

Request for initial investment to build the network.

Building the fibre network costs money. The conduit and fibre needs to be purchased, and contractors need to be paid for digging the main route. We are asking people to help by buying shares.

Repayment

Once the network is completed there is an income from subscribers. This income more than covers the cost of providing a broadband service, and after three years investors can either have their money back, or else retain their shares and receive a 5% dividend.

30% Share purchase discount.

B4RN shares qualify for the HMRC Enterprise Investment Scheme. Individual investors can claim tax relief of 30% of the share purchase price. So £1,500 pounds worth of investment costs only £1,050.

Shareholder value

By buying shares you help to provide the community with a sustainable, affordable, world class broadband service.

A decent return. Purchase shares for £1,050. After 5 years sell and receive £1,650. This represents a return of over 11% per year.

In addition, your £1,500 share holding entitles you to free connection to the service worth £150 (this will reduce tax relief by £50 as it is regarded as a benefit)

This illustration assumes that you purchase shares for £1500 with 30% tax relief, reinvest the 5% dividend for years 4 and 5, and sell the shares back to B4RN after 5 years.

Share purchase

The minimum shareholding is £100, the maximum £100,000
Shares must be held for a minimum of 3 years

For full details of B4RN shares see:

<https://b4rn.org.uk/b4rn-community/investors/>

<https://b4rn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Invitationtosubscribeforshares2016-1.pdf>

For details of the HMRC Enterprise Investment Scheme see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-enterprise-investment-scheme-introduction/enterprise-investment-scheme>

Putting the network in the ground

The network effectively divides into two categories that are constructed differently.

The main trunk route takes the fibre long distances from village to village. This has to be constructed first, and is best done by contractors who can get the job done quickly and efficiently. Contractors are paid approx £1,50 for each meter dug. The total cost including conduit and cable is approx £6.00 per meter.

Branch routes connect individual properties, or clusters of properties, to the main routes. Some long stretches are best dug by contractors, other short stretches may be dug by local volunteers.

Connecting premises. We install cabling up to the 'garden wall' for all properties in our area. It is the responsibility of property owners to install cabling from the edge of their land to their dwelling or business premises. B4RN will supply all the required conduit pipes and cable, but do not pay for this digging. Often this is best done by groups of neighbours working together. Help is always available if needed: nobody who wants the service is going to be deprived of it because they can't wield a spade.

Further details

B4RN: <https://b4rn.org.uk/>

Local activity: www.b4big.org.uk

Or contact: Phil Ackroyd ackroyd.phil@gmail.com Tel: 01995 640315

For help with digging: Steve Pike sapike@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01995 643147

