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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews
12 March 2021
Please forward to all Councillors
and Staff**

Emails to Member Councils

The Chairmen and Clerks of Member Councils have been sent the following emails since the last issue of the Enews.

Tuesday 9 March 2021 containing

- Physical / Digital Meetings
- Elections - May 2021
- Covid
- The AGAR
- Negative Interest Rates

- Defibrillators
- Joint Burial Committees
- The national Star Council Awards
- Election Materials
- Legal Update

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

Briefings

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

Preparing for the Annual Meetings

Wed, 7 Apr 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/preparing-for-the-annual-meetings-tickets-136594881969>

General Introduction to Local Councils

Wed, 26 May 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-councils-tickets-136595616165>

Copy of General Introduction to Local Councils

Sat, 5 Jun 2021 09:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-councils-tickets-136595915059>

Budgets, Precepts and Finance

Tue, 22 Jun 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/budgets-precepts-and-finance->

Vacancy for a Clerk

Melkridge Parish Council are seeking a new clerk. Please contact the existing clerk, Karen Little, for more details via karenlittle61@hotmail.co.uk

Vacancy for a Development Officer

Community Action Northumberland are seeking a development officer. Details are at <http://ca-north.org.uk/news/we-are-recruiting>

Local Council Governance Toolkit

The previous toolkit was originally produced in 2005. The Society of Local Council Clerks, in collaboration with Lawyers in Local Government and the Association of Democratic Services Officers, have published an updated on-line version.

It is only available on the Members portion of each organisation's website.

The Good Councillor's Guide to Cyber-Security

The national NALC have published the guide which aims to help local (parish and town) councils understand the importance of cyber security better and provide practical advice on minimising risks to the council. The guide features information on understanding the most common threats such as phishing, viruses, loss of data and how some simple steps can help protect the council's data and equipment.

It is available on the Member's part of their website at <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/>

Membership of Northumbria Healthcare

The Trust have asked that we promote membership

Northumbria Healthcare - Become the heartbeat of your local NHS

Join one of the best performing trusts in the country and help shape local healthcare services for you and your family. You'll have the opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas about the way we deliver care to people across Northumberland.

Membership is open to anyone aged 12 or over. You can be involved as much or as little as you like, from simply receiving voting papers to donating your time as a volunteer or standing for election to become a trust governor. It is absolutely free to become a member and you can opt out any time. Find out more by visiting <https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/get-involved/join-our-our-foundation-trust/>

Healthwatch Trends Report

The latest Healthwatch Northumberland Quarterly Trends Report which shows the issues that have been raised by patients and service users to December 2020 is at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/b2721d5c-caa6-434b-92b1-1166dcbc020f/Healthwatch_Northumberland_Quarterly_Report_Q3_2020_21.pdf

Neighbourhood Planning

The County Council's March bulletin is at

<https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/e0575a51-cd97-484e-830f->

Rural Mobile Phones

Here's what could be a hopeful step in achieving better connectivity.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-breakthrough-on-500-million-support-package-to-boost-rural-mobile-coverage--2>

Union Connectivity Review

The link is to the recently published interim review looking at transport links between the four Home Nations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/union-connectivity-review-interim-report>

There is reference to both the A1 and ECML.

Articles and Reports

The following are a selection published whilst the Chief Officer was on leave

Managing Flood Risk

A report from the Public Accounts Committee

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/4827/documents/48528/default/>

Strong Suburbs

A report from a thinktank said to have close links with Govt.

<https://policyexchange.org.uk/publication/strong-suburbs/>

Planning and the way out of lockdown for leisure, hospitality and attractions

Richard Harwood OBE QC looks at the Local Government Secretary's

some other changes that would help.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/46441-planning-and-the-way-out-of-lockdown-for-leisure-hospitality-and-attractions>

The future of Local Plans

Gary Grant chairs a discussion that looks at the implications of a 'transformational' year in terms of town and country planning and considers what the future holds. The webinar is available via <https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/46391-the-future-of-local-plans>



If you have any comments or observations, please contact

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or

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