



Rural Services Network Performance Service

Background:

We regularly publish on our website, analysis of performance indicators which are tailored to your local authority. You can see how well you are performing when compared to other rural local authorities and your family authorities in areas such as recycling, benefits processing, processing of planning applications and also council tax collection rates.

Current Issue:

NNDR and Council Tax collection rates are gaining in importance as an issue for local authorities particularly given the announcement of proposed changes to the Business Rate system.

Who is performing well?

NNDR COLLECTION RATES 2014-2015		
	District Authorities	Unitary Authorities
Average	98.28%	97.92%
Top Quartile Performance	98.87%	98.53%
Top 5 performing authorities	100% Canterbury 99.78% North Kesteven 99.74% Tonbridge & Malling 99.67% Basingstoke & Dean 99.64% Wellingborough	99.77% Wokingham 99.63% Thurrock 99.17% S Gloucestershire 99.04% Redcar & Cleveland 98.95% Central Bedfordshire

The differences in performance between the top five authorities are very small in percentage terms but when you consider the amount of money this relates to, small percentage amounts can relate to large sums of money.

For the period 14-15, when considering district authorities only, Mainly Rural Authorities were the most effective at collecting NNDR with an average collection rate of 98.40%. By comparison, Urban with City and Town Authorities collected on average 98.14%.

What next for business rates?

The chancellor has promised councils autonomy over £26bn of business rates however there are concerns over how this will impact on different areas. Local Authorities are encouraged to work with local businesses to regenerate their local area and promote growth however in areas with large areas of National Park or greenbelt, this may be more difficult to achieve and Councils will have to be innovative to make specific improvements for their areas. Their ability to increase collection rates is also important.

More information about the types of performance data and analysis we have available is on our website:

<http://www.rsnonline.org.uk/observatory/local-authority-performance>