

Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet for Businesses

The Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS) is now available in most B4RN areas.

The Scheme provides grant funding of up to £2,500 for suppliers to upgrade businesses to a Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet connection.

B4RN are pleased to announce that we are a registered supplier on the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, which helps local businesses and residencies to upgrade their internet to 1000 Mbps/1 Gbps.

Fibre-based connections offer faster, more reliable Internet connectivity, and a reliable connection is essential for businesses today—for agricultural businesses such as farms wanting to record their livestock movements, complete Single Farm Payments, research the market and businesses wanting to connect to the Cloud and increase productivity and future-proof ready for the digital challenges of tomorrow.

The Gigabit Voucher helps to cover all or some of the costs of getting B4RN to your door. The voucher is to assist in the costs of installing the service and cannot be used towards the monthly service charges.

Eligibility

Your business must be a Small or Medium sized Enterprise or a Sole Trader/Partnership and meets the following GBVS requirements:

- Employs fewer than 250 people
- Your annual turnover is less than €50M
- Balance sheet of less than €43M
- Must have received less than €200,000 of State Aid in the last 3 years. This is the *de minimis* limit and it applies to agriculture, so most farms will be eligible.
- The business must not be a subsidiary and/or under the control of a large non-SME entity
- The business operates from the premises for which the voucher is being applied (employees working from home are not eligible)

All businesses wishing to take part in the scheme must sign up for 12 months service, but we don't apply any early exit fees.

Businesses with a completed voucher will get the standard £150 connection fee waived and a £300 installation grant (see top right). So, the total amount you will directly benefit from is £450.

As part of the Scheme B4RN will contribute a fixed grant of £300 to the beneficiary towards the installation of the required termination boxes in the property and service duct throughout your curtilage to boundary. This will be paid on completion of service delivery in conjunction with a signed 12 Month Service contract, and once DCMS have paid us the value of the voucher. You can use this to pay a contractor to carry out the work within your curtilage. Its down to you to negotiate the best route and most economic way of crossing your property, you can ask your local co-ordinator for help on this. You would have to meet any excess costs over and above the grant amount.

How to apply

Simply go online to our website www.b4rn.org.uk and click **Get B4RN** at the top of the page and enter your postcode.

We require the following details to register a voucher:

- Your name
- Business name
- Address to be connected to B4RN
- Company number, **or** Sole Trader / Partnership name
- Telephone number
- Current connection speed
- Copy of a recent utility bill, lease agreement or bank statement in the name of the business at that address.
- **Or**, if you are a Sole Trader / Partnership, please let us know your HMRC UTR number

What happens next

- We request the voucher through the GBVS Portal
- You will get an email from GBVS asking for you to confirm that you are happy to go ahead
- We work to get you connected to B4RN with your local dedicated coordination group.
- Once your service is live we then claim the voucher, and GBVS will email you again for you to confirm that you have live service
- DCMS pay the voucher value directly to B4RN
- B4RN pays you £300 installation grant
- Complete! Enjoy Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet with B4RN.

For more information on how your business can benefit from the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, just contact B4RN on 01524 555 887 or via email gbvs@b4rn.org.uk

Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet for Residents

The Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS) is now available in most B4RN areas.

The Scheme provides grant funding of up to £500 for suppliers to upgrade Residential properties to a Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet connection.

B4RN are pleased to announce that we are a registered supplier on the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, which helps local businesses and residences to upgrade their Internet to 1000 Mbps/1 Gbps.

Fibre-based connections offer faster, more reliable Internet connectivity, and a reliable connection is essential for modern day communication. Access to crucial services are moving to be online such as taxing your car to submitting a self assessment tax return, and in healthcare the NHS offer GP online services.

Not to mention entertainment! Getting video, TV, and music to your front room now largely comes through the internet via streaming, and gaming benefits from a high quality and high speed connection.

The Gigabit Voucher helps to cover all or some of the costs of getting B4RN to your door. The voucher is to assist in the costs of installing the service and cannot be used towards the monthly service charges.

This funding helps both your community and your property get connected to B4RN

Eligibility

As a residential property you will need to be in an area that B4RN is covering with what's called a Pre-Registered Package with GBVS. B4RN must have already applied for a PRP and had it accepted before you can apply. To check your eligibility see 'How to apply'.

All residences wishing to take part in the scheme must sign up for 12 months service, but we don't apply any early exit fees.

As part of the Scheme B4RN will contribute a fixed grant of £150 to the beneficiary towards the installation of the required termination boxes in the property and service duct throughout your curtilage to boundary. This will be paid on completion of service delivery in conjunction with a signed 12 Month Service contract, and once DCMS have paid us the value of the voucher. You can use this to pay a contractor to carry out the work within your curtilage. It's down to you to negotiate the best route and most economic way of crossing your property, you can ask your local co-ordinator for help on this. You would have to meet any excess costs over and above the grant amount.

How to apply

Simply go online to our website www.b4rn.org.uk and click **Get B4RN** at the top of the page and enter your postcode.

We require the following details to register a voucher:

- Your name.
- Address to be connected to B4RN.
- Telephone number.
- Current connection speed.

What happens next

- We request the voucher through the GBVS Portal.
- You will get an email from GBVS asking for you to confirm that you are happy to go ahead.
- We work to get you connected to B4RN with your local dedicated coordination group.
- Once your service is live we then claim the voucher, and GBVS will email you again for you to confirm that you have live service.
- DCMS pay the voucher value directly to B4RN.
- B4RN pays you £150 installation grant.
- Complete! Enjoy Gigabit Full-Fibre Internet with B4RN.

Residential connections with a completed voucher will benefit from a £150 installation grant (see top right).

For more information on how your property can benefit from the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, just contact B4RN on 01524 555 887 or via email gbvs@b4rn.org.uk