



Here is the latest information for local authorities about the Local Land Charges Programme and the migration of local authorities’ data to the live service.

A happy new year to you all. As we move into 2021, the Local Land Charges (LLC) Programme has been taking stock of the past year. There have been challenges for us and local authorities that we could never have anticipated this time last year.

Over the last 12 months I’ve seen an extraordinary resilience in those who work to deliver this frontline service and those working behind the scenes to transform it. Looking ahead, the programme has some exciting news to share with you.

Our four-year ambition

In past newsletters, we’ve talked about the LLC Programme’s desire to speed up the rate at which local authorities are migrated onto the register. It is the Government’s ambition that the national register becomes a trusted and guaranteed source of LLC information, containing all local authority records in England and Wales by 2025.

To support this, we have developed a migration schedule that covers every local authority in England and Wales. This looks to migrate authorities in regional clusters, which means neighbouring authorities can support each other and maximise economic benefits across localities, while delivering migration activity at maximum pace.

We have worked with our key stakeholder groups to bring them up to speed and they have helped shape our approach. Last December, we wrote to every local authority chief executive in England and Wales, informing them of our aims and confirming the year their authority is scheduled to migrate.

We’re excited with our new direction, but it is also important to take stock of what we have achieved to date. On 8 December 2020, our service delivered its 100,000th search result.

For local authorities who have completed migration, they now hold a geospatial dataset that provides many benefits that include:

- data that can be shared across different local authority departments to help deliver services more effectively and transparently;
- spatial data which can be overlaid with other local authority mapping systems to provide a holistic picture of the local authority assets, locally maintained areas and features; and
- free access to spatial data that will allow staff to self-serve when answering queries, reducing the number of requests for information between departments.

If you have any queries about where your local authority sits within our delivery timescales, please get in touch with your delivery manager or via [our team inbox](#).

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Welsh Government fee alignment consultation

The consultation for fee alignment for Welsh local authorities, ahead of their proposed addition to the LLC Programme, closed on 3 November 2020. It was great news that the responses were positive and supported the fee increase to bring the Welsh services in line with the standard £15 fee across England.

On 26 November 2020, the Welsh Government published their response to the consultation. This is available at [GOV.Wales](#). The Welsh Government plans to lay the Statutory Instrument, Land Charges (Fees) (Wales) Rules 2020, which is expected to come into force on 1 April 2021.

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January and February’s events

We have now sent out invitations to our next two online events. Each of these webinars will help local authorities prepare to migrate their service.

Our first webinar took place on 20 January and was designed for all local authorities who will be migrating in Year 1 of our new approach (over the course of financial year 2021/22).

Our second webinar will take place on 17 February and is designed for local authorities who will be migrating in Year 2 (over the course of financial year 2022/23).

For the remaining authorities in Year 3 and Year 4 (financial year 2023/24 and 2024/25 respectively) we will be holding further events in the spring to outline our plans and help ensure that you are ready.

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Launch of our new LLC Migration Hub

We will shortly launch our new LLC Migration Hub, which we developed with the support of local authorities who have migrated their service. The GitHub host platform contains an easy-to-navigate repository of tools and guidance to help you through each migration stage.

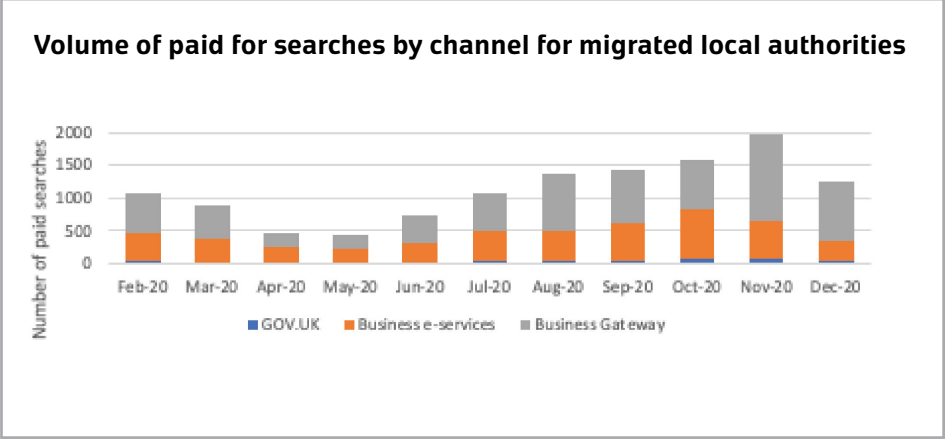
The LLC Programme’s presence on Knowledge Hub (Khub) will end four weeks after the Migration Hub launches. At this point you will have to access our online tools and resources through the Migration Hub.

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Service statistics

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

Peaking in November, we’ve seen continued high levels of searches purchased through our channels. It’s good to see that these have surpassed pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) levels. We will continue to work with both local authorities and the conveyancing sector to aid the recovery of the property market.

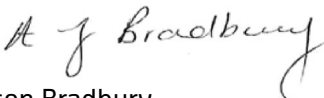


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Feedback

As always, your feedback is important as it ensures we can make continued improvements and refinements to the service. Please do contact us with any comments by emailing [our team inbox](#).

With kind regards

  
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