

Capital Payments and Receipts 2006-07 to Q3 2015-16: England

CPR 1-4 metadata:

Introduction

The data for Quarter 3 2015-16 in this live table are derived from Capital Payments and Receipts Returns (CPR3) submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government by English local authorities and is based on returns from all 444 authorities.

Only data for authorities that have completed a valid form are used in the compilation of national figures for this Release. For Quarter 3 2015-16, all 444 authorities have submitted valid returns.

However, for some previous quarters where we do not have a complete set of data for authorities in England, we do not calculate figures for missing or invalid figures for individual local authorities. To create an estimate of the national figures for England, we gross valid returns to account for missing or invalid figures using

- i. valid data from local authorities
- ii. number of missing or invalid authorities and what type of classification group they fit in (e.g. Single Purpose Authorities, Shire Districts, Shire Counties, Unitary Authorities, Metropolitan Districts, London Boroughs etc.)

Key points: Quarter 3 2015-16 data

- In Q3 capital expenditure has decreased by 6% from 5,199m to 4,868m. This was driven by the decrease in expenditure on loans and other financial assistance, and grants for capital purposes falling by over £200m and nearly £130m respectively.
- The expenditure for capital purposes on loans in 2015-16 has significantly decreased by 73% in Q3 from Q2. This is mainly driven by the GLA reducing their expenditure on loans by over £200 million in financial terms. Some local authorities have seen increases in use of loans, but not enough to counteract the effect of the GLA.
- The expenditure for capital purposes on grants in 2015-16 has decreased by 14% in Q3 from Q2. The greatest level of expenditure was of £535m recorded by Greater London Authority (GLA), down 17% compared to Q2. This is due to grants to Transport for London (TfL) subsidiaries moving up/down throughout the year. Wandsworth Borough Council has also reduced grants expenditure by £12m, some of which is due to reclassifying spend from 'Expenditure for capital purposes on

grants' to 'New construction, conversion and renovation'. Greater Manchester Combined Authority decreased Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute (refcus) spending by £21m, reducing their grant expenditure.

Whereas Manchester has seen a maintained higher level of expenditure at £17m in investment priorities agreed at the budget setting stage.

Overall there has been no significant increase or decrease but a steady trend towards less expenditure in Q3.

- Total capital receipts saw an increase of over £200m, 37%, from Q2 to Q3. This was mainly due to sale of fixed assets increasing £184m from Q2 to Q3, or 38%. £82m of the increase, was changes to the GLA return including the recording of receipts from the disposal of fire stations.

Data quality

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer demands.

Figures are subjected to rigorous pre-defined validation tests both within the forms themselves, while the forms are being completed by the authority and also in Communities and Local Government itself as the data are received and stored.

To ensure the highest quality data validation tests include comparisons between year-on-year expenditure and receipts (CPR3 2015-16 and CPR3 2014-15), as well as against quarter 2 expenditure and receipts (CPR2 2015-16). We have also looked at the 2015-16 quarter 3 total capital expenditure and receipts against the annual forecast for the same period.

Adjustments have been made to avoid double counting the GLA grants to other London authorities.

Finally, the table, once prepared, is also subject to intensive peer review before being cleared as fit for the purposes of publication.

Uses made of the data

The data in this Statistical Release are important for a number of different purposes. They are used to provide ministers in DCLG, HM Treasury, Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) with the most up to date information available on local authority capital spending and how they are financed. The ONS use the information National Accounts and public sector finances for which the service breakdown is used. In particular, the data are often provided to HM Treasury and Office for Budget Responsibility to inform major fiscal events, such as the Chancellor's Pre-

Budget Report or for government spending reviews. Information from this release such as capital receipts and self-financed borrowing are used by policy colleagues.

In addition, the returns are important sources for answering Parliamentary Questions and other requests for information by Ministers, local authorities and their associations and the general public. Local authorities also use the information for comparisons between authorities and value for money profiling.

Background Notes

1. For information on this dataset please contact Runa Chatterjee on 0303 44 42115 or email capital.receipts@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

2. This and other live table statistics can be found at the following weblink:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-local-government-finance>

3. CLIP Finance (CLIP F) is a consultative group which considers the collection, presentation and analysis of data on local government finance. Please see the web link below for access to the papers tabled to the 'Central and Local Information Partnership – Finance' (CLIP-F) group

<https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk/group/khub>

4. For a fuller picture of recent trends in local government finance readers are directed to Local Government Financial Statistics England No. 25 2015 which is available in hard copy from product@communities.gsi.gov.uk (Tel. 0300 123 1124) and electronically in PDF format via the corporate web site:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-communities-and-local-government>

5. The statistics in this Release are for England only. Statistics for Wales and Scotland can be found at www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/loc-gov/?lang=en and www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/local-government-finance respectively.

6. Further information about DCLG is also available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-communities-and-local-government>