

SFT Outcomes

Demonstrating progress with impact



The
Scotland
5G Centre



2020 CASE STUDY

Outcome 01



We have a clear picture of Scotland's future economic and social infrastructure needs.

Establishing the Scotland 5G Centre

Enhanced 4G and 5G capability across Scotland could deliver £17bn to nation's GDP by 2035.

In 2019, the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) commissioned Deloitte to carry out research into what the economic impact would be if Scotland greatly enhanced its 4G and 5G capability.

Economic modelling contained in the **Deloitte report** outlined that if Scotland substantially developed its 4G and 5G capability as part of an advanced digital ecosystem, the country's GDP could increase by up to £17 billion by 2035.

A further study (the 5G Centre of Excellence Feasibility Report) identified a list of unmet needs that hindered investment, research and development in deploying 5G in Scotland:

- No single point of entry to specialist knowledge in the Scottish market
- Recent 5G use cases in Scotland showed promise but were largely limited to small-scale trials
- There was a gap in leadership
- Little access to baseline infrastructure

It was therefore seen that to secure the economic benefits that enhanced 4G and 5G would bring as highlighted in the Deloitte report, establishing a national 5G centre in Scotland would be critical in providing the identity, facilitation, coordination and development required.

SFT led the development of the proposal for the **Scotland 5G Centre**, working with the University of Strathclyde and the University of Glasgow. Following Ministerial approval in May 2019, SFT led and managed the establishment of the Centre ranging from branding, governance, recruitment, communications, finance, stakeholder management and strategic direction, until the appointment of its Chair and CEO in May 2020.

In a very short space of time, the Scotland 5G centre is establishing itself as a leader in its field and an organisation that is proactively working with businesses, public sector and universities in Scotland and the rest of the UK, to promote and capture the opportunities and benefits of 5G.

