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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews
DATE
Please forward to all Councillors
and Staff**

**NALC Enews
11 August 2020
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and Staff**

Emails to Member Councils

31 July 2020 containing

- Coronavirus - reopening community facilities
- Statistical Data
- Rebuilding Communities - a programme of on-line events
- The 2021 Census
- The national NALC's Legal Update - June 2020
- CiLCA Fees
- English Local Councils & Council Tax rises in 2020/2021

5 August 2020 containing.

- Revised national guidance on holding meetings
- Eligibility for Business Grants
- Rebuilding Communities
- CiLCA
- Standards
- Northumberland in the Civil War

If your Council has not received a copy, or if your Chairman or Clerk has changed, please let me know.

Planning for the Future

On 6 August MHCLG issued their consultation White Paper on potential changes to the planning regime in England. The consultation runs until 29 October 2020.

The Association and the national NALC will be considering how to respond over the few months. Once there has been time to properly digest the proposals, views will be sought from Member Councils.

The White Paper is available via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>

County Council Tree Offer

Our colleagues in CAN received the email available at the link below. It sets out the County Council's tree offer for residents.

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/b86fa0ad-748a-4a60-8c83-3bfa37782edd/County_Council_Tree_Offer.pdf

Healthwatch

Their quarterly report for Jan-March 2020 is available at the link. They hope to dispatch the one for April-June 2020 in the near future.

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/810a5b81-a4df-4fb8-ae82-ca229bc8e86e/Healthwatch_Northumberland_Quarterly_Report_Q4_2019_20.pdf

The national NALC's Chief Executive's Bulletin

The link is to the 7 August issue of Jonathan Owen's latest weekly bulletin. If you'd like to receive a copy direct to your in-box, please subscribe using their website <http://www.nalc.gov.uk>

The bulletin is at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/7f337f51-e4df-443d-9cb7-c5d6ea47e9cf/Nat_NALC_CX_Bulletin_7_Aug_2020.pdf

Scottish Community Councils

The Association has received their Summer Newsletter which is at

<https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/c4e>

[020.pdf](#)

Silver Talk Befriending Service VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have been asked to forward the following appeal for volunteers.

"You may be aware, Karbon runs a telephone befriending service for over 55's, Silver Talk.

Since the coronavirus pandemic hit the UK 4 months ago the demand for Silver Talk has rocketed and we have tripled the number of service users who receive a weekly social call from one of our volunteers.

Many of our existing volunteers were keen to support this growth and take on more calls each week, however to bridge the gap and make sure that new service users were able to benefit from the service as quickly as possible, we turned to Karbon colleagues for help.

This worked fabulously and we're incredibly thankful for the time our colleagues gave up to help, however now that lockdown measures are easing and many of our services are back online a number of our colleague volunteers are having to return to their original roles and aren't able to support to the level they were before.

Unless we're able to recruit more community volunteers to fill the gaps, we're afraid that some of our service users, who have grown incredibly attached to the service and benefit hugely from a call each week, will be left without a volunteer.

This is where we need your help! We would be really grateful if you could put this message out to your connections to see if anyone would be interested in signing up to become a Silver Talk volunteer.

The minimal weekly commitment needed would be 45 mins, which would allow them to make one, up to 30 minute call, and have time to update notes on the system.

The volunteering can be carried out from home and a mobile phone will be provided. When it is safe to do so we will reopening our hub spaces in Stanley and Hexham for our volunteers to make calls from, and come the time travel expenses to and from these hubs will be covered.

More information on volunteering, including a volunteer role description, can be found on our website www.karbonhomes.co.uk/silvertalk

Alternatively, our coordinators are happy to answer any questions and chat a bit about the volunteer roles and the service. They can be reached via email, silvertalk@karbonhomes.co.uk or by phone, 0191 223 8662.

Silver Talk would be nothing without our volunteers, who make the service possible. However we would also like to take this opportunity to thank our funders, Stanley AAP, Mid Durham AAP and Derwent Valley AAP, as well as our contractors Travis Perkins and City Electrical Factors. Not only have each been integral to the growth of the service but their support will enable the service to keep going and growing in the future.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read through this and any support you can offer is greatly appreciated"

Missing Emails

I recently changed laptops and for some reason a few emails went missing from my in-box. If you are waiting for a reply to an email, would you please resend it. My apologies but all attempts to find the missing ones proved unsuccessful.

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***If you have any comments or observations, please contact
Stephen Rickitt, NALC Chief Officer stephenrickitt@northumberlandalc.uk***

or

Louise Currie, Community Initiatives Officer louisecurrie@ca-north.org.uk

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