

NET  
ZEROSUSTAINABLE  
PLACESINCLUSIVE  
GROWTH

## SFT Outcomes 2021/22

### Demonstrating progress with impact

#### PRIMARY OUTCOME

04

**INTERNATIONALLY  
MOBILE CAPITAL IS  
DRAWN IN TO INVEST**

#### SECONDARY OUTCOMES

05

07

08



## 5G testbed delivering economic impact

Dundee has an ambition to become a Smart City with the highest possible level of digital connectivity that will improve the quality of life of those living there and increase economic development.

The Digital Infrastructure Team at SFT identified that a key part of this ambition would be the development of a 5G testbed and a public Wi-Fi network for the Dundee Waterfront and surrounding city centre areas.

The testbed would utilise SFT's Growth Accelerator that was used for the redevelopment of the Waterfront area of the city and would focus on the deployment of full fibre infrastructure, utilising council owned ducts to facilitate access to the council's assets, such as new and existing street furniture, buildings and power.

The supporting infrastructure would then facilitate the delivery of the public Wi-Fi service and be used to develop the 5G testbed in partnership with industry, academia, and the public sector that are relevant to the area.

The Digital Infrastructure Team's role was the provision of project management services relating to:

- The management of the contract between Dundee City Council and network solutions provider AWTG to design, deploy, operate and maintain a 5G ready public Wi-Fi service, while deploying in parallel the creation of a 5G testbed with key stakeholders such as Scottish Government, AWTG, Abertay University, Dundee City Council (DCC) and the Scotland 5G Centre (S5GC).
- Ensuring the Waterfront public Wi-Fi services were delivered in accordance with the agreed planning schedule between the key project stakeholders responsible for approving drawdown from the available funding from DCC's Growth Accelerator utilising the

governance structure currently in place and maximising benefit by linking the 5G core to the Dundee Contemporary Arts Centre.

- Managing the coordination of all local authority activities (eg. traffic management, access to street columns) to ensure the delivery of the 5G testbed and Wi-Fi in accordance with the project schedule.

The 5G testbed has now been successfully deployed and is starting to act as a catalyst for Dundee to support the growth of a 5G ecosystem that will transform the wider area into a Smart Region by unlocking the £2m funding assigned in the Tay Cities Deal to develop 5G use cases.

An integral part of increasing economic development across the city has been the work with 'esport' stakeholders (esports are competitions played out on video games) to develop and deploy the 5G private network, overcoming challenges to deliver a successful international event.

In November 2021, the Scottish Esports League Season 4 (SEL4), the UK's largest competitive games competition came to Dundee to utilise the new private 5G network and helped to build the profile of Dundee's Esports scene with plans for Northern Lights Arena Europe (NLAE) to open Scotland's first bespoke and dedicated Esports arena in Dundee bringing £60m investment to the area.

This activity will position Dundee as a leader in this burgeoning field that will attract further inward investment to support 5G application development in areas such as public sector service delivery, gaming, education, healthcare, connected autonomous vehicles and mobility as a service.

These opportunities are starting to be leveraged via the recent launch of the S5GConnect Dundee - The Scotland 5G Centre, Abertay University and DCC.

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Luc Delaney, director of creative technology and Esports at NLAE, said: “Just look at the SEL4 event put on by the organisers in terms of production and scale. To do this in a matter of months when so many things have been closed is phenomenal.

“You are talking about providing high-skilled jobs that can be used in other parts of society because of the Dundee arena.”

Professor Gregor White, Dean of Abertay University’s school of design and informatics, said: “Esports represent a massive opportunity for Dundee and Scotland and we are hugely excited to be bringing our academic expertise in video games education to this important sector, and to be partners in the Dundee Esports Arena project.”

Robin Presswood, Executive Director of City Development at Dundee City Council, said: “Esports is a rapidly growing

sector. So, for Dundee to be at the heart of that global leisure market is phenomenally important. It puts us on the international talent map. Crucially, the broadcast audience for esports is now bigger than physical sports, so the potential for Dundee and our talent base is huge.”

#### Partners

- Dundee City Council
- Abertay University
- Dundee & Angus College
- Scottish Government
- Scotland 5G Centre
- Perth & Kinross Council
- Angus Council
- Fife Council
- Northern Lights Arena Europe