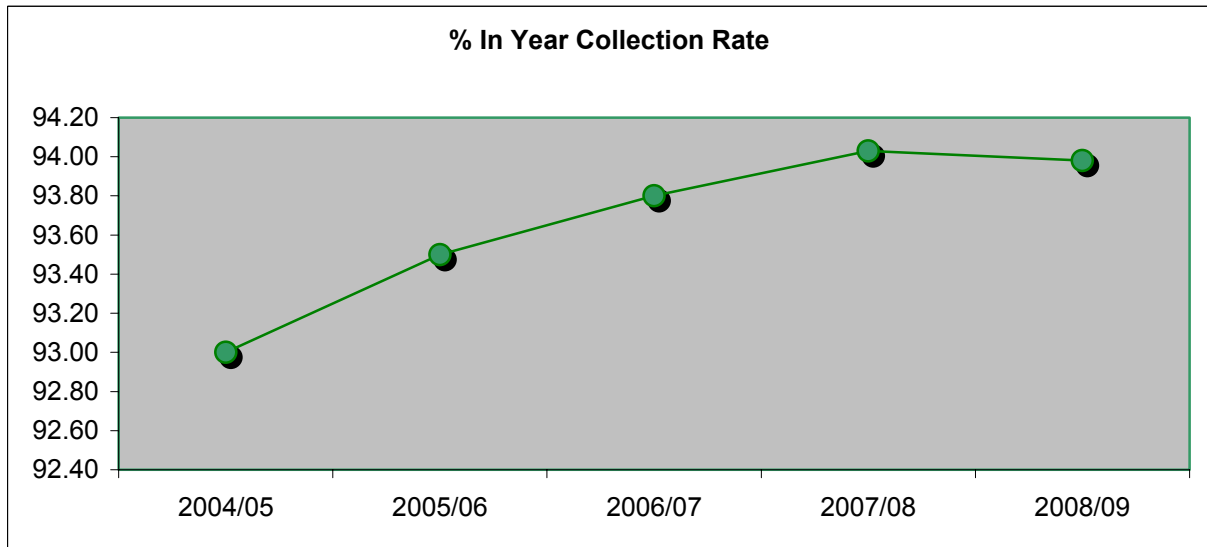


The Revenues Unit Performance 2008/09

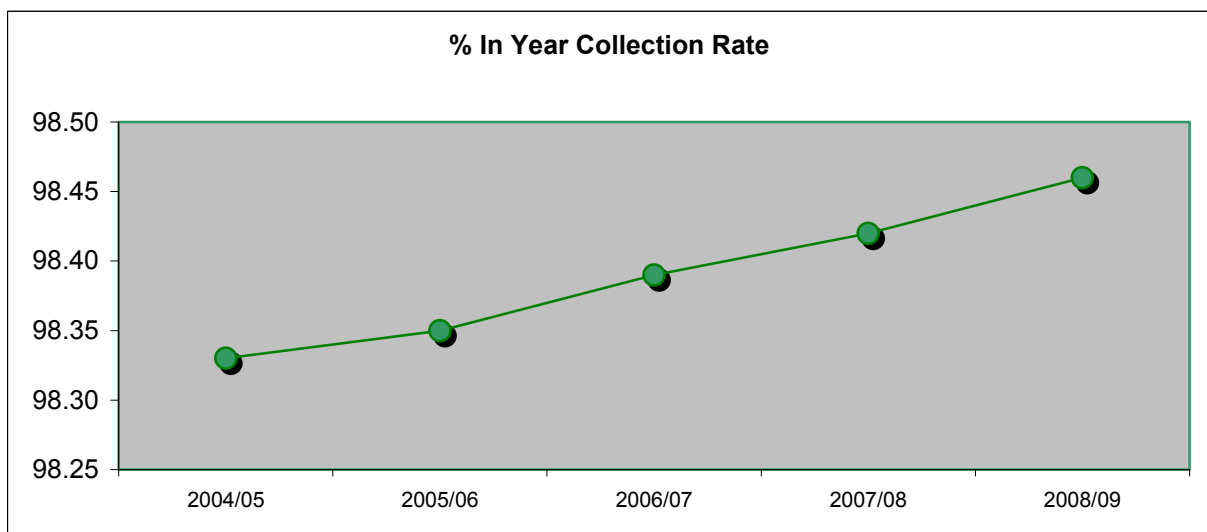
Council Tax

In 2008/09 we collected 94% of the total amount of Council Tax due to the Council. This amounted to £76m an increase of £2.5m on the amount we collected in 2007/08.



Business Rates

In 2008/09 we collected 98.5% of the total amount of Business Rates due to the Council. The collection of outstanding previous year charges is continuous. During 2008/09 £3.3m was collected from previous years. £1.0m of this was used to fund services for 2009/10.



The increase in the already high level of business rate collection is all the more impressive considering that the amount to be collected increased dramatically late in the year with the inclusion of the new shopping centre at Livingston and HMP Addiewell.

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit

Due to the economic downturn there has been an increase in workload. Despite this we continue to process cases at a level that exceeds Government targets.

Year	New Claims			Change of Circumstances
	Actioned	Successful	Unsuccessful	Actioned
2005/06	11,766	8,453	3,313	37,746
2006/07	10,772	7,142	3,630	25,911
2007/08	11,098	7,243	3,855	27,432
2008/09	12,407	8,610	3,797	32,635

