# Forest Economic Partnership Stakeholder Meeting

17 December 2020

# Agenda

1. **Welcome from Neill Ricketts, Chair of Forest Economic Partnership**
2. **Forest Economic Partnership Update (Wendy Jackson)**
3. **AccXel (Nicola Bird)**
4. **Publica Procurement (Lauren Gardiner)**
5. **Project Updates**
   - Biosphere Reserve (Sarah Rizvi)
   - Inspiring Forest  (Wendy Jackson)
   - Mobility as a Service  (David Trevelyan)
   - How Fast; How Good? (Andrew Callard)
   - Cinderford Fastershire Project (David Trevelyan)
6. **AOB**

# Welcome

**(Neill Ricketts)**

# Forest Economic Partnership & CIC Update

**(Wendy Jackson)**

**210 Members**

**7 CIC Directors**

**3 Sub-Groups**

**8 Active Projects**

# Financials

| Account Balance | £ 16,141.00 |
|---|---|
| Allocated Funding: IF Project | £ 13,945.60 |
| Core Funding | £ 2,195.40 |

Interested in becoming a Stakeholder Director?

Please email [fep@fdean.gov.uk](mailto:fep@fdean.gov.uk) for more information.

# AccXel

**(Nicola Bird)**

# **Project Updates**

- Biosphere Reserve (Sarah Rizvi)
- Inspiring Forest (Wendy Jackson)
- Mobility as a Service (David Trevelyan
- How Fast; How Good? 2 (Andrew Callard)
- Fastershire Cinderford Project (David Trevelyan)

FOREST
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
Delivering a thriving economy
CIC Number: 12262533

# Biosphere Reserve



- In November 2020, Stakeholders agreed to a proposal for a submission to the Arts Council England for funding for Community Engagement.

- Bid will be submitted before the end of 2020.

# Inspiring Forest

"See It, Be It"

Using film clips, we are planning to record real life experiences of people working in a variety of workplace settings to demonstrate the vast range of employment on offer in the Forest. This could also give businesses a chance to shout about why working for them could be a great career choice.

As a new digital response, the film could be used to increase employer/school/college engagement, grow FEP participation and alert young people and their families to what is on offer to new employees or apprentices on their doorstep.

This project would seek to commission up to 5 quirky, professionally filmed 10 minute video clip and a shorter 3-4 minute social media friendly version with audio commentary.

Gloucestershire College has expressed an interest for their media students to work with the professional videographer and to use "See it, be it" as a live curriculum project.

# Mobility as a Service

**CORT – Rural Mobility**
- Application to the Department of Transport innovation funding. **(Unsuccessful / TBC)**
- Value £30k
- First Stage of the MaaS project funding (feasibility)

**MERGeS**
- InnovateUK SBRI (Geospatial Data) 2 stage funding programme (Pending 18th December)
- Led by Rural Technologies Limited)
- Stage 1 Value £70k, (Stage 2 Value (Upto £1M))
- Stage 1 includes, system development, security and privacy analysis (UoWar), rural analysis (CCRI), Transport Study (FEP)

**Transport Study**
- Dependant on MERGeS or other external funding
- Ground zero analysis, based on actual need for routes and provision

**What Is FEP Involvement**
- Leading on the Transport Study – Develop a rural travel Case Study
- Community Engagement

# How Fast; How Good?2

The report has now been published on How Fast; How Good? 2 and is available on our website:

https://fep2050.co.uk/assets/Papers/How-Fast-How-Good-is-Your-Broadband2-2020.docx.pdf

# HFHGB2 Findings 1

March 2020 Universal Service Obligation came into effect
- 50% of our sample and 19% of Ofcom rural sample fail to meet 10Mbps download. Much bigger than 2% target (2.7M homes not 0.6M)
- Digging into USO, difficult to see how helps rural households.

Consumer uptake of new technologies evident on all but cable

Why more do not upgrade is a puzzle:
- Awareness of choice/ability to pay?
- Consumer confusion/inertia?
- Broken promises/expectation?

# HFHGB2 Findings 2

Covid has not increased the proportion of sample households using broadband for business purposes. Excluding the retired it was already 90+%
Covid has increased usage to a mean average of 42% of time.
We are already in Industry 4.0 but not a SMART Economy.

Speeds:
- Technologies other than ADSL achieve download medians above USO. ADSL is 4.3Mbps
- Mean upload speed in sample 4.7Mbps, median 0.9Mbps. 55% of sample not achieve USO 1Mbps upload
- Latency is markedly faster than last year but if over 50ms becomes very bad quickly
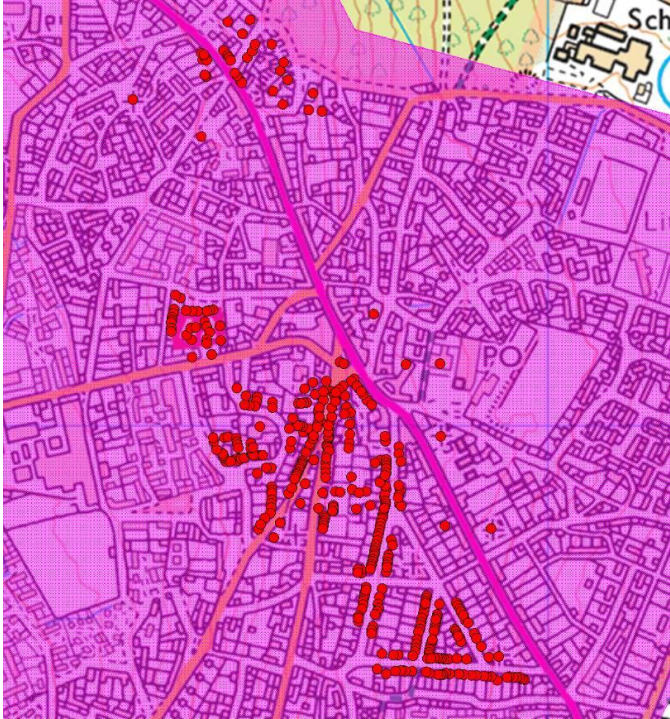
# HFHGB2 Findings 3

Sample more satisfied than last year overall. Evidence that lack of understanding of effects:

- of multiple users on higher speeds
- of distance from physical cabinet

Half of sample also answered 2019 survey.

- 20% had upgraded to higher technologies FTTC or FTTP and were typically more satisfied
- 20% had a lower performance of more than 5Mbps but critically they were already on FTTC so still likely to achieve USO

# Fastershire Cinderford Partnership



- Fastershire have identified 550 premises within Cinderford Town Centre that appear to receive less than 30Mbps broadband speed - these are a mix of homes and commercial buildings.

- Fastershire looking for premises within specific streets to sign up to the Expression of Interest (EOI) form on their website (https://www.fastershire.com/)

- Fastershire will fully fund the infrastructure works to be completed to enable the local community to upgrade broadband speeds

- A Covid safe, socially distanced community meeting will be held to discuss the options available to the community

- Fastershire needs a minimum of 50 premises to sign up to the EOI for the funded scheme to go ahead

# Fastershire Cinderford Partnership Proposal

The proposal would place FEP in a contract with Fastershire (Grant Funder), FEP (Contract Owner), and the selected provider (Broadband Network Builder) to design, build and deploy a new gigabit broadband in the Cinderford Area.

The contact would be a tri-party contract, with all operational and financial activity being carried out between Fastershire and the Provider. FEP's involvement would be as a community lead who aggregates demand.

The approximate process would be

1.      Enough eligible Cinderford Residents sign up to the Fastershire Website to show there is demand

2.      FEP / Fastershire put a call out for competitive tendering to install the broadband network

3.      FEP / Fastershire appoint the broadband network builder

4.      Payment made directly from Fastershire to the Network Builder

# AOB