

Our ref: 7554965  
8 July 2019

**Veronica**  
???

Account reference:request-585870-f8ef1f98@whatdotheyknow.com

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Dear Veronica

I am writing further to your Freedom of Information request.

### **Request**

As a resident of your local council please tell me the progress you are making to roll out high speed broadband across the city as part of the government universal coverage commitment.

### **Response**

The Council do not hold this type of information – the Council's role is to enable the rollout of superfast broadband but the pace, level coverage and location is determined by individual suppliers. National stats suggests that there is between 88%-95% access to superfast broadband across the city. The stats vary depending on different reports.

The Government legislation for a 'universal service obligation' (USO) is a central Government and supplier initiative. The Government have designating BT and KCOM as the Universal Service Providers and setting conditions that will apply to them as they deliver USO connections and services.

More information can be found here;

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/broadband-uso-need-to-know>

West Midlands Combine Authority have successfully bid for Funding 5G that will also support High Speed internet services in the West Midlands.

<https://www.wmca.org.uk/news/west-midlands-to-become-uk-s-first-large-scale-5g-testbed/>

Please quote the reference number 7554965 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days from the date this authority issued its initial response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Corporate Information Governance Team  
PO Box 16366  
Birmingham  
B2 2YY  
Email: [infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 01625 545 700  
Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours faithfully

Corporate Information Governance Team

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