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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews
22 April 2020
Please forward to all Councillors and !**

Briefings

The following free on-line events are scheduled over the next few weeks. Please use the appropriate link for more information and

[Introduction to Electronic Meetings and a General Update](#)

Tuesday 28 April 2020 starting at 1100

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-electronic-meetings-and-a-general-update-tickets-103311573698>

Repeated on

Tuesday 5 May 2020 starting at 1900

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-introduction-to-electronic-meetings-and-a-general-update-tickets-103311910706>

[General Introduction to Local Council Procedure](#)

Thursday 21 May 2020 starting at 1000

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-council-procedure-tickets-103312993946>

Repeated on

Tuesday May starting at 1900

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-council-procedure-tickets-103312993946>

Elections and Co-Options

The national NALC's Legal Dept. has produced a note on the changes to elections because of the National Emergency.

It is available at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/0d2ca517-be32-4664-b560-](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/0d2ca517-be32-4664-b560-3f12fa33d766/L03_20_The_Local_Government_and_Police_and_Crime_Commissioner_Coronavirus_Postponement_of_Elections_a)

[3f12fa33d766/L03_20_The_Local_Government_and_Police_and_Crime_Commissioner_Coronavirus_Postponement_of_Elections_a](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/0d2ca517-be32-4664-b560-3f12fa33d766/L03_20_The_Local_Government_and_Police_and_Crime_Commissioner_Coronavirus_Postponement_of_Elections_a)

Electronic Meetings

We know that Councils are starting to hold formal electronic meetings. Please let us know if you have found something which has not been expected.

We can then pass on any tips to fellow Councillors and Clerks without revealing the name of the Council.

Northamptonshire CALC has produced a YouTube of a mock virtual council at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AN56Xe2Nt8I&t=223s>

The AGAR for 2019/2020

PKF Littlejohn have informed me that emails are being sent in batches to local councils over the next couple of days.

If your council has not received on by close of play on Friday, please check your spam/junk folder. If it is not there, then please er It may mean that their records show the incorrect email address.

Their email is SBA@pkf-littlejohn.com

There's a lot of information on their website at

<https://www.pkf-littlejohn.com/services-limited-assurance-regime-useful-documents-and-links>

We hope to send out some suggestions on how to have an internal audit carried out during lockdown by the latter part of next wee

Local Council Borrowing

There is a webinar on the Public Works Loans Board and its loans which the Plunkett Foundation is organizing between 14:00 and

<https://event.webinarjam.com/channel/PlunkettPWL>.

The national NALC has also responded to an informal consultation on debt repayments which is available at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/404bb39c-5cc5-4222-8547-7fc0c2ded01f/PR4_20_Local_Council

Grants

Many Local Councils assist community groups within their parishes with grants and/or other forms of assistance. Once lockdown is greater number of such requests, almost certainly exceeding available funds.

Councils may wish to consider a more formal approach than may have been the case in the past, with perhaps a cut-off date (or d view on the needs of their area as a whole.

Neighbourhood Development Plans and CV-19

Those Northumberland Local Councils involved in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan should have received a le why consultation is not possible at the present time.

For a legal note on the position please see the article by two well-respected barristers at

<https://www.kingschambers.com/latest-news/news/2020/04/20/plan-making-during-covid-%e2%80%93-19-publicity-and-consul>

Pay Negotiations

The national NALC have advised us

A quick update on the trade union response to the National Employers for local government final pay offers for the four negotiating local government workforce, local authority Craftworkers, chief executives and chief officers. The main local government workforce [from 1 April 2020](#), plus an additional one day's leave which would increase the minimum entitlement from 21 to 22 days per year employees. The unions have responded asking for further consideration, and National Employers will be reviewing the union's resp

Funerals

More advice has been issued at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-a-funeral-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

Bank Holiday

Just a reminder if you're arranging a meeting in the week of 11 May 2020, that there is a Bank Holiday on Friday 8 May 2020. Plea



If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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