



**Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme
Supplier Bulletin #81
11 July 2022**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Vouchers and Procurements

Reminder of deadlines for Lots in Phase 2B & 2C

This is a reminder that voucher eligibility will be paused for all premises in Lots in Phase 2B on Friday 15 July and Phase 2C on Monday 18 July, except for premises within projects that we deem as active and can therefore be given voucher priority area status.

An active project is one where:

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

Lots in Phase 2B - Friday 15 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)

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)

Revised deadline for Lots in Wales (42, 43, 44, 45) - Friday 26 August

We have extended the deadline for project submissions and voucher requests in Wales, prior to procurement, to Friday 26 August. The deadline was previously Friday 15 July. Only premises in voucher priority areas will remain eligible for vouchers during procurement. We have changed the date to align voucher deadlines with Project Gigabit procurement timelines and allow for further work that needs to be undertaken in this area.

Revised future deadlines - Phase 3A and 3B

For the Lots below within Phase 3A and 3B, we have revised the final date for project submissions and voucher requests prior to procurement in order to align voucher deadlines



with the close of PR for each area. Only premises in voucher priority areas will remain eligible for vouchers during procurement.

Lots in Phase 3A and 3B - Friday 14 October

- Herefordshire (Lot 15)
- Lincolnshire (including NE Lincolnshire and N Lincolnshire) and East Riding (Lot 23)
- Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (Lot 32)
- Devon and Somerset (Lot 6)
- Dorset (Lot 14)
- Cheshire (Lot 17)
- Gloucestershire (Lot 18)

Approximately 4-6 weeks prior to the close of PR, we will write to all suppliers with active projects in Phases 3A and 3B to ensure that we have UPRN data for projects and would urge suppliers to ensure they provide the correct UPRN data for their projects.

VPA Update for Lots in Phases 1B & 2A

We have recently completed a further update of UPRNs in Voucher Priority Areas for Lots in phases 1B & 2A and all projects which met the active criteria are now eligible for vouchers. No more voucher projects will be marked as voucher priority until procurement is launched.

Project applications for areas in procurement

Please remember we are not accepting new project applications after the closure of a Public Review (PR) up until the contract award for areas in procurement. This was outlined in the previous [Supplier Bulletin #78](#). Once a contract is awarded, the number of premises eligible for vouchers is likely to have changed, which would alter any proposed voucher project. Therefore any new project applications received during this period will be rejected and suppliers will need to re-submit a request after the procurement contract has been awarded if they wish to continue.

If a project is submitted before a PR closes, it will be reviewed as part of the intervention area design. Any project requests submitted after PR closure will be put on hold until the contract award.

Vouchers homes survey

We would like to inform you that Winning Moves, on behalf of BDUK, is conducting a survey asking residential voucher beneficiaries for feedback on the voucher scheme and benefits to their home life, which will be running until the end of August 2022.



The survey will aim to help BDUK evaluate the impact and benefit of BDUK vouchers. It will be mainly aimed at GBVS and RGC voucher recipients that have their connection already and beneficiaries will be contacted via email with the potential for a follow up phone call.

Therefore, as a supplier, if you should get any queries about the survey from beneficiaries please let them know that this is legitimate BDUK research (for GBVS and RGC vouchers).

What to do if a beneficiary moves during the voucher journey

In the event an intended beneficiary moves home before installation, the supplier can cancel the original voucher and request a new voucher for the new resident, if they wish to receive the network upgrade. If installation has already been completed, the supplier cannot request a voucher retrospectively for the new resident, nor can the new resident validate the voucher on behalf of the original occupier. The supplier instead should cancel the original voucher and request a new voucher for the new beneficiary. Any funding deemed ineligible would be recovered.

Example scenario:

Jane lives at 1 Meadow Street. A year ago, a supplier contacted her about getting gigabit broadband to her home. She was thrilled and signed up immediately. Six months later, Jane moved home and Peter became the new owner of 1 Meadow Street. Installation at the premises had not yet taken place but was scheduled for the next few months. Jane informed the supplier she moved out so could no longer benefit from gigabit broadband to that property (and therefore could not receive a voucher for that property). The supplier contacted the new resident, Peter, to see if he would be interested. Peter agreed and signed up. The supplier cancelled the voucher intended for Jane and then requested a new voucher for Peter. Once the voucher for Peter was issued, the supplier installed the network. Had the supplier not cancelled Jane's voucher and requested a new one, the voucher may not have been validated. If the voucher had been validated by Jane, despite no longer being a resident, this funding would be deemed as ineligible because Jane would not be able to receive the benefit of the voucher.

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.