Newsletter August 2021



Get the latest information about the Local Land Charges (LLC) Programme and the migration of local authorities' data to the central LLC Register.

Our LLC highlights three years on

I vividly remember launching our very first live service with Warwick Council in 2018, as England had reached the World Cup semi-finals. Three years on, England were back in the headlines, having reached their first major final since 1966. Wales had reached the knockout stages of a major tournament for a third time. And with the same qusto our team achieved some key milestones:

migrated 18 local authorities onto the national register;

- introduced transition payments for local authorities (LAs) to support their migration;
- aligned the Welsh Local Land Charges (LLC) service fees with those payable in England;
- developed a regional roadmap, which aims to migrate all LAs in
- England and Wales by 2025; created data transformation tools to streamline processes;
- worked with more delivery partners to boost resource;
- introduced four delivery models to help LAs migrate that take account of their needs, capability and business readiness to
- trebled our workforce to meet our delivery objectives; and added a blog section on Migration Hub.

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In conversation with Breckland Council

Our four Migration Delivery teams are currently working with 68 local authorities who are at different stages of migration. Breckland Council recently scanned the paper section of their register during lockdown. I spoke to them about their experience of:

- entrusting us with their paper register;
- the steps we took to ensure their data remained intact;
- the benefits the scanned data provide; and how we made sure their live service was uninterrupted.
- Their feedback confirmed we had exceeded their expectation, as my conversation with Joanna Hall, Local Charges Technical Support Team Leader at Breckland Council, reveals:

A - Allison Bradbury J - Joanna Hall

- A: How many charges did you have and what format were they in?
- J: We had approximately 14,000 cards (papers). Each card could have from one to six different charges. We also had microfiche with approximately 147,000 'jackets' holding approximately 1,350,000 images.
- mind telling our readers if you have any concerns about data access?

A: As your migration is happening during business hours, do you

- J: We agreed if we required a charge, HM Land registry would provide access when needed. Although we did not need to access the data, this agreement was very reassuring for us.
- A: How well did we keep you informed during the scanning process?
- J: Could not fault it! We were consistently updated on progress. We were also able to contact the team easily whenever we had any queries.
- A: What was the condition of the card charges when they were
- J: I must admit that we were concerned that they might have been muddled up, but to our surprise this was not the case. Our tanks were very neatly put back together, enabling easy access.
- A: Any parting words for other LAs that are due to migrate or waiting to have their non-digital data scanned in the future?
- J: I would like to reassure them by saying, "do not worry!" If our experience is anything to go by, your information is in very safe hands and will be returned to you in a far much better condition than it was sent.

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Events

Throughout June and July, we co-hosted webinars with our LA LLC software suppliers IDOX, Agile, DEF and Northgate. More than 300 LA representatives from across the country attended. These sessions gave the suppliers an opportunity to introduce themselves to the LAs they will be working with, outline working practices and answer questions.

You can watch recording of these sessions on our Migration Hub.

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Dudley joins the LLC Register On 19 July, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council became the 18th LA to

migrate its LLC service to the national register. It is the first borough in the Black Country to make the high-quality digital service available to property buyers and conveyancers. lain Newman, Director of Finance and Legal at Dudley Metropolitan Borough

Council, said: "We are confident that the change will be seamless for our clients and residents, whilst maintaining our high level of service and the quality of our data."

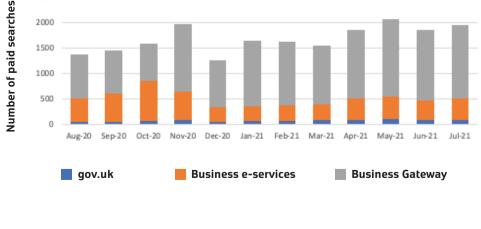
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This graph illustrates the number of official searches purchased through HM Land Registry's business channels for migrated local authorities.

Service statistics

With more local authorities joining our register and high levels of activity in the housing market, we are pleased to see that the register is

already helping to speed up transactions in migrated areas. Volume of paid for searches by channel for migrated local authorities



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Your feedback is important to us and will be used to improve and refine our service. Please email our team inbox with any comments.

Feedback

Kind regards

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Allison Bradbury Head of Local Land Charges <u>Implementation</u>