

**Stephen Rickitt**

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**From:** Northumberland ALC <info=northalc.org.uk@mail120.sea21.rsgsv.net> on behalf of Northumberland ALC <info@northalc.org.uk>  
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## Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews**  
**10 October 2017**

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### **Council Tax Referendums / Capping**

The national NALC's Chief Executive was at our AGM on Saturday and was able to provide an update on the position for FY 2018/2019.

Although the prospect of a limit still exists, it looks less likely than it did at this time last year. It is clear, however, that Govt. remains concerned about the general level of rises in the precept. The national NALC is seeking a three year moratorium on the introduction of Referendums, without detracting from their

opposition to the concept. That would allow for budget planning.

The CX did ask for any examples of community involvement in setting budgets or taking on new services for use as evidence when in discussions with Govt.

I am happy to forward on any examples.

## **Contested Election Charges in Northumberland**

If your Parish/Town/Community Council had a contested election in May 2017, then the County Council will be issuing an invoice for a share of the costs. The Association's Honorary Treasurer has spoken to the Elections Team and the invoices will be dispatched before the end of October but not payable until 1 April 2018.

There is no charge if the elections were uncontested.

## **Services in Northumberland**

At the Town and Parish Council Conference on 5 October 2017, the County Councillor Glen Sanderson said on behalf of the administration

"in answer to concerns that PC/TCs that they would have another confusing period re precepts and possible NCC last minute demands on finances I have reiterated that we will not impose any extra charges for 2018/19 but will use the coming year to discuss possible transfers etc so no surprises.

If any PC/TC wishes to discuss particular issues around services for next year however then the door is open

## **Planning**

The links are to two legal articles on planning issues

### Listed buildings and statuary

The High Court has rejected a challenge to a planning inspector's decision dismissing appeals against a listed building enforcement notice and the refusal of listed building consent in respect of the removal of two early 18th century piers and urns.

[http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=32732%3Alisted-buildings-and-statuary&catid=58&Itemid=26](http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=32732%3Alisted-buildings-and-statuary&catid=58&Itemid=26)

### TPOs and compensation

The Court of Appeal recently allowed a council's appeal over an Upper Tribunal judgment on tree preservation orders and compensation payable to a landowner. *Claire Booth* explains the outcome

[http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=32726%3Atpos-and-compensation&catid=58&Itemid=26](http://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=32726%3Atpos-and-compensation&catid=58&Itemid=26)

## **Display of Bus Service Information**

The County Council is to consult Northumberland's Local Councils on new ways to display bus timetables. Details are in the document at

<https://gallery.mailchimp.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/15eb6339-bf95-4b1a-9240->

[3eea6493db77/Proposal around a New Partnership for Bus Information.pdf](3eea6493db77/Proposal_around_a_New_Partnership_for_Bus_Information.pdf)

## **The Local Environment**

A new legal topic note on The Local Environment is now available dealing with a range of issues such as leaving or repairing vehicles on a road, abandoned vehicles, Graffiti and Fly-posting, unlawful display of advertisements, placards and posters, noise and intruder alarms, and statutory nuisances such as insects or noise.

It is available to Members Councils from this office or direct from the members area of the national NALC's website.

## **An Apology**

Finally an apology for the non-appearance of an issue last week. Preparation for the AGM and a series of other events took up more time than anticipated.



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

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