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CASE STUDY

boldyn
NETWORKS

Empowering South London Through Smart Infrastructure

Executive Summary

Boldyn Networks and ITS have partnered on a transformative digital infrastructure initiative to deliver full-fibre connectivity across four London boroughs: Bromley, Lewisham, Merton, and Wandsworth.

Leveraging ITS's extensive network, which already spans all 32 London boroughs, and Boldyn's unique access to critical assets through its Transport for London (TfL) concession, the project is actively boosting public safety, digital access, and economic growth.

This collaboration offers a standout model for smart infrastructure reuse, driving digital inclusion today and enabling future-ready smart city initiatives.



Background

Despite being part of London's economic heartland, up to 11,000 businesses and public services across the four boroughs remain digitally underserved. Libraries, schools, council buildings, and community hubs still struggle with inadequate connectivity, limiting both service delivery and future workforce development.

Funded by the Mayor's Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) the project further utilises Boldyn Networks' 20-year concession with TfL to deliver connectivity across the capital. This partnership will enable ITS to gain access to Boldyn's existing assets and infrastructure within the London Underground to support and manage the new full fibre networks.



Connectivity Challenges

Take Bromley, for example, where gigabit availability stood at just 54%, far below the 82.6% UK average at the time. Businesses were forced to rely on sluggish ADSL connections, curbing digital transformation efforts. Critical public infrastructure, like CCTV networks, lacked the bandwidth to support real-time monitoring and file transfer, presenting a risk to public safety.

With funding from the Greater London Authority and the SIF, the boroughs sought a bold, scalable solution. That's where ITS and Boldyn Networks stepped in.



Why ITS?



Boldyn Networks selected ITS as its strategic partner for dark fibre infrastructure based on a collection of shared values around innovation, sustainability, and inclusive growth.

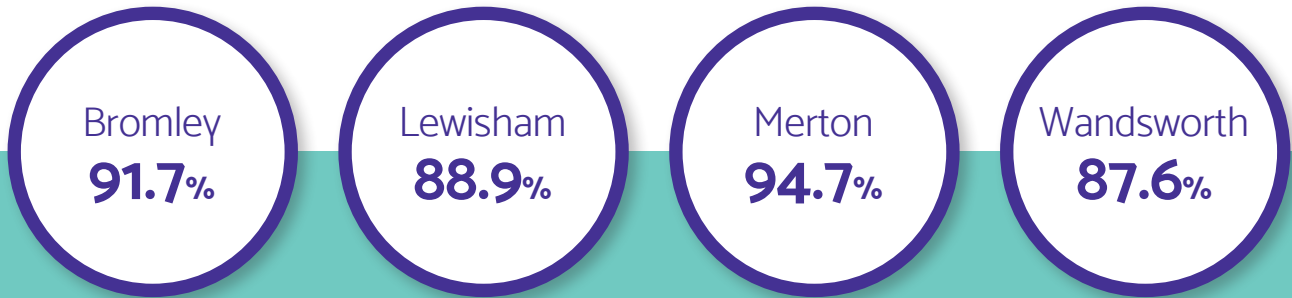
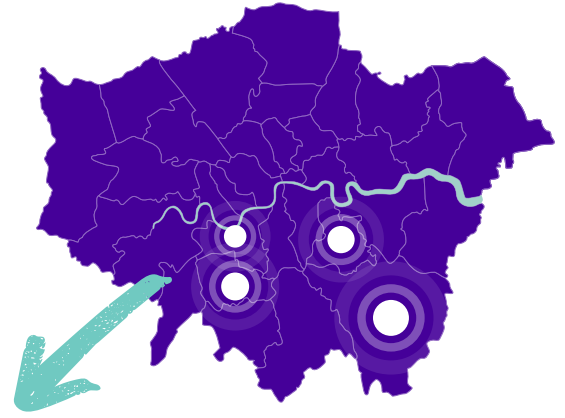
Both organisations are committed to enabling communities with resilient digital foundations that support long-term economic opportunity and environmental responsibility. Mutual agreements to support an array of community hubs and digital skills development programs show that the value of high-speed connectivity access spans beyond the workplace but helps to set up the workforce of tomorrow.

ITS's expansive, ready-to-use fibre network gave Boldyn the backhaul, diversity, and resilience needed to provide secure, future-ready infrastructure. With a proven track record in delivering secure, reliable connectivity in high-stakes environments, ITS brought both technical confidence and operational excellence that Boldyn Networks needed to deliver the project to four of London's most strategically significant boroughs.

Transformational Outcomes

The project's benefits are already visible and measurable.

Each of the four boroughs has seen significant boosts in gigabit-capable broadband availability according to the most recent survey from the Office for National Statistics:



These figures exceed the UK average of 86.2%, positioning the boroughs as national leaders in connectivity access.

Local businesses now have greater service choice and competition, while public services benefit from reliable, high-speed dark fibre networks to underpin their transport, security and public WiFi services. Thanks to ITS and Boldyn Networks, the long-term potential for innovation, inward investment, and economic uplift is substantial.

In Bromley alone, the projected benefit-to-cost ratio is 20:1 - for every £1 invested, £20 is returned to the local economy. **This shows that the partnership doesn't just provide a connectivity upgrade; it's a catalyst for regeneration.**

A Model for National Scale

This partnership demonstrates how public-private collaboration, infrastructure reuse, and future-focused planning can address immediate digital needs while laying the groundwork for smart cities of the future.



The project itself spans beyond industrialising high-capacity connectivity access, it's about creating digitally inclusive, economically vibrant, and sustainably built communities and it's a model that can scale nationwide.



Meet the stakeholders

Howard Dawber, Deputy Mayor of London for Business and Growth

“Access to reliable high-speed broadband is key to improving public services, boosting local economies, and creating safer, thriving communities across the capital. Backed by funding from the Mayor, this initiative supports our mission to close the digital divide and build a better, fairer London for everyone.”

Paul Osborne, Chief Commercial Officer, UK & Ireland, Boldyn Networks

“This project is a shining example of how public-private partnerships can deliver exceptional results. ITS’ existing London footprint and our advanced infrastructure align perfectly to create a foundation for improved public services, safer communities, and thriving economies.”

Daren Baythorpe, CEO, ITS

“Our work with Boldyn Networks will advance the digital ambitions of these boroughs. The reuse of TfL’s assets under Boldyn’s concession aligns with our ‘dig once’ and sustainability ethos. This project sets the stage to bridge the digital divide and unlock long-term value for local communities.”

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Get in touch...

T: 0333 996 2100

E: info@itstechnologygroup.com

www.itstechnologygroup.com