

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE STATISTICS

USER ENGAGEMENT

We invite users to expand on this Annex by telling us how they use these statistics, and what sort of decisions they inform - Email: StatShop@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Local government finance statistics - products

Title of Product	Designation*	Sources of Data
Local Authority Capital Expenditure and Receipts: England Final Outturn	National Statistics	Capital Outturn Returns (COR)
Local Authority Capital Expenditure and Receipts: England Forecast	National Statistics	Capital Estimate Returns (CER)
Local Authority Capital Expenditure and Receipts: England Provisional Outturn	National Statistics	Capital Payments and Receipts Return (CPR4)
Local Authority Capital Expenditure and Receipts: England Second Provisional Outturn	National Statistics	Capital Outturn Returns (COR)
Local Authority Revenue Expenditure and Financing: England Budget	National Statistics	Revenue Accounts Budgets (RA)
Local Authority Revenue Expenditure and Financing: England Final Outturn	National Statistics	Revenue Outturn (RO)
Local Authority Revenue Expenditure and Financing: England Provisional Outturn	National Statistics	Revenue Summary (RS)
Local Government Financial Statistics (LGFS)	National Statistics	All – summary publication
Local Government Key Facts Card: England	National Statistics	All – summary publication
Capital Forecast return	Official Statistics	Capital Forecast Returns (CFR)
Capital Payment and Receipts (Live tables)	Official Statistics	Capital Payments and Receipts (CPR1,2,3 & 4)
Collection Rates for Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates: England	Official Statistics	Quarterly Return of Council Taxes and Non-Domestic Rates (QRC4)
Levels of Council Tax set by Local Authorities: England	Official Statistics	Budget Requirement (BR)
Local Government Pension Scheme Funds: England	Official Statistics	Local Government Pension Scheme Funds (SF3) form
National Non-Domestic Rates to be Collected: England	Official Statistics	National Non-domestic rates return (NNDR1)
National Non-Domestic Rates Collected: England	Official Statistics	National Non-domestic rates return (NNDR3)
Local Authority Council Taxbase: England	Official Statistics	Council Tax Base (CTB) and Council Tax Base Supplementary (CTB(S))

*Official statistics which are judged to be fully compliant with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics are designated as 'National Statistics', and carry the equivalent Logo.

Local government finance statistics – users and their uses

The products listed above are exploited by a wide range of users in a variety of ways:

User	Uses
Ministers and officials in the Department for Communities and Local Government	The data are used to inform the allocation of Grants and to calculate contributions to the national non-domestic rates pool.
HM Treasury	Monitoring of public expenditure
Office for National Statistics	Compilation of the National Accounts
Other Government Departments	Most government departments use LGF statistics to monitor spend and financing. DEFRA, for example, use the data to monitor the cost of waste collection and disposal
Local Government	Benchmarking and cross-comparison of local authority income and expenditure
Business and the commercial sector	This sector utilises the data to evaluate Local Authority expenditure patterns and to spot business opportunities (e.g. Consultancy work)
Opinion-formers/The media	The media tend to be interested in Council Tax levels, collection rates, and other aspects of Local Authority Finance (e.g. exposure to Icelandic banks).

Main channels for user engagement

CLIP-Finance - CLIP-Finance meetings take place 3-4 times a year and involve representatives from central government, local government and academia. Decisions taken at these meetings relate to LGF releases and form-changes, and are recorded in the minutes. Minutes from these meetings are published on the CLIP website².

Publications - Each statistical release provides a contact point; asks for comments; and requests feedback. The annual LGFS publication encourages feedback and sometimes includes surveys on what users require. Contact details are supplied for each statistical area.

² <http://www.clip.local.gov.uk/lgv/core/page.do?pageId=31626>