

Community Fibre Partnerships



How to get ultrafast broadband for your business

You can get £2,500 funding through the Government's Gigabit Voucher Scheme that's been set up to provide grants for small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs).

The scheme provides vouchers to support the capital costs of getting new gigabit capable connections for businesses, or £500 to residents, to help with the costs of connecting to full fibre broadband.

These vouchers can be used toward a Community Fibre Partnership with Openreach to bring fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) to your business. You, and other local businesses, can get a full fibre connection (FTTP) so you can enjoy ultrafast speeds by pooling these vouchers to minimise costs.

Businesses with ultrafast broadband love it. A faster internet connection means you can do more and sell more. You can serve customers better and attract new ones more easily. The core benefit of implementing gigabit internet at your business is the vastly faster connectivity speed and increased bandwidth capability the technology provides.

 Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

**GIGABIT BROADBAND
VOUCHER SCHEME**

People living and working in the Warwickshire hamlet of Stareton will get ultrafast broadband as four businesses there have been awarded grants totaling £12,000 by the Government's Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.

As a result, Norton Duff Ltd, JoMoto Limited, Paul Charles Renovations and Deeplearn Ltd and six households in the hamlet are now looking forward to getting some of the fastest broadband speeds in the country.

Dr Malcolm Strens, founder of deeplearn.com, said: "Because of our distance from the exchange, affordable options for individual properties were virtually non-existent, so we got together as a community to look for the best way forward.

"We knew about Openreach's Community Fibre Partnerships programme, but when we heard through the City Council that Coventry and Warwickshire is piloting the new Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, everything came together.

"The community chose Openreach for our main provision because their network is 'open', giving us a choice of fibre broadband providers.

"For local high-tech businesses like deeplearn.com, which builds artificial intelligence on 'big data', the ultrafast connections offered by FTTP technology will be invaluable."



People living on the outskirts of Aldridge, in the West Midlands, have also joined forces with Openreach to get a full fibre connection. Ultrafast broadband speeds can't come soon enough for local resident Baldeep Kahlar, a dentist in training, who says it'll make a huge difference to his personal and professional life:

"We currently get low single figure download speeds and that today just isn't enough to cut it. I have two young children and my parents live with my wife and I. So we use the internet a lot. But if one of the children is downloading something, nobody else can. Things grind to a halt.

"I am currently doing an online Master's Degree in dentistry and the internet is vital in helping me to be able to complete my coursework. Faster broadband is going to make everything easier for everyone, including one of our neighbours who is a photographer. We cannot wait until fibre broadband is available as we'll finally be able to ditch the 4G dongles we currently use to upload and download files."

Here are some of the benefits you'll enjoy with ultrafast:

- **Fast data transfer:** With a gigabit, you'll transfer data over the internet faster than you can write data to a thumb drive. Plus you can download data as fast as many computers can save the data to a hard drive
- **Increased productivity and competitiveness:** Your employees won't be twiddling their thumbs, waiting on unresponsive applications to launch and for files to load, saving your business time and money
- **Access and Increased Functionality to the Cloud:** You can fully utilise Cloud computing technology with no limits on your ability to access data, plus with an ultrafast connection you can upload more, faster

- **Flexibility and cost savings:** You could enjoy increased flexible working and also reduce business travel and commuting. Your staff can enjoy improved access to online training and video conferencing too

If you use the Government's vouchers to get ultrafast via the Openreach network, you can benefit from a choice of communications providers.

Our network uses the latest technology and is already the UK's largest, so join us to get maximum choice and value for your business.

Please complete the form at communityfibre.openreach.co.uk/gigabit and we'll get in touch about bringing ultrafast broadband to you.

communityfibre.openreach.co.uk

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