

Please complete a Survey re Atlas Tower Group plans to improve Mobile coverage

The St Briavels area has been identified as having poor mobile coverage by a company called Atlas Tower Group. Atlas are a 'neutral host' and provide shareable structures for any of the four mobile network operators (EE, Vodafone, O2, Three) to use to improve mobile coverage.

The firm approached the Principal Digital Infrastructure Team at Gloucestershire County Council whose role is to help communities get the broadband and mobile connection they need. Atlas's plans are completely commercially funded and are not affiliated with Gloucestershire County Council, but the county help facilitate between identified Parish Councils and Atlas to take their plans further.

We are all aware that land lines and analogue signals will be removed in 2027 and we shall have to rely on digital connectivity from then on. Therefore the parish council engaged with Atlas with the aim of getting better connectivity - which would also help the emergency service respond - and to understand what support they would need from the council. Atlas would then investigate and suggest a site or sites for a new mast to help resolve weaker areas of reception.

In September the council were told of Atlas's initial findings re potential mast sites and likely positive effect on mobile phone reception. Atlas wish to pursue the process of getting a mast in the parish that will connect most of the parish population as best as possible and they could do this for free, carrying out surveys and applying for planning permission as necessary. They would also communicate with potential landowners in locations identified to optimise the signal, and a parish council letter will support this. If you receive such a letter, it is legitimate as the council are supportive of this initiative.

One of the key factors for Atlas is community support and they will not progress in an area unless the community are supportive of improved mobile coverage. They have prepared a brief online survey, which the parish council would be grateful if residents could complete: <https://form.jotform.com/252742236215351>

It's possible Atlas will give an in-person presentation to the parish council in 2026, following this survey and having made initial contact with landowners concerning permission to erect masts on their land, if so more details will be available then.

Thank You

St Briavels Parish Council