

## How LPS works with your council

Land & Property Services (LPS) is responsible for the billing and collection of rates.

Two distinct rates are used to calculate your rate bill: the regional rate, set by the NI Executive (The Assembly), and the district rate, set by your local council. (See pages 5–8 for more information.)

Last year Belfast City Council received approximately 45% of your rates. Some services paid for were:

- Supporting communities and local initiatives
- Reducing waste and increasing recycling
- Stimulating economic growth

See page 31 for an overview of how rates are used in your area. To find out more, or how your district rate is set by Belfast City Council, please contact:

### Financial Services

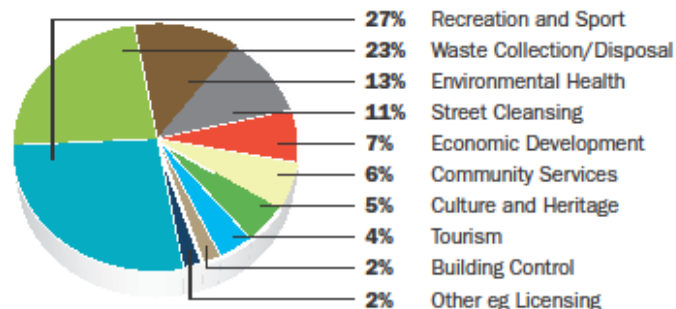
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## Your Rates Explained



**Belfast City Council is committed to providing value for money, quality services and investing in the city and its communities.**

We've invested in key projects with the aim of stimulating the economy and improving quality of life. We pledged £16m to 4 key projects — Titanic Signature Project, the MAC (Arts Centre), Connswater Community Greenway and the Lyric Theatre. This helped to leverage £153m of funding from public and private sources.

We've improved street cleanliness and enhanced main arterial routes. With your help, we've increased the recycling rate from 3% in 2003 to 27% in 2009 — recycling over 34,000 tonnes of waste last year.

Working with communities and other partners, we've rolled out a community safety warden scheme and an alley-gating programme.

We've continued to promote Belfast as a tourism destination. In 2009 a record 9.3 million visitors came to Belfast, generating £451m for the local economy.

More people than ever are using key council services. Last year, there were over 2 million visits to our 10 leisure centres and 570,000 visits to our 22 community centres. Over 100,000 people attended events in our parks and our range of major events (including the maritime festivals) attracted 1.3 million visitors and contributed approximately £18m to Belfast's economy.