



Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government

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**Brandon Lewis MP**  
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Dear Cllr. Rigby

**FIBRE BROADBAND**

Thank you for your letter of 5 August to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP recommending the provision of internet access in domestic new builds. I am replying as this falls within my Ministerial responsibilities and apologies for the delay.

I welcome your support of the government's investment of over £780 million in the transformation of broadband services across the United Kingdom to ensure that 95% of the population have access to superfast broadband speeds of at least 24 Megabits per second (Mbps), and the rest of the population have access to standard broadband of at least 2 Mbps by 2017.

We have previously considered introducing Building Regulations for broadband in new homes. However, given the rapid pace of technological development and slow changes to regulatory guidance, and having sought the advice of the telecommunications and home building industry, we opted instead to publish good practice guidance which evolved in to PAS 2016 – '*Next generation access for new build homes*'. We continue to keep consideration of the potential role of the Building Regulations under review and are working with the Department for Culture Media and Sport to consider what further action needs to be taken to ensure that superfast broadband is available across the United Kingdom.

**BRANDON LEWIS MP**