

Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband can deliver fantastic benefits for homes and businesses within your community. There's an opportunity to bring this technology to eligible properties, utilising Government funding in partnership with Openreach, one of their registered network build suppliers.

# Government voucher availability

Government funding is available to help pay for the cost of having the fibre network built. The UK Gigabit Voucher scheme available from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), means that every eligible address can claim a residential voucher worth up to £1,500 (or up to £3,500 for a business/sole trader) to improve broadband in their local area\*. The community needs to come together to pledge and validate their individual vouchers and reach the required pledge target. Only one voucher can be claimed per address.

By pledging your residential or business voucher, you're taking the first step towards getting Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband. You're also agreeing to install or regrade your broadband to an ultrafast package, once service is available. We'll tell you when the build is complete so you can place an order with a provider of your choice, within two weeks.

We'll keep you updated through a series of emails and text messages, so please check your device settings to make sure you receive these important communications. It's also key that you opt in to receive these when you pledge. Your data will only be used for this purpose. You'll also receive communications from DCMS asking you to validate your voucher. It's important that you do this otherwise we can't build. Once installed, DCMS will email you to confirm you've ordered an Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband service so that your voucher value can be claimed towards the cost of the build.

# Pledge your voucher at www.openreach.co.uk/connectmycommunityletter



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is the voucher scheme?

Gigabit-capable, or Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband connections offer the fastest and most reliable speeds available. The UK Gigabit Voucher scheme supports eligible communities to team up with a network provider to bring that technology to them. If you want to know more about the Government funding visit: www.gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk

### Can I choose the broadband provider I use?

Yes, Openreach will build an open network, meaning that you can order from a service provider of your choice, assuming they sell in your area.

#### Benefits of Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband

- Enjoy gigabit capable speeds, that's up to 1Gbps
- Connect multiple devices with no buffering - surf, shop, game, play, click, teach, talk, work, create, learn, buy, sell and watch without slowing down
- Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband is not just faster, more reliable and future-proof; it offers environmental benefits too

# Are there any terms and conditions I should be aware of?

The main condition of the voucher is that once the network is in place, you order a Full Fibre service within 2 weeks. This can be with a communications provider of your choice for a minimum of 12 months.

Your new connection must double your existing speed if your current speed is less than 50Mbps; or be at least 100Mbps if your current speed is more than 50Mbps.

#### How much will it cost?

Full Fibre is not as expensive as you may think. Prices vary per provider but are approximately £35 - £45 per month. You could also ask your existing provider about an upgrade. To find out who may supply in your area check www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/fttp-providers

## Can I use the voucher to meet my current broadband costs?

No. The voucher can only be put towards the cost of the network build only. You will have to pay for a broadband package.

# We'll keep you updated

throughout the process

Once you pledge you'll receive an email confirmation.



We'll then let you know when your scheme has hit 50%, 75% and 100% of the pledge target required.



So, it's important that you opt in to receive these when you pledge your voucher.

- Schemes will be open for 3 months to reach pledge targets
- One pledge per address
- Owners of more than one property can pledge for each address assuming fibre will be ordered for each
- Sole traders/businesses will need to provide proof of status to the Government
- If we don't get the required number of pledges the scheme will be closed and you will be released from your voucher pledge



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