A call to rural Nottinghamshire businesses and residential premises

Nottinghamshire County Council is investing £750,000 in order to step up efforts in delivering high-speed broadband to the most rural areas of the county.

The funding from the council will 'top-up' the Government's existing Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme which helps homes and businesses in hard-to-reach locations get a fast and reliable broadband service.

Through the voucher scheme rural homes and businesses with broadband speeds of less than 100Mbps, which are not in any existing government funded plans for an upgrade, can apply for the vouchers worth up to £1,500 per home and up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized business (SME) to help support the cost of installing new gigabit capable broadband connections.

Now, Nottinghamshire County Council is pleased to announce £750,000 of investment to 'top-up' the GBVS vouchers. The Nottinghamshire 'top-up' voucher will double the existing voucher value, meaning that homes could claim up to £3,000 per voucher, with the extra £1,500 per voucher from Nottinghamshire County Council. Small and medium businesses in rural Nottinghamshire could claim up to a maximum of £7,000 funding per voucher, with an additional £3,500 from Nottinghamshire County Council.

There has never been a better time than the present to join a group community scheme and work with your chosen supplier to deliver better internet services to rural communities with the subsidy available. This funding will be issued on a first come, first served basis – so it is imperative that interested parties register their details with their preferred supplier regarding the voucher scheme. It's important to note that the key here is to get the ball rolling with a group scheme for your chosen supplier and get to the stage where you are presented with the first quotation. No financial commitment is required but it is important to see the first quotation to see if the available subsidy from the gigabit voucher scheme can cover the cost. If contribution from the group scheme is required then your chosen supplier will discuss the options available. If you suffer from poor internet service and live rurally please consider this scheme as the best opportunity to rectify that.

For further details on the scheme please visit: <u>www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/top-up</u>

If you have any questions regarding the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme please contact <u>enquiries.broadband@nottscc.gov.uk</u> and a member of the digital connectivity team will be in touch.

Kind regards,

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