

From the Office of the Minister



Department of  
**Enterprise, Trade  
and Investment**

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**Our Ref: DETI SUB 116/2015**

Mr Cathal Boylan MLA  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Room 332  
Parliament Buildings  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX

16 March 2015

Dear Mr Boylan

During question time on the 3 March 2015 you asked for an update on the Northern Ireland Broadband Improvement Project.

The Northern Ireland Broadband Improvement project is a £23.5million project which will bring more choice and improved broadband speeds to over 45,000 premises across Northern Ireland by the end of 2015. Details on the areas where improvement have taken place have been published on the NIDirect website. A postcode checker has also been developed to allow users to use a postcode to find broadband improvements planned in an area.

Up to December 2014, improvements have been made passing 17,500 premises across Northern Ireland. Of these, improvements have taken place for over 2800 premises in the Newry and Armagh areas. Nearly 40 internet service providers offer services on the improved infrastructure making use of Super Fast Fibre Access wholesale products provided by BT Openreach. Further improvements are expected to be made over the coming months.

I will arrange for a copy of the letter to be sent to the Speaker's Office and that a copy will be placed in the Assembly Library.

Yours sincerely

**ARLENE FOSTER MLA**

Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment