



# **Connected Places: Inclusive Connectivity for Social Housing**

John Duncan, Connected Places Lead, GMCA

# Introduction

- Background
- GMCA – 10 LA's, TfGM, Fire&Rescue Service
- Connected Places Lead



# GM Digital Blueprint



- We want to better the lives our people and for them to be empowered by the opportunities a digitally fuelled city-region brings.
- We want to use technology and data better to make this a greener, fairer, more prosperous city region.
- The GM Digital Blueprint sets our 2023/26 ambitions and our approach to meeting them.

Digitally enabling a greener, fairer, more prosperous city-region for everyone

## Priorities



1

Empowering people and communities



2

Building responsible, data driven public services



3

Enabling a resilient and prosperous economy



4

Creating connected, inclusive, sustainable places



5

Strengthening our position as a global digital influencer

# Our digital inclusion campaign: Get Online GM

## Why?

- **350,000 people digitally excluded across GM**, with a further 800,000 with low digital skills

## What?

- **Greater Manchester Databank**, working with Good Things Foundation to tackle data poverty – 42,000 supported so far
- **Pilot project for social housing residents**: 5 ISPs collaborated with public and housing sector – key findings for wider roll out
- A comprehensive package of **digital support for care leavers**
- **Doing digital in later life and for Disabled People**: resources designed to support someone they know

## How?

- **Digital Inclusion Taskforce**: 250 members collaborating to identify need and target action to address interrelated barriers
- **Digital Inclusion Action Network**: leading targeted action on supporting under-25s, over-75s and disabled people
- **Locality Leads Group**: joining up work across 10 LAs, funded through AEB



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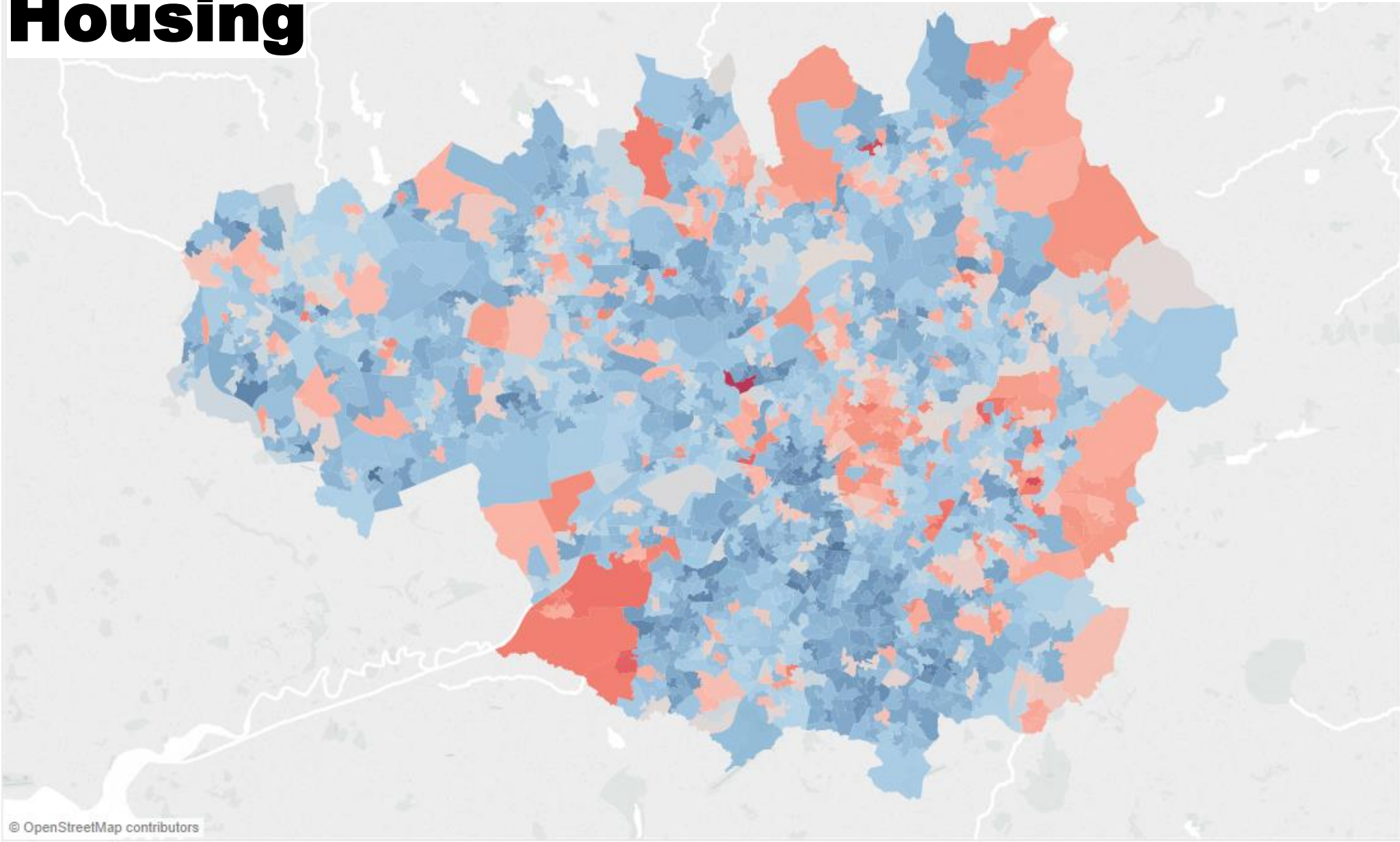
*“If Greater Manchester is truly going to be a world leading digital city region, we have to make a big commitment to fix the digital divide, the consequences of not doing so are severe”* **Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester**

# Why Social Housing

- 20% GM pop living in GMHP properties will be most affected (est 60% DE) - population includes more people on low incomes and receiving benefits
- Successful Digital Inclusion Social Housing Project
- SHP's already working to increase digital self-service with personalised support programmes for tenants
- SHP Leadership support
- Supporting the development of an empowerment model
- Financial management, cost of living support, welfare advice, health advice, job search are key areas where digital access/skills can make a difference
- Access to SHP Data sources
- Connectivity – Wayleave



# Digital Exclusion Risk Index and Social Housing



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Weighting: age component

33

Weighting: broadband component

33

Weighting: deprivation component

34

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# GM Social Housing Wayleave Overview



1. Accelerate connectivity investment across social housing in GM

As a minimum social housing tenants can access to min 1Gb connectivity speeds  
Ideally have a choice of infrastructure provider at these speeds  
Access to Social Tariffs



2. Speed up decision making to reduce costs for ISPs and calls on SHP capacity



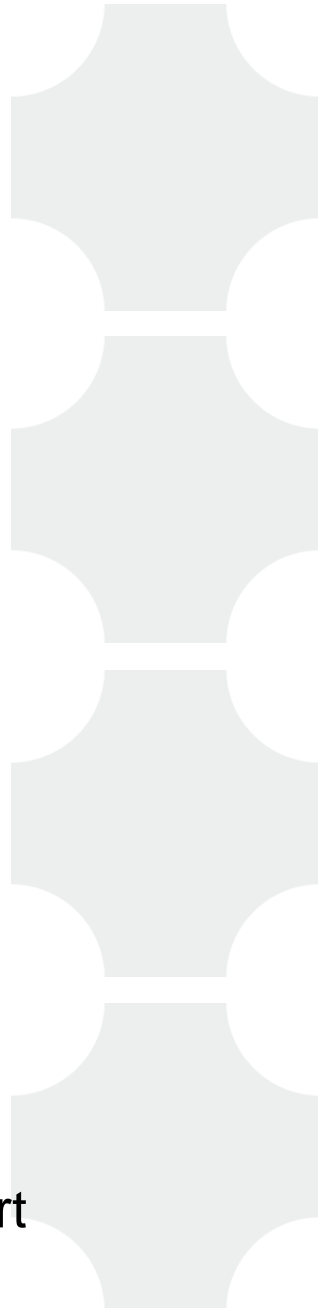
3. Provide a template for all SHPs to use with market providers as part of GM roll out



4. Moving forward to embed approach within GM Landlords Charter

# GM One Network & Opportunities

- The **GM One Network** enabled by the **GM Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN)** Programme is a Public Sector Wide Area Network which connects circa 1200 locations across Greater Manchester is a foundational component and can be extended to a further c300 GM LFFN connected Public Locations.
  1. Other than 800 Urban Traffic Control sites, each of these 700 Public Sector locations, enabled by the GM One Network, could provide connectivity for **Social Spaces** (including community SHP spaces) to improve access and digital skills for those currently excluded.
  2. Enable the creation of a **GM Wide Public Access Wi-Fi** by federating existing Public Sector Wi-Fi provision similar to EduRoam or GovRoam – 'GMRoam/BeeRoam'.
  3. Leverage the reach and connectivity options of the GM One Network to support **innovation** around the **provision of IoT services** for SH residents e.g. **Telecare users**.





# GM One Network Enabled Social Spaces

- Gigabit Connectivity for Digital Inclusion Spaces
- Can support existing Online Centre's connectivity and help create new OC's.
- Links to other digital inclusion services – devices, databanks, skills sessions
- Can be used to support target groups who may struggle with access at home
  - affordability



# GM One Network for IoT Innovation in Social Housing

- Utilising the GM One Network for innovative IoT solutions in SH properties using 5G LoRaWAN or LPWAN
- Common standardised method of connecting & delivering IoT across GM
- Multiple use cases – health, environment, maintenance, energy
- Data capture opportunities to support proactive interventions



# GM 5G IR Smart Decarbonisation Network

Greater Manchester 5G SMART Decarbonisation Network (GM 5G SDN) project focuses on how to tackle the drivers of climate breakdown at a city region level, accelerating decarbonisation, improving quality of life, and growing the Green Technologies and Services sector.

## The Project will:

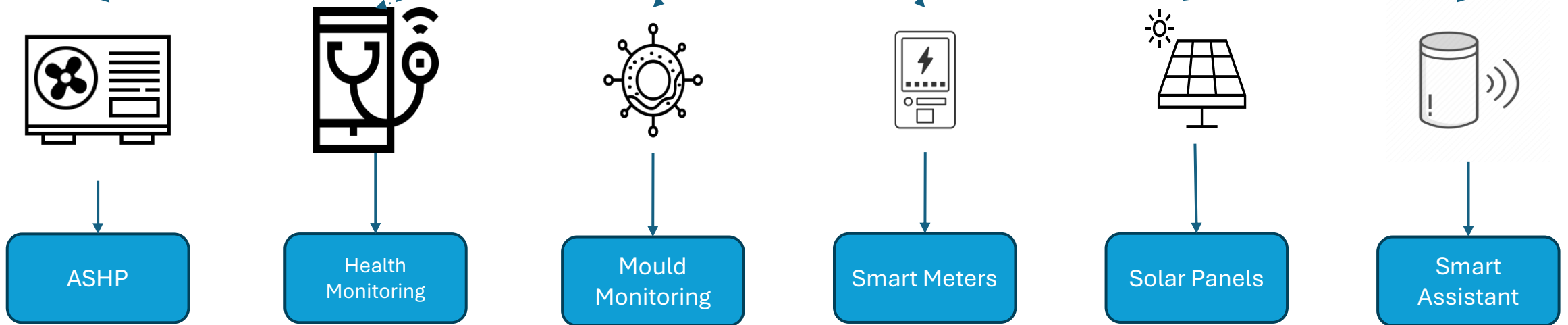
- 5G enable hundreds of existing air source heat pumps across social housing. This will accelerate the creation of **Smart Energy Grids** and bring forward benefits for residents, industry and public services, aligning with the GM Local Area Energy Plan, which will be scaled across GM and create a **social housing focused place-based model**.
- ~~Co-located on the same 5G network, we will pilot a **Digital Road Network** environment aiming to reduce congestion and carbon emissions and prioritise traffic flow such as public transport in a quicker, efficient way.~~

Central to these is 5G advanced wireless technology wrapped within **an ecosystem delivered by industry and telecoms partners**.

# Smart Energy/House



- **Heat Management**
  - Realtime ASHP control
- **Heat Monitoring**
  - Realtime control and adaptive monitoring
- **Maintenance**
  - ASHP efficiency and hardware monitoring
- **Lower Costs**
  - Lower electricity demand, better tariffs



# Summary

## Social Housing

- Connected Places/Smart Cities Test Bed
- Massive impact potential – Digital Inclusion/Health/Energy
- Multiple Use Cases
- Minimum Digital Living Standards (MDLS) principle applied
- Different connectivity technologies
- Use data to target intervention and opportunity to collect data
- Drive towards Pro-active rather than Reactive interventions
- Sustainable and scalable focus



# Contact us



[www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/digital/](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/digital/)



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