

Item 9 - Question Time

To the Leader of the Council

“Further to the Motion on broadband agreed by the Highland Council on 27 October 2016, could you give an update on the rollout of fibre broadband in the Highlands and what the Council is doing to progress it?”

Response to Mr A Graham

The latest update on the roll out of broadband from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) states 87% of all Highland premises have access to the fibre network and 75% of all premises in the region are able to order superfast speeds of 24mbps and above. The current roll-out is continuing until at least the end of this financial year (March 2018).

The Scottish Government has made a commitment that all Scottish premises will be able to access broadband with a download speed of at least 30Mbps by 2021 through a project called R100 (Reaching 100%). The Council is working with HIE, UK and Scottish governments through the Inverness and Highland City Region Deal to support the planning of the Highland element of R100.