

Digital Connectivity Statement

Former Ambulance Station Cemetery Road, Ramsbottom, BL0 9PU

Document Control

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Revision: Rev A

Date: 22 December 2025

Local Planning Authority: Bury Council

1. Introduction

This Digital Connectivity Statement has been prepared in support of a full planning application for the redevelopment of the Former Ambulance Station at Cemetery Road, Ramsbottom, to provide three detached dwellings. The statement demonstrates that the development will be capable of being served by high-quality digital infrastructure appropriate to modern residential use.

2. Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework recognises the importance of modern communications infrastructure in supporting sustainable economic growth, home working and social inclusion. The Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan similarly supports development that is future-proofed and capable of supporting digital connectivity.

3. Existing Connectivity Context

The site is located within the established settlement of Ramsbottom, where existing fixed-line and mobile telecommunications infrastructure is present. Surrounding residential properties are currently served by broadband and mobile networks provided by multiple operators. The site location within an urban area ensures that connection to digital services can be achieved without the need for new off-site infrastructure.

4. Proposed Digital Connectivity Provision

Each dwelling will be designed to enable connection to high-speed fixed broadband services. Ducting and internal cabling routes will be provided during construction to facilitate future connection to fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) or equivalent high-speed broadband services, subject to availability.

Internal layouts will allow for appropriate positioning of routers and network equipment, ensuring reliable internal connectivity and flexibility for future technological upgrades.

5. Mobile Connectivity

Given the scale of the development, no new on-site mobile telecommunications infrastructure is required. The proposals will not prejudice existing mobile coverage or restrict future upgrades to mobile networks in the area.

6. Support for Home Working and Digital Inclusion

The provision of high-quality digital connectivity supports home working, online education and access to digital services, reducing the need to travel and contributing to more sustainable living patterns.

7. Proportionality and Conclusion

For a development of three dwellings, the proposed approach to digital connectivity is proportionate and appropriate. The site will be capable of being served by modern digital infrastructure, supporting the needs of future residents and aligning with national and local planning policy.