

Stephen Rickitt

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Northumberland Association
of Local Councils

NALC Enews

7 March 2017

Inspection of Trees

A recent Court Case has indicated the importance of inspecting trees on Council land. There is an explanatory note at http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=30225%3Aroadside-trees&catid=64&Itemid=32

Data Protection and Subject Access Requests

There has been confirmation that the reason for a request is not a reason for refusal. Please see http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=30228%3Athe-motives-behind-subject-access-requests&catid=59&Itemid=27

Internal Auditors

I am aware that a number of Local Councils in our area may be looking for replacement internal auditors in the near future. I'd like to keep a list of people who may be interested in such roles as and when they become vacant. I would be grateful if this could be drawn to the attention of anyone who may be interested please.

I could then pass on details at the request of any Member Local Council.

This would be a potential supplement to and not replace any local advertising.

Public Rights of Way

The Planning Inspectorate have issued revised guidance on considering objections to Definitive Map Applications and Public Path Orders. I am afraid it's 86 pages. It is available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/595705/Row_Booklet_revised_February_2017.pdf

Parliamentary Boundaries

The Boundary Commission for England are seeking views on the submissions to their previous consultation. This further period closes on 27 March 2017. Details are at <https://www.bce2018.org.uk/node/6486>

Legal Topic Notes

The national NALC have revised their Legal Topic Notes LTN 5 (Parish and Community Council Meetings) and LTN 80 (Members' conduct and the registration and disclosure of their interests (England)) have been revised to add information about the restriction on voting on matters relating to the precept which applies to a councillor who is in arrears of payment of council tax together with the associated criminal offence of not disclosing the arrears at a relevant meeting.

Copies are available to Member Councils on request.

Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2017/2018

The Department of Communities and Local Government has confirmed the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for parish and town councils in England for 2017/18 is £7.57.

The national Budget

I anticipate that the National NALC will produce a briefing within a day or so of the Chancellor's statement. I will endeavour to circulate this at the earliest opportunity.



If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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or

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