Staffordshire Chambers' of Commerce – Digital forum

'This forum is here to drive the growing digital sector in Staffordshire, enabling businesses to freely exchange information, share best practice and discuss digital innovation, information communication technology and artificial intelligence (AI).'

Date of meeting	**Thursday 2nd July 2026**
Venue	**Great Grounds, Dilhorne**
Number of attendees	**10**
Agenda topics	**Update on digital infrastructure across Staffordshire by Idris Roberts - Head of Digital Infrastructure at Staffs County Council** – Update on connectivity with application of fixed, mobile, fixed wireless access and satellite. Discussion on the delivery of transformation projects, including examples, Virtual Reality & Digital assistant. Update on what a digitally connected Staffordshire looks like. **Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council** – Update on the programme of fibre optic roll out across the Borough, supporting improved connectivity to business parks. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) "show and tell" event** – Discussions around a dedicated AI event taking place on 15.9.2026. **Digital Divide Working Group (DDWG)** – Update on the work of the DDWG, which has established an IT Asset Disposition (ITAD) to accept donations of unwanted IT equipment (laptops, mobiles, tablets), with the aim of securely wiping the devices, before recycling them and offering them to community groups who will donate to members of the community who are suffering from the effects of digital poverty. **Action:** Appeal for donations of unwanted IT equipment and for more forum members to join DDWG. **Digital Skills Working Group (DSWG**) - DSWG is connecting businesses and training providers to create a local view of a digital skills pathway. This will provide learners (and where appropriate their families), with sign posting to technology specific learning opportunities and how the available courses can support a professional career development within the digital sector (and beyond). **Action**: Appeal for more forum members to join DSWG.

Date of next Digital forum – Thursday 22nd October at 9AM hosted by University of Staffordshire and also on MS Teams)

Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce.

If you have any questions about the Digital forum, please contact:

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