



Fingal County Council Public Wi-Fi Roadmap



Context

Fingal County Council is committed to developing and improving the County's digital infrastructure and services. Access to free public Wi-Fi in our major town centres and villages will be a major asset to our visitors, businesses and residents. The provision of free public Wi-Fi will form part of the Council's Digital Strategy which is due for publication this year (2019).

The introduction of this service will strengthen Fingal's reputation as a forward thinking and digitally inclusive urban and rural landscape, which strongly promotes access to on-line services and information across the County. The initiative is being project managed by the Council's Information Technology Department, with liaison across relevant departments within the Council.

The key aims of the Council's Wi-Fi project are to:

- Provide free public access to internet services at key destinations in major town centres and villages.
- Promote Fingal as a forward-thinking and digitally inclusive region.
- Introduce free public Wi-Fi as an aid to foster economic growth, making Fingal a more attractive destination for citizens, business and visitors.
- Increase public access to on-line services and information.
- Work with industry to promote investment in digital infrastructure.



Free public Wi-Fi is one of the aims of the European Commission's Digital Single Market WiFi4EU initiative, which promotes free access to Wi-Fi connectivity for citizens in public spaces including parks, squares, public buildings, libraries, health centres and museums in municipalities/local authorities throughout Europe.

On foot of this initiative, Fingal County Council has secured a total of four WiFi4EU public Wi-Fi vouchers worth €15,000 each. This funding has been matched by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Council has therefore secured a total fund for this project of €120,000.

WiFi4EU voucher max funding breakdown

- **Fingal A:** Balbriggan Local Electoral Area = €30,000
- **Fingal B:** Swords Local Electoral Area = €30,000
- **Fingal C:** Howth-Malahide Local Electoral Area = €30,000
- **Fingal D:** Castleknock-Mulhuddart Local Electoral Area = €30,000



Each successful local authority to receive funding under this initiative has 18 months to select locations for the WiFi4EU hotspots and complete their installation to be ready for public use. These locations need to be 'centres of public life' where no other free WiFi service is already available. The WiFi4EU service will be free of charge, free of advertising and free from commercial re-use of data.

The Council plans to use this funding, supplemented by Council funding, to ensure the availability of public Wi-Fi hotspots in major town centres and villages across the County.

The Council is also committed to assisting in the rollout of the National Broadband Plan and the rollout of community Wi-Fi Broadband Connection Points being delivered by The Department of Rural and Community Development.

Public Wi-Fi Roadmap

The rollout of public Wi-Fi hotspots will be implemented on a phased basis prioritising areas of strategic importance identified in the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023. Major Town Centres, Town and District Centres, Local Centres and Rural Villages will be incorporated into the public Wi-Fi roadmap. Public Wi-Fi hotspots will be installed in a variety of public areas including; town centre main streets, village centres, community centres and parks.

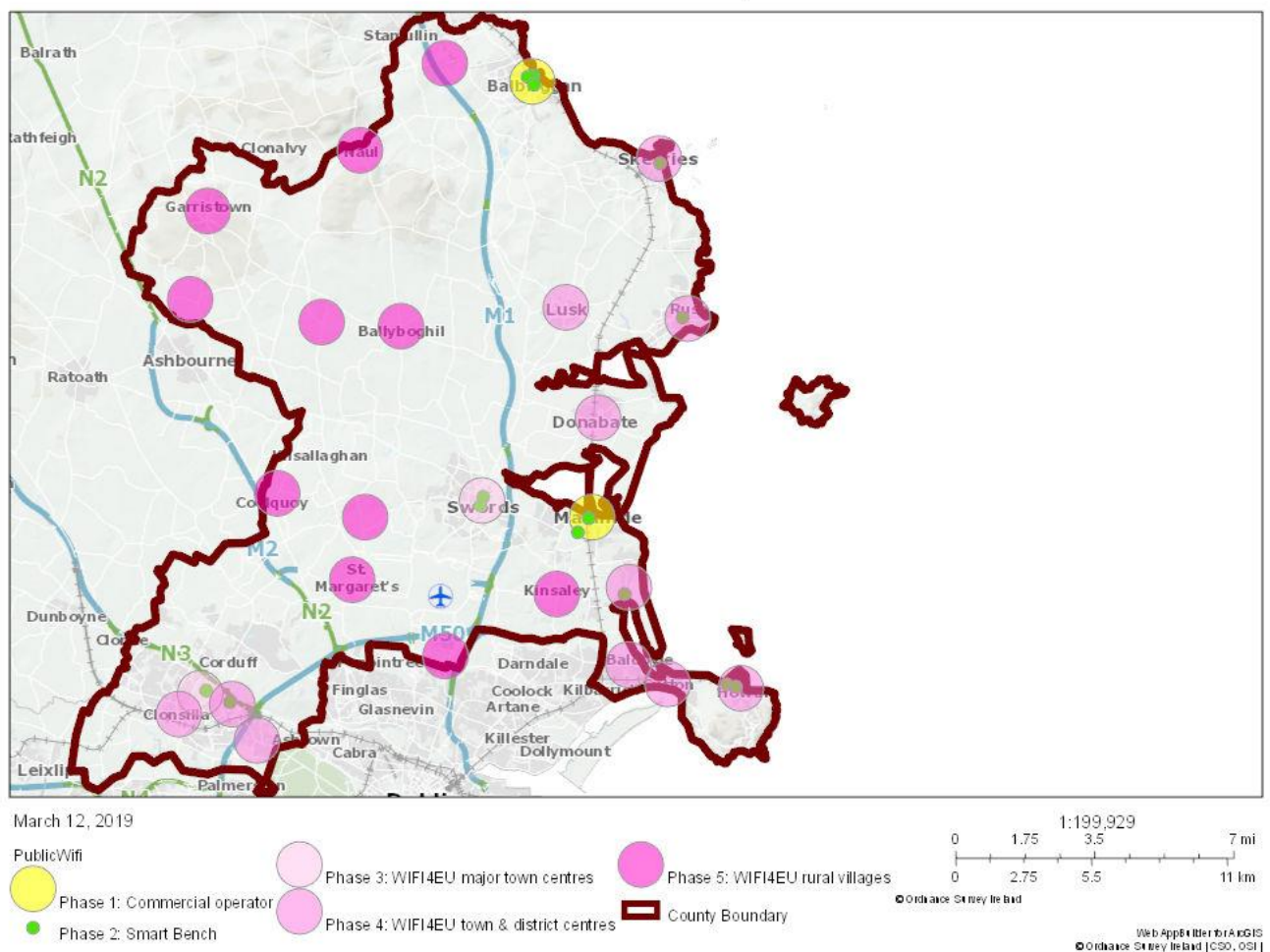
The roadmap is broken into 6 phases

- Phase 1: Commercial operator providing free wifi service
- Phase 2: Smart Bench wifi hotspots across 8 towns & villages
- Phase 3: WiFi4EU initiative - major town centres
- Phase 4: WiFi4EU initiative – town and district centres
- Phase 5: WiFi4EU initiative – rural villages
- Phase 6: Broadband Connection Points – under the National Broadband Plan

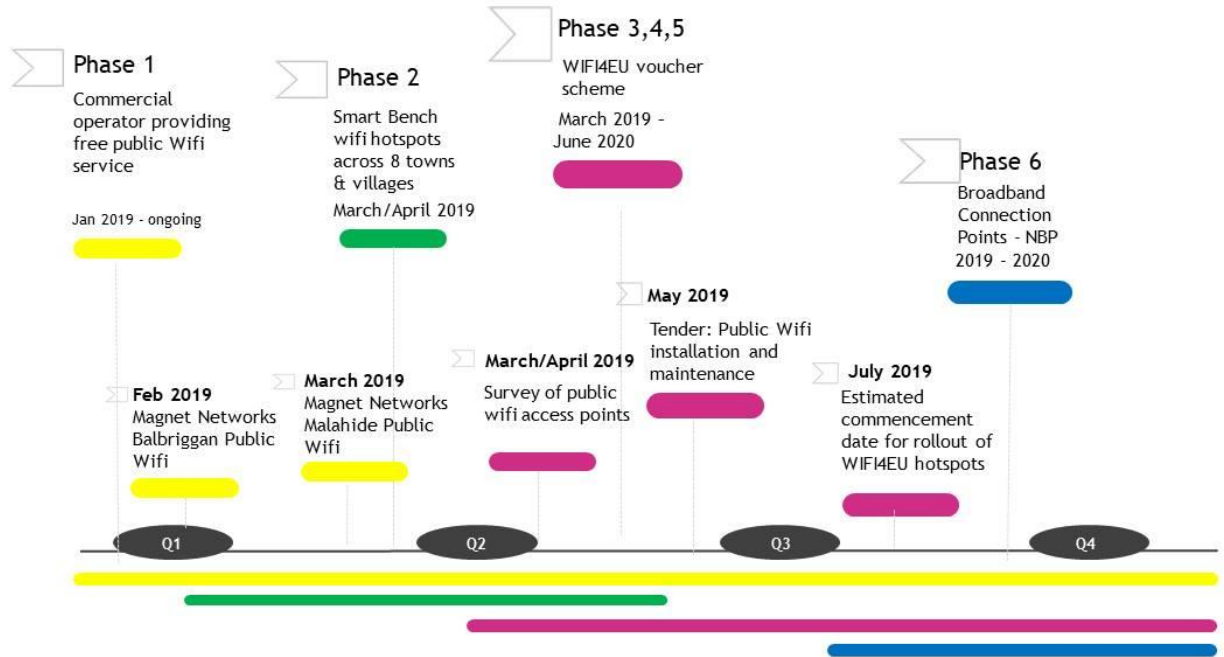
The Council will be going to tender to procure a scalable and reliable public Wi-Fi solution for the WIFI4EU initiative across the County (Phases 3, 4 and 5).

The Council will endeavor to facilitate and foster relationships with commercial operators and businesses and welcomes industry support and participation in the provision of free public Wi-Fi to towns and villages across in Fingal.

ArcGIS Web Map



Public Wi-Fi Timeline



Phase 1: Town Centre free public Wi-Fi provided by commercial operator schemes

Location	Provider	Status	Funding
Balbriggan (Main street/village centre)	Magnet Networks	Installed – testing service Feb	Magnet Networks
Malahide (Main street/village centre)	Magnet Networks	TBC	Magnet Networks

Phase 2: Fingal Smart Benches, project supported by DRCD. Free public Wi-Fi provided by commercial operator – Hotspot 120 metre range

Location	Provider	Status	Funding
Blanchardstown	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Swords	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Howth	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Balbriggan	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Malahide	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Skerries	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Portmarnock	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks
Rush	Magnet Networks	Installing in March/April 2019	Supported by DRCD & Magnet Networks

Phase 3: WiFi4EU voucher scheme supported by DRCD

Location	Status	Funding
Blanchardstown	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal D
Swords	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B

Phase 4: WiFi4EU voucher scheme supported by DRCD

Location	Status	Funding
Blanchardstown Village	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal D
Howth	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C
Malahide	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C
Skerries	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD

		Voucher name: Fingal A
Rush	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Portmarnock	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C
Castleknock	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal D
Clonsilla	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal D
Donabate	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B
Lusk	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Sutton	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFI4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C

Baldoyle	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C

Phase 5: WiFi4EU voucher scheme supported by DRCD

Location	Status	Funding
Santry	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B
Kinsealy	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal C
Ballyboughal	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Balscadden	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Coolquay	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B
Garristown	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A

Naul	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Rivermeade	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B
St Margaret's	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal B
Oldtown	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A
Ballymadun	Going to tender in 2019 Q2	WiFi4EU & DRCD Voucher name: Fingal A

Phase 6: Broadband Connection Points – Supported by The Department of Rural and Community Development

In Fingal, seven Broadband Connection Point (BCP) locations have been identified in collaboration with The Department of Rural and Community Development. The BCPs are located within the State Intervention Area of the National Broadband Plan (NBP). The BCPs will be prioritised to receive high speed broadband connection once the NBP gets underway.

The NBP is currently in a tender process with Government. Minister Bruton is expected to bring a recommendation to Government regarding the finalisation of the procurement process of the NBP in the coming weeks. Further information on the BCPs will be announced when the tender process is complete.