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Northumberland Association
of Local Councils

NALC Enews
17 April 2018

Member Emails

Member Councils have been sent the following emails - please let me know if you have not received a copy

- 27 March - The new JPAG guide - "Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England"
- 28 March - The Section 137 Limit for 2018/2019
- 29 March - External Audit
- 11 April - Unauthorised Encampments

Model Standing Orders

Member Councils are being emailed today (17 April) details of the new model standing orders prepared by the national NALC.

VAT Refunds

Parish Councils should have received details of a new reference number to be used by unregistered Councils when seeking refunds of VAT.

The process is set out in VAT Notice 749 at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vat-notice-749-local-authorities-and-similar-bodies>

In July 2017, we distributed a guidance note to Member Councils. If you would like a further copy, please contact me.

Local Government Pay

I anticipate getting details of the agreed new pay scales this week and copies will be sent to all Member Councils.

New Legal Topic Notes

The national NALC have updated a number of their legal topic notes. These are available to Member Councils on request to me or by logging in the national NALC's website - log-in are available from me.

- LTN 1 - Councils' Powers to Discharge Their Functions

- LTN 2 - The Chairman of Local Councils
- LTN 5 - Parish & Community Council Meetings
- LTN 8 - Elections
- LTN 87 - Procurement

Legal Articles

These may be of interest

Ports and good governance

Local authorities that manage municipal ports need to consider and implement the government's new Ports Good Governance Guidance.

https://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=34797%3Aports-and-good-governance&catid=59&Itemid=27

Developer contributions: reforms

The regime for developer contributions is set to be reformed. *Stephanie David* examines the proposals in the government's consultation.

https://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=34785%3Adeveloper-contributions-reforms&catid=63&Itemid=31

Flood Risk Assessments

The Government have published the updated assessments. Those for this region are available via <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/northumbria-river-basin-district-preliminary-flood-risk-assessments>

Northumbria Healthcare Public Governors

People across Northumberland and North Tyneside who are passionate about their local NHS are being given the opportunity to become more involved by standing for election as a public governor.

The role of a public governor is to represent the views of local people and help build links between the trust and the many communities it serves. Duties include holding non-executive directors to account for the performance of the board, reviewing the annual accounts/ report and representing the interests of the public in governance meetings.

Positions are available representing: Berwick upon Tweed, Blyth Valley, Hexham, North Shields, North West Tyneside, Wansbeck, Wallsend and Whitley Bay

There is also a 'Rest of England' constituency which will allow those who do not live in Northumberland or North Tyneside, but who have an interest in the NHS, to become involved.

The deadline for nominations is 5 pm on Thursday 3 May. Nomination forms are available from Electoral Reform Service by calling 0208 889 9203, emailing ftnominationenquiries@electoralreform.co.uk,

[https://secure.ersvotes.com/V2-4-3/\(S\(f7232e93-1dfd-49c6-bc3d-23693800d035AMIrQQAAAAAAAA=8cFYrXEbi27GkVYWk7F\)\)/nhft18/en/home?bbp=-1&x=-1](https://secure.ersvotes.com/V2-4-3/(S(f7232e93-1dfd-49c6-bc3d-23693800d035AMIrQQAAAAAAAA=8cFYrXEbi27GkVYWk7F))/nhft18/en/home?bbp=-1&x=-1), or by texting 2FTNH with your name and address to 88802.

Before applying to become a public governor, you must first become a member of Northumbria Healthcare. Becoming a member is very straightforward and can be done by completing an [online application form](#) or by calling 0191 203 1296.

Alan Richardson, chair of Northumbria Healthcare, said: "Our public governors play a hugely important role in our trust. They are the voice of local people and forge links with the many and varied local communities we serve. They help us to shape our priorities and develop local health care services.

"We'd urge anyone with an interest in their local NHS to get involved – you really can make a difference."

Northumbria Healthcare covers one of the largest geographical areas in the country and provides hospital and community services in North Tyneside and hospital, community and adult social care services in Northumberland. For further information on the role of a public governor and what it involves please

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/301286/BriefGuideForGovernors.pdf.

The following public governor vacancies are available:

Constituency

Public governor vacancies

Berwick upon Tweed	2
Blyth Valley	1
Hexham	3
North Shields	2
North West Tyneside	3
Wansbeck	4
Wallsend	2
Whitley Bay	3
Rest of England	1
Total	21

An Apology

My apologies for the non-appearance of the Enews for a couple of weeks. I was unexpectedly away and am now catching up with outstanding matters.



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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