Myths & Legends
CANDID
Issue 1 – April 2021

Ada Hilton Network Policy Consultant Openreach – Chief Engineer



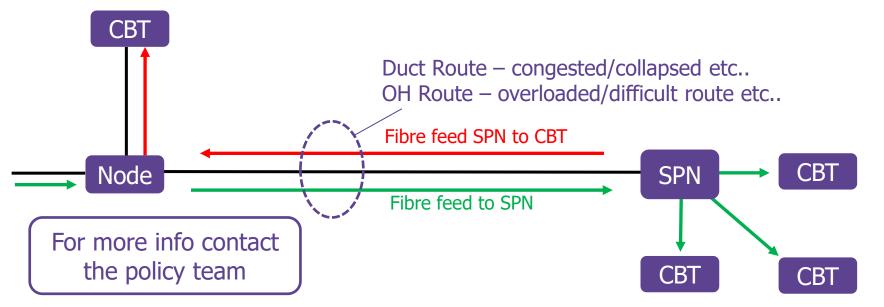
**Myth -** You cannot "Back-Feed" a fibre within the same cable because it will cause interference!

There is no evidence to support this. "Back-Feeding" is possible, however recording/commissioning is complex and manual.

This solution can be used in circumstances when it stops the erection of 2<sup>nd</sup> overhead cable.

This can be used as a civils avoidance technique when a 2<sup>nd</sup> cable is required underground.

A tactical process solution is in development.





**Myth** - Copper & Fibre Dropwires may never cross because.....

It does not follow the copper footprint

Wrong — FTTP is only "expected" to follow the existing copper cable route to the premises. This is not always possible.

#### It causes interference!

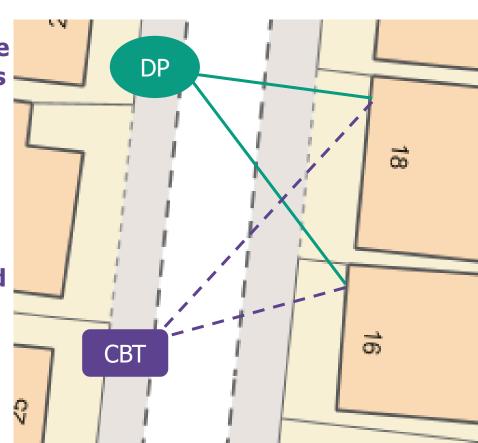
Wrong – Fibre and copper do not have the same radio frequency interactions as adjacent copper cables have.

It is a defect and should be Red Flagged!

No – This should not be Red Flagged.

#### Cosmetically it is a mess!

Once the copper network is recovered there will be no difference and this does tend to be a rare occurrence.

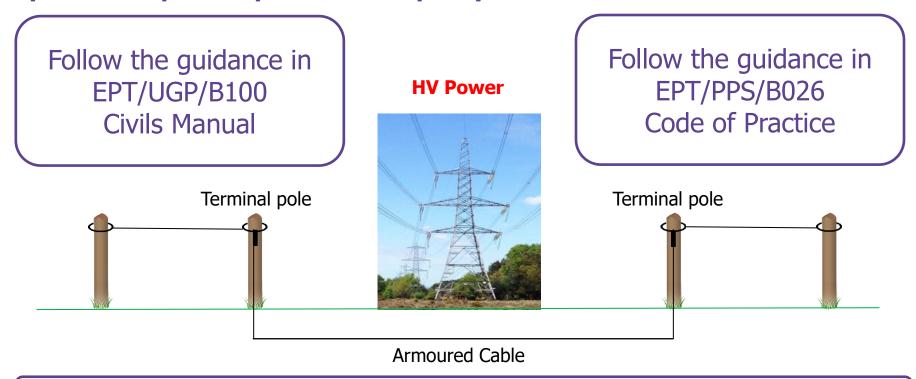




**Myth** - Armoured cable cannot be used to go under a HV power crossing because it will try to earth through it and is dangerous

There is no evidence of this, its is possibly an historical myth dating back to the days of lead sheathed cables.

Follow the guidance in the policies, this includes burying the cable at specified depths as per our civils policy.



Armoured cable is acceptable at the correct depth

#### **Myth** – You cannot provide fibre cable through trees without tree cutting

**The Truth:** Tree Cutting is **not** always required and should not be the first option

Dropwires and Aerial Cables are actually designed to withstand light contact with smaller branches (twigs) and foliage.

Wires / Cables which are likely to be in contact with more substantial tree branches can be protected using a strong protective wrap called Protector Cable Abrasion (AKA Tree Guard).





Please consult
AEI/AEC/B283
Dealing with Trees when running Dropwires and Cables



# **Myth** – You cannot provide a duct tee in the carriageway!

**The Truth:** Duct tees **can be deployed** in the carriageway in order to provide a civils solution.

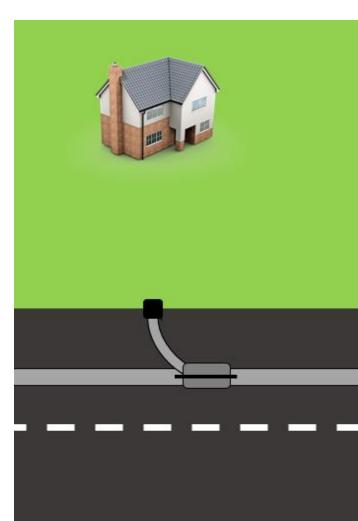
Planners must consider the following points before deploying:

- Stable residential areas only
- In driveways and minor roads (type 4) only
- Ensure forecast cable capacity is planned in the network beyond the tee
- Duct must be rodded and roped after duct tee / cable provision

A maximum of 4 duct tees on any single section of duct

Please consult

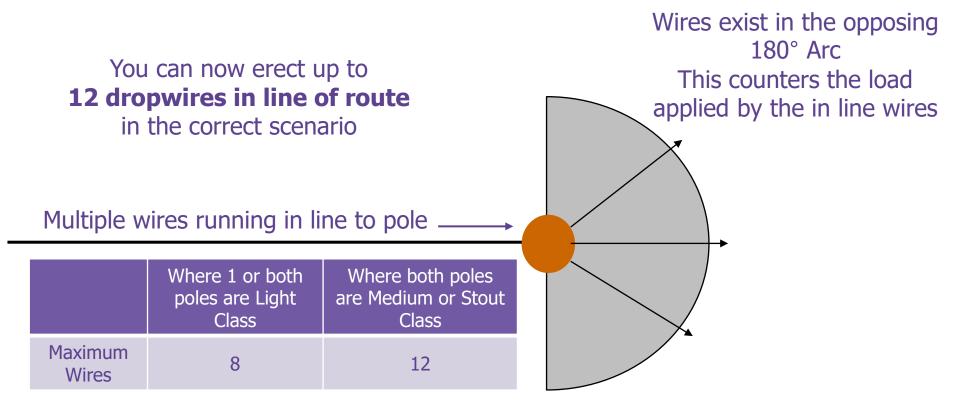
NWK/LNK/C323 - Civils - Duct - Policy





**Myth** – You can only run 3 or 4 dropwires in line of route (DILOR)

The Truth: Where there are wires on the pole which provide a countering effect to the DILOR load, more wires in line of route are now permitted.



Please consult

Dropwires In Line Of Route (DILOR)

AEI/AEC/B335



**Myth** – You always need to replace a drawrope (back-rope) if you utilise an existing one.

#### This is not true

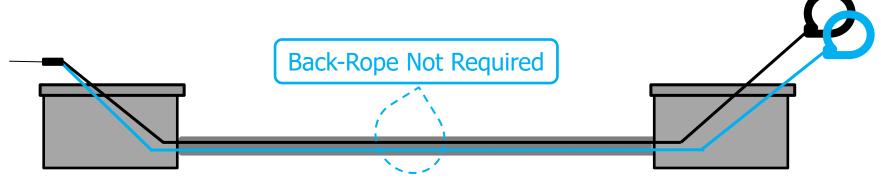
You can use existing rope to provide your cable without providing a new one for future use.

However;

If a drawrope has been provided by an **alternative network provider** (via PIA) and **labelled** you can either.

1. use it to provide your cable but you must provide a replacement





Guidance covering the use of existing ropes can be found in: EPT/UGP/E044 - Cabling in Duct Manual



For further information on any of the content in this document please contact

Ada Hilton Network Policy Consultant Ada.hilton@openreach.co.uk

# openreach