Newsletter June 2021

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.

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Our work with incumbent suppliers

As a programme, we have spoken a lot over the past few months about the investments we've made in our own people and processes. We have grown the size of our team significantly to rise to the challenge of completing local authority migrations by 2025.

As the pace of migrations increases, I am pleased to announce that we are partnering with four of the current local authorities' IT suppliers to increase resource and capacity in our delivery. Northgate, Idox, DEF Software and Agile Applications have been contracted to support local authorities in both their migration activity and some live service considerations. These suppliers will provide resource and guidance during the migration of your local land charges service.

Collaborating with these partners is crucial to ensuring we can operate at the speed and scale required to achieve our ambition. We'll be sharing more information in the coming weeks to show how our work with suppliers will benefit local authorities.

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Upcoming events

In June and July, we are co-hosting a series of webinars with each supplier to highlight the work they are doing behind the scenes and how this may affect you. These sessions will also outline how we will work with your incumbent supplier to progress your local authority's migration. We will send webinar invitations out soon.

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Transition payments

Last month, we officially launched our transition payment scheme for local authorities. This money is in addition to the existing burdens payment and aims to cover the costs local authorities incur when migrating their data. These payments mean the overall financial support available to local authorities is more than £40 million.

The response to the transition payment has been overwhelmingly positive. Some councils have already shared how they plan to use the funds. One local authority says it will upgrade its IT systems, another will automate internal processes and others will pay for overtime and expenses accrued for data improvement.

We have written to all local authorities about the scheme and our team are talking with them about eligibility and payment amounts. If you have not yet begun these discussions, please contact your Delivery Manager or our team inbox: llcproject@landregistry.gov.uk

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Latest local authorities to join our register

We are pleased to announce that in May, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council joined our central register.

This takes our total number of live local authorities to 17. With many more local authorities scheduled to go live this year, we look forward to our service expanding.
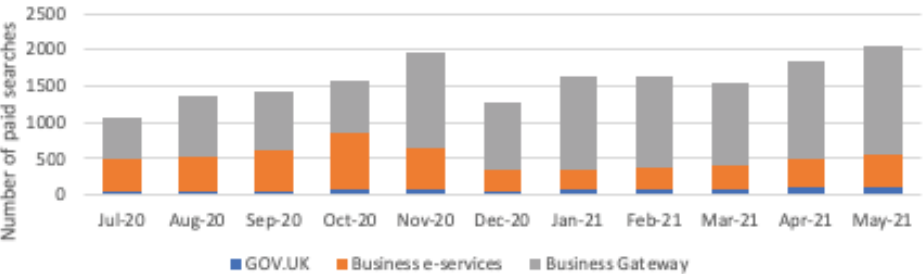
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Service statistics

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

With more local authorities joining our register, we have seen continued high volumes of searches processed through our channels. With the high levels of activity currently seen in the housing market nationwide, we are pleased to see that the register is already helping to speed up transactions in migrated areas.

We will continue to work with both local authorities and the conveyancing sector to support local property markets.

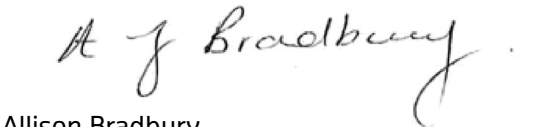**Volume of paid for searches by channel for migrated local authorities**

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Feedback

As always, your feedback is important, as it ensures we can continue to make improvements that refine the service. Please email our team inbox with any comments.

Kind regards

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