



Newsletter October 2022

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

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LLC supports the digital property market

I hope you have read our recently launched [Strategy 2022+](#) and the supporting [Business Plan for 2022-2025](#). Our renewed vision and roadmap clearly show how the LLC Register is helping to make our 'world-leading digital property market vision' a reality.

With over 2.5 million charges on the register, we have nearly trebled the number of charges [since this time last year](#), and doubled the number of migrations. We expect the migration pace to accelerate further as our delivery partners begin data discovery work in the coming weeks.

In October, we will welcome our 50th local authority onto the LLC Register, which is a milestone worthy of celebration. As more local authorities migrate their service the property-buying process becomes quicker and simpler, and the number of failed transactions due to late revelations are reduced. These failed transactions cost buyers time and up to £2,700 per incident.



Defra creates a new local land charge

The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has announced a new legislation aimed at conserving the environment for future generations. **The Environment Act 2021** contains provisions that will result in a new type of local land charge - **conservation covenants**. The relevant provisions came into force on the 30 September 2022.

A conservation covenant is a private, voluntary agreement between a landowner and a “responsible” body, such as a conservation charity, government body or a local authority. It delivers lasting conservation benefit for the public good.

A covenant sets out obligations in respect of the land which will be legally binding not only on the landowner but on subsequent owners of the land. Conservation covenants are a valuable tool that can help deliver positive environmental outcomes and they form part of the government’s ambitious 25-year Environment Plan.

Our live service has been updated to accommodate applications for the registration of this new charge category. The relevant statutory provision is [Environment Act 2021 section 120](#).

Any queries about the creation of conservation covenants as a local land charge should be directed to conservation.covenants@defra.gov.uk.



Help us improve how we communicate

Sharing information with you in the way you prefer to receive it is important to us. We are working hard to ensure you have all the migration information you need at your fingertips. The [Migration Hub](#) is the central repository for all your migration needs. We are keen to ensure our communications to you and the Migration Hub meet your requirements. To help us improve further, we ask you to complete a short anonymous survey. Your answers will inform how we communicate with you in the future.

[Complete survey](#)

Survey closes on
19 October 2022.

We will continue to share information with you through, face-to-face events, webinars, emails, the Migration Hub, our monthly newsletter and [GOV.UK](#) when appropriate.



Quote of the month

Last month we shared details of the work we are doing with other Originating Authorities. We have received some good feedback from authorities who have used the User Interface on **GOV.UK** to update their charges on the LLC Register.

Leicestershire County Council said:

“The website works fine, and we are happy with the simple, minimalist and intuitive layout. We found it quite straightforward once we got the georeferencing part done. It is particularly helpful that we can upload a shapefile from our existing external GIS application so that we can keep a local copy of all new charges that we have registered. The search tool also works well for identifying and updating existing registrations.”

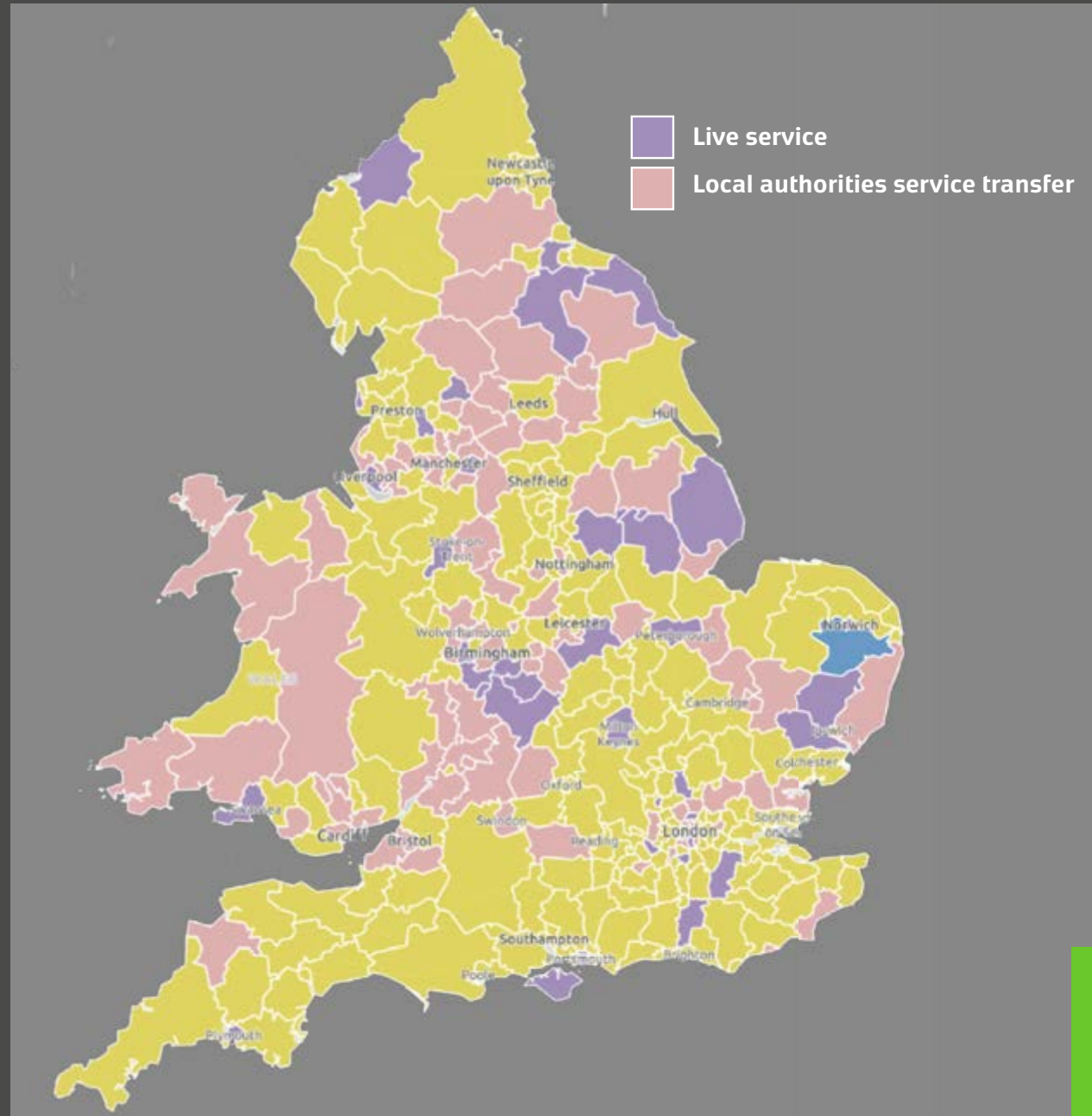
Our video guide on how to add, update or cancel charges on the LLC Register.



Top migration tips

- Invite all the relevant internal stakeholders to your mobilisation meeting i.e. IT, planning and GIS officers, as well as the SRO and Operations lead.
- Participate in defining your delivery plan, as it is a collaborative document that gives you an opportunity to influence timelines.
- Raise any issues with your Delivery Manager straightaway. We may have dealt with the problem during earlier migrations and have a solution, or we can put you in touch with someone who does.
- Assistance from your IT department will be important at certain times in the migration, so get them involved from the start.
- Be open and honest about the systems and data you use, the more information we have the more we can help you during your migration.

Please visit our [Migration Hub](#) for more tips



Our events calendar

More than 60 local authorities and other Originating Authorities were represented at our regional events in Manchester, Leicester and Southampton in September. These face-to-face events provided an opportunity for us to delve into each stage of the migration process, from the beginning through to Live service.

We were encouraged by the level of engagement during the workshop with our experts and the positive feedback we received. Having face-to-face meetings for the first time since the pandemic allowed networking and an opportunity for us to address questions and concerns. We would like to thank all our customers and stakeholders who invested time to attend an event. As some local authorities could not attend we have made the [slide pack available on the Migration Hub](#).

In response to feedback, we will be hosting a similar event in London at the beginning of 2023.

Manchester event



continued overleaf

Leicester event



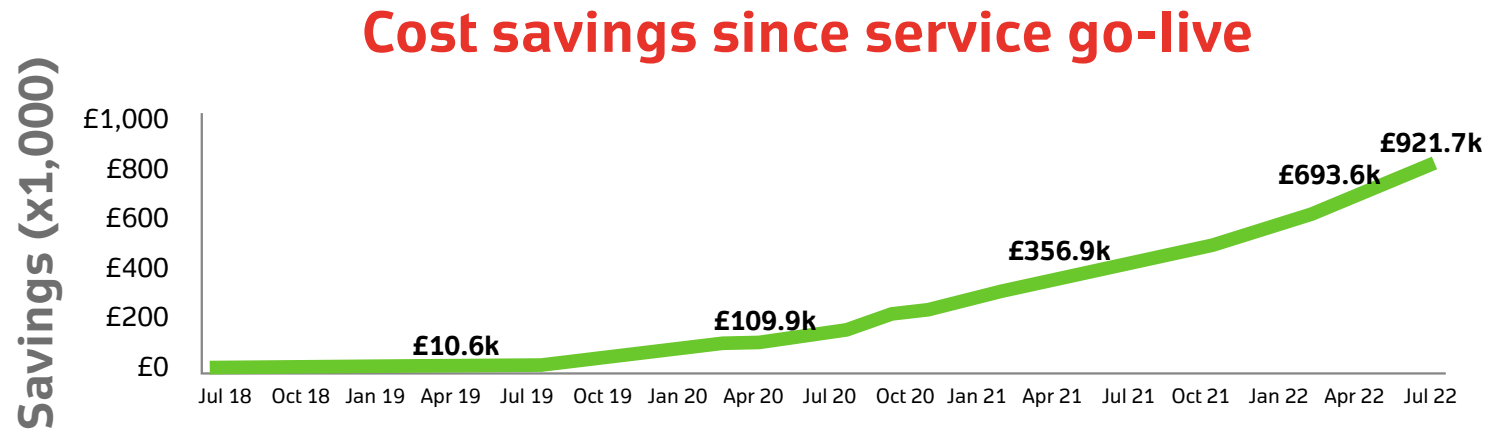
Southampton event



LLC Register cost savings

The following graph illustrates the value of the national LLC Register to the property market and the wider economy.

Since the register launched property-buyers have saved more than £900,000. To date **49 local authorities** have migrated to the register and we look forward to welcoming our 50th in October.



Kind regards

Allison Bradbury

Allison Bradbury
Head of Local Land Charges
Implementation
llcproject@landregistry.gov.uk

