Here is the latest information for local authorities (LA) about the Local Land Charges (LLC) Programme and the migration of local authorities' data to the live service.

#### Reflecting on two years of live service

It has been two years since our service went live with Warwick District Council; two years since we watched the first part of the purple map on GOV.UK turn white just after midnight on 11 July 2018. The preceding 24 months have been full of opportunities, challenges and successes, with an enormous amount of learning along the way. Understanding the variety and complexity of local authorities' LLC data, and preparing it for migration onto the central digital register, has been one of the most important lessons. Tools that have been developed with user feedback, such as the Data Analysis Dashboard tool and the Migration Helper are already saving valuable time for local authorities and HM Land Registry alike, making the migration process more efficient.

As soon as lockdown began in March, it presented us with some unique challenges and opportunities to find new ways of working. Our fully digital service meant we could operate throughout the period and we have been in constant communication with local authorities. For many authorities it has been a case of balancing resource, but through adapting our migration process we were delighted to bring 2 more local authorities onto the central register – Carlisle City Council went live on 21 April and East Lindsey District Council on 26 June.

Through all of this, myself and the team have been impressed to see the resilience across local government. I would like to thank everyone who has engaged with us under such testing conditions, as we appreciate the additional pressures that you have been under.

Work is continuing, and we're committed to helping all local authorities who want to migrate.

We are delighted to welcome Wales to the start of the migration journey. A consultation to bring the Welsh fee in line with England will soon be launched. In the meantime, we are starting to speak with the Welsh local authorities to build relationships and learn about their data.

The Programme is in a strong position to move forward thanks to the continued combined efforts of local authorities and our team. With over 60 local authorities across England either actively working with us, or preparing their data for migration, we have exciting times ahead as we look to deliver migrations at a greater pace. The next two years will have its challenges, but I'm confident that together we have the tools and the determination to deliver this ground-breaking service.

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#### **Recent events**

One of our biggest changes has seen us adapt our engagement and events programmes to suit this new environment. We have created a suite of webinars for local authorities that focus on a range of LLC migration topics. These provide best practice advice and offer local authorities direct access to our experts.

In June and July, we delivered four webinar sessions to cover a variety of LLC topics. The engagement that we have seen from local authorities in their attendance and appetite to ask questions has been excellent and with the feedback that we have received, we are looking to create further workshops tailored to local authority needs.

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# **Latest addition to the register**

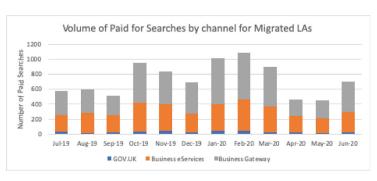
We are pleased to confirm that notice was served on Milton Keynes Council on 30 July 2020 and they will be joining our live service on 27 August 2020.

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### Service statistics

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

June has seen the first rise in activity since lockdown measures were introduced. As the wider housing market begins to re-open, we can see a healthy increase in searches purchased, which has climbed as we continue into July. We will continue to work with both local authorities and the conveyancing sector to aid the recovery of the 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 on <a href="mailto:licproject@landregistry.gov.uk">licproject@landregistry.gov.uk</a>.

Head of Local Land Charges Implementation

Ilcproject@landregistry.gov.uk

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