A commitment to listening and responding to what communities themselves tell us about impact.
We believe our work makes a difference, we wouldn’t do it we didn’t, but who’s to say? Is it us, a third party, a designated expert?

Well yes, of course those opinions matter, but none of these more so than that of the communities we work with.

Just as our approach to building hubs is rooted in community autonomy, so to is how we think about impact.

We seek to continually listen to what the communities whom we are fortunate enough to work with say matters to them and why. And based on this information we work to iteratively improve the quality of technology we offer.
What are our Impact ambitions?

We designed our Hubs on the principle that through internet connectivity, they could bring the world’s body of knowledge to even the most remote and excluded parts of the globe.

We believed that by doing so a part of our lives we take for granted, instant, easy answers for any question we might imagine, could be available to anyone.

We understood that such access, would bring new opportunities for learning, education and skill accumulation to the communities who built, maintained and used their hubs.
A right-sized approach to Impact?

We’re also realistic about data, and don’t like over-hyped claims of impact.

For instance we know that measuring precise educational and learning improvements is not easy. All the more so as an early stage not-for-profit, with a cutting-edge innovation, implemented in some pretty remote places.

We’d love to implement an all-singing, all-dancing, multi-year, controlled experiment to see how hubs help improve education. But for the time being this is beyond us. Instead we’re focussed on building a right-sized impact approach which grows and improves as we do. As part of that we’re committed to finding great partners - such as SOLE Central at Newcastle University and the team at Lean DataSM - with the necessary research skills to help us take our understanding of impact still further.
Our journey to understand impact begins with an ongoing assessment of usage at Hubs based on analysis of internet searches and wider hub activity, including our inbuilt educational software.

This tells us what is happening, but not necessarily why, or how impactful the internet activity may be. To learn more we combine this data with regular qualitative and quantitative survey data from Hub users to better understand who has access to the Hubs, and to understand in the users own words the value of using the Hubs.

And we’re committed to sharing the good, bad and ugly about what we learn. You’ll see reports on our website, and we’re always keen to discuss data.