

**Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme
Supplier Bulletin #48
12th March 2021**

Unvalidated Claimed Connections

In bulletin 42 we reminded suppliers that connections must be validated within 60 days. We have commenced a review of the unvalidated vouchers and will be cancelling those vouchers that were placed at risk and remain unvalidated.

Unvalidated vouchers will now be reviewed on a monthly basis. Impacted suppliers will be notified of vouchers that have been placed at risk. Where no action is taken, unvalidated vouchers will be cancelled.

Full and final closure of LFFN funded vouchers

For any LFFN funded voucher issued after 31st August 2019, the last date at which that voucher can be claimed is 12 months from the date of issue or 30/06/21 whichever is the latter. This is the last point at which funding can be claimed from the LFFN programme as our budget will be ceased and therefore this date cannot be extended.

Covid Amendments

In Bulletins 29 & 30 we advised that until further notice, we would not cancel vouchers that were not claimed within 12 months of the date of voucher issue and that clause 10.2 of part B of the Scheme terms and conditions was temporarily suspended.

Reinstatement of automated voucher cancellation

With effect from Tuesday 30th March 2021, we will be reinstating our automated voucher cancellation process which will be applied to any voucher which has not been claimed within 18 months of the date of issue. Therefore, from the 30th March 2021, unclaimed vouchers will be cancelled 18 months after they were issued. 17 months after a voucher has been issued, a notification will be sent to the supplier advising that the voucher will be cancelled 4 weeks later, unless it is claimed within that 4-week period.

This amendment is a temporary and not a permanent change to the Scheme Terms and Conditions. Suppliers are reminded that vouchers are valid for 12 months from date of issue.

For clarity:

The 18 months referenced above applied only to vouchers issued between 1st April 2019 and 31st December 2019.

Any vouchers issued between 1st January 2020 and 30th June 2020 and not claimed, will be cancelled on 30th June 2021.

Anything issued from 1st July 2020 will be cancelled after 12 months of issue.

You can see the date on which a voucher was issued by using the “Download My Vouchers” function when signed in on the website. This date is contained in column AB of the downloaded file.

Reinstatement of second validation time frame

With effect from Monday 29th March 2021, we will be reinstating our second validation of 28 days as per Section B, Part 9 ‘Voucher requests and payment claims’ of our Terms & Conditions.

For a broader overview of BDUK's work, please also see this webpage:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-digital-uk>

The Digital Connectivity Portal here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/digital-connectivity-portal>

Other useful information and updates can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/resources-for-communications-network-providers>

If you have any questions about the Scheme please contact us using the Support function when signed into the website.