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Public Performance Report 2018/19

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Background

The Assessor for Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute is an independent statutory official who is responsible for the preparation and the maintenance of the Valuation Rolls and Council Tax Valuation Lists for East and West Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute. The Assessor has also been appointed as the Electoral Registration Officer for these three areas and he is therefore required to prepare and maintain their Registers of Electors. The Assessor's service is conducted from two main offices located at the addresses above.

You can contact us by e-mail at assessor@dab-vjb.gov.uk

General Information

During the year to 31st March 2019, the Assessor had a full-time equivalent staff of 50.02 and a staffing budget of £2.24m. A total of 324.5 days (2.95%) were lost through illness, a slight increase from 2.3% in 2017/18.

Council Tax List

The Council Tax List contains all domestic properties showing an allocated Council Tax band which is based on the market value of the property as at 1991. The bands shown are used by the local authorities within the Joint Board's boundaries for the production of domestic Council Tax bills. As at 31st March, 2019, the Council Tax Lists for Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute contained 145,266 subjects. Of the 992 houses added to the List between 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019, the time between the date of occupation/completion and the issue of the banding notice is shown in the following table. Both the 3 month and 6 month targets were achieved.

The targets which we have set for 2019/20 are 96% within 3 months and 98% within 6 months.

Year	Number	Within 3 Months		Within 6 Months	
		Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
2018/19	992	96%	96%	98%	98%
2017/18	832	95%	96%	98%	98%
2016/17	932	95%	96%	98%	99%
2015/16	1077	95%	94%	98%	99%
2014/15	1269	95%	97%	98%	99%
2013/14	1074	95%	95%	98%	98%
2012/13	1110	93%	96%	98%	99%
2011/12	988	92%	96%	98%	99%
2010/11	989	93%	90%	97%	98%

Valuation Roll

The Valuation Roll contains the rateable values of all non-domestic properties within the area. The rateable values shown are used by the Joint Board's constituent local authorities for the production of non-domestic rates bills.

As at 31st March 2019 the Valuation Rolls for Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute contained 14,972 subjects with a total rateable value of £368.7 million. Of the 1084 amendments made to the Valuation Roll between 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019, the performance reflecting time between the effective date of the alteration and the issue of the Valuation Notice is shown in the following table, along with previous years' data. The performance was on the 3 months target and marginally ahead of the 6 month target.

The targets we have set for 2019/20 are 86% within 3 months and 95% within 6 months.

Year	Number	Within 3 Months		Within 6 Months	
		Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved
2018/19	1084	85%	85%	95%	95%
2017/18	989	83%	85%	95%	94%
2016/17	848	83%	74%	95%	84%
2015/16	969	80%	81.9%	94%	95.4%
2014/15	950	80%	82%	94%	91%
2013/14	892	80%	78.4%	94%	90.5%
2012/13	1369	80%	78%	92%	91%
2011/12	930	80%	77.8%	92%	90.4%
2010/11	964	80%	79%	90%	91%

Electoral Registration

The Electoral Registers list the name and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote.

There were no major electoral events during 2018/19 but registers were provided for Community Council and National Park Elections, and preparations were undertaken for the May 2019 European Parliamentary Election.

At December 2018 the total electorate figure was down on the total at publication in December 2017, a pattern which tends to occur in years where there is no major electoral event.

Year	Electorate at Publication
2018	219,637
2017	222,507
2016	221,078
2015	218,668
2014/15	223,594
2013/14	221,453
2012	219,117

Rolling Registration is the process of dealing with applications for changes to the register which are not part of the canvass project. During 2018/19 there were 12,958 additions to the register and 12,300 deletions from the register. IER requires a pro-active approach to change throughout the year and we have continued use a variety of sources of information to initiate the issue of Invitations to Register.

Other Items of Note

During the year we also:

- Introduced an online Customer satisfaction survey. www.saa.gov.uk/dab-vjb/customersurvey
- Updated Policies and Procedures to comply with the new Data Protection legislation including appointing a Data Protection Officer.
- Developed a Communications Strategy to enhance openness and stakeholder engagement.
- Undertook a Progress Update Review of our Records Management Plan.
- Migrated our Website to www.saa.gov.uk/dab-vjb
- Disposed of 1,526 2017 Revaluation Appeals with the vast majority, (76%) withdrawn without any adjustment to the issued valuation.

A copy of the Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer's Annual Report is available on request from either office and also online at www.saa.gov.uk/dab-vjb/best-value/annual-report-financial-statement



*Dunbartonshire and Argyll & Bute
Valuation Joint Board*