

Businesses in West Sussex are invited to apply to a new Superfast Broadband Connection Voucher scheme that supports the capital costs of installing superfast broadband.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A CONNECTION VOUCHER?

You are eligible if your business is based in West Sussex, you do not have current access to superfast broadband and are not included in the planned BDUK superfast rollout. Groups of eligible businesses in a building or common location will each need to submit an individual application but can pool their vouchers to fund a joint solution. The West Sussex Superfast Broadband Voucher Scheme is not open to residential applicants but home-based businesses meeting the criteria can apply.

WHAT WILL THE CONNECTION VOUCHER COVER?

The West Sussex Superfast Connection Voucher scheme provides up to 40% of the capital costs of getting connected to superfast broadband or 40% of the total project cost, whichever is lower. The minimum Connection Voucher is £1,000 and applicants need to provide at least 60% of the total project cost, which can include both capital and revenue costs.

Broadband infrastructure suppliers and consultants can help assess and select the best technology for your location and needs. Fibre, wireless and hybrid solutions will be considered, but must provide certified speeds of a minimum 30Mbps.

ABOUT THE SCHEME

The scheme has been developed by Rural West Sussex Partnership, South Downs National Park Authority, Gatwick Diamond Initiative, Coastal West Sussex Partnership and delivery body, West Sussex County Council. The funding comes from the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership Local Growth Deal under their 'Growth is Digital' priority project.

The deadline to apply for a Superfast Broadband Connection Voucher is midnight 1 February 2017 or until all the funding is allocated.

WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE

Guidance Notes that provide more detail on the application process and an Application Form can be found on the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership website at:

http://www.coast2capital.org.uk/helping-business-growth/grant-funding

Eligible businesses and broadband infrastructure providers are invited to find out more about West Sussex Superfast Broadband Connection Vouchers at a workshop on the afternoon of Friday 9 September 2016 at the South Downs Centre in Midhurst.

To find out more and to register interest in attending the workshop, please email grants@c2cbroadbandgrants.org.uk