

Fears PM will shirk fast broadband pledge

TELEGRAPH CAMPAIGN

Better broadband



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CONSUMERS will not get a legal right to faster broadband despite the Conservatives pledging a new law in their

manifesto, MPs fear. During the election the Prime Minister committed to a “universal service obligation” that would give every household the right to request minimum broadband speeds, including 1.4 million homes in rural areas.

However, BT is resisting the plans and is understood to be pushing for a “voluntary” deal with the Government which it says will deliver the same benefits without the need for legislation.

More than 30 Tories today join a cross-party group of MPs in warning Mrs May that BT must be forced to “up its game” through the imposition of new legislation enshrining people’s right to fast broadband. They say that anything less will be unacceptable to the public.

They are also calling for broadband providers to be forced to provide automatic compensation to households with lower broadband speeds than the legal minimum.