Population 10502	**Child Poverty** 659	**Unemployed** 4.2%	**Older People in Poverty** 30.2%	**Older People Living Alone** 38.3%	**Can not Speak English** 0.2%	**IMD Ward Rank (/25)** 4	**IMD Score** 40.40

Income Deprivation 26.3%	**Ave. Download Speed** 137.81	**% of prem unable to receive 30Mbit/s** 0.8%

Digital Inclusion Scoreboard | Sandhill

Existing Digital Provision

A Community Digital Health Hub has been developed at Grindon Church Community Project which has improved connectivity, provided access to digital devices and Tech Mate volunteers to support people Go Online for the first time, and provide valuable one to one support.

Hastings Hill Primary are members of the NCCE.

Bethel Church, Grindon's Youth Peoples Project, Playdays 4 Kidz CIC, Community Opportunities offers Wi-Fi access, along with access to digital devices. Residents can access 1-2-1 support, timetabled sessions or drop in sessions.

St Mary's and St Peter's is being set up as a mini hub, working with Hope 4 All. Funded by Area Committee with Media Savvy.

Working with Schools on digital careers, work placements and T-qualifications.

Currently building links with VCS organisations, including schools to provide further support.

Encouraging organisations to share activities to a centralised hub to support social prescribing to raise awareness of support available.

Challenges to Address

Local insights suggests that low personal data allowances; access to digital devices and lack of digital skills and money are common barriers to digital inclusion.

People more at risk of digital exclusion are children and young people; people without a job; single parents, people on low wages. Further consideration for Veterans, and people with disabilities.

Highest levels of unemployment, older people living in poverty and income deprivation in the West Area.

Sandhill has higher levels of older people living alone, which may contribute to loneliness.

Potential Opportunities for Members

Spaces for access face to face digital support i.e. Grindon Young Peoples Centre and Thorney Close Family Hub.

Raise awareness and encourage sign up to the NCCE at Sandhill View and Grindon Infants.

Deliver marketing campaigns to tackle digital exclusion e.g. low cost broadband, being safe online, etc.

Set up a Tech Mates / Buddies Volunteering Scheme.

Encourage sign up to the Digital Inclusion Network and operate data banks (like a food bank but instead provides free SIM cards).

Explore funding opportunities to introduce free friendly Wi-Fi into publicly accessible buildings, open spaces and parks.

Set up a Digital Device Loan Scheme or Lending Libraries. Enhance existing spaces to access face to face digital support.

Set up IT donation points and encourage people to gift their old devices which can be upcycled and reused.

Co-design and deliver a project tailored to an 'at risk' group of people or within a physical location.