



## How Our Communities Can Get the Digital Networks They Need

Spring 2012

### INCA Members

Nearly 400 organisations subscribe to INCA's activities. Why not join them?



### Public Policy

BDUK plans are moving ahead, procurements starting and the House of Lords inquiring.



### Rural Community Fund

£20m in the pot, 40 bids. INCA providing a forum for support & mutual learning.



### Ultrafast Cities

£100m committed. A new INCA Smart Cities Special Interest Group.



Beyond Broadband guide, 2nd Edition

### INCA Projects

INCA Marketplace for suppliers. Quality Marque for local schemes

### Dutch Light

INCA & Next Gen Events Dutch Study Tour. Reggefiber has built 950k FTTH connections



## INCA Members

INCA is a membership association working with public, private and community sector organisations building or promoting next generation broadband projects.

Nearly 400 organisations subscribe to INCA, participate in events and help develop INCA projects..

New activities to benefit members are coming on stream including the *INCA Marketplace* for suppliers and consultants and the *Quality Marque* - a template for local schemes. INCA members also gain attractive discounts for Next Gen events and INCA seminars.

The list is impressive and includes private companies like Fujitsu Telecom, Cable & Wireless Worldwide, Alcatel-Lucent, Geo UK Ltd, City Fibre Holdings, UK Broadband; public sector organisations like Manchester Digital Development Agency, Digital

**INCA Members are drawn from across the range of independent private, public and community organisations building & promoting Next Generation digital networks**

Birmingham, Gateshead G-Ti, NYnet; nearly 100 community broadband projects including Alston Cybermoor, Angus Broadband, CPEND Broadband and many others.

Why not join us? Sign up today at [www.inca.coop](http://www.inca.coop) or contact [info@inca.coop](mailto:info@inca.coop)

## Public Policy

The government's plans for rural broadband are moving forward with over £400m allocated through **BDUK** to county councils who are finalising their local broadband plans. The national procurement framework, to be announced in April, is likely to include just three suppliers. INCA members have expressed concerns that many counties will have a very limited choice of suppliers.

Early projects are moving into procurement, including INCA member, NYnet in North Yorkshire. This means we'll see action on the ground and learn more about what works, where.

The House of Lords has launched an inquiry into broadband policy. INCA has proposed that we review the national approach to encourage more competition and more investment in our digital infrastructure.



## Rural Community Broadband Fund

BDUK and DEFRA are reported to have received around 40 bids for funding under the £20m Rural Community Broadband Fund. These are projects aiming to deliver next generation, superfast broadband in the hardest to reach areas with an innovative combination of public, private and community engagement.

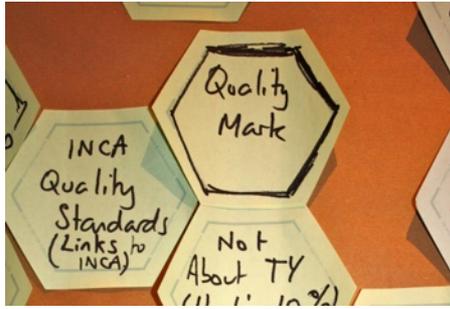
**B4RN** in Lancashire is leading the way in community fund-raising for rural NGA. So far they've exceeded their community share targets.

## Smart Cities

*In the Autumn statement the Government announced £100m of funding for 'ultrafast' projects in ten cities. The winners were announced by the Chancellor in the budget.*

INCA members Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol were amongst the winners of the government's £100m funding pot for next generation broadband in cities. On 16th May INCA will launch a Special Interest Group for **Ultra-connected Smart Cities** at the Future Everything festival in Manchester.

The aim of the group is to enable project promoters to share information, to learn from experience and to work creatively with the private and community sectors to develop some truly innovative projects.



## INCA Projects

### INCA Marketplace

In February INCA launched a new initiative, the INCA Marketplace for network operators, suppliers and consultants able to assist local project development. The aim is to make it as easy as possible for those funding, promoting or organising broadband projects to get access to expert advice and suppliers. The marketplace will be available online during the second quarter of 2012.

### Quality Marque

INCA's proposals to form a Quality Marque for broadband projects are finding support amongst private, public and community organisations. The Quality Marque aims to give confidence to investors, project developers, customers and service providers that their schemes are soundly based. As such it will act as a template for local project development.

### Beyond Broadband 2.0

INCA's Beyond Broadband guide and online Knowledge Base have proved enormously popular for those needing to get to grips with the issues around broadband technologies, policy and funding.

The second edition of Beyond Broadband is out now, available as a pdf download from the website [www.beyondbroadband.coop](http://www.beyondbroadband.coop)



## Dutch Light

Early in March INCA and Next Gen Events led a group from the private sector to meet key organisations in the Netherlands involved in deploying fibre to the home projects.

Hosted by fibre manufacturer Prysmian, the group met representatives from Reggefiber, OnsNet (Nuenen), OpenNet/IIPN, Rotterdam City Council, Rala (the Swedish fibre company) and civil engineering firm Van Gelder. UK participants Fujitsu Telecom and KC (part of KCom Group) also shared their experiences.

Amongst the highlights:

- Reggefiber now have 951,000 FTTH connections, and expect to build another 400,000 during 2012.
- The founders of OnsNet are developing a new approach to ensuring FTTH roll-out to rural as well as urban areas.
- KC's early results from FTTH roll-out in Hull have exceeded their expectations and are contributing to a rapid change in local perceptions of the company.
- Civil engineering firms like Van Gelder play a big role in encouraging more people to sign up as fibre is rolled out.

The Study Tour report and presentations are available from the INCA website [www.inca.coop](http://www.inca.coop)