

Stephen Rickitt

From: Northumberland ALC <info=northalc.org.uk@mail74.atl11.rsgsv.net> on behalf of Northumberland ALC <info@northalc.org.uk>
Sent: 04 April 2017 12:43
To: stephenrickitt@northalc.org.uk
Subject: NALC Enews 4 April 2017

[View this email in your browser](#)



Northumberland Association
of Local Councils

NALC Enews

4 April 2017

Subscriptions

We aim to distribute the invoices by the end of April.

This year we're going to seek details of Chairmen & Clerks as a separate exercise after the May Northumberland Elections.

Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England

The Practitioners' Guide has been reissued and is available from the national NALC's website as well as the SLCC site. I can also email a copy on request.

The accompanying letter say

"The content is not greatly changed, but a minor error affecting Parish Meetings has been corrected and some of the explanations in Part 5 have been made clearer."

I suggest that Internal Auditors are made aware of the new issue.

Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations

On 30 March, the County Council gave Local Councils an illuminating presentation on this subject. I shall be doing a note for Member Councils over the next month or so.

The presentation is at

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/093d57cd-a0d4-410c-af24-e84771b692d7/FOI EIR training presentation Town and parish conference .pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/093d57cd-a0d4-410c-af24-e84771b692d7/FOI_EIR_training_presentation_Town_and_parish_conference_.pdf)

Northumberland Fire Group

NFG is a partnership between Northumberland Fire & Rescue Service, Forestry Commission, Natural England, other Government agencies, private landowners and upland land managers. Its remit is to raise the profile of the danger of wildfire, whilst encouraging collaborative working in order to minimise the impact of wildfire should it occur. Much of its work is carried out in the Northumberland uplands and forests, but wildfire is also an issue in coastal areas. If you would like to know more about the work of NFG, please visit

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Fire/Group.aspx>

The Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Bill

This House of Lords Library briefing provides information in support of the House of Lords second reading of the Local Audit (Public Access to Documents) Bill (HL Bill 115 of 2016–17) on 6 April 2017.

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LIF-2017-0030/LIF-2017->

Public Houses and Change of Use

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid has tabled an amendment to the Neighbourhood Planning Bill that removes permitted development rights from pubs. I assume this will pass through the legislative process but do not know when it will come into force. When I see more information, I shall put an item in the Enews.

Gates in Conservation Areas

In a dispute concerning works to a gate and wall in a conservation area, the High Court was tasked with clarifying the correct approach in establishing whether developments to such areas were permissible as alterations, or impermissible as demolitions. In doing so, the court considered the definition of "building" as set

out in S.336 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) and held that the same should apply to buildings in conservation areas as regulated by S.196D. Accordingly, it was found that the demolition of part of a gate or wall within a conservation area should be classified as a "relevant demolition". [Spotted in Wardhadaways Newsletter]

The judgment is at <http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2017/573.html>

Northumberland Elections May 2017

Nominations close at 4.00 pm today, Tuesday 4 April 2017.

The Elections Office anticipate placing nomination details on their website by 4.00 pm Wednesday 5 April 2017.

This will enable Individual Northumberland Councils to know

- if they will be having a contested election,
- the number of vacancies, or
- whether they are inquorate.



***If you have any comments or observations, please contact
Stephen Rickitt, NALC Chief Officer stephenrickitt@northalc.org.uk***

or

Louise Currie, Community Initiatives Officer louisecurrie@ca-north.org.uk

If you no longer wish to receive NALC E news click here:

{unsubscribe}Unsubscribe{/unsubscribe}

This email was sent to stephenrickitt@northalc.org.uk

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Community Action Northumberland · UNIUN Enterprise Building · Front St · Pegswood, Northumberland NE61 6RG · United Kingdom

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font within a grey rounded rectangular box.