

Hello Irene

After a considerable delay of many years, BT Openreach have now installed a green box in the triangle at the top of Carricks Hill, which you might have noticed. They have powered this up and removed the old box and this has enable a Fibre to the Cabinet to be installed to the new box, which means that fast broadband is now available for (I hope) everyone in Dallington. BT as usual haven't publicised this, at least not to me, so anyone wanting fast broadband won't know and will have to take action.

Being a sceptic about the veracity of what Openreach say, I have just placed an order with BT for fast broadband for my house, which has been accepted and it takes c 14 days to install. The maximum speed available on this green box is 80mb/s - the closer you are to the green box the faster the speed but everyone should get 20-30mb/s. If anyone wants to upgrade, I would advise that you buy the fastest available speed to your property. At the moment, we all get between just 1 and 3mbps, so the upgrade/change will be dramatic and you will be able to stream netflix, videos, TV, upload photos immediately etc and indeed, do everything else that a fast connection enables.

Remember that there are many providers of broadband and it is possible to buy a phone line for voice calls from one supplier (eg BT) and broadband from another eg Fleur/Sky/Virgin telecom) or to buy one voice-broadband package from the the same supplier. BT broadband sales is 0800 800 150 and the availability checker website is <https://www.productsandservices.bt.com/broadband/upgrade/>

Dallington School has been future proofed with an Ultrafast FTTP (fibre to the premises) - a large capacity fibre optic cable which runs down the Street and gives the school a state of the art broadband, so all the children will be able to work on line easily simultaneously. At last contact, Paul Cox was having to get ESCC to agree a contract to get the system live.

On reflection, much of what Openreach and ESCC said about the provision of broadband to Dallington, has simply not been true - it has not cost tens of thousands of pounds, it has not been subject to terrible engineering problems - far from it and I believe that the delay was purely commercial - why provide fast broadband to 100 houses when you can provide it to 1000.

Anyway, if you would like to make this known to everyone at the Parish Council to help spread the news, we can all join the digital age!!

Best wishes

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