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## Northumberland Association of Local Councils

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

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### Emails to Member Councils

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

[21 September 2021](#) containing

- A reminder about the Councillor Census

[29 September 2021](#) (Two emails) containing

- A final reminder about the Councillor Census
- A reminder about the AGM

[5 October 2021](#) containing

- The AGM

- Directly elected seats on national NALC Committees
- Reports and other items of possible interest

6 October 2021 containing

- An update on Operation London Bridge / Death of a Senior National Figure

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

## Briefings

We are pleased to say that the County Council's Planning Team will be assisting in delivering the following "bite-sized" planning briefings over the next few months. Please book using the appropriate link. All are by Zoom and start at 7.00 pm

### Planning - Permitted Development and Prior Notification

Thursday 14 October 2021

The Planning team will be talking through their new guide to PD Rights.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/planning-permitted-development-and-prior-notification-tickets-185673102247>

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### Planning - Highway and Rights of Way Issues

Tuesday 26 October 2021

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

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### Planning - Section 106s and Developer Contributions

Monday 22 November 2021

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### [Planning - Neighbourhood Plans - Lessons Learnt](#)

Wednesday 8 December 2021

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

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### [Planning - Conservation Areas](#)

Tuesday 14 December 2021

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

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### [Planning - Enforcement](#)

Monday 24 January 2022

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

## **Job Vacancies**

**Pegswood Parish Council** are seeking a part-time Assistant Clerk.  
Please see the advertisement at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/b21e2d62-e2f1-81d9-5836-741ee9d30509/Asst\\_Clerk\\_Advert\\_Pegswood.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/b21e2d62-e2f1-81d9-5836-741ee9d30509/Asst_Clerk_Advert_Pegswood.pdf)

Closing date is 1000 25 October 2021

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**Prudhoe Town Council** are seeking a full-time Town Clerk /

<https://www.prudhoetowncouncil.gov.uk/town-clerk-rfo-vacancy/>

The job advertisement is at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/7ba807ec-aa63-16d9-c456-172fbfba7b19/Clerk\\_RFO\\_Job\\_Advert\\_Prudhoe.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/7ba807ec-aa63-16d9-c456-172fbfba7b19/Clerk_RFO_Job_Advert_Prudhoe.pdf)

The application form is at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/93c5d5ff-7687-c43d-c0bb-a1cb6cb6403b/Application\\_Form\\_Clerk\\_RFO\\_2021\\_Prudhoe.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/93c5d5ff-7687-c43d-c0bb-a1cb6cb6403b/Application_Form_Clerk_RFO_2021_Prudhoe.pdf)

Closing date is 1200 29 October 2021

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## Financial Matters

### Council Tax Base in Northumberland

Northumberland County Council will be sending the details of the 2022/2023 Council Tax Base for each of the Parish, Town and Community Councils by the end of this month.

We have requested that the information includes the percentage variations from the Base used for the 2021/2022 precept calculations.

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### Borrowing

If an English Parish, Town or Community Council wishes to borrow money for a capital project, prior approval is required from the DLUHC. Applications can only be submitted via the Association.

Experience shows that the process can take some months and includes a detailed scrutiny of the consultations carried out by the

intended loan is over £500,000. DLUHC have extra processes for the larger loans..

Approval by DLUHC does not provide any funds, a separate application then has to be made to a lender. Councils often use the Public Works Loan Board for loans. We have become aware of increased scrutiny being made by the PWLB including affordability checks.

## The Pay Claim

The National Employers offer for the 2021/2022 pay claim has been rejected by the Trade Unions who are consulting on possible industrial action.

We understand the National Employers are due to meet on 19 October 2021 but an early settlement is not anticipated.

As and when we get more information, we shall pass it out to Member Councils.

## The Northumberland & Newcastle Local Councillor Census 2021

Many thanks to all those who completed the census. The results were presented to our AGM on Saturday 2021 and will be considered in details by the County Committee at their next meeting.

The responses are at this link

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/7ea84859-1840-b199-b5be-b03740ec383d/Cllr\\_Census\\_Results\\_Sept\\_2021.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/7ea84859-1840-b199-b5be-b03740ec383d/Cllr_Census_Results_Sept_2021.pdf)

and an initial comparison with the previous censuses at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/f36192d1-57b7-b5a3-60d0-1cd7ac9035b6/Cllr\\_Census\\_Results\\_Oct\\_2021\\_Outcomes.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/f36192d1-57b7-b5a3-60d0-1cd7ac9035b6/Cllr_Census_Results_Oct_2021_Outcomes.pdf).

## Councils

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' (DLUHC) High Streets Task Force is offering councils data dashboards to track footfall and help to monitor the recovery of high streets and town centres.

Dashboards combine estimated data on local footfall and social media to give a picture over days, weeks, months and a calendar year. This data is presented through several interactive charts which can be used to analyse local trends.

Anyone working to support their local high street can access the Task Force's resources online. These include webinars, research, case studies of successful place transformation, and a wide resource library collecting good practice from around the world.

Please see

<https://www.highstreettaskforce.org.uk/>

## Reports and other articles of possible interest

[The national NALC's AGM & Annual Report](#)

The national NALC's AGM is being held digitally on 26 October 2021 starting at 1100.

Their annual report for 2020/2021 is at

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/annual-report/3592-annual-report-2020-21/file>

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[Low Traffic Neighbourhoods](#)

Philippa Jackson analyses the latest rulings in relation to low traffic neighbourhoods and what they mean for future legal challenges.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/transport-and->

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### Coronavirus - Lessons Learned to date

Today the House of Commons and Science and Technology Committee and Health and Social Care Committee have published their Report, Coronavirus: lessons learned to date, examining the initial UK response to the covid pandemic.

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/81/health-and-social-care-committee/news/157991/coronavirus-lessons-learned-to-date-report-published/>



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