

Open Market Review into Superfast, Ultrafast and Gigabit Capable Broadband Infrastructure in Scotland

Request For Information

January 2025

1. Introduction and Background

The Scottish Government wants Scotland to be a fully digitally inclusive nation in which our digital and data infrastructure is recognised as critical national infrastructure and the benefits of technology are available to everyone.

Scotland's Infrastructure Investment Plan adopts a wide, encompassing definition of infrastructure. It extends beyond the fibre, masts and small cells needed to meet our connectivity needs, to encompass digital platforms, online public services and data architecture. Future capital investment decisions will be driven by this understanding of the role that data and digital play in ensuring the economic and societal resilience of all our communities and our ability to trade with the world. They will also support our transition to a net zero society by enabling us to replace unnecessary journeys and make more efficient, environmentally friendly use of the more traditional infrastructure of transport and buildings.

Over £1 billion of funding has already been invested to transform Scotland's digital connectivity via our Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB) and Scottish 4G Infill (S4Gi) programmes and our ongoing Reaching 100% (R100) Programme.

In March 2021, the UK government announced an ambition to deliver nationwide gigabit-capable broadband as soon as possible, recognising that there is a need for government intervention in the parts of the country that are not commercially viable. They have committed £5 billion for the hardest to reach parts of the UK, ensuring that all areas can benefit. This will be spent through a package of coordinated and mutually supportive interventions, collectively known as Project Gigabit. This investment builds on the gigabit-capable infrastructure currently being delivered through the Scottish Government's R100 programme.

As part of Project Gigabit, the Scottish Government in collaboration with the UK Government has developed a procurement approach for funding contracts with suppliers, delivering gigabit-capable wholesale infrastructure in Scotland. This procurement approach is a successor to the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband programme and works in parallel with the current R100 programme.

We wish to work collaboratively with industry to maximise efficiency, minimise market distortion and achieve our outcomes within a tight time frame. To do this, we must first identify potential Intervention Areas (IAs) which are not currently commercially viable, where no infrastructure exists or is planned to be built within the next three years (however, we are also interested in plans beyond this period, if available).

The Scottish Government has been collecting data from suppliers since 2012, with regular rolling updates since 2016. As of this Open Market Review (OMR), we are formally asking suppliers delivering broadband infrastructure to submit data returns on a 4-monthly basis (January, May and September) to provide detailed build plans at premises level. The purpose of this OMR is to ensure that we have the most up to date information about suppliers' existing and planned build - in particular

commercial build - over the next three year period with supplier submissions being used to inform eligibility across Project Gigabit¹ and other public interventions.

This will support better strategic planning and prioritisation of procurement IAs, formalise the previous rolling OMR process and minimise the risk of the Scottish Government intervening in an area that would disrupt existing commercial plans. Data collected from the OMR is used to inform the current R100 Programme, Project Gigabit interventions and both Scottish and UK voucher schemes.

We invite suppliers to provide us with information about their broadband infrastructure within Scotland. For the OMR, the Scottish Government assesses wholesale broadband infrastructure with the capability to deliver superfast, ultrafast or gigabit broadband services. The Scottish Government follows Ofcoms distinction in the Wholesale Fixed Telecoms Market Review² (WFTMR). WFTMR Volume 1, paragraph 2.32 and Volume 2, paragraph 3.9 make clear that, despite a convergence of underlying infrastructure technologies, broadband and leased line products remain sufficiently distinct for differing treatments. As such, public subsidy supports residential and business broadband networks, not Leased Line connections.

Forming the IAs will include taking information learned from publicly available supplier information about existing and planned build; feedback from potential suppliers about commercial attractiveness; information that we gather through this OMR and any subsequent Public Reviews that we may launch.

Through this OMR, working with suppliers, we aim to build and maintain a comprehensive dataset across Scotland. As part of the OMR we will ask participating suppliers to provide supporting evidence with their submission in the same way as they do for any other OMR, i.e. at the same time as their data submission via a Supporting Evidence Pack.

The OMR is used to update a Public Review Report where changes occur to the IAs. Where this is the case, we will publish an updated Public Review Report in line with the Open Market Review and Public Review Subsidy Control Classification Guidance document³.

¹ [UK Government Project Gigabit Information](#)

² [Wholesale Fixed Telecoms Market Review](#)

³ [OMR & PR – Subsidy Control Classification Guidance](#)

2. Why should suppliers participate in this Rolling Open Market Review?

Our goal is to ensure we target the parts of the country that need government support first. By working together, we will help to maximise the use of public subsidy to help provide ever faster, better connectivity across Scotland. This will help us to identify areas which will be left out because they are not commercially viable, thereby bringing significant benefits to the Scottish economy.

We actively encourage responses to this OMR with any existing superfast, ultrafast or gigabit-capable broadband coverage, or planned broadband infrastructure build within the next three years. This means we can ensure we target the right areas for public subsidy, and avoid over-building viable, commercially planned broadband infrastructure.

Please provide us with your latest Scotland-wide dataset, and an update to your supporting evidence, every 4 months. We are aware that deployment plans change frequently and we require the latest data to evaluate your coverage accurately. You will be issued with an outcome notification following the OMR analysis which will confirm how your data has been treated.

Suppliers should ensure their data coverage and Supporting Evidence Pack remain valid and up to date. These should be reviewed alongside each submission, ideally ensuring information is no more than 6 months old. By completing a regular refresh of your content this will mitigate against outdated information, potential data misalignment and ensure that evaluators are able to assess your submission accurately.

Further details on why we encourage all suppliers to participate in this OMR process include:

- Data gathered at the OMR is used to inform the current R100 Programme, Project Gigabit interventions and both Scottish and UK voucher schemes
- Data may also be used to inform the latest Project Gigabit procurements, and changes to live contracts, and therefore it is crucial you respond to ensure that any coverage you have can be considered, and the risk of overbuild is reduced
- If we receive new data for Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs) which have been the subject of a previous Public Review (PR) determination, if it meets the evidential requirements, we may use this data to update the previous PR determinations at our own discretion
- Responding to this OMR enables us to understand your latest build plans and therefore best target public subsidy towards non-commercially viable areas
- As part of your OMR analysis, suppliers will receive notification of how we have treated your data and why
- In addition, we also maintain a publicly available list of Subsidy Control classifications by postcode and individual UPRN for gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure.

Where we currently hold public intervention data for suppliers, this can be provided in advance of your submission by request. It is important that data held by the Scottish Government is up to date and accurate and that supplier data is accurately reflected in your data coverage return. Direct any request to: gigabitomr@gov.scot

3. Geographical scope

This Request for Information (RFI) will allow us to identify potential intervention areas for public subsidy. The geographic scope of this request is all of Scotland. A map showing the geographic scope of the OMR can be found in Annex A: Geographic Scope.

The Scottish Government can supply blank templates for the OMR (as outlined in Annex C: Supporting evidence), showing the UPRNs across the nation that we consider relevant to the OMR process. The Scottish Government will restrict these UPRNs to the areas you indicate you have, or are planning, coverage in. These UPRNs have been sourced from Ordnance Survey AddressBase Premium Epoch 115, published December 2024.

To access this information, you will need to sign an Ordnance Survey Public Sector Contractor Licence. This is available on request from: gigabitomr@gov.scot.

Suppliers may wish to have a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) in place with the Scottish Government prior to any data sharing, if this is not already in place. Contact gigabitomr@gov.scot to initiate this process or discuss further.

Suppliers who already supply this information to the Scottish Government as part of the existing rolling OMR process are encouraged to keep the current format – they should engage with Scottish Government via gigabitomr@gov.scot should they wish to discuss further.

Please note that although the UK Government also collects data and evidence across the UK, they do not assess submissions relevant to Scotland. All subsidy decisions for interventions in Scotland are based on the submissions to this Scottish OMR only.

4. Purpose of this National Rolling Open Market Review Request for Information

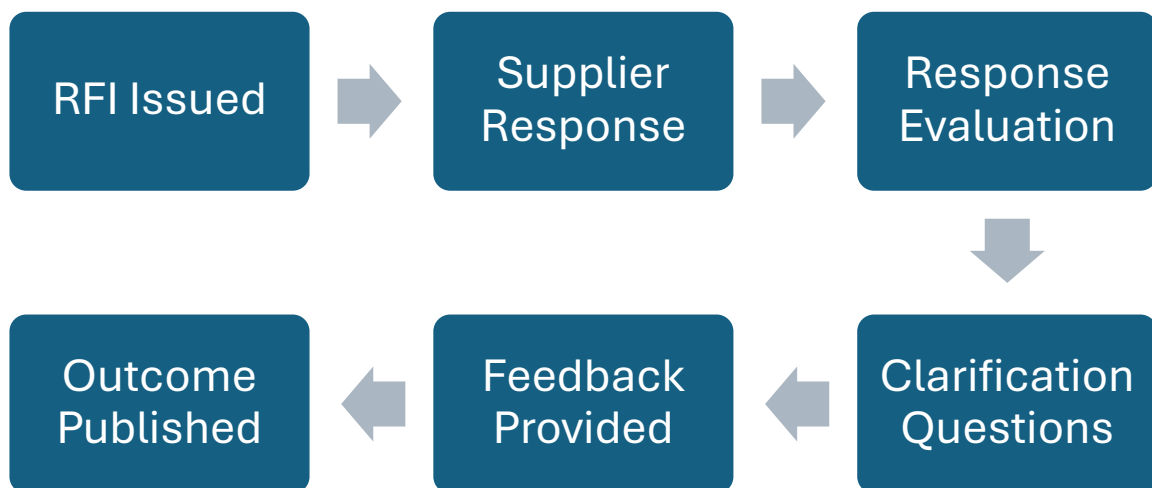
We are launching this OMR RFI to establish existing and planned coverage of broadband services within Scotland over the next three years. We seek responses from broadband infrastructure suppliers that operate, or are planning to operate, within Scotland over the next three years.

The results of the OMR will assist us with understanding the broadband infrastructure (whether superfast, ultrafast or gigabit-capable) already in place and where there are plans for investment in such infrastructure in the forthcoming three years. This RFI will enable us to continue to design and make iterative updates to the areas to be targeted by public interventions at our discretion. This OMR process will be used by the Scottish Government in any subsequent formal PRs.

The Scottish Government applies a best practice approach that includes an OMR and a PR. Supplier submissions will be used to inform eligibility across Project Gigabit, the R100 Programme and other public interventions.

We will request and then evaluate the suppliers' responses. During the evaluation exercise, we may engage with suppliers further to discuss and confirm their coverage claims.

Following this, we will be able to determine the eligibility of the premises for government subsidy. Below shows a summary of how the OMR process works:



Open Market Review Process

Where the Scottish Government receives new data for UPRNs which have been the subject of a previous PR determination, if it meets the evidential requirements, we may use this OMR outcome to update the previous PR determinations at our own discretion. This will be supported by an updated PR Report.

5. Key eligibility requirements for subsidy

The outcome of this OMR will be shown in terms of White, Grey, Black and Under Review premises. We will only subsidise build to premises which have been designated as White.

- **White** - indicates premises with no gigabit network infrastructure and none is likely to be developed within 3 years. Annex D provides information on the technology 'qualifying' as gigabit-capable
- **Grey** - indicates premises where a qualifying gigabit infrastructure from a single supplier is available, or is to be deployed within the coming 3 years
- **Black** - indicates premises with two or more qualifying gigabit infrastructures from different suppliers being available, or will be deployed within the coming 3 years
- **Under Review** - indicates premises where suppliers have reported current or planned commercial broadband coverage, but where claimed current gigabit coverage has not been verified, or, in respect of planned build, where evaluators are confident that gigabit infrastructure will be delivered, but some risks to delivery remain, or there are some gaps in evidence.

Premises categorised as Under Review will be subject to continued monitoring and verification of supplier plans within the three-year period by the Scottish Government. We may request commitment from the supplier that significant progress is made within three years. If these commercial plans fall away, the premises will be mapped as eligible and form part of the proposed IAs and so eligible for intervention via this aid measure. We request that suppliers inform us regarding all plans, including plans beyond the initial three-year period.

The Scottish Government classifies premises on the basis of their existing or planned broadband infrastructure, as set out in Annex C and D. The OMR data analysis of suppliers' broadband coverage claims is undertaken at UPRN level.

Further guidance on Subsidy Control for the Gigabit Infrastructure Scheme is available on the UK Government website.⁴

⁴ [Project Gigabit – Subsidy Advice](#)

6. Treatment Of Vouchers Data

Coverage claims received from suppliers using vouchers funding will be evaluated in accordance with the Subsidy Control evaluation process. This means that suppliers' claims will be assessed against the technology solution being gigabit-capable for existing infrastructure.

Typically, vouchers premises will be categorised as follows:

- Projects, or before voucher is issued - White
- Voucher issued - Under Review
- Voucher claimed - Grey

In the case of the Scottish Broadband Voucher Scheme (SBVS), the above only applies where a gigabit-capable solution is provided when determining IA's for Project Gigabit. Note that superfast data received via this OMR is also used for R100 and SBVS eligibility.

Further information on the Subsidy Control evaluation process, including treatment of other publicly-funded intervention data can be found within the Open Market Review and Public Review Subsidy Control Classification Guidance⁵. Other intervention data includes, but is not limited to:

- Scottish Broadband Voucher Scheme (**SBVS**)
- Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (**GBVS**), including top-ups
- Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband Programme (**DSSB**)
- Digital Scotland Reaching 100% Programme (**R100**)
- Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy (**GIS**)
- Local Full Fibre Networks Programme (**LFFN**)
- Rural Gigabit Connectivity (**RGC**) programme
- GigaHubs
- Other publicly funded broadband infrastructure projects

Note that classifications for next generation access (superfast) are based on the State Aid Guidance for the 2016 National Broadband Scheme.⁶

⁵ [OMR & PR Subsidy Control Classification Guidance](#)

⁶ [2016 National Broadband Scheme State Aid Guidance](#)

7. Commercial process for Project Gigabit Interventions

An appropriate amount of public funding will be budgeted from the Programme for each intervention, at the procurement stage. The budget will be specified within the relevant procurement documentation following the PR. Details of any restrictions on the use of public subsidy will be explained in the tender documentation. It is the intention to procure gigabit-capable solutions – those capable of achieving a minimum of 1Gbps download speed - for the identified areas in scope for gigabit-capable deployment.

Suppliers have the opportunity, during the OMR and PR processes, to share with the Scottish Government any firm and credible investment plans that may mean that public subsidy will not be warranted. It will be important for this OMR and the PR to establish these plans. Please see Annex C for guidance on how supporting evidence is used to assess coverage.

Please note that final IAs may be a subset of the premises classified as White in the subsidy assessment and will be subject to overlays, including other active/planned public interventions (e.g. the R100 Programme and other Project Gigabit interventions).

For further guidance on how the Scottish Government determines our IAs for subsidy, please refer to Section 6 'Determining Intervention Areas' of the Open Market Review (OMR) and Public Review (PR) - Subsidy Control Classification Guidance.⁷

8. Responses from residents, businesses and other stakeholders

For residents and businesses, responses should relate to whether you have or expect to have gigabit-capable broadband service coverage in the next three years (and beyond). Any information provided in response to this OMR should as a minimum include (but need not be limited to) the UPRN, or the area (i.e. Postcode) that the submission relates to and the nature of the concern.

For all submissions, the Scottish Government would be grateful if you could confirm the following:

- Your organisation's name (if applicable)
- Your organisation's, or residential address and/or UPRN (if applicable)
- Your name
- Your email address

Members of the public and other respondents should follow the above format and email their submissions to: gigabitomr@gov.scot

⁷ [OMR & PR Subsidy Control Classification Guidance – Section 6](#)

9. Making a data response

To submit a data response, please follow the steps below, as well as referring to the guidance provided in Annex B:

- If you require the Scottish Government to supply a UPRN list for your coverage area, please first request and sign the Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA) Contractor Licence, which will be required before downloading the data. Please return this, as soon as possible to gigabitomr@gov.scot
- Once you have done this, we will provide you with login details to our portal where you will be able to download the UPRN files.
- If you have already signed a PSGA with the Scottish Government through previous OMRs / PRs, there is no need to send this through again.
- You may seek clarification on making a data response up to the submission deadline of 24 February 2025. Please send these questions to us at gigabitomr@gov.scot
- You should make your data submission to us via the portal ensuring that the fields contained exactly match the name and order of those contained within the UPRN files. Additional fields are permitted, however these should be included at the end of the data file submitted.
- Please do not assume that we will use a previous OMR/PR submission for this OMR RFI. If you have previously responded to an OMR RFI and wish for a previous OMR submission to be treated as your return for this RFI, please confirm this in writing at: gigabitomr@gov.scot
- Please include all current and planned superfast, ultrafast and gigabit-capable premises within the geographic scope in Annex A.
- Please provide any existing or planned infrastructure you have gained with assistance from government subsidy for example, vouchers, Superfast (NBS 2012 or NBS 2016), GIS, LFFN, RGC and GigaHubs.

Please note that the data you provide in your response will be treated as commercially confidential, albeit that it may be necessary to share some/all of your response data with our professional advisors and/or UK Government.

Please ensure that you engage with us as soon as possible to confirm whether you would require an NDA in advance of sharing data as part of this OMR process. If you already have a signed NDA in place with the Scottish Government through previous processes, this is not required again.

It should also be noted that it is a requirement to use this information to produce maps to define White, Grey, Black and Under Review areas for gigabit-capable broadband. However, the published maps will show the anonymised and aggregated White, Grey, Black and Under Review broadband areas, not the data provided on a per-operator basis. The final maps and UPRNs that will be used for procurement purposes will be published via an updated PR Report. The Scottish Government also maintains a publicly available list of Subsidy Control classifications for gigabit at both postcode and UPRN level.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact:
gigabitomr@gov.scot

10. Submission requirements

Responses to this OMR RFI must include the following:

1. A data submission that covers your current and planned premises coverage (i.e. premises served by your network, or planned to be served by your network) at UPRN level as per the format outlined in Annex B:
 - please include all current and planned premises coverage within the geographic scope of this OMR i.e. Scotland
 - please include any existing or planned infrastructure you have gained with assistance from government subsidy for example, vouchers, Superfast (NBS 2012 or NBS 2016), GIS, LFFN, RGC and GigaHubs
 - additional guidance can be provided to suppliers if required, please contact gigabitomr@gov.scot for support
2. An up to date Supporting Evidence Pack

Please note that the OMR process will involve ongoing resource commitments from respondents following initial data and evidence submissions at certain intervals in the process. Where additional clarification requests are raised, respondents should ensure adequate resources are in place to meet clarification deadlines. Responses received after these clarification deadlines may not be considered within the evaluation window for this OMR.

In addition, without refreshed evidence, there is no guarantee that the evaluators will return the same determination as they may have reached previously. As such, if you do not provide updates to your supporting evidence or data, or do not respond to Clarification Questions (CQs), this may affect the assessment outcome.

3. The Scottish Government would also like to hear from operators their views as to the types of wholesale access products they would like to see offered on any newly created subsidised network infrastructure. This information may inform the intervention design. Please note that we are not obliged to include these products in the invitation to tender.

Note that where your coverage claims are for gigabit-capable networks, then your response detailing your proposed network design and architecture must consider the technical definition as outlined in Annex D.

11. Evidence to demonstrate how planned investments are credible

There are three essential areas against which we will evaluate your planned coverage claims to ensure the overall credibility of your planned investment. Our assessment will be based solely on the suite of evidence you provide in your Supporting Evidence Pack and will include:

- **technology** - whether the technology you have deployed and intend to deploy is gigabit-capable and meets the technical criteria as outlined in Annex D
- **deliverability** - whether your deployment plans are in line with the phases/premises passed outlined in your business plan, with the key build stages and processes outlined
- **commercial/financial viability** - whether you have credible commercial plans, such as sufficient access to capital and whether the drawdown of your funds aligns with your deployment plan and build programme

The information you provide should be consistent across these elements to support a joined-up evaluation of your responses.

In assessing whether planned investments are credible and viable, we may:

- review the business plans and calendar deployment plans to ensure these are consistent and in sufficient detail for each phase of the planned build
- require evidence to demonstrate credible and plausible character of the planned investment which as a minimum should include a business plan, a detailed calendar deployment plan, evidence of adequate financing, consideration of risk and proposed technical architecture
- ensure calendar deployment plans include the key build stages and when suppliers expect to undertake significant activities within their build programme such as design, surveying, acquisition, network build, network installation etc or the key processes involved in your build plan approach for design phase, survey phase, road notices/ wayleaves etc
- test that funding availability is sufficient for each phase of the planned build and that the capital allocated is sufficient and is consistent with the deployment plan
- review the terms of any financing arrangements and any dependencies and assumptions associated with the financing including repayment terms, KPIs, expected ROI, dependency on public subsidy such as Vouchers or regional subsidy schemes
- ensure that the network design and dimensioning information provided is in line with the projections made in the business plan regarding customer connections and growth expectations.

Further information is included in Annex C and the Supporting Evidence Pack.

If your future network plans are **entirely** reliant on public subsidy/interventions (e.g. Vouchers) it may not be necessary to provide a fully completed Supporting Evidence Pack alongside your data submission.

As set out within the Open Market Review and Public Review Subsidy Control Classification Guidance⁸, planned Voucher build will be classified as White unless a Voucher has been 'issued' or 'claimed' in which case it will be classified as Under Review and Grey respectively. Classification of Voucher build will be based on Scottish Government held data of Voucher status for both GBVS and SBVS.

In all cases please do provide us with a full data submission.

Please note that in line with the published guidance (Open Market Review and Public Review Subsidy Control Classification guidance⁹), we may be required to reclassify your coverage determinations previously determined as Gigabit Grey or Gigabit Under Review should the evidence no longer meet the requirements of a previous Subsidy Control Categorisation.

12. Date for return


Please submit responses to this OMR by the closing date of 5pm on **24 February 2025**.

⁸ [OMR & PR Subsidy Control Classification Guidance – Section 5](#)

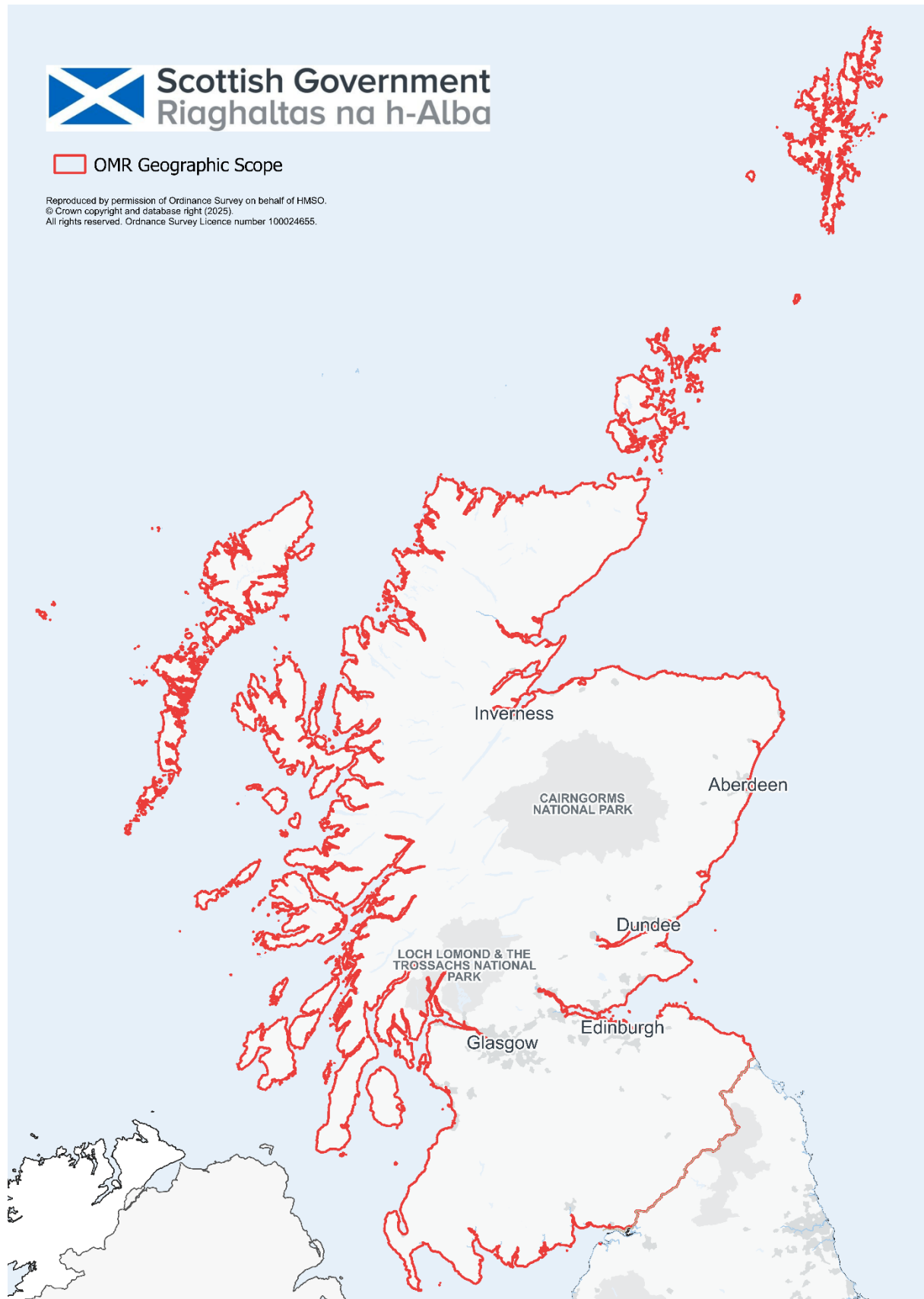
⁹ [OMR & PR Subsidy Control Classification Guidance – Section 6](#)

Annex A: Geographic Scope



 OMR Geographic Scope

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Annex B: Data submission format

Introduction

The Scottish Government requires certain fields of data for each pertinent Scottish address as identified by the UPRN in order to monitor the current and future delivery of superfast and gigabit-capable services. This is done by requesting data on current and future connections from relevant suppliers. The below describes the format of the request file and how to format the data to return to us. If you require any additional support, guidance or clarification with this, please get in touch with us at: gigabitomr@gov.scot

UPRN list files

The Scottish Government can provide a list of UPRNs if required. Please direct any requests to: gigabitomr@gov.scot

The UPRNs used for this OMR have been sourced from Ordnance Survey AddressBase Premium Epoch 115, published December 2024 using the following high-level logic:

- addressbase_postal = 'N' are marked as ineligible i.e. not a postal address
- CountryCode is 'S' i.e. within Scotland
- LogicalStatusCode found in the Local Property Identifier is restricted to either to '1' (approved) or '6' (provisional)
- LogicalStatusCode found in the BLPU table is restricted to '1', but if the BLPU State Code is NULL a LogicalStatusCode of '6' is also accepted.
- Sort by entry date (descending) and remove UPRN duplicates (more recent records are given a priority over older records when multiple Local Property Identifier records are given for one UPRN).
- A number of specific classifications are also excluded, those which the Scottish Government deem not eligible for a broadband connection. A list of classifications can be made available on request.

Further details can be obtained via the AddressBase Premium Technical Specification.¹⁰

Please do not pre-filter your data based on the UPRN files, instead please provide us with your entire UPRN dataset.

If you are using the UPRN files as the starting point for your return, please remove any UPRN rows which are not part of your current or planned network.

Please note that final UPRN datasets generated during IA design and issued as part of the invitation to tender (ITT) for procurements are further filtered, and deprioritised where necessary subject to factors such as UPRN proximity, type and location.

¹⁰ [Addressbase Premium Technical Specification](#)

Explanation of Required Fields

The information that we provide against each property/premises is as follows:

Field Name	Description	Format
struprn	The UPRN (see below) prepended with "STR", this is a mitigation against certain spreadsheet tools treating the UPRN as a large number and removing significant digits	Text
uprn	The unique property reference number	Number
address	Comma delimited single line address (eg 1, Acacia Avenue, Anytown)	Text
postcode	Standard postcode	Text
local_authority	The local authority district	Text
easting	Six figure number for the X co-ordinate	Number
northing	Six figure number for the Y co-ordinate	Number
longitude	Longitude in the decimal degree format	Number
latitude	Latitude in the decimal degree format	Number

The information that we ask for against each property/premises is as follows (please note the definitions provided after the table below):

Field Name	Description	Format
current_tech Complete this field for UPRNs which are Ready for service (RFS) only	The technology you use for supplying that particular premises, examples of this could be ADSL, FTTP, FTTC etc	Text
current_max_ds Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Current_Technology'	The maximum wholesale download speed in Mbit/s that you are able to supply to this property. This should be a positive number only.	Number
current_max_us Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Current_Technology'	The maximum wholesale upload speed in Mbit/s that you are able to supply to this property. This should be a positive number only.	Number
future_tech Complete this field for UPRNs that you plan to connect only	The technology you intend to use for supplying that particular premises, examples of this could be FTTC, FTTP etc	Text
future_max_ds	The maximum wholesale download speed in Mbit/s that you intend to be	Number

Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	able to supply to this property. This should be a positive number only.	
future_max_us Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	The maximum wholesale upload speed in Mbit/s that you intend to be able to supply to this property. This should be a positive number only.	Number
date_future_rollout Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	This should be the planned RFS date for the premises and should align to your Calendar Deployment Plan and should correlate and be consistent with the information contained in your Supporting Evidence Pack. This should not be the date that build commences.	DD/MM/YYYY
delivery_phase Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	The planned phase for any future rollout which each UPRN shall form part of, e.g. Phase 1/Phase 2 etc, Tranche 1/Tranche 2 etc, Region 1/Region 2 etc	Text
design_stage Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	The current phase of your coverage by using one of the following field entries: '1. Awaiting HLD' '2. HLD complete' '3. LLD complete' '4. Build team appointed' '5. In build' '6. RFS'	Text
funding_stage Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Future_Technology'	Field entries to use: '1. No funding planned or committed' '2. Funding planned, but not committed' '3. Funding committed'	Text
public_intervention Complete this field for all UPRNs with either 'Current_Technology' or 'Future_Technology'	Define if coverage has been or is planned to be connected using a public intervention.	Yes / No
Public_Intervention_Type Complete this field for all UPRNs with 'Current_Technology' or 'Future_Technology' where	This is the public intervention type, whereby the field entries to use are outlined in the definitions below.:	Text

'Public_Intervention' is 'Yes'		
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Response Definitions

Ready for Service (RFS): RFS means a service can be ordered by a Communications Provider (CP) or end user for the premises and provisioned within industry standard timescales with no excess construction charges being applied to the CP or end user directly or indirectly (i.e. any end user would expect to pay only a published pre-agreed connection charge, if one was to be imposed, too), unless and to the extent that such excess construction charges are incurred due to a reason directly attributable to the private land of the end user, or of any landlord of the end user.

Future Rollout: All UPRNs must have a date of future rollout based on the expected RFS date for each premise. These dates must correlate with information provided in your Deployment Plan as part of your supporting evidence.

Delivery Phase: These phases should align to your Calendar Deployment Plan and should correlate and be consistent with the information contained in your Supporting Evidence Pack. Include context regarding each delivery phase in your Supporting Evidence Pack such as the risks and dependencies for the successful delivery of each phase and the mitigations/arrangements that you have in place to address these risks; a description regarding your resourcing plan for each phase; key milestones within each phase and the subsequent activities/timeframes to achieve RFS.

Design Phases:

- '1. Awaiting HLD' - High Level Design (HLD) has not yet been completed.
- '2. HLD complete' - HLD/area level plan has been completed. However, Low Level Design (LLD) work has not yet been completed or is in progress.
- '3. LLD complete' - LLD and survey work has been completed, however, subcontractors/build partners, or in-house resources to complete the network build, are still to be appointed.
- '4. Build team appointed' - Subcontractors / build partners or if applicable in-house civil resource has been appointed and commissioned to start the network build in accordance with the LLDs. All the necessary planning, acquisitions and wayleave agreements are finalised to allow the network to be constructed.
- '5. In build' - Network build is in progress, however premises are not yet able to take up a service.
- '6. RFS' - Network build and end-to-end testing is complete and premises are RFS

Funding Stage: The status of funding allocated to the UPRN. If your funding allocation is linked to your Delivery_Phase please reflect that in your data and explain in your Supporting Evidence Pack. The Scottish Government's assessment of supplier returns will be based, in full, on the evidence requested in Annex C. As such, we cannot guarantee that we will accept how suppliers have categorised the status of their funding position.

Funding Stage Options:

- '1. No funding planned or committed' - While you may be planning to deliver to this UPRN, the funding is not yet in place to do so and/or you are seeking funding.

'2. Funding planned, but not committed' - You have in principle funding agreed to deliver to this UPRN, but the funding is not immediately available, requires further decisions such as Board approval, or is dependent on (for example) performance metrics.

'3. Funding committed' - Funding has been identified and has been allocated to delivery of this UPRN. There are no further conditions around drawing down or using funding and the funding is ring-fenced solely for the delivery of associated premises. This should be explained clearly in your financial plan, which should be provided as part of your Supporting Evidence Pack.

Public Intervention:

Define if coverage has been or is planned to be connected using a public intervention. 'Yes' will be marked when a premises is dependent on funding from vouchers, GigaHubs, Superfast, LFFN, RGC, R100, SBVS or GIS Programmes, or when an existing service was built with funding from one of those Programmes. Any other public interventions (such as Local Authority schemes) should also be acknowledged and marked as a 'Yes' here. Further explanation should be referenced within your Supporting Evidence Pack. An entry of 'No' would indicate that the premises is planned to be built, or has already been built, entirely through commercial funding with no dependency on public intervention. Evidence of this funding should be provided in your Supporting Evidence Pack. Where you have indicated that a UPRN is dependent on public intervention by providing a 'Yes' in the 'Public_Intervention' column within your data coverage response; the approach by the Scottish Government is to provide a default Gigabit White determination to any planned build and to supersede this determination with project-specific intervention data as described in the OMR/PR - Subsidy Control Classification Guidance. Any current build would not usually undergo this same approach.

Public Intervention Type:

GIS (pre contract award)' - Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy, pre contract award
GIS (post contract award)' - Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy, post contract award for contracted and 'Incidental Coverage' premises, relevant only where you have secured a GIS contract. For a definition of Incidental Coverage premises, please refer to the instructions for completing the Financial Model in the ITT or contract.

'Superfast' – Coverage from the 2012 or 2016 National Broadband Scheme, including the Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband Programme (DSSB)

'R100' – Coverage planned or delivered via the R100 contracts

'SBVS (post approval)' – voucher approved, not yet delivered

'SBVS (build complete)' – voucher receipted, service delivered

'GBVS (pre request)' - GBVS, before a Voucher has been requested

'GBVS (post request)' - GBVS, after a Voucher has been requested / issued

'LFFN' - Local Full Fibre Network

'GigaHubs' – GigaHubs Project

'RGC' - Rural Gigabit Connectivity

Additional public intervention types can also be provided, such as Local Authority funded schemes.

Extra columns

Aside from the standard columns above, you may wish to add additional columns to provide additional information about your network. If this is the case, please add additional column(s) at the end of your data return and provide a clear explanation in your Supporting Evidence Pack of what these columns indicate.

Logic Table

The logic table should be used as a reference when populating your data coverage submission. It demonstrates the typical data presentation that you should provide to the Scottish Government and is consistent with the common data checks carried out.

Cells that have been 'greyed out' should not be populated for the example scenarios provided.

The logic table can be downloaded from the 'supporting documents' section of this publication.

Frequently Asked Questions

To help with your submission the following FAQs have been provided for your reference.

- 1. I have a network build which requires additional work and costs to provide a gigabit service to the end user for which I would like to obtain Voucher funding for. How should this be represented in my data submission?**

1.1. If you do require public intervention funding to complete the connection to the end user and cannot support this work commercially, then show coverage in the Future_Technology field, Design_Stage = '5. In build', Delivery_Phase = 'Final Drop Connection Required' and Public_Intervention = 'Yes'. Please see scenario 7 within the logic table above for a data presentation example.

1.2. If you do not require public intervention funding to complete the connection to the end user and can support this work commercially, then show coverage in the Current_Technology field, Design_Stage = '6. RFS', Delivery_Phase = 'Final Drop Connection Required' and Public_Intervention = 'No'. Please see scenario 8 within the logic table above for a data presentation example.

- 2. I am planning on delivering to an area and would like to claim some Vouchers there. How should I reflect this in my OMR return, particularly if I am unsure on the specific UPRNs that I intend to claim Vouchers for?**

2.1. If you can indicate in your OMR return which specific UPRNs are commercially funded and which are wholly/partially dependent on Vouchers, then please use the Public_Intervention column to show this.

2.2. If you are unable to identify the specific UPRNs at the time of your OMR return, you have two options:

2.2.1. Mark all UPRNs as 'No' for Public_Intervention i.e. all UPRNs are to be delivered using commercial funding. This may result in these UPRNs being classified as Under Review, Grey or Black subject to the presence of other suppliers and therefore being ineligible for Voucher funding.

2.2.2. Mark all UPRNs as 'Yes' for Public_Intervention i.e. all UPRNs are dependent on at least some public subsidy and without this subsidy you would not deliver there commercially. This is likely to result in these UPRNs being marked as White for your submission and therefore they could be eligible for Voucher funding subject to the presence of other suppliers.

3. Why should I respond to the OMR if I'm fully reliant on public subsidy funding? (i.e. Public_Intervention = Yes for all UPRNs)

3.1. If your future network plans are entirely reliant on public subsidy/interventions (e.g. vouchers) it may not be necessary for you to provide a complete set of supporting evidence alongside your data submission.

3.2. Technical Evidence is still required, however, the requirements relating to Financial/Commercial details may not be required on your Supporting Evidence Pack. If you are providing a first-time submission, we will advise if further information is required.

3.3. By providing a submission, this also ensures that we can represent your data correctly to encourage voucher eligibility accuracy; and also allows us to complete a comparison exercise with public subsidy data that we currently hold to ensure alignment with yourselves.

4. Why can't the Scottish Government use my Ofcom's Connected Nations data submission?

4.1. The Open Market Review (OMR) and Public Review (PR) - Subsidy Control Classification Guidance¹¹ provides strict guidance for the assessment of supplier submissions to create a legal baseline for intervention.

4.2. The Ofcom Connected Nations data is not collected for this purpose and is therefore not subject to the same assessment criteria.

5. How often should I update my OMR data / Supporting Evidence Pack?

5.1. Keep us updated - in a dynamic market, it's difficult for us to assess information as valid if it's more than six months old for example.

¹¹ [OMR & PR Subsidy Control Classification Guidance](#)

5.2. Where your evidence no longer aligns with your data coverage submission and / or your evidence has timed out, evaluators will request additional information from you.

5.3. For example, evidence and/or data that has not been updated for a long time by supplier X, who last provided evidence in December 2021. This would now likely be out of date and we would assume you would like to update this to reflect the current position in your Supporting Evidence Pack.

5.4. Suppliers are expected to sign off their Submission Information tab for every release of their Supporting Evidence Pack even if just to confirm that there is no change from the previous submission.

6. I have an existing contract e.g. R100 or Project Gigabit in Scotland GIS contract, how should I represent planned incidental build within my submission?

6.1 Please see scenario 4 within the logic table which shows that this coverage should be represented with Public_Intervention = 'Yes' and Public_Intervention_Type = 'GIS (post contract award)'

6.2 If this GIS contract were to fall away for whatever reason, or this aspect of the coverage were to fall away within the contract, then these UPRNs should be updated in your next OMR and either removed from the planned coverage, or represented as commercial plans (i.e. Public_Intervention = 'No')

6.3 As this build progresses to RFS then please ensure your OMR return is updated to reflect scenario 2 in the logic table

7. Why can't the Scottish Government use the UK Government's national OMR data?

7.1 The Scottish Government captures data for additional purposes to UK Government, in particular superfast coverage to allow for monitoring against the R100 programme and SBVS eligibility.

7.2 In terms of GIS contracts, the Scottish Government is the procuring authority for Type A and Type B contracts and therefore has responsibility for the Subsidy Control compliance of those contracts.

Annex C: Supporting evidence

In order to substantiate your existing and planned commercial coverage we require a complete and up to date Supporting Evidence Pack alongside your submission.

There are three essential areas against which the Scottish Government will evaluate to ensure overall viability of your planned investment:

technology - whether the technology you have deployed and intend to deploy is gigabit-capable and meets the technical criteria as outlined in Annex D

deliverability - whether your deployment plans are in line with the phases/premises passed outlined in your business plan, with the key build stages and processes outlined

commercial/financial viability - whether you have credible commercial plans such as sufficient access to capital and whether the drawdown of your funds aligns with your deployment plan and build programme

Please note - we do not expect you to produce additional tailored material to support your response. We believe you should have sufficient documentation readily available that can enable us to make a determination of credibility. We are also aware that you may have prepared information for the UK Government's National OMR – this information can be reused for the purposes of this OMR where it pertains specifically to coverage and planned build in Scotland.

Initial completion of a Supporting Evidence Pack

(Where a supplier is a first time OMR respondent and does not have an existing Supporting Evidence Pack)

First time respondents should provide supporting evidence in two ways:

1. A completed Supporting Evidence Pack (this template is available by request at: gigabitomr@gov.scot) containing responses to each evidence request. Your responses may refer us directly to supplementary documentation (described below).
2. Supplementary documentation to substantiate your coverage claims such as network diagrams, business plan, deployment plans etc.

The supporting evidence you provide should correlate with your data coverage submission (Annex B).

An area to store supporting documentation, alongside your Supporting Evidence Pack, will be provided within the secure file portal set up by the Scottish Government when making your submission. Please contact: gigabitomr@gov.scot to confirm your intent to respond to this OMR and we will provide you with access to the secure file portal.

Once evaluated, your Supporting Evidence Pack will be baselined and can be used for subsequent responses to OMRs and/or PRs.

For future submissions, suppliers should review and refresh the information provided in their Supporting Evidence Pack but do not need to submit a new document to support their claims. The document is a live document which can be updated for each submission in line with any changes to a supplier's corresponding data submission (Annex B).

Updating of a Supporting Evidence Pack

(Where a supplier has previously responded to an OMR and already has an existing Supporting Evidence Pack in place)

Suppliers are the owners of their Supporting Evidence Packs and supporting information folders and as such responsible for ensuring that all the information remains valid and up to date each time a submission is made to an OMR and/or PR.

Suppliers should ensure their data coverage and Supporting Evidence Pack remain valid and up to date. These should be reviewed alongside each submission, ideally ensuring information is no more than 6 months old. By completing a regular refresh of your content this will mitigate against outdated information, potential data misalignment and ensure that evaluators are able to assess your submission accurately.

This may reduce the number of additional evidence CQs that you are issued with. Where a Supporting Evidence Pack has not been updated for a long time, for example the 'Date of response/update' was displayed as December 2021, this would likely be out of date and no longer reflect your organisation's current position.

A common theme noted from recent OMR processes, which resulted in additional CQs being issued, referred to requests to see updated financial and deliverability information in line with build progress and future plans noted within data submissions. For example, supplier X indicated previously they had secured £10m of additional funding to increase their existing footprint by 20,000 premises. Alongside updates in terms of the Design_Stage and Funding_Stage within data submissions, updated implementation and financial evidence (i.e. a calendar deployment plan) and how much capex has been drawn down/spent and remains available would be expected to be revised.

In addition, it may also be appropriate for suppliers to update their technical supporting evidence to reflect such things as increases in capacity and/or any resulting changes in design associated with delivery of their planned build, take-up, etc. to demonstrate continued gigabit capability.

Should suppliers require any additional support, in terms of updating, editing or archiving their Supporting Evidence Pack and/or their supporting information folders, please get in touch with us at: gigabitomr@gov.scot

We may be required to reclassify your coverage determinations previously determined as Gigabit Grey or Gigabit Under Review should the evidence no longer meet the requirements of a previous Subsidy Control Categorisation.

Please see below an outline of the process:

1. Supplier confirms intent to respond to OMR and/or PR, and if required requests UPRN template and signs Ordnance Survey PGSA Contractor Licence.
2. The Scottish Government sets up a secure file portal and provides login details to the supplier.
3. Supplier uploads their data coverage file and updates their Supporting Evidence Pack and full suite of information.
4. Scottish Government Evaluators assess the evidence provided and raise CQs where necessary. Following the determination of supplier's treatment, the Supporting Evidence Pack for that submission is 'baselined'.
5. Scottish Government archives the baselined version of your supporting evidence.
6. When responding to a subsequent OMR and/or PR the supplier provides a new data coverage file and reviews the baselined evidence pack. The supplier will either:
 - a. Verify that the Supporting Evidence Pack remains valid and no changes have been made to the information within; or
 - b. Amend some or all of the responses in line with any updates to coverage plans and refresh supporting documentation which is no longer valid. Any changes to the Supporting Evidence Pack must be recorded accordingly.

Additional guidance on how to complete the Supporting Evidence Pack will be provided when setting up the secure file portal.

If you require any additional support, guidance or clarification with any of this, please get in touch with us at: gigabitomr@gov.scot

If your future network plans are entirely reliant on public subsidy/interventions (e.g. vouchers) it may not be necessary to provide a complete set of supporting evidence alongside your data submission. Please contact: gigabitomr@gov.scot if you are unsure.

Annex D: Technical definition

The technical definition is provided in the Subsidy Control Guidance Section¹² of the UK Government website.

The key areas are:

- Section 10.6 of the Detailed overview of the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy scheme¹³
- The Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Worked Example - Assessment Form for Gigabit Capable Solutions¹⁴. Please note, this worked example shall be used principally for contracting purposes, but may be used for other purposes (i.e. OMR/ PR) and therefore may be of use when responding to this OMR.

Even if you are familiar with the definition, you should re-check it for each return, as it may change from time to time.

¹² [Project Gigabit UK Subsidy Advice](#)

¹³ [Detailed Overview of the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Scheme – Section 10](#)

¹⁴ [GIS Worked Example - Assessment Form for Gigabit Capable Solutions](#)



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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at

The Scottish Government
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Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

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