

Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme Guide to Government Funding for Ultrafast Internet



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



**The Scottish
Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

 Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

**GIGABIT BROADBAND
VOUCHER SCHEME**

Updated September 2020

Introduction

Government at the UK, national and regional level is working with Internet Service Providers to co-fund the roll-out of high-speed Internet infrastructure.

This guide summarises the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme and various local schemes across the UK that you may be eligible for to contribute to funding of your Cerberus Ultrafast Internet connection.

The Voucher Process

Cerberus provides step-by-step assistance with application for DCMS Rural Gigabit Vouchers. We will assist and advise at every step of the way, so you can be assured that you can claim the funding you are eligible for without any unnecessary fuss or hassle.

The following sets out how applying for, being issued with and claiming a voucher fits into the overall order and delivery process for FTTP on Demand.



Step by Step

Cerberus provides step-by-step assistance with the application for DCMS Rural Gigabit Vouchers. The following table sets out how applying for, being issued with and then claiming a voucher fits into the order and delivery process for FTTP on Demand.

1	Receive Quotation or Estimate for Installation
2	Prequalify all clients
3	Place order for Field Survey specifying that order is a part of Linked Order Project
4	Once first order is placed all other clients place their orders
5	Field Survey carried out and Confirmed Build Charge determined for all premises
6	Clients submit application for Vouchers
7	Clients issued with Vouchers
8	Cerberus invoice balance of installation charges and collects payment
9	Cerberus delivers services to clients
10	Cerberus notifies DCMS that services are delivered
11	DCMS contacts clients to confirm that service is working
12	DCMS releases payment to Cerberus for balance of Confirmed Build Charge

Available Schemes

From September 2020, the following schemes are now available for Fibre on Demand (FoD) services.

Scheme	Max Resident	Max SME	Current Speed
GBVS (RGC) Rural UK	£1,500	£3,500	100 Mbps
Scotland	£6,500	£8,500	30 Mbps
Wales	£3,000	£7,000	

English Counties			
Buckinghamshire	£3,500	£7,000	100 Mbps
Derbyshire	£3,000	£7,000	
Dorset	£2,500	£6,000	
East Sussex	£2,500	£4,500	
Hampshire	£3,000	£3,500	
Nottinghamshire	£3,000	£7,000	
Oxfordshire	£7,000	£7,000	
Shropshire	£4,000	£7,000	
Warwickshire	£4,000	£4,000	
West Sussex	£4,000	£4,000	
Worcestershire	£3,000	£7,000	

Scheme	Max Resident	Max SME	Current Speed
Borderlands	£3,000	£7,000	30 Mbps
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough	£3,000	£5,000	
County Durham	£3,000	£7,000	
East Riding of Yorkshire	£3,000	£7,000	
Kent*	£7,000	£7,000	
Staffordshire	£3,500	£5,500	

*In Kent new housing, less than 3 years old, is not eligible for increased funding.

In some areas the increased funding is only available where broadband speeds of less than 30 Mbps are available: Borderlands, Cambridge & Peterborough, County Durham, East Riding of Yorkshire, Kent, and Staffordshire.

In other areas, broadband speeds of less than 100Mbps available, applies as set out in the terms and conditions. These areas are: Buckinghamshire, Derbyshire, Dorset, East Sussex, Hampshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, West Sussex, and Worcestershire.

Please note, the sums listed as available at regional or county level include national DCMS funding.

Eligibility

FTTP on Demand (FTTPoD), also known as Fibre on Demand was designed to allow customers to work together to share the installation costs of a custom network build. The scheme is open to both Business (SME) and Residential customers.

The following requirements apply:

Gigabit-capable

The new service must use a technology that is "Gigabit-capable" such as FTTP on Demand or an Ethernet Leased Line and must offer a "step change" (typically double current speed, at least 30Mbps).

No Superfast broadband availability

The customer must not have a service already installed that qualifies for funding.

Rural Location

Rural is defined by the Rural Gigabit Connectivity programme using agreed standard measures in the relevant part of the UK. For the gigabit voucher premises in the following areas are defined as rural.

England & Wales	DeFRA definitions D1 – F2
Northern Ireland	NISRA definitions E – H
Scotland	NRS definitions 3 – 6

If you are unsure, please ask us for assistance on determining your eligibility.

SME Definition

Customers applying for a Business (SME) voucher must meet the European Commission definition of an SME. Details are at:

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/smedefinition_en

These can be summarised as follows:

- (a) up to 249 employees (in total in the organisation) and turnover no greater than €50m per annum; and/or
- (b) balance sheet of no more than €43,000,000.

Programme Summary

For all areas the following basic principles apply:

Criteria	Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme
Current speed criteria	Either <30Mbps or <100Mbps depending on scheme. Not Gigabit-capable
Minimum new speed	"Step change" (double current speed, at least 30Mbps)
SME Eligible	✓ (vouchers cannot be used to fund VAT)
Residents Eligible	✓ (vouchers are inclusive of any VAT)
Single orders	✗
Group Scheme	✓

To discuss the funding available in your area and to confirm eligibility criteria for both SME and residential customers, please call 0345 257 1333 or email sales@cerberusnetworks.co.uk.