

The Digital Region Ltd. (DRL) project represents one of the largest public-sector-led open broadband infrastructure initiatives in the world. It will cover the city, towns and villages of Sheffield, Doncaster, Barnsley and Rotherham and serve a population of over 1.3million citizens, 546,000 homes and 40,000 businesses. This is a major opportunity to transform South Yorkshire and achieve a step change that will positively impact on the entire sub-region-business, residents and public sector organisations.

DRL is wholly owned by Yorkshire Forward, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Sheffield City Council.

Thales Transport and Security Limited (Thales) has been appointed to deliver, manage and operate the state of the art fibre-optic cable infrastructure on behalf of DRL. Thales leads a consortium that includes Alcatel-lucent and KCOM Group.

The DRL infrastructure platform will be a wholesale, carrier-class network that enables IP-based services to be provided to citizens, businesses and the public sector throughout South Yorkshire. Key to the ambition of the project is a recognition that the DRL infrastructure will be able to meet the needs to Internet Service Providers in a way that existing infrastructure is unable to do at present.

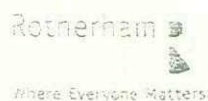
DRL offers South Yorkshire the opportunity to position itself within a global marketplace, giving service providers a unique opportunity to provide a next generation broadband infrastructure that will closely be watched by global players in the communications sector and beyond.

in Partnership with:

THALES



KCOM
group



The high-speed broadband capability will transform electronic communications across South Yorkshire and have a significant impact on economic development, potential inward investment and capacity building across South Yorkshire. The network will be integral to improving communications in the private and public sector, bringing increased innovation, opportunities and greater social and economic inclusion.

Thales will begin building the infrastructure in April 2009 with the first homes being able to take up the service by 2010, with the vast majority of the network being completed within three years.

The initial connections will be in Doncaster due to the location of the Network Operations Centre. Following on from Doncaster, the four Local Authority geographies Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield will be built in parallel.

Visit the Website for more information – www.digitalregion.co.uk

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Alcatel-Lucent

KCOM
group



Project Partially Funded
by the European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



Rotherham



Where Everyone Matters



BARNSELEY



Doncaster
Metropolitan Borough Council