

All Settings Broadband Contract Renewal

Key Messages

Forum members are asked to:

- Note the offer for Schools Broadband continuity.

1. Introduction/background

- 1.1. Each education setting will be offered an option to renew their Broadband provision and Education Standard Content Filtering with Sheffield City Council (through Virgin Media Broadband). This offer will be tailored to the site. Schools are free to go to the market for their Broadband provision.
- 1.2. Sheffield City Council offers schools and academies, as well as other settings, a Broadband Connectivity and Content Filtering offer:
 - A choice of Fibre circuits and “Fibre to the Cabinet” (FTTC)
 - The existing Service is provided by Virgin Media & Smoothwall.
 - Contract to May 2022.
 - Extension to May 2024 available.
 - Offer of extension to schools to be made September 2021 via School Point.
The offer will include:
 - No price increase for like-for-like service.
 - No cost upgrade to fibre connectivity for FTTC sites. (Annual cost will increase).
 - Fibre sites 50mb for the price of 40mb.

2. Options

2.1. A school with a FTTC connection.

- Option 1 stay as they currently are with no price increase.
- Option 2 upgrade to 50Mb fibre. Price increase quote prepared for each school.
- Option 3 upgrade to 100Mb fibre. Price increase quote prepared for each school.

There will be installation charges for upgrades from FTTC to Fibre.

2.2. A school with an existing 40Mb fibre connection will have options:

- Option 1 stay as they are no increase in price.
- Option 2 upgrade 50Mb. No price increase.
- Option 3 upgrade 100Mb. Price increase quote prepared for each school.

There will be no installation charges for upgrades.

2.3. Schools can choose not to renew. Connectivity will cease from May 2022. Schools will need to procure their own replacement and ensure it is fit for purpose and has adequate content filtering and safeguarding systems in place.

2.4. Benefits of renewing connectivity with Sheffield City Council:

- Continuity of Service.
- Safe and secure, easy to manage content filtering based on industry standards and tailored to schools. Locally controlled and managed Smoothwall devices.
- Dedicated person in SCC to deal with schools' broadband:
 - SCC can directly escalate issues to VMB if necessary.
- Smoothwall working in partnership with VMB to provide local firewall and filtering appliances.
- Single support desk provided by Smoothwall will manage VMB where circuit-related.
- Remote Access Built in to Smoothwall for maintenance

3. Recommendations

Forum members are asked to:

- Note the options and consider any matters arising.