

# **NALC Enews**

## **6 March 2018**

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### **New Email Address**

Please ensure that you use the correct email addresses

[stephenrickitt@northumberlandalc.uk](mailto:stephenrickitt@northumberlandalc.uk)

and

[info@northumberlandalc.uk](mailto:info@northumberlandalc.uk)

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The old emails ending in **northalc.org.uk** will cease to operate in the very near future.

## **New External Audit Arrangements**

All Member Councils having been sent an email giving more information regarding the new external auditors - PKF Littlejohn LLP - and the process to use for this year's accounts.

## **National Planning Policy Framework**

MHCLG issued a suite of documents yesterday (5 March) as consultation for potential revisions to the NPPF.

I shall be reading them over the next few weeks but if anyone spots any aspect which is of particular concerns to our sector, please let me know. The consultation closes at 2345 10 May 2018

The documents are available via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-revised-national-planning-policy-framework>

## **Principal Councils and Planning**

The national NALC's CX issues a weekly bulletin and in this one he says

And finally I was pleased to read this week the Local Government Association's new 'Planning Positively through Partnership' report which stresses the need for partnership in the planning system and among its six valuable points of learning to help get things right says: *"It is important to actively involve communities and parish, town and ward councillors at an early stage of the*

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*planning process*". This guidance may be helpful to you in your own engagement and discussions with your local planning authorities

The report is available at

[https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/5.24%20Planning%20positively\\_v06.pdf](https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/5.24%20Planning%20positively_v06.pdf)

## **Viab! Villages**

CPRE and Shelter have issued a report on the ways developers are reducing the number of affordable houses they need to build. It's available via

[http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/item/4781-viable-villages-closing-the-planning-loop-hole-that-undercuts-affordable-housing-in-the-countryside?utm\\_source=cpre&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=viable\\_villages&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=engagingnetworks&utm\\_campaign=2018-viability-report-email&utm\\_content=2018+viability+campaigns+email](http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/item/4781-viable-villages-closing-the-planning-loop-hole-that-undercuts-affordable-housing-in-the-countryside?utm_source=cpre&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=viable_villages&utm_medium=email&utm_source=engagingnetworks&utm_campaign=2018-viability-report-email&utm_content=2018+viability+campaigns+email)

## **Farming**

DEFRA are seeking views on proposals for the future of English agricultural policy. The consultation closes at 2345 8 May 2018. It is available via

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-for-food-farming-and-the-environment>

## **Data Protection**

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The Data Protection Bill had its Second Reading in the Commons yesterday (5 March). I shall browse the debate to see if there are any clues as to whether or not a clerk can also be their Council's Data Protection Officer. I know the national NALC are pressing hard for a proportionate application to our sector.

I have also seen but not yet had the opportunity to study the new fees. I aim to send an email to Member Councils later in the week.

## Standing Orders

Speaking to the national NALC's Head of Legal last week, they hope to send out a revised model set of SOs in the Spring.

I shall let Member Councils know when I get more information.

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

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