


Roinn Cumarsaide, Gníomhaíthe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

National Broadband Plan

HIS Conference 3-4 October 2018



Patrick Neary
CTO – Communications

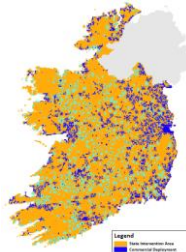
Introduction

- The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is a Government initiative to bring high speed broadband services to all businesses and households in Ireland.
- The NBP is being achieved through a combination of
 - commercial investment
 - a State intervention

2 An Roinn Cumarsaide, Gníomhaíthe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



High Speed Broadband Map



Blue – Commercial coverage
Light Blue – Planned deployment by eir
Amber – NBP Intervention Area

Amber - NBP Intervention Area:
100,000 km of road network

www.broadband.gov.ie

Commercial Investment - over €2.75billion

Latest status - eir
High Speed Broadband available to circa 1.6M premises nationally
New FTTH rollout to urban areas announced
FTTH rural rollout ongoing (200k complete), 180k of 300k Agreement


Latest status - Virgin Media
High Speed Broadband available to 900k premises
Additional FTTH rollout ongoing to 100k premises

Latest status - SIRO
High Speed Broadband rollout target to 500,000 premises in 51 towns
FTTH rollout ongoing (180k complete)



3.6GHz auction completed in May 2017, releasing 86% more spectrum to industry

Fixed Wireless operators
Imagine rolling out to rural towns and villages, €120M investment recently announced

permaNET.ie
Rapid Broadband Ltd





4 An Roinn Cumarsaide, Gníomhaíthe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

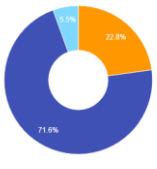
eir 300k deployment – Light Blue

- 300,575 eircodes identified
- State Aid Guidelines prohibit State intervention in areas where commercial investment is progressing
- As per eir's latest information to the Department, over 200,000 premises of their overall fibre deployment are now passed. This includes 180k of the 300k deployment.
- The Department has engaged with eir to work through the issues which have led to delays in the 300k rollout
- eir have indicated that the deployment will be completed by mid 2019

5 An Roinn Cumarsaide, Gníomhaíthe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



National Status of High Speed Broadband



71.6% Operator
22.8% Intervention Area
5.7% Planned rural deployment

JUNE 2019

6 An Roinn Cumarsaide, Gníomhaíthe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

Objectives of the NBP Intervention



- Deliver a State intervention to ensure a national high speed broadband network for Ireland.
- Provide high quality and reliable broadband services to every home/business with choice of service providers to consumers.
- Ensure the network can meet current and future data demand (minimum speeds increase over 25 year contract).
- Maximise the re-use of existing infrastructure.
- Incentivise additional commercial investment.
- Stimulate growth and retention in jobs while enabling e- farming, e-health, trading online, e-education, tourism, savings for consumers etc.

7 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



Key elements of Intervention Strategy



Following extensive stakeholder consultation over 2014/15:

- Open access wholesale network with strong Governance arrangements
- Minimum 30Mbps download and 6Mbps upload, with higher speeds for businesses
- Underpinned by a technology roadmap to ensure a future proofed solution
- Wholesale Prices for broadband in the Intervention Area will be benchmarked to comparable regulated wholesale prices outside Intervention Area
- Contract of 25 years

8 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



Description of the Intervention



Across 100,000km of road

1.1m citizens (23% population)

458,000 (41%) of the working population live in IA

Over 290 Broadband Connection Points

Over 600 schools

Over 44,000 businesses (mostly small and micro)

55,804 (68%) farms

9 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



Challenges in Rural Ireland



- Low density population (27 people per Km² v's EU 117 people per Km²)
- IA covers 96% of land mass
- Rural ribbon development
- 40-50 year old telecom network
- Difficult terrain
- Ambition to cover "last mile" houses with future proofed solution



10 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



Procurement Process



- Competitive Dialogue process
- Used for most large scale projects where requirements and solutions are complex and require detailed discussion with bidders
- EU State Aid Guidelines for Broadband followed
- Value for Money remains a key objective
- Further dialogue with bidder around proposed solution critical to understand likely costs/revenues that drive subsidy
- Final tender received on 18 September 2018
- This is one of the most significant and positive milestones in the NBP State led intervention.
- The Department's procurement team are evaluating the submission.

11 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



Next Steps



- Department need to be satisfied with quality and credibility of Final Tender.
- If Final Tender is compliant, Government must approve the subsidy to be provided
- Subject to all necessary parent company guarantees, third party contracts, banking arrangements etc. being in place contract can be awarded and roll out commences.
- Intervention Area to remain dynamic post contract award subject to conditions

12 An Roinn Comairtála, Gréasánáilte ar son na Mairtíle & Comhairle | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment





Thank you

Questions?

13 Air Rann Comhaltas, Greenhills at sea via Marlin & Corbett | Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment



European Union
Leitheid Regional
Development Fund