

Stephen Rickitt

From: Northumberland Association of Local Councils <info@northumberlandalc.uk>
Sent: 13 February 2019 11:13
To: Stephen Rickitt
Subject: NALC Enews 13 February 2019

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Northumberland Association
of Local Councils

NALC Enews

13 February 2019

Emails to Member Councils

The Chairmen and Clerks of Member Councils have been sent the following email

- VAT / Flood Defences / Annual Leave - 13 Feb 2019

If your Council has not received a copy, please let me know.

Borrowing Approval

In general terms, a Parish, Town or Community Council needs to have the prior approval of the MHCLG before it can borrow money.

An application has to be submitted via this Association. It must not be sent direct to MHCLG.

There is a detailed application form with notes available from this office if your Council is considering seek approval for a loan. Please contact us in good time as approval is not automatic. Consultation with parishioners is an important factor.

The form has been revised and if you are working with an older copy, please get in touch so I may forward on the revised version.

Vacancy for a Clerk

Hexhamshire PC need a new parish clerk. This is a rural parish south of Hexham with a population of about 600. We meet on the second Thursday of each month and the meetings generally last for about two hours. The new clerk will work from home and would typically work about 6-8 hours per month including attendance at the Council meetings.

The position requires good financial, administrative, organisational, computer and communication skills.

If you would like to apply or have any queries please contact the chairman, Alastair Stevens, at hexhamshirepc@gmail.com.

Please send applications including your CV by Friday 22nd March.

Works to building frontages in Northumberland

Concern has recently been expressed at a number of places where works to building frontages are forcing pedestrians to walk in the road.

The County Council have sent us the following information

In circumstances where there is a need for scaffolding or hoarding to work on frontages which affects the adjacent highway, the contractor must apply for the relevant licence from Streetworks at the County Council. This also applies where a skip is required. Please see information on the following web page regarding these

licences <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Business/Licences/Permits.aspx#scaffoldinghoardinglicence>

Generally it's our Highways Inspectors who agree the placement of skips, hoardings, scaffolding with regard to any traffic/pedestrian management requirements. Our Streetworks officers however are also involved in these activities depending on nature of the works and their impact on the highway. Where there are any concerns regarding a scaffolding structure in terms of how it has been erected, our building regulations team and/or health and safety officers would address this.

If however there are any issues or concerns that you wish to report please contact streetworks@northumberland.gov.uk and they will ensure that concerns are raised and dealt with by the relevant officers.

Unauthorised Encampments

The Government recently announced their response to a consultation undertaken last year, including details of proposed new police powers.

Full details are at

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/powers-for-dealing-with-unauthorised-development-and-encampments?utm_source=9a11821c-a3ea-4d11-a29f-3eec42700850&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Housing

The following may be of interest

(1) Shelter - Commission on Social Housing

There is a legal article on some of the issues at

http://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=38059%3Afinding-

[a-national-housing-policy--shelter-from-the-storm&catid=60&Itemid=28](#)

The report is at

https://england.shelter.org.uk/support_us/campaigns/a_vision_for_social_housing

(2) The National Audit Office - Planning for New Homes

This report is part of a series on housing in England, including Housing in England: overview (2017) and Homelessness (2018). It assesses how effectively the Department supports the planning regime to provide the right homes in the right places by:

- supporting local authorities to produce plans for how the supply of new homes will meet need in their area;
- supporting local authorities and the Planning Inspectorate in having effective and sufficiently resourced planning processes and teams to deal with planning applications and appeals; and
- working effectively with local authorities, other government departments and developers to ensure infrastructure to support new homes is planned and funded.

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/planning-for-new-homes/>



If you have any comments or observations, please contact

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or

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

Our website is at <https://northumberlandalc.uk/>

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