

**Update to the West Sussex Rural Partnership
Tuesday 28 June 2011**

Current position on broadband

WSCC submitted a bid to Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) in April 2011. It was announced in May that we had not been immediately successful. Those successful bids were: Wiltshire, Norfolk and Devon and Somerset.

However, there will be an announcement in early July by Jeremy Hunt outlining the amount that each local authority will be receiving from BDUK. The receipt of this will be subject to BDUK being satisfied with a resubmitted bid document which, in effect, forms the Local Broadband Plan. BDUK have made it clear that they will assist and will be fully engaged with us in expanding those areas of the bid that they felt need further clarification or detail. They will over the summer be hosting various events/seminars/information days designed to help with the process which could, for West Sussex, take up to 6 months or so.

The Broadband Summit held on the 20th May convened and facilitated by Nick Herbert MP and hosted by WSCC was attended by around 100 representatives from community groups, local business and decision makers to discuss ways of improving the standard of broadband provision in the county. A report from the summit is currently being drawn up by Nick Herbert's team and will be discussed at the next meeting of Sussex MPs with WSCC on Friday 1st July.

**Sue Cooper / Sarah Hardman
West Sussex County Council
June 2011**