

Esher Place Residents Broadband

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What does a fibre optic cable look like, and what does it do?

A single fibre optic cable has a diameter smaller than that of a human hair, yet it is capable of simultaneously carrying a phone conversation between every single person on earth! Each one of the properties on our Estate will have two of these fibres running directly into the house or business – one to carry all the anticipated needs (video, audio, security, landline and mobile communications) and the second as a spare in case there are other services that emerge in the decades to come.

By themselves fibre strands are delicate, so they are encased in outer tubing with a propylene covering, typically 6mm in diameter. They do not carry any power or voltage, they simply use light to carry the information. Fibre optic cables are not affected by electrical interference, they do not degrade in performance over the distances involved, and are unaffected by the presence of other radiation. They can be laid alongside (or indeed even within) water pipes, and alongside mains electricity cables.

Where possible, the fibre cables will be buried in the ground using the existing network of Openreach underground conduits. As such, your service will not be subject to weather or physical damage outages. However, the final cable drop into each house will take place overhead using the existing telegraph poles. The connection to you hose by fibre will only be done when you have selected and chosen your service provider.

There is no need for ugly roadside cabinets – everything between the head end equipment and the pole outside your property is securely and unobtrusively buried.