

Community Wi-Fi Scheme

supported by the Community Initiatives Fund

Guidance Notes 2017/18

About the Community Wi-Fi Scheme

The Community Wi-Fi Scheme has been set up to enable local communities to provide a public Wi-Fi service via their community hubs with support from the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF).

What is a 'community hub'?

A community hub is a community facility such as a village hall, community centre, parish hall, run as a charity or on a 'not for profit' basis, that is available to the public to use and hire in a particular area for community-related recreational activities. This would naturally exclude halls only available primarily for one exclusive use such as pre-schools, members clubs, etc.

The scheme is aimed at but not limited to community hubs enabled to access superfast broadband.

Community hubs can buy a broadband service from any supplier of their choice from October 2017 under this scheme. Initial set up costs will be supported by CIF and community hubs will subsequently need to pay a monthly service charge.

More information about the suppliers and their service charges can be found in the e-brochure at www.superfastessex.org/communitywifischeme or www.essex.gov.uk/cif.

Community Initiatives Fund (CIF)

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) is a small grants scheme funded by Essex County Council, designed to fund community projects.

Money from the CIF has been set aside for the scheme to help community hubs pay for the setup costs of a Wi-Fi service as offered by the two operators under this scheme (only). Up to £400 can be claimed per community hub.

Application forms for funding for the Community Wi-Fi scheme can be found at www.essex.gov.uk/cif or www.superfastessex.org/communitywifischeme

For further information, please call 033301 38008 or email CIF@essex.gov.uk. Completed application forms can be emailed to: cif@essex.gov.uk

Postal address: Essex County Council
Community Initiatives Fund
E2, Zone 3
County Hall
Chelmsford,
Essex CM1 1LX

For further information, please contact the Grant Co-ordinator on 033301 38008 or email CIF@essex.gov.uk

Public Sector Equality Duty

We are committed to positively advancing equality, fostering good relations between different groups and tackling discrimination

When submitting applications organisations and projects are asked to demonstrate how they will help advance the following Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) aims:

- **Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation**, *i.e. projects that aim to tackle prejudice and stigma*
- **Advancing equality of opportunity**, *i.e. projects that aim to give relevant groups or communities the opportunity to participate in activities that tackle disadvantage*
- **Fostering good relations**, *i.e. projects that bring relevant groups and communities together to share commonalities and promote community cohesion and inclusion*

The relevant groups and communities under the Equality Act 2010 are:

Age	Disability	Gender reassignment
Pregnancy & maternity	Sex	Sexual orientation
Race- this includes ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality	Religion or belief – this includes lack of belief	Marriage and civil partnership

For further information on the Public Sector Equality Duty please use the following link: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/>