

# CDS Programme Board

## Summary for publication

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Time:** 3pm – 5pm

**Venue:** Somerset County Council.

**Chair:** Pat Flaherty, Chief Executive Somerset County Council

**Attendees:** Pat Flaherty, Somerset County Council; Councillor David Hall, Somerset County Council; Michele Cusack, Somerset County Council; Mike Pullen, Somerset County Council; Phil Norrey, Devon County Council, Councillor Rufus Gilbert, Devon County Council; Councillor Philip Bullivant, Teignbridge District Council; Councillor John Williams, Taunton Deane and West Somerset Council; Simon Furminger, BDUK; Rob Dawson Bath and North East Somerset Council, Alex Hearn, North Somerset Council;

CDS Team: Katriona Lovelock, Phil Roberts, Peter Doyle, Matt Barrow and Nathaniel Lucas

Item	Title
1.	Apologies: Keri Denton, Devon County; John Wilkinson, BANES
2.	<p><b>Phase 2 Contract update</b></p> <p>The information/update that was provided by Gigaclear at the Strategy Board which took place earlier in the day was discussed. Whilst it was recognised that some progress had been made by Gigaclear in resolving the build challenges, progress on this matter has been slow.</p> <p>The Board acknowledged that the current situation is challenging and made it clear that it was not prepared to accept a continuation of these delays indefinitely.</p> <p>Gigaclear remains in default across all contracts and CDS has made it clear to Gigaclear that this uncertainty cannot continue indefinitely.</p> <p>Dialogue will continue between the CDS team and Gigaclear with the aim of moving the process forward to a satisfactory conclusion. BDUK continue to be appraised of the situation.</p> <p>Since the last Programme Board CDS has worked closely with DCMS to make a case to HM Treasury for an extension of Government funding until March 2023. This approach has also been supported by local authority partners, LEPs and MPs. There has been a positive response from HM Treasury which is finalising an agreement for a funding extension as part of the spending review process.</p> <p>The Board acknowledged that 31 cabinet areas are continuing to be built by Gigaclear. However, progress on the 31 cabinet areas remains slow, and revised realistic</p>

	<p>timescales need to be provided by Gigaclear which in turn must be disseminated to residents and businesses in the affected areas.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CDS to require Gigaclear to update their information to residents in the 31 cabinet areas in build</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Communications and Stakeholder Engagement</b>
	<p>The Board recognised that Gigaclear has already published public apologies including the briefing statement made in November 2018 admitting fault for the delays. Board expressed concern that despite Gigaclear's acceptance of fault there is still a need for more clarity for residents and businesses about the ongoing work which is being undertaken.</p> <p>The CDS team is to produce a briefing, which outlines further work which is being undertaken whilst awaiting clarity about whether Gigaclear can provide a viable delivery proposal which CDS and its funding partners can accept. It was noted that other work is ongoing to identify options for the final 5% and that this should be communicated to residents. A fresh Open Market Review has commenced in which CDS will consult with other providers to identify plans for delivery and to test market interest in delivering to the remaining premises. This may also require examining potential alternatives for some of the current phase 2 programme should that need arise.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CDS to draft communications outlining ongoing work that CDS is undertaking to address the need for greater clarity.</li> </ul>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Airband</b>
	An update was provided on the Airband Lot 4 contract. Initial phases have been delivered and assurance is ongoing.
<b>5.</b>	<b>AOB</b>
	None
<b>6.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>
	July 2019