

# **SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

## **BROADBAND UPDATE** (June 2017)

Cumbria County Council, through its subsidiary Connecting Cumbria (CC), is responsible for delivering the Government's commitment to provide Superfast Broadband to properties in the county. Although this is increasingly being rolled-out in urban areas, it has still reached few rural areas, many still having only 1Mbps or less, or even no broadband at all.

Following many difficulties and prolonged negotiations between CC and the Parish Council, supported by Rory Stewart MP, County Cllr Duncan Fairbairn, (using evidence provided by a number of local residents), the parish has been re-categorised and is now eligible to receive state-aid funding to provide broadband.

BT has now completed its detailed surveys in the CA5 7HS & CA5 7HR areas of Sebergham/Churchtown, and the Raughton Head 4 cabinet is now in build and should be connected & operational before the end of 2017. Areas adjacent to these postcodes are likely to see an improvement in broadband speeds, although this may not be 'superfast'. Funding has also now been allocated for the Welton area and the detailed surveys have commenced, following which CC has confirmed it will contract BT to deliver the improved service by Spring 2018.

All of this does not, of course, mean that every premise will be provided with 'superfast' broadband for a number of practical and cost reasons, but it is expected that those who do not receive the full 'superfast' service should still see an improvement and the Parish Council will continue to pursue delivery of 'superfast broadband' for all at the earliest possible time.