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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

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

Coronavirus

Following the announcements by the Government on 23 June 2020, their detailed advice is 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/coronavirus>

The Govt's Coronavirus page

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

The Health & Safety Executive

Community Action Northumberland (for village halls)
<http://ca-north.org.uk/supporting-individuals/covid-19>

The County Council sent out a letter last week on Town Centre Reopening which is at

https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/c2459022-8369-4419-9f9c-953a9ed38f80/Town_Centres_Reopening_County_Council_17_June_2020.pdf

Emails to Member Councils

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

18 June 2020 containing

- A survey on virtual meetings
- A note on issues surrounding local council meetings
- PAYE
- Keyworker Thank You Cards

Please answer the survey if your Council has not already done so, it should take under two minutes to complete.

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

Standards

The County Committee discussed the Local Govt. Association's consultation and we aim to send a copy of the proposed response to all Member Councils later this week. There are more details of the proposed model code at

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

The Electoral Commission have published their report on the December 2019 General Election at

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-04/UKPGE%20election%20report%202020.pdf>

Climate Change

The national NALC now has a page on the public part of their website dealing with Climate Change containing information to provoke discussion within Local Councils. Items and case studies will be added.

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/climate-change>

DEFRA has also launched a consultation on the creation of an England Tree Strategy at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/consultation-launched-on-the-england-tree-strategy>

Planning Policy

Media reports this week gave more hints that there will be changes to planning policy announced by MHCLG in the near future.

In the meantime the following may be of interest

Neighbourhood Planning

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/894415/200622_2020-21_Chief_Planners_Letter_NP_grant.pdf

Extensions to Planning Permissions

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/press-releases/2020/june/the-royal-town->

The RTPI's response to a MHCLG announcement.

Traffic Statistics

https://www.gov.uk/transport/road-traffic#research_and_statistics

Statistics which may be of use when considering the larger applications

Legal Articles

http://read://https_www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk%2Fplanning%2F318-planning-features%2F44051-access-to-viability-assessments-holborn-studios-2

In the first of two articles *Richard Harwood QC* considers what the Planning Court had to say about the public's right of access to viability assessments.

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/44070-varying-s106-obligations-part-2-s106b-appeals>

In the second in a series of articles by Landmark Chambers on the subject of the variation and enforcement of s106 obligations, *James Maurici QC* considers s106B appeals in relation to variations and discharge.

Northumberland National Park Draft Local Plan

The Northumberland National Park Authority has received the Local Plan report from the Inspector.

The Regulation 25 notice has now been published. As set out in the notice, the Inspector's Report concludes that the Local Plan is sound with modifications.

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<https://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-examination/>

The Authority will consider these documents for adoption in mid-July. The Local Plan will carry significant weight in planning decisions prior to adoption as per Paragraph 48 of the NPPF.

Paper copies of these documents are normally made available for inspection at the Northumberland National Park Authority HQ. However, due to the Covid virus please contact the planning team to make alternative arrangements if required:

Planning Team, NNPA, Eastburn, South Park, Hexham, NE46 1BS or email: LocalPlan@nnpa.org.uk



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