**NEW DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY WORKING GROUP – members needed!**

**The ADEPT Leadership Team has accepted a recommendation to establish a new working group on digital connectivity.**

Part of the group's remit will be to support the LGA's Digital Connectivity Working Group, which will look at how to improve digital connectivity for people in non-metropolitan areas. Specific issues are likely to include how to ensure that fast and reliable fibre broadband connectivity is provided in all new housing developments, and how to improve the quality of mobile coverage data to councils and consumers to better understand ‘not spots’ and how mobile operators are planning to tackle them. The LGA Working Group sits under its People and Places Board and will be lead by the Board’s Chair, Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Gloucestershire).

There are two distinct issues for ADEPT around SMART places/digital:

* Short to medium term delivery of improved broadband and mobile connectivity at local level
* Longer term planning of full fibre infrastructure to support wider SMART place developments such as autonomous vehicles.

The new ADEPT Digital Connectivity Group is expected to be a 'Task and Finish' group focusing on the first of these. The group will be chaired by Nigel Riglar (Vice President), and will report to the Planning, Housing and Regeneration Board.

If you are interested in participating in this new group, please contact David Dale (Policy Officer): david.dale@gloucestershire.gov.uk, tel. 01452 583561.