

# FACT SHEET

## Government broadband and mobile programmes

### **Rural Broadband Initiative phase two (RBI2) and the Mobile Black Spot Fund (MBSF)**

- In 2017, Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) assessed that **90,000** rural households and businesses cannot access broadband speeds of at least 20 Mbps download. RBI2 aims to reduce this number as much as possible.

**RBI2:** CIP has contracted to provide enhanced broadband for over **74,000 (82%) of these 90,000 households and businesses** (including some commercial coverage from mobile operators) commencing deployment in 2018 and completing by 2022.

**MBSF:** CIP has also contracted to build mobile coverage for over **1,000** kilometres of state highways and more than **100** tourist areas by 2022. While December 2022 is the end date for the MBSF programme, the network will be rolled out progressively and made operational and so many areas will receive it before 2022.

- CIP is partnering with the **Rural Connectivity Group** (a joint venture between Spark, Vodafone and 2degrees) to provide RBI2 and MBSF coverage (base contract value \$150 million). Alongside this, CIP is partnering with **nine regional wireless internet service providers** (total contract values **\$8 million**):

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Gisborne.net (Gisborne and North Hawke's Bay) | Wiz Wireless (Wairarapa, Wellington)          |
| Inspire.net (Manawatu and Whanganui)          | AmuriNet (North Canterbury)                   |
| AoNet (King Country, Manawatu and Whanganui)  | Ultimate Broadband (Central/South Canterbury) |
| Primo Wireless (Taranaki)                     | Unifone (Otago)                               |
| NZ Tech (Central Hawke's Bay)                 |   |

- CIP's website contains [maps](#) and a [breakdown](#) of how RBI2 and MBSF coverage will benefit each region.

### **Ultra-Fast Broadband (UFB) acceleration and expansion**

- The original UFB programme aimed to provide fibre-to-the-premises to 75% of the New Zealand population by 2020. The programme has been expanded twice in 2017, and now the goal is to achieve fibre-to-the-premises to 87% of the population (including 1% private fibre) by 2022.

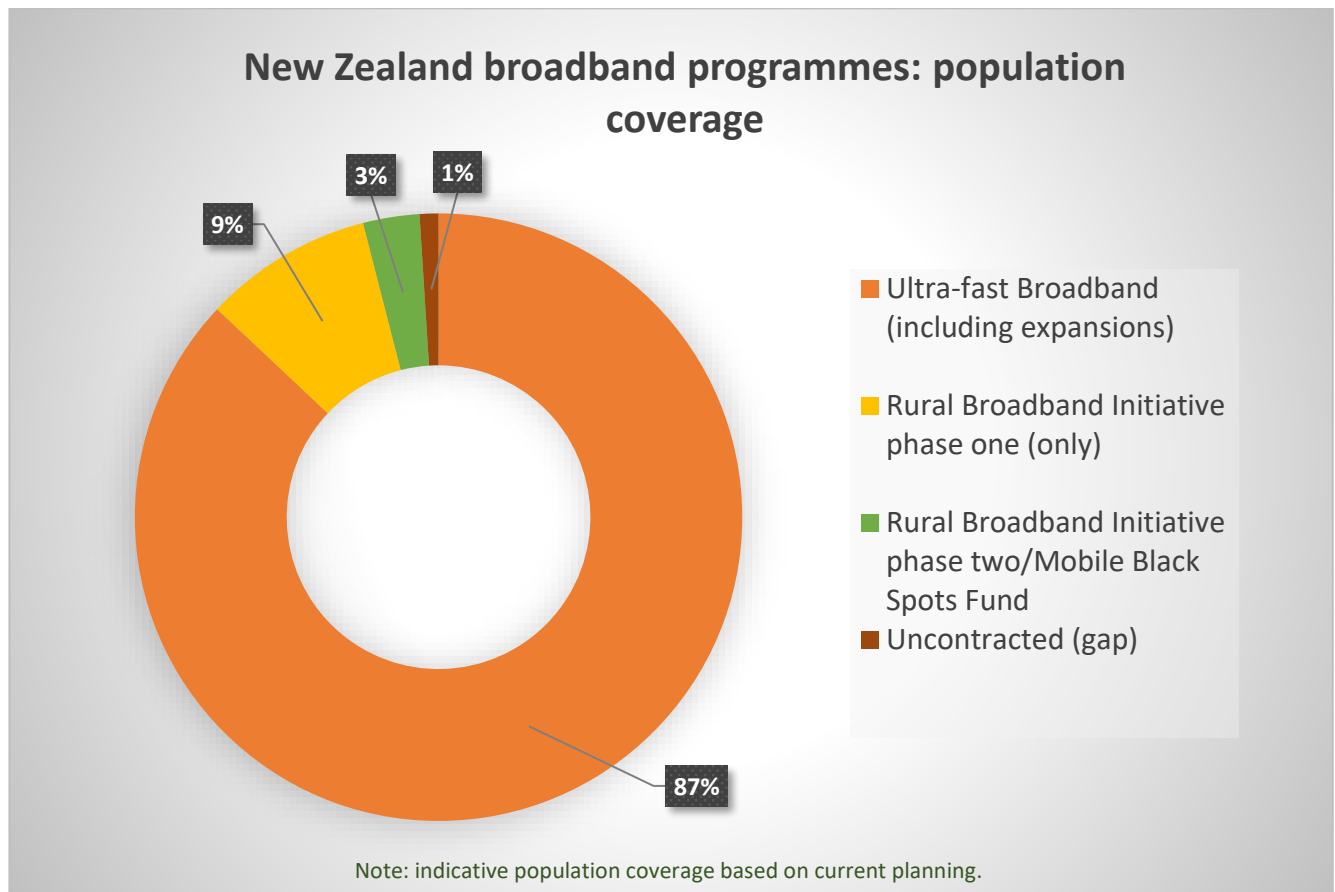
| UFB phase                              | Crown investment       | Population covered (%)                           | To be completed by   |
|--|------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Original UFB programme                 | \$1.345 billion        | ~75.4%   | December 2019        |
| UFB phase two (January 2017 expansion) | \$307 million          | ~8.6%  | December 2022        |
| UFB phase two (August 2017 expansion)  | \$130 million          | ~1.9%  | December 2022        |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>\$1.782 billion</b> | <b>~86% (87% with 1% privately funded fibre)</b> | <b>December 2022</b> |

- In total, under the full UFB programme, **around 393 cities and towns** will receive UFB by the end of 2022.
- Once the full UFB programme is complete, New Zealand should be in the **top five in the OECD** for the proportion of the population that can access fibre.
- CIP's website contains [maps](#) and a [complete list](#) of cities and towns included in the UFB programme.

More information on all of the programmes is available on CIP's [website](#).

## Summary of population coverage under broadband and mobile programmes

- In addition to the privately-funded telecommunications networks operating in New Zealand, there are three Government-funded programmes which in combination aim to ensure approximately 99% of New Zealanders have access to fast broadband:



- As can be seen from this chart, approximately 1% of the population is not currently planned to receive access to a Government-funded network and this is now the focus for expansion.