



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-0114, 13 May 2019

One Public Estate

General debate on One Public Estate initiated by Matt Western MP.

The debate will take place in Westminster Hall on Tuesday 14 May 2019 from 9.30-11am.

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

1. Background

The One Public Estate programme began as a pilot in 2013. It is intended to encourage local councils to work with central government and other public sector organisations to share buildings and re-use or release surplus property and land.¹ It may lead to land and buildings being sold, shared, repurposed, or used for income generation. It is being jointly delivered by the Cabinet Office's Government Property Unit and the [Local Government Association](#).

The programme was launched in May 2013, with twelve participating councils.² A further twenty councils joined the programme in August 2014.³ Further councils have joined in several tranches, such that over 300 (95% of English local authorities) now participate.

An announcement in February 2019 of the seventh phase of the programme stated that "So far, the programme has saved taxpayers £24 million in running costs, created 5,745 new jobs and released land for the development of 3,336 new homes." The seventh phase includes "plans for public-sector land to be developed which aim to bring forward 10,000 new homes, 14,000 new jobs and save taxpayers £37million in running costs".⁴

An LGA / Cabinet Office report in 2018 said:

We now work with over 90 per cent of councils, 13 government departments and hundreds of health and blue light organisations. We can now be seen as a national programme at the heart of delivering national priorities.

The country's need for new housing – in the right places and at the right price – has become greater as the housing crisis has continued. OPE therefore puts a special emphasis on freeing-up land for house building, alongside other objectives of better services and efficiencies.⁵

The LGA and Cabinet Office publication, [One Public Estate: Unlocking the Value in Public Sector Assets](#), describes the work of the programme during its first two years:

We began OPE as a pilot programme with 12 areas in 2013. In 2014, a further 20 areas were successful in joining the programme. Together, these 32 areas forecast the following benefits from being on the programme compared with operating alone: 20,000 jobs, c.9,000 homes, reducing running costs by £77 million, and raising £129 million from land and property sales.⁶

¹ Cabinet Office, ['Chloe Smith welcomes new pilot property scheme'](#), 25 June 2013

² Cabinet Office, [Chloe Smith welcomes new property pilot scheme](#), 25 June 2013

³ Cabinet Office, [Successful government estate programme expands](#), 6 August 2014

⁴ Cabinet Office, [Government backs plans to create new homes and jobs in next five years](#), 14 Feb 2019

⁵ Cabinet Office / LGA, [One Public Estate: Building a Movement through Partnership](#), 2018, p8

⁶ Cabinet Office and the Local Government Association, [One Public Estate: Unlocking the Value in Public Sector Assets](#), January 2016, p10

2. Media and journal articles

Please note: The Library is not responsible for either the views or accuracy of external content.

[UK property strategy aims to radically shrink office estate](#)

Global Government Forum, Colin Marrs

23 Jul 2018

The [Cabinet Office's Government Estate Strategy](#) updates [the original version](#), published in 2014, which introduced the concept of government 'hubs': large, flexible offices mixing staff from various departments.

[New government estates strategy will see thousands of jobs relocate away from London](#)

Workplace Insight, Mark Eltringham

16 Jul 2018

The UK Government has announced its latest plans to save around £3.6bn over the next two decades by dramatically scaling back its property estate and relocating thousands of staff as part of its new 12 year estates strategy.

[Government plans to save a further £3.6bn from property sales over next 20 years](#)

The Telegraph,

11 Jul 2018

The update to the Government's estate strategy revealed that around £2bn has already been saved from selling more than 1,000 buildings in the last four years, and operating costs have been reduced by £300m.

[Nine in 10 councils now in One Public Estate programme](#)

Inside Housing, Nathaniel Barker

11 Dec 2017

Another 64 local authorities are set to join up to enter partnerships with bodies like the NHS to redevelop surplus public land.

And the government has announced a new round of £8.7m in funding for 56 partnerships to assist with projects.

[Central meets local in One Public Estate](#)

Public Sector Executive

14 Aug 2017

The LGA's One Public Estate (OPE) programme director, Brian Reynolds, tells PSE's Luana Salles about the scheme's unique partnership between Whitehall and local government just as its sixth round of funding kicks off. (Registration required)

3. Parliamentary material

3.1 Written questions

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Knight, Julian

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what steps he is taking through the One Public Estate initiative to (a) identify and (b) release surplus public sector land in support of local regeneration projects.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

One Public Estate is a national programme that supports central and local government and wider public sector partners to collaborate on property-led projects. It aims to generate efficiencies, create economic growth (including homes and jobs) and deliver better, more integrated customer services. This includes supporting the identification and development of surplus and under-utilised public sector land and property.

On joining the programme, One Public Estate asks partners to assess and share data on their property holdings, and facilitates workshops to review opportunities for freeing up land and property for regeneration, redevelopment or disposal. It acts as a neutral broker, working in between partners to create a common goal in support of strategic housing outputs, an increase in local employment, savings for the taxpayer, and service improvements for citizens.

The programme offers practical support to unblock barriers, share good practice, analyse data and develop economic benefit cases that deliver value. It also provides capacity funding for project management and specialist support, including partnership formation and governance, master-planning, feasibility studies, option appraisal, and surveying

One Public Estate currently works with 78 partnerships across England delivering over 600 projects. Of these, 150 projects are focused on regeneration, with others aiming to release surplus land for housing or mixed use development, and deliver integrated services for local communities.

By March 2020, partnerships on the programme expect to deliver:

- £615 million in capital receipts
- £158 million savings in running costs
- 44,000 new jobs
- Release land for 25,000 new homes

23 Apr 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 243499

[Housing: Construction](#)

Asked by: Healey, John

To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, how much has been spent to date through the National Productivity Investment Fund to accelerate the building of homes on small, stalled sites as announced in Budget 2017.

Answering member: James Brokenshire | **Department:** Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

There is no single solution to tackling the long-term shortfall in housing supply which is why the Government, together with its agencies and partners, is working on a range of interventions.

Therefore, the Government has launched a range of programmes aimed at supporting the release of land for housing by providing funding to acquire, de-risk and make them attractive for rapid development. These sites would not have come forward without the Government intervention a demonstration of Government's commitment to tackling the housing crisis in this country.

These Programmes include:

- £630 million Small Sites Fund;
- £45 million Land Release Fund (LRF), distributed through One Public Estate;
- £5 billion Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) (Homes England and GLA);
- £465 million Local authority Accelerated Construction Programme (Homes England and GLA); and
- £1.1 billion Land Assembly Fund.

We have recently agreed a £226 million memorandum of understanding with the Greater London Authority for delivery of small stalled sites through the Accelerated Construction programme and Small Sites Fund in London. We will make payment to the Greater London Authority on completion of agreed milestones as investments in sites are made.

Homes England are working with local authorities and others to develop a long-term pipeline of developable land prioritising the identification of sites suitable for housing which have stalled and are not being taken forward, especially in the least affordable places. Once identified, sites are assessed for development potential. We expect to make funding commitments in sites as they are ready over the next 12 months.

Furthermore, we have committed £866 million to 133 Marginal Viability Funding schemes under the Housing Infrastructure Fund to unlock up to 200,000 homes mostly on smaller sites.

11 Jan 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 201112

[Public Sector: Job Creation](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many new jobs in the north of England his Department estimates will to be created by 2020 as part of the One Public Estate programme.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate programme collects data pertaining to new jobs created by local-authority-led One Public Estate partnerships. This includes forecasted data derived at the local level and delivered actuals, based on evidence. This data is collected quarterly from partnerships as part of the programme's monitoring and reporting requirements.

We have understood your request to cover the official regions of the North West, North East, and Yorkshire and the Humber. Forecasts indicate that One Public Estate projects will facilitate the creation of 28,635 new jobs by 2020 in these areas. Over 4,900 of these jobs have already been created.

23 Jul 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 164282

[Government Departments: Location](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether his Department plans to establish a strategy for other cities similar to that for enhancing the heart of London set out in the Government's Estate Strategy of July 2018.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Through the 2018 Government Estate Strategy, Government has committed to working with stakeholders to implement long term improvements to make the heart of London more welcoming, secure and accessible.

In the same way, many other urban centres are being supported by programmes as set out in the Government Estate Strategy. This includes One Public Estate (OPE) and Places for Growth (PfG), which support economic growth, the delivery of more accessible public services and the creation of clusters of government jobs and expertise in cities across the UK.

The OPE programme is a key contributor to growth and regeneration across cities in England and fosters collaboration between local and central Government partners. For example, in York OPE is supporting public sector partners to deliver an ambitious town centre regeneration scheme by redeveloping a 72 hectare site surrounding York Railway station. This is expected to deliver up to 1500 new homes and 100,000 square metres of commercial space.

To support economic growth across the UK, the PfG Programme has been established to drive delivery of the Government's commitment to move civil service jobs, including senior roles, out of London and the South East. PfG are taking a place-based approach to inform the

decision-making process around any relocation of public bodies rather than selecting locations solely on estate provision. Ultimately, we want organisations to go to cities that have existing skills and capacity to enable them to flourish.

23 Jul 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 164281

[Ministry of Defence: *One Public Estate Programme*](#)

Asked by: Maskell, Rachael

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence pursuant to the oral contribution of the Parliamentary Under - Secretary of State and Minister for Defence People and Veterans of 9 July 2018, [Official Report, column 706](#), whether it is his policy that the One Public Estate principles apply to public land that has its freehold vested within an association.

Answering member: Mr Tobias Ellwood | **Department:** Ministry of Defence

Public land disposals are managed in accordance with Government policy and Her Majesty's Treasury guidelines to obtain best value. Where land is owned by an Association, the Department would expect that they will continue to work closely with the Local Authority.

16 Jul 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 163148

[Affordable Housing](#)

Asked by: Drew, Dr David

To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what plans he has to ensure that public bodies use and share their expertise in identifying, buying and assembling land for affordable housing before procuring partners openly and transparently.

Answering member: Kit Malthouse | **Department:** Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

We encourage public bodies to dispose of their surplus land for housing. Homes England, the Government's national housing agency, because of its expertise in land disposal, can provide advice and support to public bodies that need it to realise their land disposal plans.

MHCLG is also working closely with the Office of Government Property (OGP) in Cabinet Office. OGP leads the Government's Property Function and delivers the One Public Estate programme in partnership with the Local Government Association, supporting public sector bodies to collaborate on the shared use of their assets. OGP also leads the Government Property Profession, which promotes sharing of skills, practices and experience across Government.

12 Jul 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 161091

[Government Departments: Buildings](#)

Asked by: Smith, Laura

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what assessment his Department has made of the effect of the Government's Estate Strategy of October 2014 on localism.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The 2014 Government Estate Strategy (which can be found here; https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/360262/Government_estate_strategy.pdf) represented a leap in the scale of our ambition - with commitments that recognised the potential of our estate to become a platform to deliver better integrated public services and economic growth across the UK. As an example, the One Public Estate (OPE) programme, which brings together all public sector bodies within a locality to develop a radical new approach to managing their land and property. OPE has grown from a pilot working with 32 councils in 2014 to a national programme supporting 319 councils - over 90% of councils in England - to deliver better integrated, customer-focused services, local growth and efficiencies.

To date, these partnerships have secured £94m in capital receipts, £20m savings in running costs, over 5,700 jobs and releasing land for 2,800 homes. We have also facilitated over 80 public sector co-locations, responding to local demands to bring services together under one roof.

Recognising the need to boost local economies further, the Government also remains committed to relocating public bodies and Civil Service roles out of London across the United Kingdom. As such, the Cabinet Office has established the Places for Growth programme. This aims to drive the delivery of our commitment to move arm's length bodies and some departmental activities outside of London and the South East to help promote growth in the regions and nations of the UK.

The 2018 Government Estate Strategy, due for publication later this year, will continue to ensure our policies drive growth and opportunity across the UK and provide a Government Estate that works for everyone.

11 Jun 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 149056

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what data the One Public Estate programme holds on local authority land released since 2015 which has been collected through applications to that programme.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate programme partnered with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government in late 2017 to support the delivery of the Land Release Fund. As part of the joint programme's expanded pre-selection criteria, we request that local authorities provide

information on land released since 2015, beyond that recorded through One Public Estate projects. Successful Land Release Fund bids were announced on 16 February. The new requirement will form part of future quarterly monitoring.

The One Public Estate (OPE) programme currently holds data concerning land which has been released by local authorities in relation to One Public Estate projects. This allows the programme to quantify its contributions to releasing public sector land for new homes. This forms part of OPE's core objectives to create economic growth and contribute to Government's housing agenda. To provide as much available information as possible, the relevant programme data is set out below.

Financial Year Land released for homes (housing units)

2014/15	792
2015/16	92
2016/17	599
2017/18	560
Total	2,043

This data is collected quarterly from OPE partnerships as part of the monitoring and reporting requirements of the programme.

23 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 128317

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 28 February 2018 to Question 128314 on One Public Estate Programme, what progress the Government has made on recruiting more experts; and to which specialisms the Government is recruiting.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate (OPE) programme is establishing a Pool of Experts to support local OPE partnerships to deliver property-based projects. At present, 26 experts have been accepted into the Pool, across 4 specialisms, as set out below;

Specialism	Experts
Masterplanning	2
Feasibility and Options Appraisals	2
Surveying (<i>Building</i>) (<i>Chartered</i>) (<i>Quantity</i>)	12 (9) (3) (0)
Project Management	10
Total (to date)	26

The programme's selection process is still underway and a further 13 individuals are currently going through the application process.

21 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 132180

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what estimate his Department has made of the number of new jobs created by the One Public Estate Programme in each year since 2013.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

To date, the One Public Estate programme has supported the creation of at least 5,740 jobs. A yearly breakdown is shown below.

Financial Year	Jobs created
2013/14	0
2014/15	137
2015/16	328
2016/17	5,217
2017/18 (to date)	58
Total	5,740

Benefits reported by One Public Estate partnerships must also be accompanied by evidence. In addition to those which have been verified, partnerships have reported further job creation. As such, yearly totals can be expected to rise.

21 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 128312

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will publish the total amount of capital receipts received by local authorities as a result of the One Public Estate programme; and if he will provide that same data by local authority area.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Since 2013/14, the One Public Estate programme has directly supported the release of £41.96m in capital receipts from local authority-owned land and property. One Public Estate partnerships must provide accompanying evidence when reporting benefits to the programme. A higher number of capital receipts has currently been reported and is undergoing validation. As such, the total number of capital receipts delivered to date is expected to rise.

One Public Estate has previously released total verified data to media outlets and will publish up-to-date data in future programme publications.

One Public Estate partnerships are made up of multiple public sector partners and led by local authorities. Data is collected at a partnership level and the programme does not hold information on capital receipts raised by individual local authorities. To provide as much data as possible, the table below sets out local government capital receipts raised by One Public Estate partnerships.

OPE Partnership	Local Government Capital Receipts Raised to January 2018
Bristol	£6,409,927
Cheshire & Warrington	£7,496,112
City of York	£4,611,500
Cornwall	£1,595,000
Dorset	£1,420,000
Herefordshire	£1,480,000
Kent	£3,448,854
LB Barnet	£1,619,678
Liverpool	£1,600,000
North Somerset	£325,000
Sheffield City Council	£1,699,000
Southampton	£2,440,000
Worcestershire	£7,815,986
Total	£41,961,057

20 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 132080

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what restrictions are placed on the use of capital receipts gained from local authorities' disposals of surplus property through the One Public Estate programme; and what guidance his Department provides on the use of capital receipts gained from local authorities' disposals of surplus property through the One Public Estate programme.

Answering member: Rishi Sunak | **Department:** Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

There are a wide range of projects that qualify for expenditure using the capital receipts, for example: sharing back-office and administrative services with one or more other council or public sector bodies and setting up commercial or alternative delivery models to deliver services more efficiently and bring in revenue. The Statutory Guidance issued in March 2016 will still apply for the extended period.

Capital receipts raised from disposals supported by the One Public Estate programme are treated in the same way as standard disposals, in line with Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's policy, stated above.

19 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 132079

[Housing: Construction](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many homes have been built on land released through the One Public Estate programme since 2013.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate programme has recently begun to collect data on homes that have been built on land released through the programme. A summary of the current data we hold is set out below.

Financial Year	Land released for homes (housing units)	Of which homes delivered (housing units)
2014/15	792	91
2015/16	92	52
2016/17	852	160
2017/18	811	0
Total	2,547	303

The One Public Estate programme is assisting local OPE partnerships to record and evidence where homes have been delivered. As partnerships improve their data gathering process we expect to see an increase in data across all years.

As the planning process and construction pipeline to build homes is not immediate upon the release of land, there is an inevitable time lag between the two data sets above.

07 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 130548

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 27 February 2018 to Question 128315, on One Public Estate Programme, how many such grants have been offered; to whom those grants have been awarded; and how much money each offeree has received.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Further to the response provided for Question 128315, nine Sustainable Pilot Grants have been awarded to date. The programme is currently finalising additional Sustainable Pilot Grant awards to fulfil our ambition for a £2m pilot.

A breakdown of the awards is set out below. All Sustainable Pilot Grants will be paid to One Public Estate partnerships by 31 March 2018.

Partnership Name	Sustainable Pilot Grant Awarded
Southampton One Public Estate Board	£250,000
Transforming Bedfordshire	£230,000
London Borough of Merton	£200,000
Swindon Town Centre Regeneration Partnership	£200,000
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	£194,900
West Midlands Combined Authority	£150,000
Hertfordshire Property Partnership	£75,000
Liverpool City Region	£75,000
Dorset Community Offer for Living and Learning	£33,919
Total	£1,408,819

06 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 130372

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 27 February 2018 to Question 128318, on the One Public Estate Programme, how many of those submitted applications included partnerships with government departments.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Further to the response provided for Question 128318, all 76 One Public Estate partnerships have at least one government department or agency on their local partnership boards.

At its core, One Public Estate is about local and central government working together with other public bodies to transform communities and local public services and deliver value for money for the taxpayer. To effectively deliver these objectives, government departments and/or their local agencies must be included in One Public Estate partnerships.

06 Mar 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 130360

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many local authority applications to the One Public Estate programme were (a) joint applications and (b) applications by a sole local authority in each of the last five years for which figures are available.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate (OPE) programme has held six application rounds since the programme began in 2013. 210 applications have been received in total, including 122 applications made by groups of local authorities, and 88 by sole local authorities. It is important to note that whilst OPE partnerships are local authority-led, they comprise wider public sector partners, including central government departments. A yearly breakdown of applications is shown in the table below.

Year	Sole Authority Applications	Joint Applications
2013/14	12	0
2014/15	28	4
2015/16	6	23
2016/17	23	53
2017/18	19	42
Total	88	122

One Public Estate carries out a rigorous assessment process against published criteria. Not all applications submitted were successful.

27 Feb 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 128318

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Further to the response provided for Question 128318, a breakdown of successful and unsuccessful applications to the One Public Estate programme is set out below.

Sole Authority Applications			
Year	No. of Applications	No. of Successful Applications	No. of Unsuccessful Applications
2013/14	12	12	0
2014/15	28	10	18
2015/16	6	6	0
2016/17	23	21	2
2017/18	19	12	7
Total	88	61	27
Joint Applications			
Year	No. of Applications	No. of Successful Applications	No. of Unsuccessful Applications
2013/14	0	-	-
2014/15	4	3	1
2015/16	23	18	5
2016/17	53	52	1
2017/18	42	42	0
Total	122	115	7

It is important to note that 'successful applications' denotes those partnerships receiving full or partial funding, and 'unsuccessful applications' denotes those that did not receive funding.

06 Mar 2018 | Ministerial corrections | House of Commons

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many applications have been made for repayable grants by the One Public Estate programme pilot scheme.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Five projects were put forward for Sustainable Pilot Grant funding by One Public Estate partnerships in November 2017. As the programme was substantially over-subscribed, projects put forward for standard grants were also considered for pilot funding where they met the required criteria. As such, more than five Sustainable Pilot Grant awards have been offered. The programme is currently finalising these awards.

27 Feb 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 128315

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet, how many people are in the One Public Estate programme's Pool of Experts; from which parent teams in the Civil Service those people have come; and for each such team which of its members of the Pool of Experts have (a) master planning, (b) feasibility studies, (c) options appraisals, (d) surveyors, (e) design and (f) procurement expertise.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The One Public Estate (OPE) programme is establishing a Pool of Experts to support local OPE partnerships to deliver property-based projects. At present, 23 experts have been accepted into the Pool, as set out below.

Specialism	Experts
Masterplanning	2
Feasibility and Options Appraisals	2
Surveying (<i>Building</i>) (<i>Chartered</i>) (<i>Quantity</i>)	10 (<i>8</i>) (<i>2</i>) (<i>0</i>)
Project Management	9
Design	0
Procurement	0
Total (to date)	23

The programme's selection process is still underway. In addition to the 23 appointed, a further 35 are going through the application process. Recruitment has been marketed externally and no experts are currently Civil Servants.

27 Feb 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 128314

[Government Departments: Land](#)

Asked by: Soames, Sir Nicholas

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent progress the Government Property Unit has made on the sale of Government Departments' surplus land.

Answering member: Oliver Dowden | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The Government is working towards its commitment to raise £5 billion from releasing surplus land in 2015 - 2020 and we plan to publish a transparency report on land sales in 2015/16 and 2016/17 shortly.

We are also supporting collaboration across the public sector to make better use of our collective estate. Our successful partnership with the Local Government Association to deliver the One Public Estate programme is now supporting over 90% of councils in England following its latest expansion last month. Through joint working across central and local government and the wider public sector we are delivering more integrated public services, local growth (homes and jobs) and efficiencies.

23 Jan 2018 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 123121

[Public Sector: Land](#)

Asked by: Soames, Sir Nicholas

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what plans his Department has to increase the sale of public land surplus to the Government's requirements.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The Government Property Unit in Cabinet Office is responsible for overseeing implementation of the Government Estate Strategy. This means working with Government Departments to ensure the estate is efficient and fit-for-purpose to support operations now and in the future.

The GPU commissions Departments to produce annual Strategic Asset Management Plans, setting out how they plan to implement the Government Estate Strategy within their property portfolio.

Government is working towards our commitment to raise £5 billion from releasing surplus land in 2015 - 2020. In doing so, our ambition is to also unlock land with capacity for 160,000 new homes.

We are also supporting collaboration across the public sector to make better use of our collective estate. Our successful partnership with the Local Government Association to deliver the One Public Estate programme aims to support 95% of councils in England by 2018. Through joint working across central and local Government and the wider public sector we are delivering more integrated public services, local growth (homes and jobs) and efficiencies. We are currently in the

process of further expanding the One Public Estate programme. In addition to new and existing partnerships applying for funding and support to deliver collaborative schemes, we have partnered with the Department for Communities and Local Government to include a £45 million capital Local Authority Land Release Fund. This combination of One Public Estate and DCLG funding and support will be a significant boost to unlocking public land for new homes. The current partnerships are expected to release land to deliver 25,000 housing units by 2020.

23 Nov 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 111227

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 12 September 2017 to Question 8212, on the One Public Estate Programme, how much of that money has been spent on (a) staffing, (b) property, (c) IT and (d) other expenditure in each year since 2013-14.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

One Public Estate started as a pilot programme in 2013. Staffing and IT costs have increased each year in line with the programme's expansion, as detailed in the table below. Staffing and IT costs to date total £4,140,408.

No property costs have been attributed to the programme, other than those made through the grants awarded to One Public Estate partnerships.

'Other expenditure' to date totals £26,583,318. This includes grant payments to One Public Estate partnerships.

Financial Year	Staffing and IT Costs	Other Expenditure	HM Treasury Awards
2013-14	£191,710	£510,000	£0
2014-15	£411,998	£1,190,000	£0
2015-16	£738,822	£6,377,500	£6,000,000
2016-17	£1,886,246	£12,203,668	£13,000,000
2017-18 (to date)	£911,632	£6,302,150	£18,000,000
Total	£4,140,408	£26,583,318	£37,000,000

26 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 108426

[Housing: Construction](#)

Asked by: Gwynne, Andrew

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, how many hectares of land owned by county councils have been made available for housing development in each of the last three years.

Answering member: Alok Sharma | **Department:** Department for Communities and Local Government

The Department does not collect information on the previous ownership of land on which housing has been built. Although the Department has published figures for the total amounts of land changing to residential use in England in each of 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 in live table P351. The published figures can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-land-use-change-statistics> It is not possible to identify the amounts previously owned by county councils.

Through the Land Release Fund, launched in August in partnership with the Cabinet Office One Public Estate programme, central government is providing £45 million of funding to support local authorities to release additional land for housing development.

20 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 107532

Date tabled: 12 Oct 2017 | **Date for answer:** 16 Oct 2017 | **Date answered:** 20 Oct 2017

[Government Departments: Buildings](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, with reference to figure 7 on page 24 of the National Audit Office's report, Progress on the government estate strategy (HC 1131), published on 25 April 2017, what the evidential basis is for the number of jobs created.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office
Projects delivered under the One Public Estate programme deliver a range of benefits, including the creation of jobs. To attribute a benefit to the programme, an OPE partnership must submit evidence that a benefit has been delivered. For example, the evidence base for the creation of jobs can include:

- 1) an economic impact assessment supporting a planning application
- 2) a construction plan
- 3) an extract from the tender for a building contract

This is not an exhaustive list of suitable evidence. One Public Estate works with OPE partnerships to use the most suitable means of determining jobs created, dependent on the nature of individual projects.

18 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 8271

[Government Departments: Buildings](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 4 September 2017 to Question 8361, what the five most common conditions attached to agreements to extend or renew lets with

Government Departments are; and to how many agreements each such condition is applied to.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

Conditions are recorded in the approval issued to departments as part of the operation of the National Property Control. Since 1 April 2016, 126 applications have been received and of these 13 are recorded with conditions attached to the approval. The conditions applied relate to:

- Confirmation or commercial conditions relating to lease terms (in four instances)
- Moving to government hubs in the future (in three instances)
- Presenting plans for future relocation or estate strategy by a set date (in two instances)
- Provision of further information which supports the application made
- Ensuring future improvements to energy efficiency are made
- Engaging with the One Public Estate programme to establish future opportunities for sharing space
- Seeking HM Treasury approval

12 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 105821

[Government Property Unit](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 12 September 2017 to Question 8508, on the Government Property Unit, what the 13 applications were which were granted with conditions attached to the approval; and what conditions were attached to each of those applications.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

GPU does not release the specific detail relating to individual applications for expenditure as these are commercially sensitive. It would be the applicant department's decision as to whether to release this information. The 13 applications were received from the following departments:

- Department for Education
- Department of Health
- Ministry of Justice
- Department for Work and Pensions
- Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
- Department for Communities & Local Government
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
- Department of Energy & Climate Change

The conditions applied relate to:

- Confirmation or commercial conditions relating to lease terms (in four instances)
- Moving to government hubs in the future (in three instances)
- Presenting plans for future relocation or estate strategy by a set date (in two instances)
- Provision of further information which supports the application made
- Ensuring future improvements to energy efficiency are made
- Engaging with the One Public Estate programme to establish future opportunities for sharing space
- Seeking HM Treasury approval

12 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 105820

[Government Property Unit](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 12 September 2017 to Question 8258, what the expected peaks are that the Government Property Unit will have to manage.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

The Government Property Unit sets out its objectives and milestones in its Business Plan which is monitored internally throughout the year.

During 2017/18 there are a number of initiatives which will be managed by the Unit including the co-creation of a refreshed Government Estate Strategy with departments; work to prepare for the launch of the Government Property Agency; an on-going focus on the release of public land and assets for housing and capital receipts; launching phase 6 of the One Public Estate initiative and supporting the government's Industrial Strategy through potential relocations.

12 Oct 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 105512

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what the running costs of the One Public Estate programme were in each year since that programme started.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

One Public Estate started as a pilot programme in 2013. Programme running costs have increased each year in line with the programme's expansion, as detailed in the table below. Programme running costs in 2013/14 - 2016/17 totalled £3,249,471.

Financial Year	Programme Running Costs
2013-14	£191,710
2014-15	£411,998
2015-16	£738,822
2016-17	£1,906,941
Sub Total	£3,249,471
2017-18 (forecast)	2,026,922

12 Sep 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 8362

[One Public Estate Programme](#)

Asked by: Trickett, Jon

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how much funding has been allocated to the One Public Estate programme in each of the last three years.

Answering member: Caroline Nokes | **Department:** Cabinet Office

One Public Estate was allocated £6m at Summer Budget 2015 to expand the programme. A further £31m was allocated at Autumn Statement 2015 (£13m in 16/17 and £18m in 17/18) to expand the programme even further, aiming to reach 95% of councils in England by March 2018.

12 Sep 2017 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 8212

Date tabled: 04 Sep 2017 | **Date for answer:** 06 Sep 2017 | **Date answered:** 12 Sep 2017

3.2 Statement

[A Better Defence Estate - Update](#)

Member: Mr Tobias Ellwood | **Department:** Ministry of Defence

In November 2016, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) published its estate optimisation strategy 'A Better Defence Estate' outlining how MOD will deliver an estate that is optimised to support Defence capabilities, outputs and communities both now and in the future. This update provides progress against the strategy.

Delivering the strategy remains a priority for the MOD, and the commitment to invest £4 billion to create a smaller, more modern and capability-focused estate between now and 2040 remains. A major Defence-level initiative, the 'Defence Estate Optimisation' Programme, has been mobilised to deliver this strategy, combining military and infrastructure expertise to transform the places where our armed forces live, work and train. The Programme has already delivered nine disposals: Hullavington Airfield, Chalgrove Airfield, Somerset Barracks, MOD facilities at Swansea Airport, Moat House, Rylston Road ARC

(London), Newtownards Airfield, Copthorne Barracks and Lodge Hill. The MOD continues to develop integrated plans for sites intended for disposal and re-development for those sites that will see an increase in military units. Good progress has been made with a significant amount of work on the myriad of studies required to enable a programme of this size and complexity. The first half of 2018 saw the major tranche of capacity studies and reviews of re-provision site constraints being completed. Feasibility and assessment studies have been completed for over forty sites in which the MOD will be investing.

The MOD can also confirm the intention to cease RAF use of RAF Linton-on-Ouse (North Yorkshire) in 2020. RAF Linton-on Ouse is the base of the Tucano training aircraft, as the RAF plans to retire this aircraft, the site will no longer be needed. Instead, we will be able to concentrate basic and advanced fast jet training at RAF Valley from 2019.

The MOD will close RAF Scampton (Lincolnshire) in 2022, relocating the RAF Aerobatics Team (RAFAT) and others to locations more fit for purpose. The disposal of the site would offer better value for money and, crucially, better military capability by relocating the units based there.

Given the scale of the strategy and the fact that it will be delivered over 25 years, plans continue to be refined to best support operational capability and Parliament will continue to be updated regularly on our plans.

The Department continues to engage with relevant stakeholders, including Devolved Administrations and Local Planning Authorities, to ensure sites released under the strategy are redeveloped in a way that benefits both Defence and surrounding communities. The MOD remains committed to making the right decisions to provide effective support to Defence capabilities and best value for money for the taxpayer.

24 Jul 2018 | Written statements | House of Commons | HCWS922

4. Further information

4.1 Gov.uk

[One Public Estate phase seven – Policy Paper](#)

Cabinet Office

15 Feb 2019

Announcement of areas selected for funding allocations.

- [One Public Estate funding allocations - phase seven](#) MS Excel Spreadsheet, 22.6KB

[Government Estate Strategy 2018](#)

Cabinet Office

4 Sep 2018

The Government Estate Strategy 2018 sets out how the government plans to make the most efficient and cost-effective use of its property.

- [Government Estate Strategy: July 2018](#) PDF, 2.64MB, 38 pages
- This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology. [Request an accessible format.](#)

[One Public Estate: Building a Movement through Partnership](#)

Cabinet Office / Local Government Association

June 2018

Details of five years of One Public Estate plus in-depth case studies

[Live tables on land use change statistics](#)

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

31 May 2018

The latest data tables on land use change

[One Public Estate programme: list of councils](#)

Cabinet Office

11 Dec 2017

List of the new local councils joining the next phase of the One Public Estate programme.

- [List of councils on the One Public Estate programme: December 2017](#) MS Excel Spreadsheet, 15.3KB
- This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology. [Request an accessible format.](#)

4.2 Local Government Association

[One Public Estate](#)

The One Public Estate programme is an established national programme delivered in partnership by the LGA and the Office of Government Property (OGP) within the Cabinet Office. One Public Estate began in 2013 with just twelve areas, but today we are working with more than 300 councils on projects transforming local communities and public services right across the country.

- [About One Public Estate](#)
- [One Public Estate in action: successes so far](#)
- [Press, Publication and Presentations](#)
- [Partnership page](#)
- [Central Government land release strategies](#)

[One Public Estate and Land Release Fund](#)

This report updates the Board on recent funding announcements in relation to the One Public Estate (OPE) and Land Release Fund (LRF).

Improvement and Innovation Board

22 Mar 2018

[Supporting cross-public sector working – One Public Estate](#)

Open Access Government

21 Dec 2018

In this joint feature from the Government Property Unit and the Local Government Association, we find out more about the delivery of The One Public Estate (OPE) programme that supports cross-public sector working

4.3 National Audit Office

[Progress on the government estate strategy](#)

“Departments have continued to reduce their estates, and government is now getting better value for money. The Government Property Unit, however, still needs to make more headway to achieve a shared, flexible and integrated estate. It’s not going to be plain sailing. The GPU should take stock and, if necessary, delay, redesign or consider phasing its programmes over a longer timescale.” Amyas Morse, head of the National Audit Office

Downloads

- [Full Report \(pdf - 603KB\)](#)
- [Summary \(pdf - 103KB\)](#)
- [EPUB Version \(epub - 3381KB\)](#)
- [Press Release](#)

4.4 Civil Service Blog

[How we're transforming the Government Estate](#)

Michael Parsons

6 Nov 2018

In March this year we reported that at the end of the financial year 2016-17 the total annual operating cost of running the Central Estate was £2.57 billion. This represents a 1.4% reduction in real terms on the previous year's total of £2.55 billion, and demonstrates the efficiencies available from consolidating our estate and improving how we use our space.

[Modernising the Government Estate – a transformation strategy](#)

James Turner

16 Oct 2018

The Government Estate is made up of hundreds of thousands of assets, from railways, ports, prisons and power stations, to schools, hospitals and health surgeries, job centres, administrative offices, and many more, spread all the around the UK.

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