

Calling all councils...

Adapting your communications approach is crucial to deliver better customer service for residents

Recent Local Government Association (LGA) polls found residents' satisfaction with their local councils is falling.

Research from 8x8 set out to **understand why residents are dissatisfied** how poor services impacted the customer experience, and how communications technologies could support better resident outcomes.



UK residents struggle to get vital information from their **council's customer service team**.¹



of residents said they expected customer service levels from their **local authority to improve** in line with council tax increases.

The root cause...

residents face lengthy delays when calling their local authority

7m

average wait
to reach
customer service



average wait for 25-34 year olds

1-2m

experienced by **only 18%** of respondents



Finding the **right person** to speak to is hard

43%

of callers get passed between **multiple service agents**



of callers report **3 or more handoffs**

48%

of 16-34 year olds report **multiple handoffs**

12%

LZ /o le held an even

of people held an event without permission

The impact

33% Missed bin collections

18% Dumped rubbish on street

17% Missed rent payments

18%

The way forward

Residents expect better interaction with their local authorities through omnichannel communications, like they would their bank, or an online retailer

44%

of all residents
expect to use digital
channels like webchat
social media

25-44

year olds were most aware of councils currently using social media 16-24

Forced to park illegally

year olds were most likely to cite **chatbots** as a desirable option

Learn how you can enhance your customer experience to deliver better services to your residents.



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