

Stephen Rickitt

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Sent: 02 May 2017 11:52
To: stephenrickitt@northalc.org.uk
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Northumberland Association
of Local Councils

NALC Enews

2 May 2017

Transparency Fund for Smaller Councils

The following message has been sent by the national NALC.

"Thanks hugely for all your fantastic work over the last two financial years promoting the Transparency Code and Fund to smaller councils in your areas. As ever it is hugely appreciated. Together we have disbursed 2.3 million GBP to smaller councils over that period to aid compliance with the Code – approving 3, 200 applications.

So there is a huge amount of work still to be done in 2017-18 - the final year of the Fund and grant disbursement. The strategic aim is to ensure we have by March 2018 promoted Code compliance and the Fund to all eligible councils in England. This will not be easy with an estimated 6000 smaller councils in England.

Please don't forget that smaller councils are eligible to re-apply for certain aspects of the Fund even if they have been funded before – please refer to all appropriate guidance – thanks. But please ensure that you work with NALC continuously to March 2018 to try to promote the Code and Fund to all eligible councils in your areas – as technically these councils should now already be compliant with the Code – from 1/4/17."

There is a new form to use this year. If any Council would like a copy please ask.

There's more detail at <http://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/the-transparency-fund>

12/2/18 is the final deadline for 17-18 applications as the TF Board agreed in March that as this is the final year in a three programme all stakeholders required the month of March 2018 to drawdown all programme finances and outputs.

Internal Auditors

A number of Councils are seeking Internal Auditors due to changes of circumstances. If you are prepared to assist, please let me know and I'll pass on details.

Public Parks

There's a Govt. consultation of free use for running.

Details are at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/running-free-consultation-on-preserving-the-free-use-of-public-parks>

Adoption of Roads

The Dept. for Transport have produced a guide available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adoption-of-roads-by-highway-authorities>

Fracking

There's an article on an unsuccessful attempt to stop the approval for fracking in Lancashire at

http://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=30945%3Athe-lancashire-fracking-challenge&catid=63&Itemid=31

Election Expenses - Northumberland

Just a reminder that all candidates must complete expenses declarations even if it is a Nil return. The documentation is available via

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/146661/Candidate-spending-at-parish-and-community-elections-in-England-and-Wales.pdf

Election Data

The House of Commons Library has produced a statistical guide presents an overview of election results since 1918. It provides summary results for all elections from 1918 to 2017, focusing on elections to the House of Commons. It's 90 pages long but the link is to the summary which gives access to the full report.
<http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7529>



If you have any comments or observations, please contact

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