



**Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme
Supplier Bulletin #72
14th February 2022**

Voucher Priority Areas

Vouchers become available within Regional Supplier (Type B) procurement areas once the procurement starts for premises identified within voucher priority areas (VPAs).

We can now confirm the VPAs for the three Type B procurements for Phase 1A and the full list of UPRNs is available on the vouchers portal:

- Cumbria Lot 28
- Cambridgeshire Lot 5
- Durham and Northumberland Lot 34

<https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/voucher-priority-areas-in-regional-supplier-contracts/>

The VPAs will be confirmed for the Regional Supplier 1B Procurements in due course.

For future procurements where BDUK identifies a voucher priority area(s) for a regional supplier contract this will be included in the information that is provided to suppliers interested in bidding for the contract at the Pre-Procurement Market Engagement (PPME) stage and will be confirmed when the procurement is launched.

Please note that In Bulletin 61 we provided information on the requirements for areas to be identified as a candidate for Voucher Priority Areas alongside Project Gigabit Procurements. You can access this bulletin through the supplier portal.

Voucher Pauses

In the upcoming weeks, we will also be re-confirming the Voucher pause dates for the next phases of Project Gigabit.

Addresses not showing in the eligibility checker

The Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme uses data from a range of sources to verify premises eligibility for the scheme. This includes data from local bodies, the Office of National Statistics (England and Wales), NISRA (Northern Ireland) and NRS (Scotland) which provides information about rurality, current available speeds, and whether or not the premise is part of another subsidy project to deliver broadband.



The eligibility checker is updated every six weeks with data provided by local bodies, Office of National Statistics (England and Wales), NISRA (Northern Ireland) NRS (Scotland), and Ofcom.

In some instances a small number of premises may not show up on the UPRN eligibility checker. This is normally because they are categorised as Demolished, Planning permission granted, Under construction, Unoccupied / Vacant / Derelict, Not classified as eligible under 3rd party premises data.

These 'exceptions' should be resolved following updates to the data however it is the responsibility of the supplier to contact the Local Planning Authority to inform them of any incorrectly categorised premises to get their source data updated if the incorrect categorisation continues.

Project Gigabit Quarterly Announcement

The Project Gigabit Delivery Plan winter update was published on 08 February. This includes an update on the details of the Project Gigabit contract bidding process for broadband companies to connect over 126,000 premises across North East England, Cambridgeshire, Dorset, North Northumberland and Teesdale.

It also includes a report on the ongoing commercial investment in full fibre networks fuelling announcements of build plans in more and more towns across the UK; and plans to establish BDUK as an Executive Agency of the DCMS

You can view the announcement in full on the GOV.UK website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/project-gigabit-delivery-plan-winter-update>

Open Market Reviews and Public Reviews

The latest Project Gigabit requests for information in Phase 2 were published on 4 February 2022. This gives suppliers the opportunity to provide data, and supporting evidence, about existing and planned gigabit infrastructure builds over the next 3 years.

The third release of phase 2 [Open Market Reviews](#) launched to identify potential areas for government intervention to support the rollout of gigabit capable broadband. The geographical areas covered are:

- West Yorkshire and parts of North Yorkshire (Lot 8)
- Nottinghamshire and West of Lincolnshire (Lot 10)
- Leicestershire and Warwickshire (Lot 11)
- South Yorkshire (Lot 20)



Public Reviews for the first release of phase 2 areas (plus Worcestershire) launched on the same day in the following areas:

- [Oxfordshire and West Berkshire](#)
- [Kent](#)
- [Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and East of Berkshire](#)
- [Staffordshire](#)
- [West Sussex](#)
- [Worcestershire](#)

This means that all Phase 1 and Phase 2 areas are now underway.

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.