

How your rates contribute to public spending

The rates that you pay make a vital contribution towards critical frontline public services and to local council services. In 2022-23 Land & Property Services (LPS) collected rates revenue of approximately £1.4 billion from ratepayers and shared between the NI Assembly and local councils.

Regional services provided by rates revenue

Rates make a significant contribution to supporting a range of essential public services including:



These percentages are based on planned resource expenditure in 2022-23 and are intended as an indication of how rates are spent and not as a direct link to any specific expenditure.

Local services delivered by your council

In 2022-23 approximately £717 million of district rates funding helped your local council provide services such as:

- **Building Control**
- **Tourism**
- **Leisure/Community Facilities**
- **Waste Management**
- **Environmental Health**
- **Arts, event and recreation**

Visit www.nidirect.gov.uk/contacts to find the contact details for your local council who will provide more information on how they allocate the contribution that you make to rates revenue.

What if you don't pay your rates?

You are legally obliged to pay your rates - ignoring a rates demand does not make the debt go away. If you do not pay your rate bill and do not contact us, LPS will take you to court to recover the full debt and all associated costs.

Visit www.nidirect.gov.uk/rates or www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/rates for full details of the steps LPS takes to recover unpaid rates.

Valuation of Properties

How your rate bill is calculated

The rateable value of a property, as decided through the valuation process, is one of the factors used to calculate your rate bill. For domestic properties the rateable value is known as Capital Value (CV) and for Non-Domestic properties it is known as Net Annual Value (NAV). The rate bill is calculated by multiplying the CV or NAV by the total of the regional and district rates added together.

For more information visit: www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/how-rate-bills-are-calculated

Have you altered your property?

Property alterations such as extensions, roof space conversions, structural alterations or a change of use may affect the rateable value of

Don't wait for a summons to appear in court

If you are having difficulty paying your rate bill, call **0300 200 7801** now. We will review your circumstances and may be able to discuss alternative payment arrangements with you.

Any delay in contacting LPS will lead to a build up of your debt and make any payment arrangement more difficult to manage.

your property and so may change the rates amount you are required to pay. You must contact LPS to have your valuation reviewed if you have carried out work of this kind.

Where a domestic property is undergoing renovation, rates remain payable even if the property is unoccupied. In a limited number of cases involving major structural works which fundamentally change the character of a property a reduction in rates may apply while the work is taking place. In such situations it is important that you contact LPS as soon as the work begins using the LPS online Valuation List at: www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/property-valuation/valuation-lists

If you contact LPS after the work is completed, we will not have authority to amend your rate bill.

Contact us

Online:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/rates - for citizens
www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk - for business properties



By telephone:

Dial **0300 200 7801**
Calls charged at local rate / Calls from mobiles may cost more
Outside NI: **+44 28 9049 5794**

Text Relay: **18001 0300 200 7801**

By email:

rating@lpsni.gov.uk

