

Northumberland Association of Local Councils

Outline Briefing Programme 2020

Event	Date	Venue(s)	Comments
End of year accounts, audit and the AGAR	March / April	Morpeth area – Saturday morning	This is designed for clerks and chairmen who are probably new into post
General Briefing	June/July	Three evening sessions across the area plus a centrally located Saturday morning	These are designed to capture relatively new councillors and clerks, but also an update for longer serving councillors
Finance	Sept/Oct	Three evening sessions across the area plus a centrally located Saturday morning	These are designed to capture relatively new councillors and clerks, but also an update for longer serving councillors
General Briefing	Oct/Nov	A centrally located Saturday morning	As above
Elections	Nov/Dec	A weekday afternoon at County Hall	For Northumberland clerks in advance of the May 2021 Elections. Hopefully co-presented with the elections team and follows the similar event in Dec 2016.

Comments

The programme is lighter than previous years recognising that we will be in the final part of the term for the Northumberland Local Councils ahead of the May 2021 elections. This gives some scope for some one-off sessions such as

1. Attracting potential candidates – Sept/Oct/Nov 2020
2. Safeguarding – grant conditions often require attendance – is this one to jointly hold with CAN?
3. Managing Common Land – this fell through in 2019 as the costs from the Open Spaces Society were prohibitive. I am, however, sounding out a more management-focused group based in Cumbria.
4. Allotments – is there likely to be a demand from the larger councils with allotments?

The major omission from the above is Town & County Planning. The County Council has indicated they will be providing briefings. If those are not in progress by the Summer, I suggest this Association organises its own briefing sessions.

The Committee's thoughts are requested, particularly on areas where one-off events may be arranged.

Stephen Rickitt

14 January 2020