All IP Update

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Openreach

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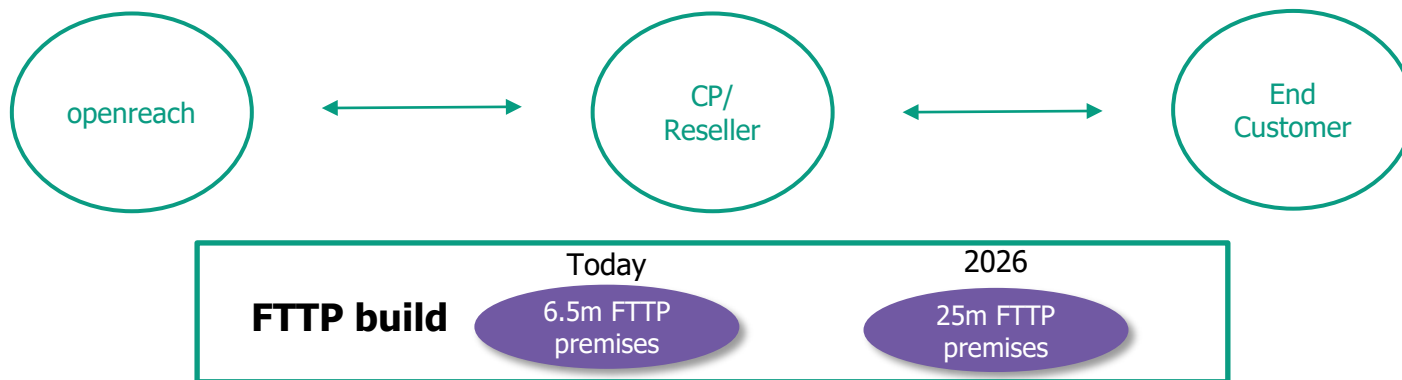Connecting you to your network

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Who are we?

Openreach looks after the fibres, wires and cables that connect the country. So whether you're making calls, video conferencing with clients, sharing files, downloading music, streaming movies, or indulging in a bit of online retail therapy – it's most likely on our network.

We don't sell phone, broadband or TV services to end customers. Instead, we work on behalf of over 650 Communications Providers (CPs) (such as Sky, TalkTalk, Gamma, BT and Daisy) to maintain the local access network that's available to 31.8 million customers, supporting 300 million telephone calls and 350 million internet connections every day.

We are:
- Investing £3 billion to upgrade our network and £14 billion over the past 10 years
- Making sure that over 28.5 million homes and businesses already have access to superfast fibre broadband of over 30Mbps
- Adding over 42,000 Fibre lines every week.
- Helping Industry prepare for the change

openreach ←→ CP/ Reseller ←→ End Customer

FTTP build

Today
6.5m FTTP premises

2026
25m FTTP premises

What is the ALL IP Programme?
There are Three parts to the programme: 1. The withdrawal of the WLR portfolio 2. CP Migration 3. Roll-Out of FTTP

WLR Withdrawal

- The UK WLR PSTN network is reaching end of life, and will be shut down at the end of 2025

- The WLR product family is made up of WLR analogue, ISDN 2, ISDN 30 and broadband that runs over analogue lines

- All end customers must move from the withdrawn products before the end of December 2025.

CP Migration

- All CPs must migrate their customers who use WLR services to either SoGEA or FTTP. Openreach will support CPs with this

- All CPs will work to their own timescales and plans

- Openreach are working collaboratively with CPs to find innovative solutions for CNI related issues.

Fibre First and Stop Sell

- Currently there are around 13M lines and channels to minimise the scale of migration, a National WLR "Stop Sell" will be implemented in September 2023

- FTTP is now being rolled out across whole exchange areas on a quarterly notification cycle.

- When FTTP coverage reached 75% of all premises in an exchange area, a "Stop Sell" will come into effect for all copper based services where the premises is enabled for FTTP. 551 Have already been identified and communicated to CPs and of these **181** are now active.

- "Stop Sell" means that there will be limitations for new supply and what can be done with existing lines.

What are the key messages?

- On Dec 31 2025 all lines that rely on copper from the exchange to the cabinet will be disconnected from the exchange equipment

- This will remove power from the line and the ability to make voice calls

- The replacement is either part fibre or full fibre lines

- Migration to All IP (Digital) is done by the Communications Provider according to their own time scales

- Voice calls will take place over VoIP through the router

- Any Special Services (telecare, alarms, lift alarms, telemetry, fax etc) will need to connect to the router

- In the event of a power outage, the line will rely on the router being powered and so local power will need to be provided by the customer

- If you are moved to FTTP (Full Fibre) you will have an ONT fitted to replace your master socket. This will also need power and battery back up

- From September 2023 a national stop sell will go into force and all new connections must be on Full or part fibre lines

- Even now some exchanges are moving to an earlier stop sell date because they have a high availability of FTTP

- If you are in a stop sell exchange area, you can carry on using your analogue services until your Communications Provider migrates you, however you will be restricted on how you can make changes such as home moves and change of supplier. These will need to migrate to FTTP if available at that premises
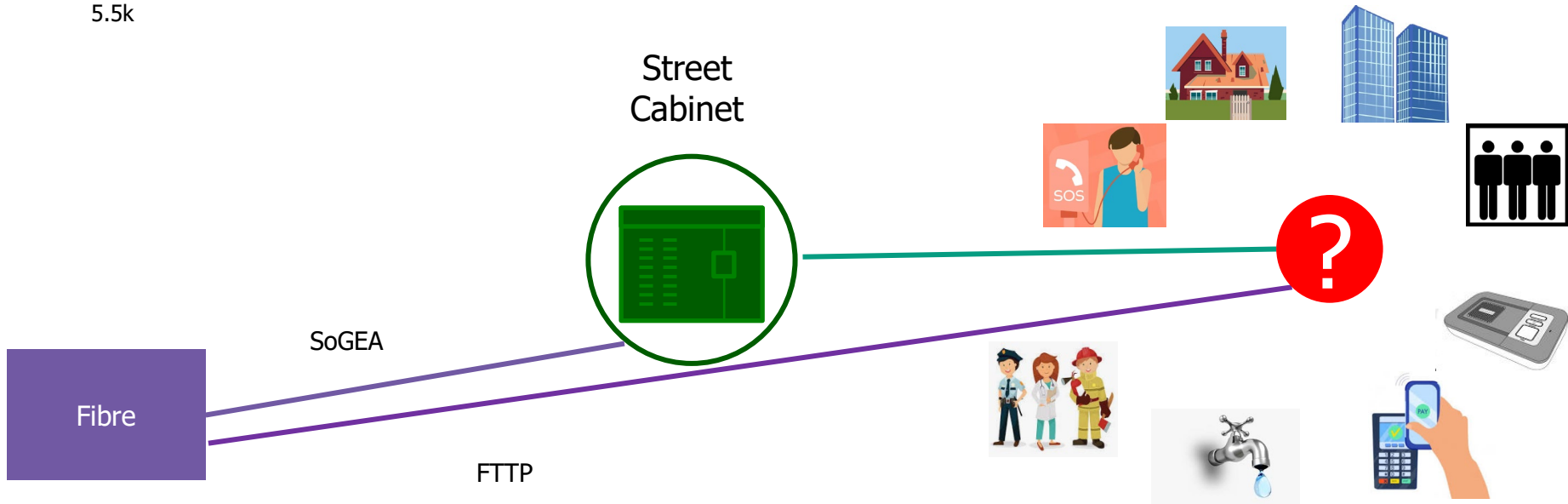
What's changing?

The Network Today

Telephone
Exchanges
5.5k

WLR
Voice
From openreach

Street
Cabinet

FTTC

Fibre

FTTP
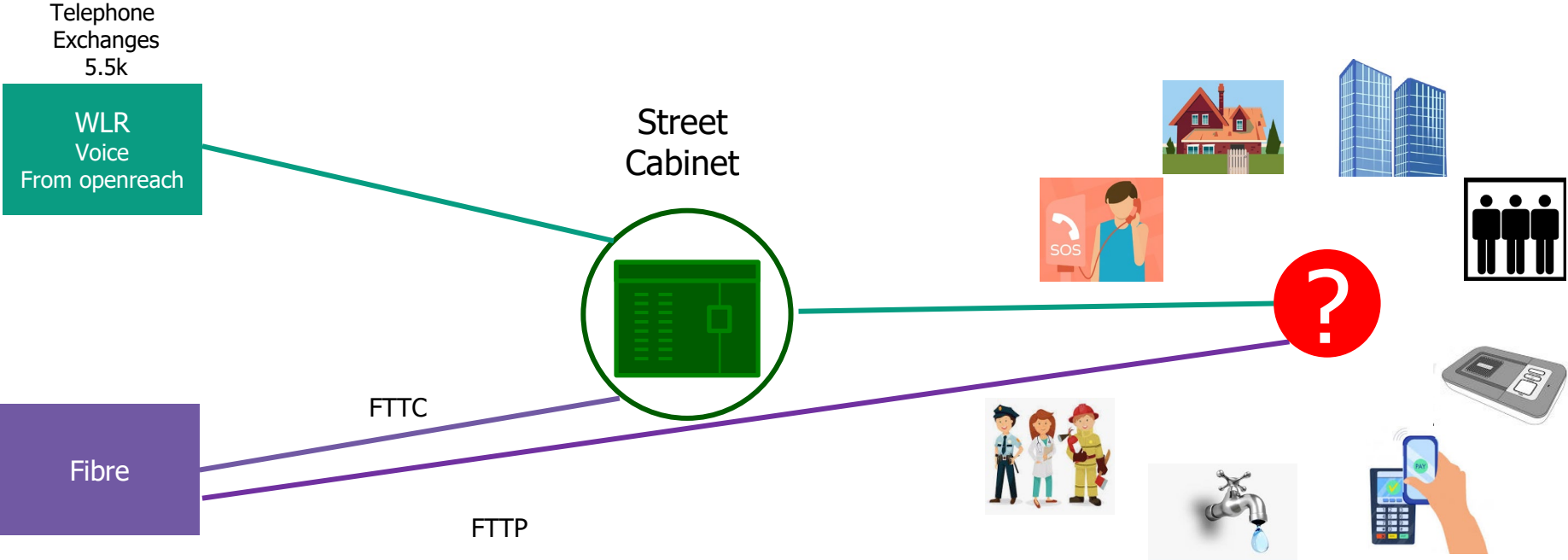
What's changing?

The Future Network

Telephone
Exchanges
5.5k

Street
Cabinet

SoGEA

Fibre

FTTP

?

SoGEA = Single Order Generic Ethernet Access

The impacts of Stop Sell

- Stop Sell restricts the usage of certain products where there is a strategic aim to withdraw the product at a later date.

- Where the strategic product is available at the premises, order restrictions will be applied, prioritising use of the strategic product(s). Exceptions can apply.

- Where the premises has not been enabled for the new technology legacy products will still be available.

The following order scenarios will not be possible for products restricted by the Stop Sell:

New Supply

Working Line Takeovers

Start of Stopped Lines

Addition of lines and channels to existing installations
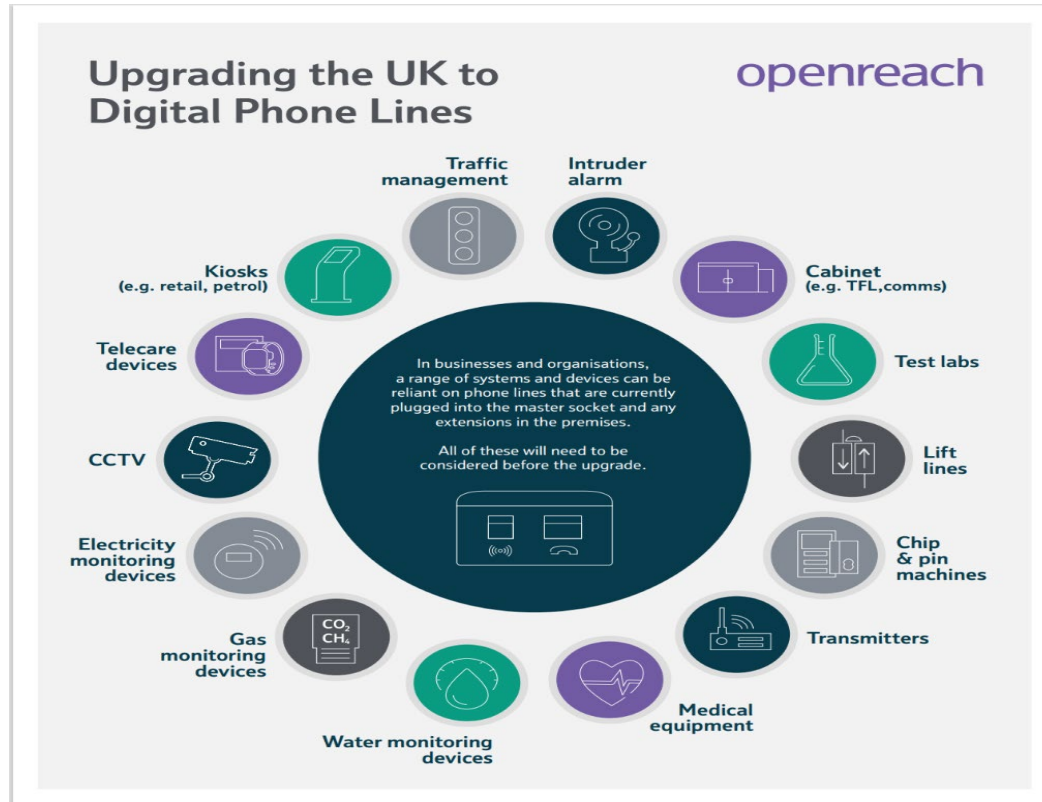
Migrations

CP Transfers

Bandwidth Modify

Addition of Broadband to Copper Voice Lines
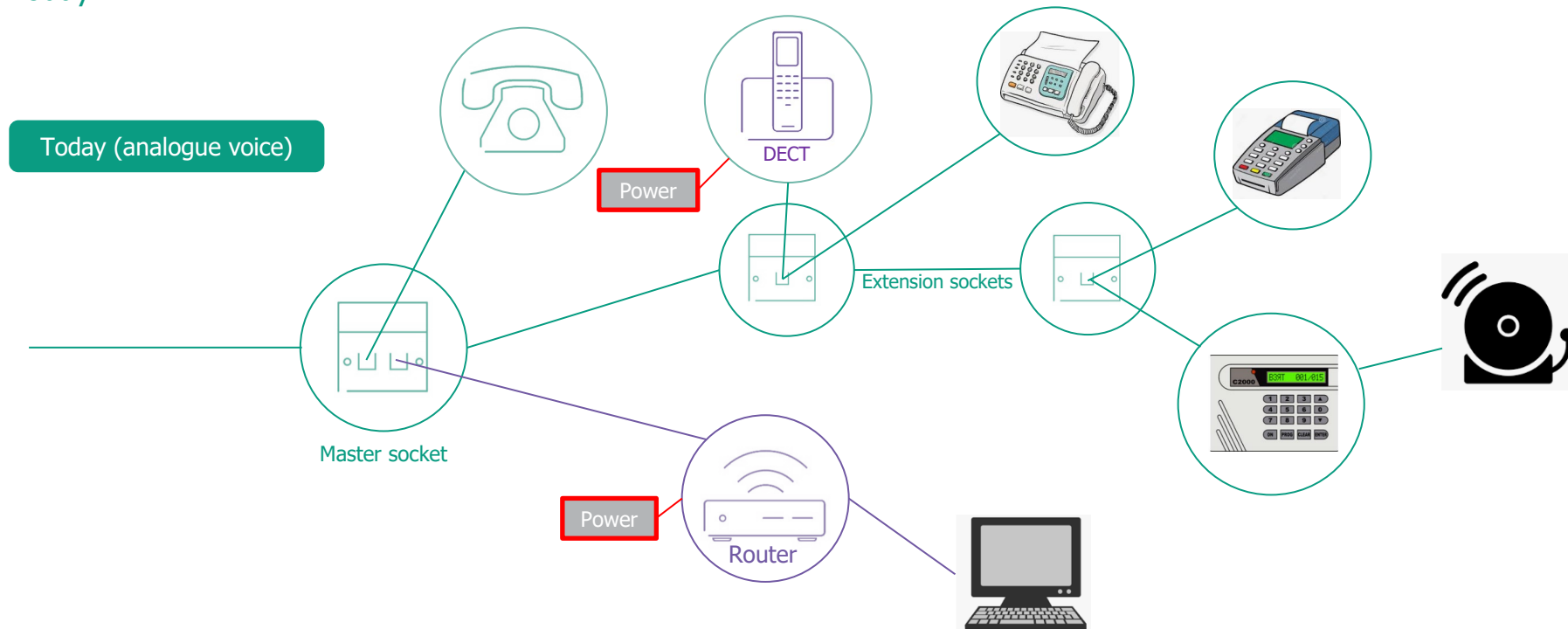
What products might not work?

You know your business better than anyone. Take the lead in protecting your business and your customers
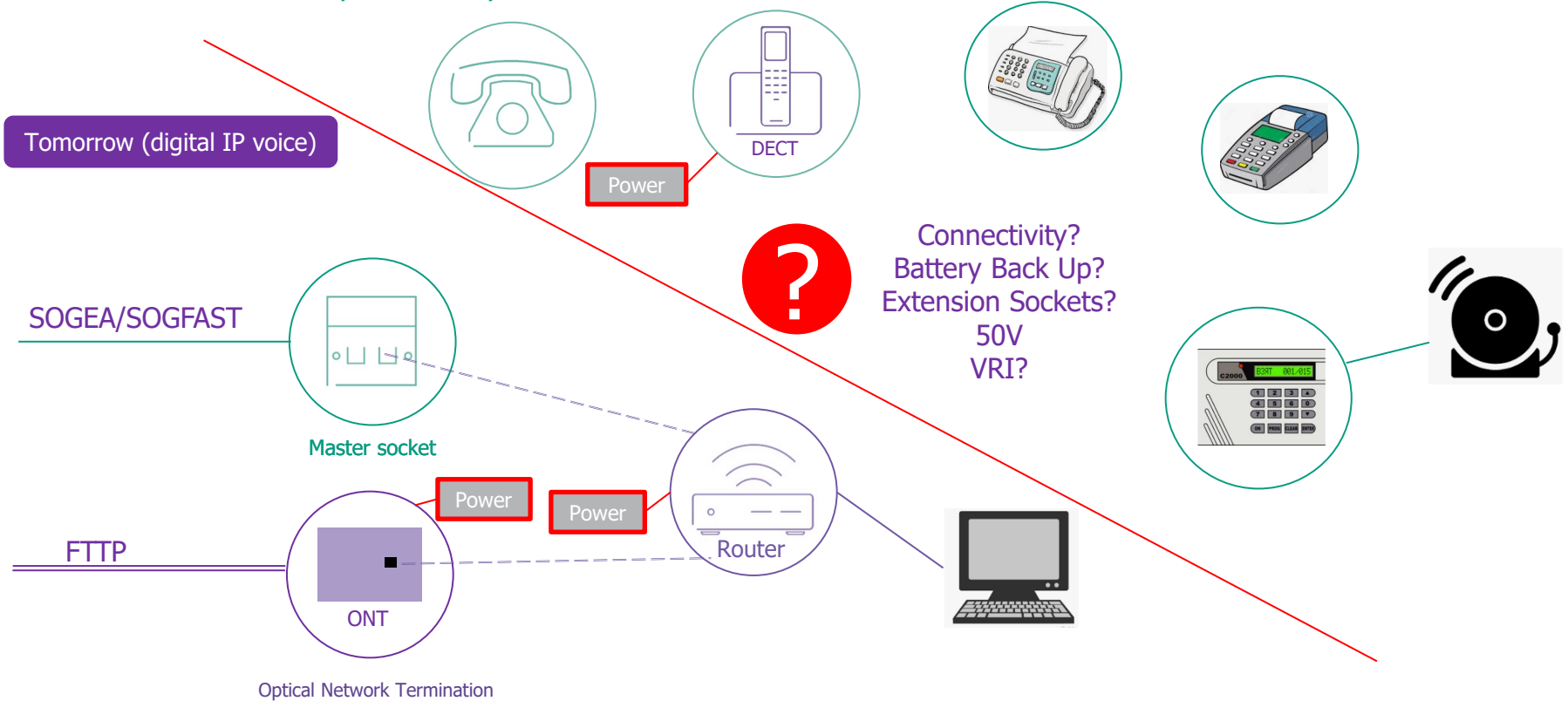
So what's changing inside the premises ?

Today

Today (analogue voice)

Power

DECT

Extension sockets

Master socket

Power

Router

So what's changing in the premises ?

The Future-Services are provided by the Router **not** the wall socket

Tomorrow (digital IP voice)

DECT

Power

Connectivity?
Battery Back Up?
Extension Sockets?
50V
VRI?

SOGEA/SOGFAST

Master socket

Router

Power

Power

FTTP

ONT

Optical Network Termination

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Connecting you to your network

The future is All IP - Are your devices IP Ready?
Considerations

- Do you have IP Ready devices?

- What devices do you currently use and will they transfer seamlessly to the router?

- Will your CP provide you with an ATA (analogue port) on the back of the router?

- Who will move analogue products you want to continue to use from the wall sockets to the router?

- Will you need to buy separate ATA hardware independently of your CP?

- You will no longer get power provided down the telephone line (50v). Do you devices rely on that today?

- What will you do in a power outage locally? UPS? Battery Back-up?

- Think of your procurement policy and beware of scams

So, what should I do now ?

- Think about the services provided over your customer's lines and your own.

- Will they work on an All IP network ?

- What about local powering and battery back-up ?

- What will you say to your customers and when ?

- How will your and your end customer migrations be performed ?

- Plan – there seems to be plenty of time to complete the change, but there is so much to do

- Talk to Hardware and Communication Providers

- https://www.openreach.com/upgrading-the-UK-to-digital-phone-lines

- https://www.openreach.com/upgrading-the-UK-to-digital-phone-lines/industry

- Test at the Openreach Digital Services Test Lab in London

- https://www.openreach.com/upgrading-the-UK-to-digital-phone-lines/industry/digital-services-test-lab

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