

MG Broadband Grants – Guidance Notes

This portal has been designed by Fastershire, Connecting Shropshire and Superfast Telford to help SMEs access capital funding to bring high speed connectivity to their premises. It aims to match suppliers with those businesses and provide a fair and transparent market place to reach the best price and service that meets the SMEs needs.

The portal enables businesses to submit a standardised request for quotation which includes enough relevant information to enable suppliers to respond with a standardised quotation. SMEs should then be in a position to make an informed choice between suppliers after a reasonable amount of time has lapsed.

Step 1

SMEs and Suppliers that wish to participate need to register and be approved before having full access to the portal.

If you are having any issues registering or feel that approval has either taken too long or been unreasonably denied, please contact info@mgbroadbandgrants.com. You may not be eligible, if you think you should be contact us our data could be incorrect or there may be a funding based reason.

Step 2

Once approved, SMEs are free to move to step 2 and complete a request for quotation form. SMEs should ensure all fields are completed with sufficient detail. When published, this form remains live for 4 weeks for suppliers to respond.

Suppliers can respond at any time during that period but should formally decline if not intending to quote.

During this period, SMEs will be able to see the details of suppliers that have either responded, are pending or that have declined to quote. SMEs will not until the expiry date be able to view the content of the quotes.

Once Suppliers have completed one quotation, their standardised data will be saved to simplify the process the next time.

Step 3

Once the time has lapsed, SMEs will be able to view their quotes and select their preferred supplier, after which, all suppliers that have provided a quote will be automatically notified of the result.

SMEs should then use their preferred quote as the basis of their step three funding application. When completing the application, SMEs should note in particular that a funding decision will be based on the economic outcome of this grant and therefore any anticipated benefit should be sufficiently identified.

Applications will be reviewed and either approved, declined or if the quote has been identified as subject to survey, approved with conditions.

Upon the notification of conditional approval, SMEs can instruct suppliers to undertake the survey at the supplier's risk. When costs have been finalised, formal approval should be sought by amending the original application with the new costs.

Upon the notification of approval, SMEs are free to instruct their preferred supplier to begin work and claim the approved amount retrospectively from the scheme. Suppliers are required to follow the code of conduct at all time.