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From: Northumberland Association of Local Councils <info@northumberlandalc.uk>
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**Northumberland Association
of Local Councils**

**NALC Enews
12 January 2022**

**Please forward to all Councillors and
Staff**

Emails to Member Council / Electronic Survey

On 5 January 2022, the Chairmen of Member Councils were sent a link to a short survey on the relationship of our sector with the County Council. This should take about 4 minutes to complete.

The answers will be used as part of refreshing the Charter with the County Council. The survey closes on 31 January.

If your Chairmen has not received the link, or if your Chairman or Clerk has changed, please let us know.

Coronavirus and Digital Meetings

A petition has been started by various Local Govt. bodies seeking a change in the law to allow these.

Details are at

<https://www.change.org/p/uk-government-and-parliament-for-councils-in-england-to-have-the-choice-to-meet-remotely>

The latest statements from Govt. continue to be on the lines of providing a response "shortly" to the call for evidence made last year.

Briefings

The following events are scheduled over the next few weeks. Please use the appropriate link for more information and booking.

Planning - Neighbourhood Plans - Lessons Learnt

Thu, 20 Jan 2022 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/x/planning-neighbourhood-plans-lessons-learnt-tickets-185687725987>

Planning - Enforcement

Mon, 24 Jan 2022 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/x/planning-enforcement-tickets-185693774077>

Planning - Conservation Areas

Wed, 2 Feb 2022 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/x/planning-conservation-areas-tickets-185690093067>

Planning – Highway and Rights of Way Issues

Tue, 8 Feb 2022 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/x/planning-highway-and-rights-of-way-issues-tickets-185681758137>

Standards for Parish, Town & Community Councils

Thu, 10 Feb 2022 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/x/standards-for-parish-town-community-councils-tickets-216137712717>

Climate Change

DEFRA have started a consultation on plans to ensure wildlife can be better protected and enhanced in developments. Details are at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/protecting-and-enhancing-the-environment-to-be-at-the-heart-of-new-housing-and-infrastructure-developments>

HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Buckingham Palace have announced details of the national events currently planned.

<https://www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend>

There's also a letter to all Councils from the organisers of the beacons at

<https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/b1acfe2f-4400->

[2bf5-e554-cf1895ac2440/Councils letter Jubilee Beacons.pdf](https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/2bf5-e554-cf1895ac2440/Councils%20letter%20Jubilee%20Beacons.pdf)

whose website is

<https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/>

The Armed Forces Covenant - date for the diary

The County Council is organising a digital briefing for our sector on Tuesday 22 March 2022 at 7.00 pm. More details will follow.

There's more information on the Covenant at

<https://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/>

The County Council's Town & Parish Liaison Working Group

This met on Thursday 6 January 2022 and received presentations on Covid and the work of Local Services.

Copies of the presentations are at the links

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/1c4c020a-13a0-9e3d-0bc0-1afba2944f4b/Covid Update Jan 2022.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/1c4c020a-13a0-9e3d-0bc0-1afba2944f4b/Covid%20Update%20Jan%202022.pdf)

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/f2935a56-19d8-82ce-ca18-0c9839c09a69/Local Services Update 6 Jan 2022.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/f2935a56-19d8-82ce-ca18-0c9839c09a69/Local%20Services%20Update%206%20Jan%202022.pdf)

Following the presentation, the guidance was updated on 11 January 2022 at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Northumberland Communities Together

Northumberland Communities Together was launched in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. It ensured residents were safe and well throughout the crisis, and provided additional coordination to support individual volunteers, voluntary groups and communities across the county.

Working closely in and with our communities under a shared ambition of staying safe and well, removing barriers has shown how we can do more, earlier, to improve lives and life chances in and with our communities.

Northumberland Communities Together (NCT) is now a permanent service within the council, although is characterised by joined up approaches to addressing social and health inequalities. NCT works collaboratively to support residents to:

- feel safe, valued, and part of their community
- live in distinctive vibrant places, which they value and in which they feel proud
- can easily access the local facilities and services they want to
- know where to turn for support and assistance when needed

Our work includes connecting residents to food, financial and utility support, reducing isolation with pop up activity, and many activities for our families and young people. We support communities with their own ideas from the smallest activity to the development of community hubs. All of our work is designed with

community partners and is focused on residents and places.

Anyone in need of a bit of extra support, interested in working together, or simply wanting to know more should get in touch with the friendly NCT team on 01670 620015 9am-6pm, 7 days a week or email: NCT@northumberland.gov.uk

If you are worried about an adult of child's immediate welfare please contact OneCall on 01670536400

Police & Crime Commissioner Precept Consultation

A consultation on the Police Precept has been launched and is available via

<https://northumbria-pcc.gov.uk/policing-investment-plans-outlined-as-pcc-kim-mcguinness-launches-crucial-police-precept-public-consultation/>

Reports and other articles of possible interest

[OFCOM postal regulation consultation](#)

The national NALC's response is at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/9be5bc35-0df1-5a98-df85-ce42e3a18a69/PC1_22_OFCOM_Review_of_Postal_Regulations.pdf

[Meeting Housing Demand](#)

The House of Lords Built Environment Committee has published its report,

'Meeting housing demand', which concludes that the Government must address barriers to building much needed new homes. Too many people currently live in expensive, unsuitable, and poor-quality homes and housing supply needs to be increased to tackle the housing crisis now.

A summary and the report are available via

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/518/built-environment-committee/news/160142/housing-crisis-needs-action-on-planning-smes-and-housing-for-elderly-says-lords-report/>

Neighbourhood Planning

The County Council's December Newsletter is at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/c0b43cb2-4ddf-8eed-42df-8857a2fdb79c/Nhood_Planning_Newsletter_Dec_2021.pdf

Surface water management and sustainable drainage systems

The Govt. have published research available via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/surface-water-management-and-sustainable-drainage-systems>

There's a summary of the research at

<https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/1ab046d3-3cb9->

[3f7a-f2d4-](#)

[f46a843a5d72/15306 WT15125 Short Summary SUDS Summary Jan 2022.pdf](#)



If you have any comments or observations, please contact info@northumberlandalc.uk

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