Committee(s):		Date(s):
IT Sub Committee	For information	24 November 2017
Subject: Gigabit City Programme update		**Public**
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Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a programme update in relation to the roll out of enhanced wired and wireless connectivity across the City.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the current status of the Broadband Programme.

Main Report

Wireless connectivity

1. The City of London has entered into a 15 year contract with Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (CTIL) to undertake a Wireless Concession to address existing issues with patchy 4G and WiFi coverage across the Square Mile.

   - The gigabit WiFi network is currently live in testing mode across the Square Mile and is achieving individual user speeds of 50-100 megabits per second, something never seen in a district wide network before in the UK. The network will be officially launched in mid-October 2017. Over 120 WiFi access points are now live across the City and a further 30 access points will be added to the network between October / November.
   - The Wireless Concession will also deliver a network of at least 400 4G "small cells" by 2019, O2 is the first mobile operator to have committed to rolling out 249 small cells across the City, with 170 small cells expected to be completed by June 2018 December 2017. CTIL is also in discussions with 3 and Vodafone who are expected to roll out further small cells in early 2018.
   - The total cost of building and managing the WiFi network during the life of the concession is circa £5.1m, which has been funded entirely by CTIL at no cost to the City Corporation. The WiFi investment will be recouped

against the revenue generated from the renting of City sites to mobile operators, until the investment is paid off, at which point the City Corporation will begin accruing revenue from the concession which could deliver the City Corporation up to £13m.

- 5G (the next generation mobile standards) is expected to be rolled out in the UK 2021 once the standards have been internationally ratified. CPAT is engaging with Kings College London and Ericsson, who have been granted £5.3m from the Government's 5G innovation fund, with a view to a 5G trial taking place within the Guildhall complex. The trial will aim to understand the opportunities that could result from deployment of a 5G network and associated enabled technology.

Wired connectivity

2. Getting faster network connections for residents and businesses in the City is a critical challenge:

- Openreach is in the process of completing the roll out of 35 superfast broadband cabinets (offering speeds of 80 megabits per second) to serve 5000 premises in the Square Mile which are expected to be completed by December 2017.
- The Chairman of Policy & Resources has secured a commitment from the CEO of BT Group to roll out "Fibre To The Premises" at affordable prices to every building in the Square Mile. A joint implementation plan allowing out of hours and weekend working is now underway, with the first building expected to go live by the end of 2017, and the roll out to be completed by 2019.   Fibre to The Premises will offer affordable fibre broadband services beginning at £25 per month and will offer speeds of up to 1 gigabit per second.
- Other fibre broadband providers such as G.Network and Virgin Media have also indicated their willingness to deploy similar Fibre To The Premises networks in the Square Mile, and CPAT and DBE are assisting in facilitating timely roll out of new fibre broadband infrastructure, which should begin within 2017.

City of London Housing Estates

3. We are making good progress with City Housing estates

- Commencement of network roll out to provide faster affordable broadband of up to 1 gigabit per second to 3000 properties on the City's 12 housing estates, will begin by the end of 2017 and be completed by the end of 2018.

Standardised wayleave toolkit

4. Making it easier and faster to install broadband connections

- The City Corporation (CPAT and Remembrancers) has developed a standardised wayleave toolkit to speed up installation of broadband

services, the wayleave has been downloaded several thousand times and is now being used routinely.

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