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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews
21 October 2021**

Please forward to all Councillors and Staff

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 - Highway and Rights of Way Issues - POSTPONED

Unfortunately unforeseen circumstances mean this is being rescheduled from Tuesday 26 October 2021 and will now take place on

Tuesday 8 February 2022 starting at 7.00 pm

All those who have already booked should have received a direct email.

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

Planning - Section 106s and Developer Contributions

Monday 22 November 2021

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/planning-section-106s-and-developer-contributions-tickets-185684245577>

Planning - Neighbourhood Plans - Lessons Learnt

Wednesday 8 December 2021

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

Planning - Conservation Areas

Tuesday 14 December 2021

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

Planning - Enforcement

Monday 24 January 2022

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

The Government's Plans for Net Zero

On Tuesday, the Govt. announced its plans for the UK to achieve Net Zero.

A number of lengthy papers were published and the key ones are available via these links

The Net Zero Strategy (368 pages)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy>

The Heat and Buildings Strategy (202 pages)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heat-and-buildings-strategy>

HM Treasury's Net Zero Review (135 pages)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-review-final-report>.

DBEIS also published a research paper entitled "Net Zero in the North East of England: regional transition impacts" (102 pages)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1026765/net-zero-north-east-final-report.pdf

Clearly these will take some time to assimilate and we would welcome any detailed thoughts in due course.

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

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.

And for those interested in the national Census and when the results will be available, please see this blog from the Office for National Statistics

<https://blog.ons.gov.uk/2021/10/12/census-2021-the-count-is-done-the-data-is-in-so-what-happens-next/>

The CAN AGM

Community Action Northumberland celebrate their 70th Birthday this year. Their digital AGM will be on Monday 15 October 2021 starting at 2.00 pm.

They will be sharing a little about CAN's history over the last 7 decades along with what they are currently up to and the plans for the future.

Booking is via

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/can-annual-general-meeting-tickets-182819577277>

Website Accessibility

The national NALC has published a new guide on website accessibility and publishing guidelines.

The guide aims to help local (parish and town) councils ensure their websites meet the needs of all users — especially those with disabilities or impairments that use assistive technology.

The guide explains what website accessibility is, how it affects local councils, the requirements, and compliance. It details what a council must publish under the Transparency Code 2015, the costs of running a website, where to get help, what ongoing checks are needed, and discusses the future of website accessibility. The guide also contains a step-by-step guide and a range of resources.

The guide can also aid those who write and create content for websites and use it as guidance to give to their website designers who may not be aware that local government websites need to comply with the Transparency Code.

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/3597-website-accessibility-and-publishing-guidelines/file>

Reports and other articles of possible interest

[HMRC's Employer Bulletin](#)

The October 2021 issue is at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-bulletin-october-2021>

[Borderland Growth Initiative](#)

Their October 2021 newsletter is at

<https://www.borderlandsgrowth.com/BorderlandsNewsletterOctober.pdf>



If you have any comments or observations, please contact

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