



26th June 2026

Latest News

[NALC news](#) (NALC login may be required)

[SLCC news](#) (No SLCC login required)

Did your council elect a new Chair in May?

Have you updated your records via the LALC portal? If not, please don't forget to update them. Ordinarily LALC will only engage with the Clerk, Chair or Chair of a Staffing Committee, so we need to be sure who is contacting us.

If you have any difficulty updating your records, please contact enquiries@lalc.co.uk

NALC: Fiscal devolution

In our submission to the House of Lords' Economic Affairs Committee inquiry into fiscal devolution, we have called for significant reforms to local government finance and devolution, arguing that parish and town councils must be given direct access to funding streams and a greater role in fiscal decision-making as powers are devolved to local areas.

You can read our [full response on the NALC website](#).

New video: Explaining Local Government – Local Councils in England and Wales

Source: SLCC

Not everyone knows what it is local councils, or their clerks, actually do. To help with that, the SLCC Educational Trust has created this useful video. It explains how town, parish, and community councils work, what they can (and can't) do, and how everyday people can get involved.

We encourage you to share this video with your residents, local schools, clubs, and community groups, as well as through your council website and social media channels, to help raise awareness and understanding of the role and work of local councils.

Your voice can shape your council — and your community.

[Watch the video here on YouTube](#).

LALC 53rd AGM - 9th July 2026

The AGM will be held via Zoom.

The evening will commence at 6:30pm with our Guest Speaker, Cllr Sean Matthews, Leader of Lincolnshire County Council addressing delegates.

We require a quorum of 10% of our membership for the AGM to go ahead.

The agenda will be sent out shortly.

The Annual Report has now been issued.

Please book via the LALC portal (login required), so that we have an idea of numbers and can determine whether the meeting is quorate.

Updating the LALC portal after a councillor resigns

When a councillor resigns, please archive their record in the LALC portal, otherwise they will continue to receive LALC mailings (and we receive the complaints).

Notice of Public Inspection and Publication Requirements

This is a timely reminder that every Parish Council and Town Council must comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and publish certain documents by **1st July 2026**.

It is a legal requirement that a **Period of Public Inspection** must be granted after the end of the financial year, 31st March 2026, for interested members of the public to view the Council's accounts, contracts, documents. That period must consist of 30 working days, and it must cover the first 10 working days of July, every year. This means it is a period of 6 weeks (6 weeks of 5 days because Saturday and Sunday do not count).

The notice of public inspection template is provided by the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn, to every council and, when completed, it is displayed on the noticeboard and website of the parish/town council.

***Please make sure that you display the correct notice of public inspection template.** Every year LALC is made aware of councils displaying the Confirmation of Dates template which should be sent to PKF Littlejohn and clearly states 'This form is only for use by smaller authorities subject to a review and should not be published on your website'.

The precise **publication requirements** of all the documents that must be shown on the websites are listed on the front page of guidance notes of the relevant AGAR form. Please check your council is compliant with these statutory rules.

Exempt Councils (below £25,000)

[AGAR Form 2]

For those councils that have decided to exempt themselves from a limited assurance review by the external auditor they **MUST** display on their website the following documents:

- Certificate of Exemption, page 3
- Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26, page 4
- Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26, page 5
- Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26, page 6
- Analysis of variances
- Bank reconciliation
- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and other information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

All other councils who are not exempt [AGAR Form 3]

Before 1 July 2026 authorities **MUST** publish:

- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and a declaration that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited;
- Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 approved and signed, page 4
- Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2025/26 approved and signed, page 5

It is recommended as best practice, to avoid any potential confusion by local electors and interested parties, that you also publish the Annual Internal Audit Report, page 3.

What can an interested person look at if they ask to see the accounts and other documents during the Period of Public Inspection?

The National Audit Office has published a leaflet describing the process and what documents should be available for the person to see if they exercise their rights to inspect documents. The leaflet, Local Authority Accounts: A Guide to Your Rights can be found [here](#).

This is an in-person inspection process – it is not conducted by email or through remote access. When setting your public inspection dates, please ensure that someone is available to respond to and satisfy any such requests during that period.

Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel

Last week, the [Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel](#) met to consider a draft of the new proper practices, prepared by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants.

There were productive discussions around standardising terms, a new code of practice for internal auditors and changes to the Accounting Statements, including a new requirement to report on borrowing and removing the need to report staff costs separately.

The new proper practices and guide are on track to be published by March 2027.

Counter Terrorism Policing - Summer Vigilance campaign

Counter Terrorism Policing has launched its annual Summer Vigilance campaign, which encourages the public to stay alert while they enjoy a summer of events with family and friends. With recent changes to the UK's threat level, it's more important than ever that event organisers and businesses up-and-down the country do their part to keep customers and the public safe this summer. The campaign includes a toolkit which includes assets, messaging, and guidance, which event organisers and businesses can use to help keep the public safe this summer.

[Find out more and access the toolkit.](#)

NALC champions a positive approach to artificial intelligence

NALC have called on parish and town councils to take a balanced and forward-looking approach to artificial intelligence (AI), highlighting its potential to strengthen local democracy and improve services.

NALC chief executive Jonathan Owen acknowledged concerns around misinformation, deepfakes and public trust but stressed that AI should not be viewed solely through the lens of risk. He said, "AI is not inherently a threat to democracy", arguing that its impact will be determined by how it is designed, governed and used.

NALC outlined a range of practical benefits, including reducing administrative burdens, improving access to information and enabling councils to engage more effectively with residents. Rather than replacing human judgement, AI should support councillors, clerks and council staff by freeing up time to focus on leadership, decision-making and community priorities, concluding that AI has the potential to make local democracy more accessible, responsive and inclusive when implemented responsibly, with the needs of communities at its heart.

[Read more.](#)

Reminder: Subscription to LALC Google Group

If you have recently updated to a gov.uk email and you were previously a member of the lalc-town-and-parishes@googlegroups.com, you will need to accept the invitation that we sent out, in order to re-join this group.

We are aware of 23 Clerks who have not yet accepted the invitation to re-join the group.

Access to Banking Services Review: Call for Evidence

Source: SLCC

The Access to Banking Review wants to gather the best possible up-to-date evidence of the challenges faced by those who need in-person banking services. This evidence will help to establish the impact of changing services, identify who is most affected, and underpin its assessment of what further action may be required.

Those communities which face or have experienced the loss of over-the-counter banking services may wish to share their experiences as part of this review.

The Access to Banking Services Review Call for Evidence will close for input on 20 July.

You can provide input through the [online response form here](#).

If it is not possible to submit your input through the online response form, you can email a response to:

Accesstobankingservices@hmtreasury.gov.uk

Alternatively, responses can be submitted to: Access to Banking Services Review, Financial Services Group, 1st Floor, HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, SW1A 2HQ

[Find out more here.](#)

Stay safe in hot weather

Lincolnshire County Council have published advice on staying safe in the hot weather, covering:

- Heat exhaustion and heatstroke
- How to stay safe outside
- How to keep you and your home cool
- Drinking regularly
- Helping others
- Advice for parents and carers of children and babies
- Advice for carers of older people
- Where to get further advice

Please share this advice with your communities.

[Find out more.](#)

North Hykeham Town Council – Armed Forces Friendly

As part of Armed Forces Week 2026, North Hykeham Town Council is proud to launch its new [Armed Forces Community Hub](#).

Created to support serving personnel, veterans, reservists and military families, the Hub will provide a central point of contact for information, guidance, local services and community connections.

The launch marks the beginning of an exciting new initiative that aims to bring together members of the Armed Forces community across North Hykeham and the surrounding area through our innovative Hub and Spoke model.

Visitors to the new webpage will be able to access:

- Support and guidance services
- Information on local and national organisations
- Community events and activities
- Brew & Banter sessions and future meet-ups
- Opportunities to connect with others within the Armed Forces community



North Hykeham Town Council is proud to recognise the contribution and sacrifice of serving personnel, veterans and their families, and remains committed to ensuring they receive the support, recognition and opportunities they deserve.

Age-friendly town and parish councils

The Centre for Ageing Better published a booklet called ['Age-friendly Town and Parish Guide'](#).

LALC would encourage all councils to have a look at this and consider if there are any things they could do to help their community to be age-friendly.

The guide defines 'age-friendly' as a service, space, activity or process that is accessible and inclusive to all ages. In practice this often means making specific efforts to ensure older people are not excluded, considering how experiences and needs may change across the life course.

Some initiatives can be delivered by parish and town councils themselves but many need some collaborative working with other councils and organisations.

As well as examples of what other local councils have done it provides tools to help measure what you do now and help plan improvements.

CiLCA congratulations!

Congratulations to Tracy Cooke of Great Hale Parish Council upon successful completion of CiLCA.

HSE Guidance on Running an Event Safely

Source: SLCC

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is reminding organisers to protect event workers and the public by using their event safety webpages.

Whether you're organising a small gathering or large-scale event, HSE guidance provides practical advice to help you meet your health and safety obligations.

HSE's guidance helps to plan, manage, and monitor events effectively with three key sections:

- [Getting started with event planning](#) – ensure planning is proportionate to your event's scale and risk level.
- [Managing an event](#) – understand legal duties as an event organiser.
- [Planning for incidents and emergencies](#) – develop effective response plans appropriate to potential risks.

Royal Garden Party

Parish and town councillors, clerks and council staff from across England attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace after being nominated in recognition of their outstanding service to local communities. NALC were delighted to help secure this national recognition for the sector and celebrate the dedication of those working tirelessly to support their communities.

[Read more.](#)

This year LALC nominated Cllr Alex Cruickshanks from North Hykeham Town Council and Elaine Atkin, Clerk to Heighington Parish Council.



Boxing Clever: CPRE Launches Lifesaving Village Phone Box Competition

CPRE Rutland and Lincolnshire has launched a special centenary competition to help restore and repurpose heritage telephone boxes across rural communities in Rutland and Lincolnshire. Supported by a national grant, the initiative marks 100 years of CPRE championing the countryside and rural life by helping communities rescue one of Britain's most recognisable village features.

The project is being delivered in partnership with the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT), the national lifesaving charity responsible for more than 9,000 defibrillators and emergency phones across the UK, many housed within adopted heritage K6 telephone kiosks. The British Coating Federation is also supporting the scheme through sponsorship of restoration painting and CPR training for local community groups and parish councils.

The competition invites parish councils and local communities to put forward telephone boxes in need of restoration and share innovative ideas for how they could be repurposed for community benefit. CPRE plans to support the restoration of up to five boxes during 2026, with grants of up to £1,000 available for each project.

Communities interested in taking part are encouraged to contact Ron Simpson BEM at chair@cprerutlandandlincs.uk or telephone 07710 328469.

About the competition - CPRE Rutland and Lincolnshire's Centenary Telephone Box Competition aims to support the restoration and repurposing of heritage K6 telephone kiosks across Rutland and Lincolnshire. Up to five projects will receive grants of up to £1,000 each. The closing date for entries is **1 August**, with restoration work to be completed by **1 November 2026**.

Permitted Development Rights: Schools, Assets of Community Value, Defence, and Conservation

Source: SLCC

The government is seeking views on proposals for new and amended permitted development rights.

The consultation contains proposed changes to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, as amended. It covers the following areas:

- extending the existing temporary permitted development right for schools affected by Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)
- removing assets of community value from the demolition permitted development right
- changes to the permitted development right that allows development by the Crown on closed defence sites
- new permitted development flexibilities to enable the development of conservation measures within Environmental Delivery Plans

The consultation closes on 5 August. If you have any questions, please contact: pdrconsultation2026@communities.gov.uk

Find out more and respond to the consultation [here](#).

[Handling data protection complaints - what councils need to know](#)


2026

Summer Conference


Come and network with like-minded councils



Sneak Peek
 14 July 2026

 9:30 – 16:00

 **Website** www.lalc.co.uk

 **Location** Epic Centre, Lincs Showground,
LN2 2NA

£45 plus VAT per delegate

Talking Tables

Choose five tables to attend on the day.
Places available on a first come first served basis for each session.

1	Active Travel - Benefits for communities of walk & cycle paths
2	Aubergine - Web & domain compliance (Assertion 10), using the council's website for community engagement
3	Breakthrough Communications - topic to be confirmed
4	CCLA - How to make your money work as hard as you do!
5	Cloudy IT - Where technology gets decoded - the plan guide to modern working
6	LCC Highways - Meet the LCC Highways Management Team
7	Lincolnshire Emergency Planning & Business Continuity - Introduction to Community Resilience, from plan to practice
8	LCC Flood Resilience Programme - Ground Water Telemetry devices being installed around the county
9	Unity Trust - Transactional and online banking and ease of switching
10	Worknest - Health & Safety workshop

Talking Tables

Choose five tables to attend on the day.
Places available on a first come first served basis for each session.

11	Worknest - HR workshop
12	Lincolnshire Local Access Forum - Encouraging communities and councils to be proactive in managing and developing their local networks
13	Lincolnshire Armed Forces Friendly Councils - How to become an Armed Forces Friendly Council, and the benefits of this
14	Principal Authorities Elections Team - Preparing for elections 2027
15	Principal Authorities Monitoring Officers - The role of the Monitoring Officer
16	SAAA (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments) - Introducing the digital AGAR
17	Helping Lincolnshire Councils to enhance their environmental portfolio - From Green Spaces to Thriving Places: What a Biodiversity Action Plan Can Do for Your Community
18	YMCA - Why should village halls be at the heart of a community?

Vacancy advertising

LALC can advertise your vacancy on our website and in the fortnightly eNews. This is a free service. If you do not have a pre-prepared advert to send us, please complete our Vacancy Template, which can be found in the Members Portal under Document Templates.

We also offer a paid advertising service, which ensures that your advert also appears on Lincolnshire County Council's website, Facebook, and LinkedIn (in addition to the LALC website and eNews). The current fee for this is £80. Please complete the Vacancy Template (as above), ensuring that all requested information is completed, and then contact us at enquiries@lalc.co.uk. You will be invoiced for this service.

Please note that Lincolnshire County Council require a closing date on their advert, as well as salary information (these are mandatory fields). LCC will remove your advert once the closing date has passed, so please consider the date carefully as you will have to pay again to re-advertise if your vacancy hasn't been filled by then. We recommend all councils advertise their vacancy, job details, method of application and up to date contact details on their own website too.

Please let us know when the vacancy has been filled, so that we can remove it from our website/eNews. If your vacancy has not yet been filled and you are continuing to advertise, please let us know of any revised closing date. **If you no longer specify a closing date, please let us know so that we can update the vacancy adverts.**

Current vacancies	Position	Closing date
Brookenby Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
Holbeach Parish Council	Temporary Acting Clerk	No closing date
Holbeach Parish Council	Temporary Acting RFO	No closing date
Holbeach Parish Council	Temporary Acting Clerk & RFO	No closing date
North Somercotes Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	17 th May 2026
Corby Glen Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	8 th May 2026
Benington Parish Council	Clerk	15 th May 2026
Langtoft Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	19 th June 2026
Bigby Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	30 th June 2026
Leverton Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	31 st July 2026
Gainsborough Town Council	Caretaker	30 th June 2026
Osgodby Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	30 th June 2026

