



10th July 2026

Latest News

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

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

NALC Star Council Awards

Nominations are now open for the Star Council Awards 2026/27, the only national awards dedicated to celebrating the vital work of parish and town councils in England. Ready to celebrate your achievements or nominate someone amazing?

The prestigious awards spotlight the remarkable people and councils making a real difference in their communities. Whether you're a parish or town council, councillor, county association or clerk, this is your chance to be recognised for your dedication, innovation, and impact.

For 2026/27, we're inviting entries across six inspiring categories:

- Council of the Year
- Councillor of the Year
- Young Councillor of the Year
- Climate Response of the Year
- County Association of the Year
- Clerk of the Year

Nominations close on 25 September 2026, with winners announced at our Parliamentary Reception at the House of Lords on 23 February 2027.

[Find out more and submit a nomination.](#)

New Video Showcases the Benefits of the Civility and Respect Pledge for Parish and Town Councils

Source: SLCC

The Civility and Respect Working Group has launched a new video highlighting how parish and town councils across England are benefiting from their commitment to the Civility and Respect Pledge. Developed by the partnership of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC), the video features real-life examples of councils that have successfully fostered positive, professional and inclusive working environments.

For clerks, the video provides a valuable resource to help start conversations within their councils about the importance of positive behaviour, strong working relationships and a shared commitment to professional standards. The Civility and Respect Working Group is encouraging clerks to share the video with councillors and promote the Councillor's Statement of Assurance alongside their council's existing commitment to the Civility and Respect Pledge.

[Read more.](#)

[Watch the video on YouTube.](#)

[LCC Town and Parish Council Update](#)

[Highways News](#)

[Clear Councils Newsletter](#)

Have your say on transport in Greater Lincolnshire

The Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) has launched a new survey inviting residents, businesses and communities to share their views and help shape the area's draft Local Transport Plan. It will be open until Monday 27 July and gives people the opportunity to have their say on how transport works across Greater Lincolnshire and what improvements are needed.

[Share your views on the draft Local Transport Plan.](#)

Woodland Trust - Free Community Orchard Trees for Lincolnshire Councils

Through our long-standing LincWoods partnership with Lincolnshire County Council, we are delighted to offer communities the opportunity to apply for a minimum of five orchard trees free of charge to help create or expand a community orchard.

If your council or community has an available site where at least five fruit trees could be planted together as part of a community orchard, we would be very pleased to hear from you. We are also happy to discuss larger community orchard schemes where suitable land is available.

The trees provided would be orchard trees, typically 1-2 year old maidens, rather than small saplings, and would include appropriate protection. At present, we are aiming for planting in early 2027, allowing time beforehand for site identification, discussions and assessment visits.

Where possible, we are particularly keen to promote traditional county apple varieties. In addition, 2027 marks the 300th anniversary of the death of Sir Isaac Newton, and we would be very open to conversations around planting Flower of Kent apple trees — the variety associated with the famous story of the apple observed by Newton. The Flower of Kent has strong historic links to south-west Lincolnshire.

But the scheme is not limited to apple trees alone. Subject to availability, we would be very happy to discuss a broad range of fruit and nut trees for your project, including — but not limited to — plum, cherry, walnut and almond.

At this stage, we would simply welcome expressions of interest from parish and town councils that may have suitable land available for a minimum of five orchard trees planted as part of a community orchard.

If this opportunity is of interest, please get in touch with; LincWoods@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Environment Agency monthly updates

The Environment Agency would like to share monthly updates containing answers to some of their most frequently asked questions.

Each month, they will provide information on key topics that may be relevant to your communities. They hope this will assist in addressing common queries and improved access to information.

The latest update information can be found [here](#).

Lincolnshire Police: Lincs 2030 - our three year vision for policing

Earlier this week, Chief Constable Paul Gibson briefed our senior leaders on Lincs 2030 – our new three-year transformation and investment plan designed to modernise policing, strengthen our workforce, and deliver an exceptional service to our communities.

Building on the progress we've already made, Lincs 2030 focuses on investing in our people, technology and capabilities to ensure we continue to prevent crime, protect vulnerable people, support victims and build public confidence to make sure we deliver the best possible service to communities.

As policing continues to evolve and demand changes, this plan sets out how we'll build a stronger, more resilient force for the future, focused on protecting the public and keeping our communities safe.

[Read more](#) about our three-year transformation plan and how we're investing in the future of policing in Lincolnshire.

NK Community Champion Awards 2026 – call for nominations

It is time to nominate and celebrate people who make a positive difference to lives and communities across North Kesteven through kind consideration and voluntary endeavour.

The categories include:

- Community Spirit;
- Young Achiever;
- Community Business;
- Community Group;
- Contributions to climate action, arts & culture, sport, a better environment and health & wellbeing;
- Good Neighbour, and
- Longstanding Contribution to a single group or organisation

Nominations can be made online on the [NK Community Champion Awards website](#) where there is more detail and also a physical form to download.

The deadline for nominations is September 14, ahead of a ceremony in mid-November.

Nominations for The King's Birthday 2027 Honours Round

Source: SLCC

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is inviting councils to submit nominations for The King's Birthday Honours list which will be published in June next year.

MHCLG is keen to receive nominations for those who have made exceptional contributions in the policy areas covered by MHCLG's remit (these are set out in the nomination form). This includes not just council chief executives, leaders, and councillors, but staff at all levels of your respective organisations. You are encouraged to advertise this invitation as widely as possible within your organisations and across your networks.

Moreover, it would be really helpful if councillors could identify people in their wards whose work has had an exceptional impact on their local communities and consider submitting a nomination to recognise that outstanding work.

MHCLG is looking for nominations from all parts of the country, especially from under-represented areas such as the North East and the South West, so that worthy people everywhere from all backgrounds have a chance of being recognised.

[Nominations can be made using this online form.](#)

At least two letters of support for each nomination need to be submitted in reply to the automated acknowledgment email. If the acknowledgment email is not received, then please email the letters of support to honours@communities.gov.uk making it clear in the subject title which nomination the letters relate to.

The deadline for nominations is 7 August. If you have any questions about the process, please contact: honours@communities.gov.uk

NALC Smaller Councils Committee highlights climate action, community ownership and support for remote meetings

NALC [Smaller Councils Committee](#) met on 7 July 2026 to discuss key issues affecting smaller and micro parish and town councils, including climate action, standards, civility and respect, and new guidance to help councils prepare for Martyn's Law.

NALC Blog - Disability Pride Month: Creating accessible and inclusive communities

Disability Pride Month, celebrated each July, recognises the history, achievements, and contributions of people with disabilities, while challenging stigma and promoting inclusion. As the most local level of government, parish and town councils can use this month to advocate for their residents with disabilities and ensure an inclusive environment in their towns and parishes.

Parish and town councils:

- Should ensure that public spaces are accessible to residents with disabilities.
- Can also advocate for accessible and improved public transport services.
- Should centre the voices of residents with disabilities in decision-making.
- Should ensure their language is inclusive.
- Should also ensure they advocate for both hidden and physical disabilities.
- Can take simple steps this month to build more accessible communities.

Disability Pride Month is not only about recognising the achievements of people with disabilities, but also about committing to lasting change. Parish and town councils play a vital role in shaping inclusive communities where everyone can participate fully in local life. By embedding accessibility, listening to residents with disabilities, and championing inclusive practices, councils can help ensure that pride is reflected not just in words, but in everyday action across our towns and parishes.

[Read the full blog](#) (NALC login required).

NALC Blog - National Housing Federation: Working in partnership to tackle the rural affordable housing crisis

In this blog the National Housing Federation mark Rural Housing Week, highlighting the vital role affordable homes play in supporting and sustaining rural communities and encouraging parish and town councils to champion their importance.

[Read the blog](#) (no login required).

LGA Guidance for Councils: Elected Members' Use of Social Media

Source: SLCC

The Local Government Association (LGA) has published guidance designed to support councils in providing clear and proportionate advice to members on using social media safely, effectively, and responsibly. Although aimed primarily at principal councils, clerks may find these principles are useful to share with their own councillors.

The guidance outlines key principles and suggested approaches that can help councillors navigate online engagement confidently, transparently and safely, while supporting effective working relationships with officers and stakeholders. You can find this resource and other guidance on the LGA's Comms Hub.

New Findings Show Parish and Town Councils are Key to Thriving Communities Amid Local Government Reform

Source: SLCC

A new research report published by the University of Birmingham and supported by SLCC, the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ASDO), has set out a clear and timely call for principal authorities to strengthen their relationship with parish and town councils as England enters another period of significant local government change.

The 21st Century Parish and Town Councillor and Clerk report highlights how councillors and clerks are already adapting to increasingly complex demands, acting as connectors, communicators, and catalysts in their communities. These roles are becoming ever more vital as services are withdrawn, expectations rise, and communities face growing distress.

The report delivers three key messages for principal authorities:

1. It urges them to learn from the positive partnership models already emerging through local government reorganisation.
2. The research calls for principal authorities to recognise town, parish, and community councils as strategic partners rather than peripheral bodies.
3. The report emphasises that supporting councillor and clerk development must be seen as a shared responsibility.

Read the report [here](#).

NALC launch review of model Standing Orders

NALC have commissioned the Association of Democratic Services Officers to review our Model Standing Orders.

We are inviting parish and town councils to get involved.

You can share your views by attending an online engagement event on 23 July or completing the survey.

Feedback from both will help shape the next version of this essential governance resource, ensuring it remains practical and fit for purpose for councils across England.

New National Survey to Help Build a Stronger Picture of Local Councils

Source: SLCC

SLCC are encouraging town, parish, and community councils to take part in a new national survey that will help create a comprehensive picture of the sector and the vital services it delivers to communities.

The survey will gather information on the wide range of services provided by these local councils, including community facilities, allotments, grant schemes and devolved services. It also asks about staffing, council budgets, councillor numbers and other key information that will help build a clearer understanding of the size and scope of the sector.

Despite the important role local councils play in communities, there is currently limited national data about the services they provide.

By taking part, local councils will help create a more accurate picture of the sector. The findings will enable organisations working to support local councils to understand better the challenges and opportunities facing councils, inform future improvement programmes, and ensure decisions are based on evidence rather than assumptions.

Every response will help build a stronger understanding of the sector and support its future development.

Complete the survey. Guidance on completing the survey.

2026

Summer Conference

Come and network with like-minded councils



14 July 2026



9:00 – 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	LCC Active Travel - Benefits for communities of walk & cycle paths
2	LCC Highways - Meet the LCC Highways Management Team
3	Lincolnshire Emergency Planning & Business Continuity - Introduction to Community Resilience, from plan to practice
4	LCC Flood Resilience Programme - Ground Water Telemetry devices being installed around the county
5	District Council's Election Teams Preparing for elections 2027
6	District Council Monitoring Officers The role of the Monitoring Officer
7	Unity Trust - Transactional and online banking and ease of switching
8	Worknest - Risk Assessment & contractor management
9	Worknest - HR for councils: what you need to know
10	Aubergine - Web & domain compliance (Assertion 10), using the council's website for community engagement

Talking Tables

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

11	SAAA (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments) - Introducing the digital AGAR for 2027
12	Lincolnshire Local Access Forum - Encouraging communities and councils to be proactive in managing and developing their local networks - footpaths and rights of way
13	Lincolnshire Armed Forces Friendly Councils - How to become an Armed Forces Friendly Council, and the benefits of this
14	Ania Campbell, NKDC - What Biodiversity can do for your community and what you can do for Biodiversity
15	YMCA - Why should village halls be at the heart of a community?
16	Breakthrough Communications - 10 practical ways councils can safely use AI in 2026
17	CCLA - How to make your money work as hard as you do!
18	Cloudy IT - Where technology gets decoded - the plan guide to modern working
19	CVS Lincolnshire - Grant Funding opportunities
20	Anglian Water - Bringing support to the heart of the 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 (including mandatory 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. Please also notify us of your new Clerk/Officer's details so that we can update our records and set them up with access to our portal.

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
<u>Brookenby Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
<u>Bigby Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	31 st August 2026
<u>Leverton Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	31 st July 2026
<u>Gainsborough Town Council</u>	Caretaker	30 th June 2026
<u>Osgodby Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	30 th June 2026
<u>Hagworthingham Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
<u>Tealby Parish Council</u>	Clerk/RFO	31 st July 2026

