

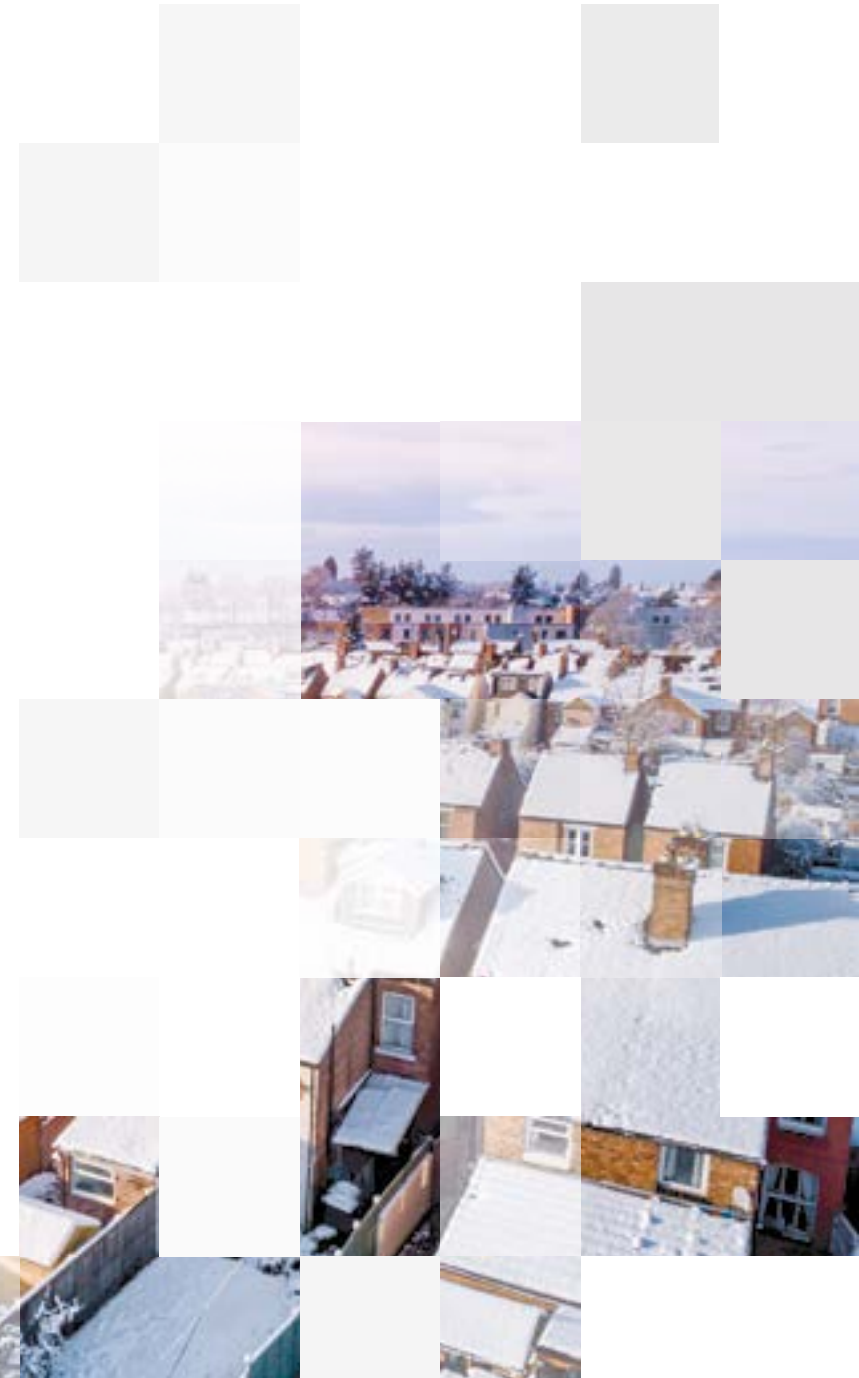


Newsletter December 2024

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

In this edition

- **The Land Data Awards are around the corner!**
- **The Local Authority Advisory Group – our critical friend**
- **The power of local land charges data**
- **The Newcastle Law Society visit our Durham office**
- **November regional workshops**
- **Have you read our new case studies?**
- **Quote of the month**
- **Local authorities on the register**



The Land Data Awards are around the corner!

It's almost that time again when we celebrate our top performing local authorities (LAs). We're pleased to support [the Best Performing Migrated LA award](#), which celebrates outstanding management of the register. Judges use live data from HM Land Registry's platform to rank Local Land Charges departments based on key performance criteria: time taken to register new charges and accuracy of entries. This criteria is analysed from 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025.

The nationally recognised awards highlights the outstanding work from your department, boosts team morale and shows your local community that you are working effectively on their behalf.

Mark your diaries, the awards will be presented on Tuesday 11 March 2025 at The Radisson Blue Hotel East Midlands Airport.

Good luck!



The Local Authority Advisory Group – our critical friend

The Local Land Charges (LLC) Local Authority (LA) Advisory Group – our ‘critical friend’ – meets quarterly to ensure that local government stakeholder interests are considered as we develop our policies, services and products.

The LA Advisory Group consists of members from:

- **Watford Borough Council**, representing LAs;
- **West Sussex County Council**, representing county councils;
- the **North York Moors National Park Authority**, representing national parks;
- **Land Data**, the official government-appointed organisation that manages and regulates National Land Information Service (NLIS) contracts;
- the **Local Government Association**, the national membership body for LAs; and
- the **LLC Institute**, the nationally recognised representative body for Local Land Charges.

We draw on the collective knowledge and expertise of the LA Advisory Group members to exchange information and discuss hot topics. It helps the LLC Programme with specific areas of research and plays a pivotal role in preparing LAs for business change.

We have already made improvements since meeting with the group:

- Drafting updated guidance on capturing extents for listed building charges, particularly around capturing curtilage.
- Ensuring LAs receive HM Land Registry software releases to proactively implement any necessary changes.
- Providing monthly reports for all live

LAs with Management Information on LA timeliness of registrations and data quality.

- County councils now receive an early notification of go-live dates for their respective district and borough councils to prepare for migration.
- We are currently exploring the potential benefits of returning cleansed data to LAs and how it can assist both the authority and their customers.

We are committed to delivering the best possible service and we value your feedback. The LA Advisory Group helps us to learn valuable lessons about the migration process and how this can be improved.



Image: Shutterstock/Andrey_Popov



The power of local land charges data

Local land charges (LLC) data is being used to help estate agents comply with [Trading Standards material information guidance](#).

It has been reported that more than 133,000 homes have been listed without complete material information, which helps property buyers make informed decisions. Critical facts about restrictive covenants, conservation areas, listed building status and tree preservation orders are being omitted, which could affect the purchase price. Estate agents in migrated areas now have this information at their fingertips online, removing their reliance on vendor information.

To raise awareness of the LLC data benefits among estate agents, the LLC team have contacted more than 100 estate agents. Agents in Yorkshire, Nottingham, Lincolnshire, the Midlands and the South West of England are being shown how to access the data. This approach is in line with [HM Land Registry's Business Strategy 2022+](#), which sets out our commitment to provide accessible digital register data, with near real-time property information, to accelerate change among property market partners.

Market sentiment about the use of LLC data among estate agents has been positive. Agents can now confidently complete section C of the material information listing, with the assurance of content accuracy and the knowledge that fewer transactions are likely to fail at a later stage because of late revelations, improving the buying process for everyone.



The Newcastle Law Society visits our Durham office

The influence of local land charges data stretches from the beginning of the conveyancing process to the end. Upfront information helps the property buying decision, while top tips on application completion speeds up the process when the information is applied.

The recent visit of the **Newcastle Law Society** to our Durham office gave its members an opportunity to better understand the local land charges service. A presentation on the perfect application and top tips led to a candid discussion about data transparency and the customer experience.

Members who toured the scanning area and observed the breadth of work said it **'blew their minds and left them in awe'**. By the end of the session, members had a better understanding of the challenges our digitising team face. They also understood the role they can play to improve the process and quicken application registration.

We look forward to welcoming the Law Society members and other market partners to future events and continue to develop our relationships with them.



Image: Shutterstock/Diana Vucane



Image: Shutterstock/Colin Ward



November regional workshops

In November, we hosted three regional workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG) Digital Planning Programme. The events saw local and originating authority customers and stakeholders share their insights and innovative approaches to managing local land charges (LLC).

Expert speakers were joined by local authority presenters who led the workshops, sharing first-hand experience of migration journeys and live service. Sessions included:

- live demonstrations of the LLC service and MHCLG's Digital Planning software;
- the LLC migration journey: key milestones and preparation guidance;
- an introduction to the Digital Planning Programme: providing insight and updates on digital innovations to reduce duplicative efforts across local and originating authorities; and
- listed buildings and curtilage: offered practical advice on curtilage listings and their relevance.

Participants valued the workshops interactive format and the relevance of each session. Michele Sarginson, Peak District National Park Authority said: **“it was a great event, and I certainly got a lot out of it – especially the session on curtilage listing.”**

This view was supported by Laura Prideaux-Brune, Digital Development Project Manager, who said **“it was a good day, and I certainly took away some interesting ideas and useful contacts. It's great to see partnership working across projects, something I find rarely happens”**.



We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to the success of the workshops. Your input and engagement are instrumental in driving this critical programme forward.

For those who were unable to attend, the feedback provided by attendees is clear: the events were informative, filled with opportunities to connect with peers and prepare you for the future. Please stay tuned for announcements on future regional workshops. We would encourage you to register early and join us in shaping the future of local land charges and digital planning.

Have you read our new case studies?

Epping Forest Council and **North Lincolnshire Council** case studies have been published on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk). Case studies tell the individual story of the migration process for different Local Authorities, providing insight and lessons learned that can be shared and celebrated.

If you would like to be considered for a case study, please contact your **Delivery/Relationship Manager**. We would love to hear from you.



Image: Shutterstock/Alexey Fedorenko



Quote of the month

By working together, we will make each migration smoother and seamless. **Michael Sakyi**, Local Land Charges Officer at Maldon District Council said:

“Our Delivery Manager Joanne Silva made it feel like it wasn’t us against them, it was them for us.”



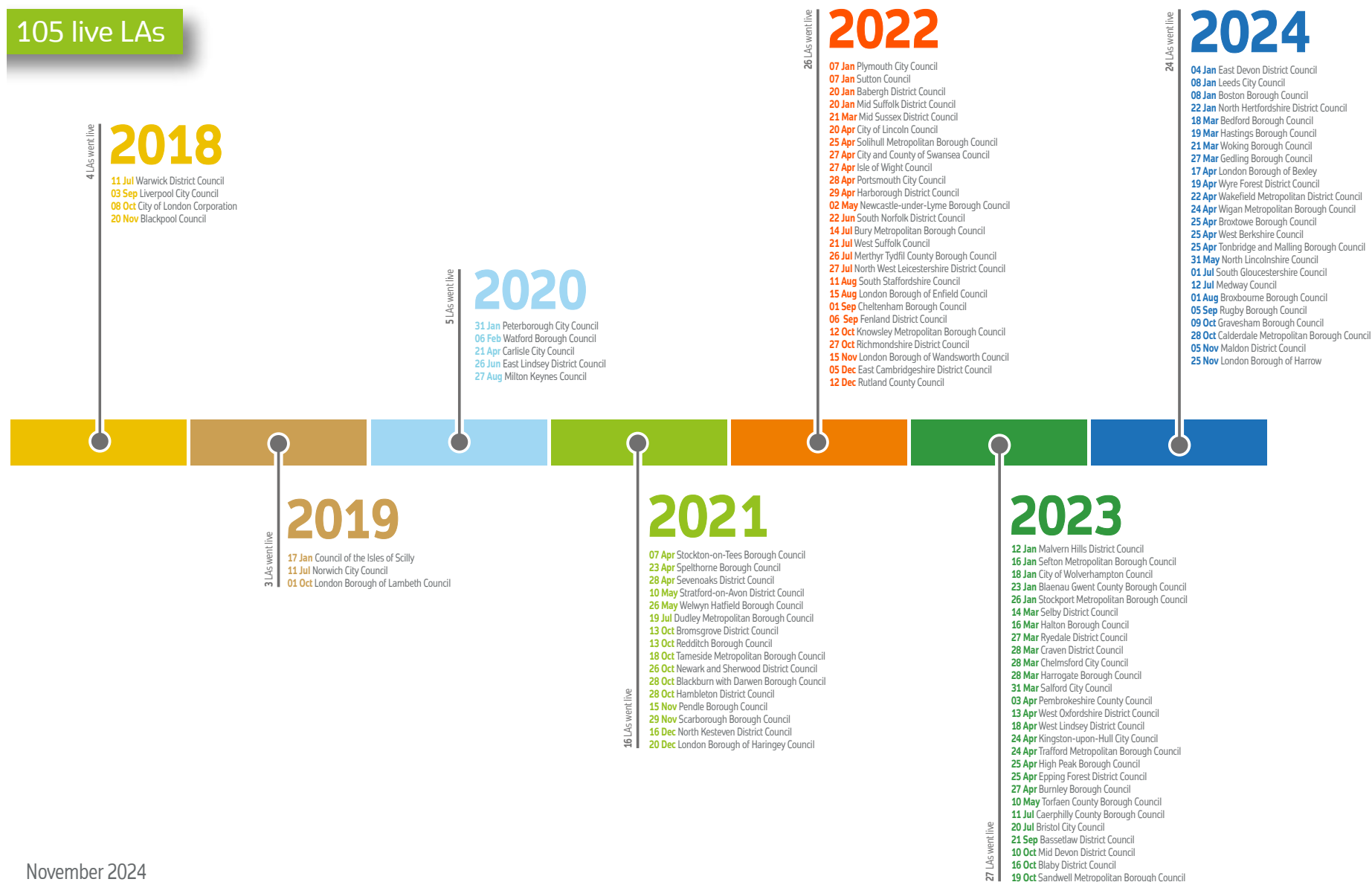
Image: Shutterstock/Chris Lawrence Images



Local authorities on the register by 30 November 2024

HM Land Registry Local Land Charges Register

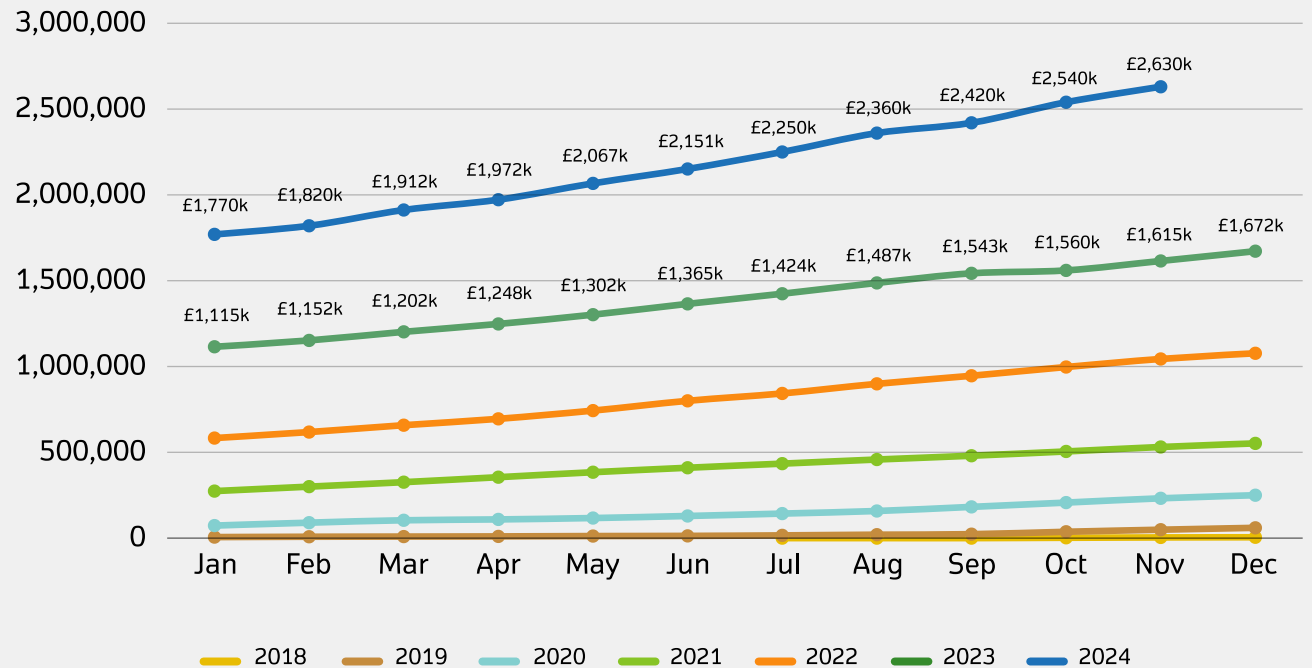
105 live LAs



The national LLC Register cost savings

Since programme launch, the LLC Register has recorded a total cost saving of over **£2.6 million** from searches with customers in migrated areas, saving an average of **12.7 days** to obtain an LLC search result. More than **6 million** charges from the **105 local authorities** have been **migrated** to the register.

Cost savings since service go live



This graph illustrates the accumulative savings as more local authorities join the national LLC Register



The national LLC Register – total number of searches

Since July 2018,
we have recorded

1,327,605
searches on
the register

Search figure accurate up to the end of the preceding month (November 24)



Kind regards



Rhonda Griffiths

Head of Programme Management
and Policy, Local Land Charges

llcproject@landregistry.gov.uk

