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## Northumberland Association of Local Councils

### **NALC Enews 19 September 2019**

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#### **The Newcastle and Northumberland Local Council of the Year 2019**

Hexham Town Council were declared the winners of this year's competition at the meeting of the County Committee on Saturday.

The joint runners-up were Blakelaw & North Fenham Community Council and Longhorsley Parish Council.

Our congratulations to those Councils.

Entries will be sought in the New Year for the 2020 competition.

#### **The Association's AGM**

Just a reminder that it's our AGM on Saturday 28 September 2019 at the East Bedlington Community Centre which is open to Councillors

The main speaker is the new Mayor of the North of Tyne Combined Authority.

Tea and coffee is available from 9.30 am with the meeting starting at 10.15 am.

There's no charge but please use the Eventbrite link below to book a place as this assists with room layout and refreshments.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nalc-2019-agm-tickets-65020776894>

## VAT Training

There are still a few places available on the VAT course on Thursday 26 September 2019 in Morpeth. If your Council already charges the public for services, other than allotments rents and burial fees, then this should be of considerable use. It will also assist if your Council is contemplating raising income by the provision of services.

Full details and booking is via this link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-vat-for-local-councils-tickets-61630468390>

## The Green Belt

Northumberland is one of the local planning authorities receiving funding to assist in protecting the Green Belt from unauthorised development. Details are at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cash-boost-to-crackdown-on-illegal-building-on-nation-s-green-belt>

## Historic High Streets

It was pleasing to see that Hexham are one of the towns awarded funding. Full details are at

## A1 Improvements

Although out of our area, colleagues may be interested to hear that the Planning Inspectorate have accepted for examination the proposals for improvement work south of Gateshead.

If approved this will widen the A1 south of Gateshead from three to four lanes, between junctions 65 and 67 on the southbound carriageway and the proposals also include widening the northbound carriageway from two to three lanes – with an additional lane between junctions – between junctions 67 and 65.

For more details, please see

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-east/a1-birtley-to-coal-house-improvement-scheme/?ipcsection=overview>



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