



**Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme
Supplier Bulletin #79
25th May 2022**

New Top-Up

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Cumbria top-up.

From the date of this Bulletin, Cumbria is able to offer increased maximum voucher values, meaning eligible residents and businesses can access up to double the amount of funding to help them access a gigabit-capable connection. The maximum value of vouchers for rural residential beneficiaries increases by £1,500 to £3,000 and for SMEs from £3,500 to £7,000.

These increased values are available in qualifying rural locations where the currently available broadband speed is less than 30 Mbps.

The Connecting Cumbria team will be available to support project development in their respective areas with wayleaves, highways and other barrier busting issues. Suppliers who wish to contact the team should email: connecting.cumbria@cumbria.gov.uk

You will be aware that the procurement for Cumbria is ongoing and subsequently voucher eligibility is paused while this process is taking place, apart from areas identified as voucher priority areas (VPAs). Any areas that are currently paused for vouchers which meet the voucher eligibility criteria after the procurement is complete and a contract is awarded, will become eligible for vouchers, including the Cumbria top-up, again.

Priority Voucher Projects in 1B and 2A Lot Areas

We are pleased to confirm that UPRNs in active projects within the 1B and 2A Lot areas have now been made eligible for vouchers*, this means that vouchers can be requested as normal. We will be in touch this week individually to confirm which projects this applies to. The Go List has been updated to reflect these changes. We will shortly be adding the VPA List updates to the [Voucher Priority Areas](#) page on the portal.

We continue to assess voucher projects alongside the PR returns for 1B and 2A areas and if there are more projects which offer better value and pace than procurements, then these will be made eligible too. This process will take approximately 6-8 weeks.

*where UPRNs were available to BDUK in project submissions



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.