions you may have, we know broadband can be far from straight forward!

