



**Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme
Supplier Bulletin #78
29th April 2022**

Vouchers and Procurements

We have taken your feedback on board around the disruption caused by extended pause periods and the uncertainty caused by procurements in an area. We will now be aligning the final dates for project submissions and voucher requests in a Lot boundary to the close of the Public Review (PR) consultation for each area and removing the pause for any active projects to allow them to continue to deliver.

This new approach to vouchers and procurements will apply to all areas effective immediately. This means that we will be able to communicate with you and unpause all active projects within 2A areas by Friday 13th May. Lots in Phase 2B and Wales will follow the new approach but the submission deadline will remain as the 15th July 2022 in order to give you sufficient notice. We will also unpause any 'active 1B projects in early May. They are following the old process which is why they will take a little longer.

An active project is one where:

- The project is published
- Vouchers have been requested or issued in the last 12 months
- Vouchers have been claimed in the last 6 months

Reminder of Phase 2A Lots

Lots in Phase 2A - Pause started on 8th April 2022

- Worcestershire (Lot 24)
- Oxfordshire and West Berkshire (Lot 13)
- Kent (Lot 29)
- Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and East of Berkshire (Lot 26)
- Staffordshire (Lot 19)
- West Sussex (Lot 1)

Revised Future Deadlines:

The new project submission and BAU voucher request deadlines (which for 2C and 3A are the same as the Public Review closure dates) are as follows:

Lots in Phase 2B & Wales - Friday 15th July 2022

- Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes (Lot 12)
- Derbyshire (Lot 3)



- Wiltshire, South Gloucestershire and Swindon (Lot 30)
- Lancashire (Lot 9)
- Surrey (Lot 22)
- East Sussex (Lot 16)

- Wales (Lot 42, 43, 44, 45)

Lots in Phase 2C - Monday 18 July 2022

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

Lots in Phase 3A - Friday 26 August

- Herefordshire (Lot 15)
- Lincolnshire (including NE Lincolnshire and N Lincolnshire) and East Riding (Lot 23)
- Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (PR only) (Lot 32)
- Cheshire (Lot 17)
- Gloucestershire (Lot 18)

Project and voucher summary approach

1. Until the end of the Public Review

Projects: New projects can be submitted as normal but suppliers should allow plenty of time for review ahead of the PR closure.

Vouchers: Vouchers can be requested for eligible premises as normal. Issued vouchers can be claimed as normal.

2. After Public Review closure

Projects:

- 'Active' projects will be identified and the premises within them marked as Voucher Priority Areas (VPAs).
- Projects at an advanced stage of development but 'not active' at the end of Public Review will be assessed as part of the intervention area (IA) design process to determine if vouchers or procurements provide the best solution for gigabit coverage in an area, at BDUK's discretion. New projects will need to satisfy strict criteria and prove a clear case that the voucher project could deliver gigabit coverage quicker than the procurement. The IA design process typically takes 3 months to complete.
- No new voucher projects can be submitted within the Lot boundary.

Vouchers: Vouchers can continue to be requested for premises within VPAs only. Issued vouchers can be claimed as normal.

3. During intervention area (IA) design

Projects: Any non-active projects already submitted by the end of PR which we are satisfied will offer better pace and value than procurement will be added to the VPA list. No new voucher projects can be submitted in the Lot boundary while the IA is designed.



Vouchers: Vouchers can be requested for premises within the updated VPA list. Issued vouchers can be claimed as normal.

4. During procurement

Projects: The final VPA list will be published alongside the final IA (procurement boundary) after we have completed pre-procurement market engagement. No new voucher projects can be submitted within the IA.

Vouchers: Vouchers can be requested for premises within the VPA list. Issued vouchers can be claimed as normal.

5. At contract award and during delivery

Projects: New voucher projects can be submitted for areas which are not part of the contract and which meet the rest of the GBVS eligibility criteria.

Vouchers: Vouchers can be requested for eligible premises.

If you have any questions about the procurement process or the interaction between vouchers and procurements, please contact BDUKSuppliers@dcms.gov.uk.

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.