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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews
16 June 2020
Please forward to all Councillors
and Staff**

Coronavirus

The rules and guidance provided by Govt. are in a process of constant change. Ministerial announcements may take some time to be translated into legislation and/or guidance

Key websites are

The national NALC

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

The Govt's Coronavirus page

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

Emails to Member Councils

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

- 10 June 2020 - The national NALC's Guide to CV-19 Risk Assessments

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

Briefings

The association has been running a series of briefings for those unfamiliar with electronic meetings and two more have been arranged, They are free but please book on either of the links below.

[Thursday 25 June 2020 at 1030](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-electronic-meetings-and-a-general-update-tickets-108960285146>

[Thursday 25 June 2020 at 1900](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-electronic-meetings-and-a-general-update-tickets-108960399488>

Meetings

The Public Health Regulations were amended late Friday. I am in two national discussions on their effect tomorrow (Wednesday 17 June). I anticipate sending out an update to all Member Councils after those discussion although it may be Thursday morning.

Standards

The Local Govt. Association is leading on the production of a national Code of Conduct for all English Local Authorities.

near future, with details of how to respond to the LGA's consultation. There are more details at

<https://www.local.gov.uk/local-government-association-model-member-code-conduct>

Planning Policy

Media reports continue to suggest there will be changes to planning policy announced by MHCLG in the near future. It remains to be seen whether these will include changes to legislation (which may take some time) and/or changes to the NPPF.

In the meantime two non-Govt reports may be of interest

[The Policy Exchange Thinktank](#)

<https://policyexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Planning-Anew.pdf>

A collection of essays on reforming the planning system from an organisation reported as being close to No. 10 and MHCLG ministers.

[Transport for New Homes](#)

<https://www.transportfornewhomes.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/garden-village-visions.pdf>

This is getting reported today, it deals with travel and from Garden Villages and Towns

The Borderlands Growth Initiative

Their previous newsletter was sent out in February 2020 and a lot has changed since then. The latest update, setting out the progress of the Deal, is now available on their website at

<https://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/Portals/0/Documents/newletters/Borderlands%20Newsletter%20June%202020.pdf>

"We know that Covid-19 is having a significant impact across our region, on our families, communities and businesses, and is causing both uncertainty and hardship. As we develop our Deal, we will need to make some changes to the timing and details of some of our programmes, to reflect the current emergency situation. This will help support the recovery and future development of our economy. We will ensure that will continue to work to our vision of sustainable and inclusive growth, which will be more vital than ever as we move forward."

Legal Articles

The following may be of interest

[Varying a s106 obligation](#)

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/43991-varying-a-s106-obligation>

[Certificates of Appropriate Alternative Development \(A Northumberland case\)](#)

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/401-planning-news/43974-a-lesson-in-legal-alchemy>

[Elections and the Coronavirus Act](#)

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/governance/314-governance-a-risk-articles/43932-elections-and-the-coronavirus-act-2020>

[Standards](#)

This is a case from Wales where the process is different from England but nevertheless is interesting.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/governance/396-governance-news/44001-community-councillor-in-wales-fails-to->

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***If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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