



## **DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY WORKING GROUP**

### **Terms of reference**

**December 2025**

#### **Background**

The Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport (ADEPT) is the voice of place directors who are responsible for providing day to day services including local highways, recycling, waste and planning, whilst preparing for the longer term.

ADEPT is a membership based, voluntary organisation with members across England. We bring together directors from county, unitary, metropolitan and combined authorities, along with sub-national transport bodies and corporate partners drawn from key service sectors.

ADEPT members develop long term strategies, investment and infrastructure needed to make their places resilient, sustainable, inclusive and prosperous. They drive clean, sustainable growth, delivering the projects that are fundamental to creating more resilient communities, economies and infrastructure. These services include housing, environmental and regulatory services, planning, economic development, culture and highways and transport.

#### **Remit**

The ADEPT Digital Connectivity Working Group focuses on the delivery of improved broadband and mobile connectivity at the local level. The Working Group supports the ADEPT Transport and Connectivity Board.

The Digital Connectivity Working Group has three priorities:

1. Supporting the deployment of the Government's Project Gigabit programme at a local level, and sharing best practice in relation to connecting harder-to-reach properties
2. Collaborating with telecoms providers to help remove the barriers to full-fibre deployment with a particular focus on regarding wayleave-dependent properties and direct buried cable issues.
3. Facilitating the deployment of mobile infrastructure.

In addition to the three priorities, the ADEPT Digital Connectivity Working Group are committed to:

- Responding to government consultations on key digital infrastructure issues;
- Working collaboratively to share best practice, and develop common solutions.
- Highlighting the importance of digital infrastructure teams to facilitate and enable

### **Membership**

The Digital Connectivity Working Group's membership is voluntary and is drawn from digital infrastructure project leads at member local authorities. It also includes representatives from the Local Government Association and corporate partners from key sectors.

The group is chaired by Elizabeth Harrison, Digital Infrastructure Lead at Kent County Council (liz.harrison@kent.gov.uk)

### **Meeting frequency**

The Digital Connectivity Working Group members meet every 2 months online via teams.