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Mr Michael Edwards  
[request-378588-e2f734ef@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-378588-e2f734ef@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Edwards,

Thank you for your email of 22 December to the Freedom of Information Team at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, requesting information regarding the definition of superfast broadband. As this request is not for an item of recorded information, we have considered it necessary to respond to your request as a piece of general correspondence. I am replying as a member of the Ministerial Support Team.

As part of the BDUK roll-out, the Government has defined superfast broadband as speeds greater than 24 Mbps, whilst Ofcom and the European Commission define superfast broadband as speeds greater than 30 Mbps. To provide speeds that meet the Government's target of above 24 Mbps, Next Generation Access (NGA) technology such as Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) is needed, because traditional copper lines can only provide speeds up to 24 Mbps. The BDUK figure of 'above 24 Mbps' therefore represents the aim of delivering NGA technology, with most who can access these kinds of connections in fact achieving much faster speeds than the 24 Mbps lower threshold.

I hope that this information is of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Hood  
**Ministerial Support Team**

