



28<sup>th</sup> November 2016

## **WILTSHIRE ONLINE**

### **New Procurement to further extend coverage of NGA Broadband across Wiltshire**

## **STATE AID PUBLIC CONSULTATION – CLOSURE REPORT**

### **1. Outcome of the Public Consultation**

The Public Consultation to determine the State Aid classifications for the Wiltshire Online project closed on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016. The Public Consultation followed an Open Market Review (OMR) with the telecoms market to which 3 commercial providers responded with information on their commercial plans in the county. During the Consultation period Wiltshire Council received responses from 3 commercial providers and information about the broadband service experienced from both individual residents and collectively from communities.

Following this process, the eligible Intervention Area for the project was determined; the 'White' areas. The final State Aid maps for Next Generation Access (NGA) Broadband and Basic Broadband are shown below and are available on the project website at [www.wiltshireonline.org](http://www.wiltshireonline.org)

Wiltshire Council intends to launch a public procurement to secure NGA network solutions to serve premises within the Intervention Area.

### **2. Timescales**

The following table summarises the timescales of the next stages of the procurement:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Consultation period for the State Aid Public Consultation</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> August 2016 to 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2016
<b>Submit State Aid application (Part 1) to the Department for Media Culture and Sport</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2016
<b>Expected start of procurement</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
<b>Submit State Aid application (Part 2) to the Department for Media Culture and Sport</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2017

### 3. Revised State Aid Maps

The following criteria have been used by Wiltshire Council to determine the classification of areas into Basic Broadband and NGA White/Grey/Black areas respectively:

For basic broadband,

- A postcode is turned grey if there is only one broadband infrastructure operator providing basic broadband services (with speeds greater than 2 Mbps) to that postcode.
- A postcode is turned black if there are at least two broadband infrastructure operators providing basic broadband services (with speeds greater than 2Mbps) to that postcode.
- All other postcodes remain white.

For NGA,

- A postcode is turned grey if there is only one broadband infrastructure operator providing NGA services (supporting minimum speeds of at least 30Mbps) to that postcode.
- A postcode is turned black if there are at least two broadband infrastructure operators providing NGA services (supporting minimum speeds of at least 30Mbps) to that postcode.
- All other postcodes remain white.

In addition, the proposed Intervention Area includes a number of “under review” areas (coloured blue on the map). These areas have previously been indicated to have planned commercial coverage for NGA broadband (i.e. mapped as NGA grey), but those plans have been reported through the OMR (or 2014 OMR in the absence of a new operator response) as being ‘at risk’ of not being completed. These areas will be subject to continued monitoring and verification of operator plans by the Council within the 3 year period and in the event that these commercial plans fall away these premises will be mapped as NGA white and form part of the eligible Intervention Area via this aid measure.

The mapping analysis of existing and concretely planned coverage (within the next 3 years) has identified significant remaining ‘white NGA’ areas. The outcome of the Public Consultation is summarised below in terms of NGA White, Grey, Black and “under review” premises in NGA White, Grey, Black and “under review” postcodes.

	Number of postcodes	Number of black premises	Number of grey premises	Number of white premises
<b>Black postcodes</b>	1761	32003	0	0
<b>Grey postcodes</b>	9110	0	138844	0
<b>'Under Review' postcodes</b>	1280	0	8008	10389
<b>White postcodes</b>	3811	0	21108	22843

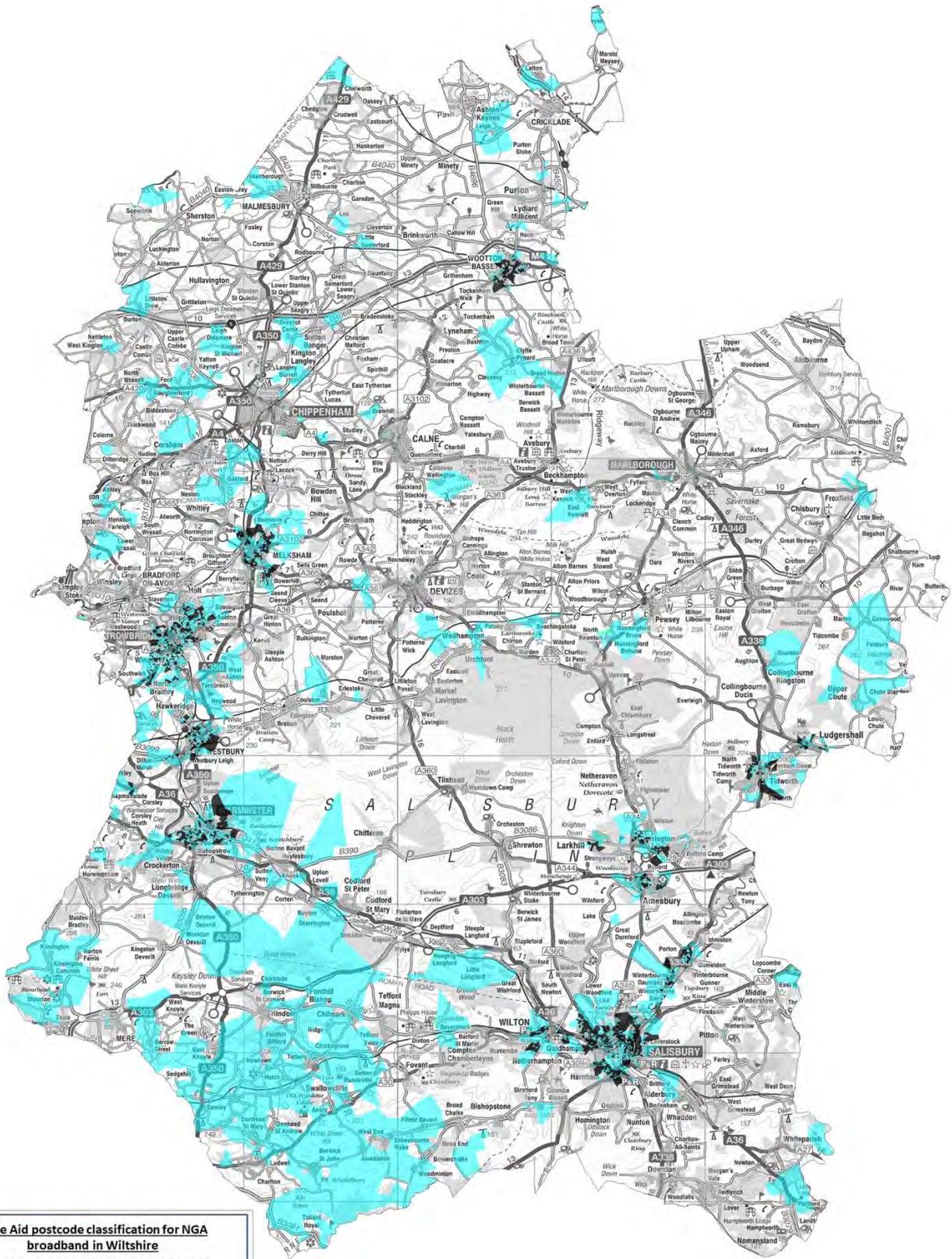
The Wiltshire Council (Wiltshire Online) Intervention Area includes 22851 NGA White premises spread over 3814 NGA White postcodes, but could include up to an additional 10839 "Under Review" premises, creating a total of 33240 premises if the "Under Review" premises become White in scope.

The following table summarises the outcome of the Open Market Review in terms of White, Grey and Black postcodes and premises for Basic Broadband:

	Number of postcodes	Number of black premises	Number of grey premises	Number of white premises
<b>Black postcodes</b>	1761	32003	0	0
<b>Grey postcodes</b>	14201	0	201192	0
<b>White postcodes</b>	0	0	0	0

#### 4. State Aid Maps

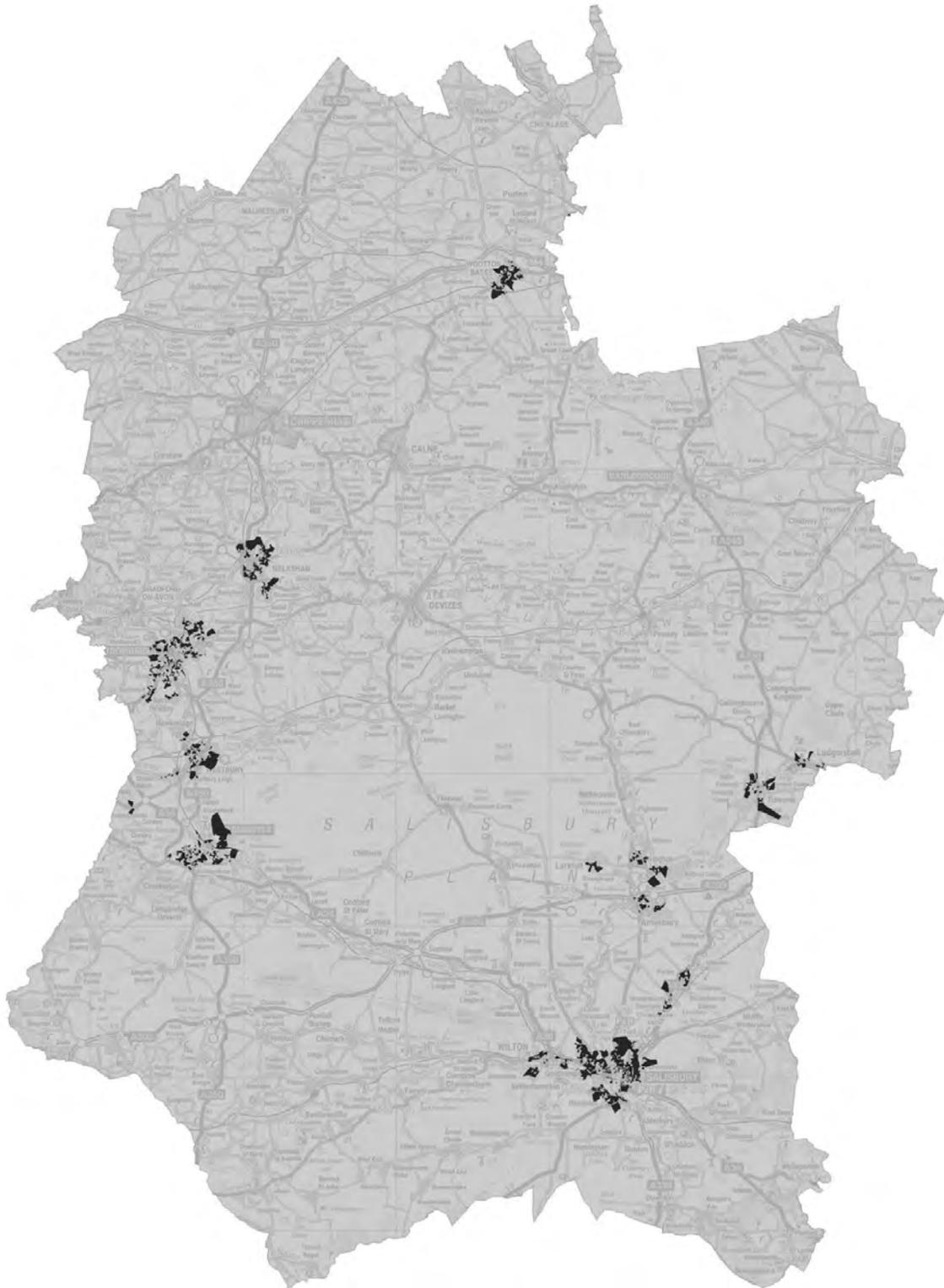
The State Aid maps for the Intervention Area are shown below for NGA Broadband and Basic Broadband respectively:



**State Aid postcode classification for NGA broadband in Wiltshire**

- More than one NGA broadband operator
- One NGA broadband operator
- No NGA broadband operator
- Postcode under review

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**State Aid postcode classification for basic broadband in Wiltshire**

- More than one basic broadband operator
- One basic broadband operator

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## **5. Status of Intervention Area**

The State Aid Public Consultation is now closed. Wiltshire Council has submitted its State aid (Part 1) notification to the National Competence Centre (part of the Department for Culture Media and Sport) which oversees the UK National Broadband Scheme. A decision on the eligibility of the proposed Intervention Area is expected in October 2016. If clearance is granted, the Intervention Areas mapped above will be confirmed as eligible for public sector intervention for the next stage of the Wiltshire Council (Wiltshire Online) broadband project, including the forthcoming procurement

The confirmed new Intervention Area will be published on the project website following clearance by the National Competence Centre.

## **6. Contact Details**

If you have any comments or questions regarding the project, you can get in touch with Wiltshire Council's (Wiltshire Online) NGA Broadband Project Team by email at:

[broadband@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:broadband@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Up-to-date information about the Wiltshire Online project can be found at:

[www.wiltshireonline.org](http://www.wiltshireonline.org)