

Russell George AM
Chair, Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

20th February, 2018

Dear Russell,

Thank you for giving Openreach the opportunity to appear before the Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee on 25th January. There were a number of points on which I agreed to write to the committee.

Fibre-to-the-Premises (FTTP)

You asked what number of premises connected with FTTP technology under Superfast Cymru are accessing superfast services from a provider other than BT.

Our FTTP product is regulated and open to all providers to use at the same wholesale cost. When it becomes available, all providers are notified at the same time. In other words, there is no discrimination in how the product is offered. A list of providers that offer the service are available on our website:

<https://www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/ultrafast-broadband/ultrafast-fibre-buy-it-now>.

BT Superfast Services

You asked what the current take-up of BT's superfast services via the Superfast Cymru network is and what the corresponding figure is in areas where Openreach has deployed superfast broadband on a commercial basis.

We are not able to publically share commercial take-up figures. However, the take-up in our commercial footprint is in line with the project take-up.

Superfast Cymru

Finally, you asked how many premises were told that they were in scope of the Superfast Cymru project before 31st December 2017, only for the project to end before they had been connected.

Kim Mears
Strategic Infrastructure Development

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The intervention area (defined as postcodes and premises within a postcode) in the Wales contract was defined as approximately 767,000 premises. This increased from an original figure of 727,000 in 2012, due to the Superfast Extension Programme (SEP).

The contract with the Welsh Government required completion of 690,000 premises. Because of the ongoing test and verification process on final results we are unable to give precise numbers. However, an intervention area that was greater than the contractual obligation was always going to lead to raised expectations versus numbers delivered.

I am copying this letter to the Deputy Clerk of the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Mears'.

Kim Mears