

# PRESS RELEASE



Community Broadband is coming to Mull, Iona, Colonsay, Lismore, Luing, Jura, parts of Islay and Craginish

We have good news to report on the steady progress of our community broadband project.

After a rigorous selection process, we have a shortlist of three contractors bidding for the chance to design, build and support the operation our carrier class network. We remain on target for contract award in April.

Most of the proposals being put forward by bidders are based on state-of-the-art wireless technology. This should be able to provide not only internet, but telephony such as Skype, streaming of HD TV, on-line gaming and other features which can be delivered with much greater speeds. We are confident that the service will be outstanding and will bring about a massive change for those of us languishing with a service below 1Mbps.

The objective of the project is to deliver next generation broadband which exceeds the specified minimum requirement for us to succeed in obtaining state funding. This minimum requirement is to deliver 24Mbps download speeds. The other key measure is to provide at least 15Mbps for 90% of the busiest hour in any 24 hours. As we go through the final stage of supplier selection it is our duty to ensure this can be achieved.

To check if you will be covered by our project, please see our [website](#) for a list of eligible post-codes.

By the end of March, we will be inviting formal expressions of interest from residents and businesses wishing to subscribe.

Richard Thorne is now in post as Project Manager and with the strong support of the steering group Richard will ensure that the project is a success.

The project will offer services across the islands of Mull, Iona, Colonsay, Lismore, Luing, Jura, parts of Islay and Craginish. The additional subscribers from a project of this size will help to ensure that the service is financially stable from subscriber's fees that are competitive in the market.

GigaPlus Argyll is now officially established as a cooperative. The board of directors will be drawn from the project steering group and will represent communities from across the whole project area.

You can contact us through our website to register your interest. Once we have finalised details of the service packages we will offer, these will be sent out to you as a priority. In the meantime we would suggest that you consider carefully before subscribing to new services from your existing providers as this will lock you into their contract for 12-24 months.

For more information please either visit the [website](#) or contact Moray Finch Tel. 01680 812905 or [mfinch@mict.co.uk](mailto:mfinch@mict.co.uk) or Richard Thorne Tel. 01680 812906, <mailto:rthorne@mict.co.uk>

**PRESS RELEASE ENDS**

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