

Scottish Broadband Voucher Scheme Factsheet

Description of the scheme

The Reaching 100% (R100) programme is a Scottish Government commitment, unique across the UK, to enable access to superfast broadband – speeds of at least 30 Megabits per second (Mbps) – to every home and business in Scotland.

This programme consists of three strands – the £600m R100 contracts (North, Central and South), connections delivered by commercial suppliers, and the R100 Scottish Broadband Voucher Scheme (SBVS). The SBVS ensures that every address in Scotland has the ability to access a superfast broadband connection.

SBVS

There will be some properties that will not receive superfast connections through either the R100 contracts or commercial coverage. These properties will be eligible for a voucher – worth up to £5,000 – that will help owners and/or tenants secure a superfast connection. Eligibility for a voucher is subject to the rules set out in the beneficiary [Terms & Conditions](#).

Technology solutions

The SBVS is technology neutral. As long as the technology is capable of delivering superfast speeds of 30 Megabits per second (Mbps), it is considered eligible for the scheme.

Eligible technologies

Technologies which have been successfully installed using the SBVS, are listed below:

Full fibre (Fibre to the Premises/Home (FTTP/H))

Broadband to the vast majority of properties in Scotland, in both urban and rural areas, involves fibre to the cabinet in your street, then copper between the last stretch from the cabinet to your house. This is called ‘partial fibre’ or FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet). Many rural properties have ‘exchange only’ lines, meaning copper runs all the way from the exchange to the property. Full fibre is when the connection from the exchange all the way to the inside of your property is a fibre optic cable.

Fixed wireless

Fixed wireless broadband is an outdoor wireless network, just like WiFi in your home but over greater distances, from a few hundred metres to many kilometres. Fixed wireless broadband can deliver a one-to-one connection between two buildings or structures (for example, from a farm house to a farm office) or a one-to-many network connecting dozens of homes from a single transmitter.

Fixed mobile (Fixed mobile or cellular broadband (e.g. 4G))

Fixed mobile is a method of getting internet access using one of the UK's four mobile networks (EE, Vodafone, O2 and Three) or from the many virtual mobile operators that use one of the four main networks. With 'fixed mobile' a special WiFi router installed with a mobile SIM card in it, and an external aerial in a suitable location outdoors.

Satellite

Satellite broadband uses a dish on your home to connect to a satellite in space. The connection works both up to and down from the satellite without the need for any other connections such as a fixed telephone line. There is a delay of around half a second as the signal needs to go into space and back again. Satellite broadband technology has greatly improved over recent years but it's always worth checking with the provider what speeds they expect you to consistently get.

Application process

Once you have confirmed your eligibility, you can approach registered suppliers to see if they are able to provide a connection (although they may also approach you). Your registered supplier applies for the voucher on your behalf, organises the installation and claims payment using the voucher subsidy.

You can also register your interest in the scheme by completing this [form](#). We will then share your address with all registered suppliers – we will not share any other details such as your name with them.

Suppliers

A full list of registered suppliers operating in Scotland is available [here](#).

Other information

The Scottish Government is not responsible for organising any installation of a service. That is the sole responsibility of your chosen supplier.

The contract you enter into with your chosen supplier is for a minimum of 12 months.

Once you have a chosen supplier, it is their responsibility to ensure that the installation of your new connection takes place within 12 months of the date on which they receive the voucher. If they are not able to deliver your new connection by this date, then the voucher will expire and the grant will no longer be available. However, you will be able to ask the supplier to re-apply or approach a new supplier.