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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

NALC Enews 21 October 2020 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.

7 Oct (sent 9 Oct) containing the following items.

- Remembrance Day
- The Planning White Paper
- The County Council's Town & Parish Liaison Working Group - this includes an update on Remembrance Day
- The national Smaller Councils Committee
- HSE guidance on Covid-19 and the workplace
- The Local Electricity Bill

14 Oct containing the following items.

- Draft AGM Minutes
- Coronavirus
- Remembrance Sunday
- Minimum Annual Leave

15 Oct (Two).

- Two Bulletins were dispatched with advice regarding Remembrance Sunday

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

Northumberland's Council Tax Base for 2021/2022

The County Council has informed us that they will advise parish, town and community councils of their tax base for 2021-22 on 31 October.

The rise in unemployment may mean that there are significant changes from the base in 2020-21.

The Borderlands Growth Initiative

Their October 2020 newsletter is available at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/a9a1b344-5b76-4f6c-9d40-ae64d9e06d71/Borderlands_Oct_2020_Newsletter.pdf

Improving Broadband

The National Audit Office have issued a report which considers what the Superfast Programme has delivered and how the UK's broadband infrastructure has held up during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It examines the lessons from the Superfast Programme and other comparative projects, and how the Govt. could apply these as it establishes its Future Programme.

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/improving-broadband/>

Healthwatch Northumberland

The Healthwatch Northumberland Quarterly report for Q2 2020/21 which presents a summary of patient and carer feedback received between July-September 2020/21 is at this link

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/0111ee0c-f2ca-4c94-b0b1-2e6912393126/Healthwatch_Northumberland_Quarterly_Report_Q2

Maladministration

Although the Ombudsman does not currently have a role in our sector, his reports can be of interest.

The link is to the page concerning Sheffield City Council's removal of highway trees which has had national media coverage in the past.

The report illustrates the importance of Councils following their policies, statements and procedures. The Ombudsman has found the City Council did not, at times, act with openness and transparency when removing trees across Sheffield, and when dealing with people's complaints about that work.

<https://www.lgo.org.uk/information-centre/news/2020/oct/council-should-apologise-for-tree-controversy-ombudsman-says>

Planning Articles

The White Paper and Neighbourhood Plans

There's an interesting blog on the RTPI's website with thoughts on how the White Paper may revive Neighbourhood Plans.

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/blog/2020/october/the-white-paper-neighbourhood-planning/>

Permitted Development

Robert Walton QC sets out the key issues in relation to the disapplication and loss of permitted development rights.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/45111-permitted-development-disapplication-and-loss-of-permitted-development-rights>

Neighbourhood Plans, Green Spaces and Green Belts

The Court of Appeal has ruled that each of ten areas was lawfully designated as a local green space (LGS) in a neighbourhood plan but a policy which applied to them once designated was not consistent with national planning policies for managing development within the Green Belt.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/401-planning->

Leave

I am taking the first two weeks in November as leave. I shall be ceasing NALC work on Thursday 29 October and resuming on Tuesday 17 November.

Stephen Rickitt

Channel 5 Cleaning Programme

Colleagues at CAN have been contacted by Ch5 seeking potential households to feature in a forthcoming series. Details from their email are below.

"As I mentioned, I'm currently working on the next series of a transformational Channel 5 cleaning series, where we help people who've been struggling to keep on top of their home.

I would be massively grateful if you could help us in any way you can spread the word about the series through potentially sharing through newsletters, social media, noticeboards if it would be possible? It would be great if you could mention to Stephen about sharing with the network of local councils too.

In the show, two professional cleaners help someone whose house has fallen into a state of disrepair, transform their home and get it completely clean. The series has a lot of heart, and really does teach the homeowner the tips and tricks to stay on top of their cleaning for good. I've attached the flyer we're distributing and I have a blurb below with some more information if that's helpful?

Channel 5's and 5star's hit cleaning show is looking for people across the UK who are in need of some professional help keeping their homes clean and tidy.

Filming in December this year until February 2021, this series sees expert cleaners clean each home in just four days and then gives each of our participants tips to keep their home clean for good. For more information, please email cleaning@flyingsaucertv.com or fill in an application form here <https://form.jotform.com/201614460158348>.

Or happy to chat on the phone and answer any questions on 0161 518 0322"

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<https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/images/4a3da997-b14c-4eea-b4c4-7bbb93f4d790.png>



If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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or
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