24th October 2025



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Contact us



Please contact the office on 01673 866596

- For general enquiries including internal audit and advice, contact either Katrina Line 1 (or mobile 07422 963475) or Andrew – Line 3 (or mobile 07549 019842). Flexible Monday - Friday
- For general enquiries including website management service, invoices, training booking enquiries, contact Lindsey – Line 2 on Monday, Tuesday, Friday
- For general enquiries including website/portal updates, e-news items, vacancies, contact Elaine Line 4 on Fridays

Please note that there may be times when the LALC office is not manned, particularly if staff are out training or attending meetings. If you can't get hold of us by phone, please contact us via one of the methods below.



www.lalc.co.uk/contactus



enquiries@lalc.co.uk



Raise a new Enquiry on the portal (login required)

If any Clerks want to join the Clerks' eGroup, or any councillors want to join the Councillor eGroup, contact enquiries@lalc.co.uk.

This fortnightly newsletter is provided to member councils through the clerk and chair and should be circulated to all councillors. This eNews can also be found on the LALC website under News (LALC News). Other important information which comes up in between eNews publication dates is also shared on the website under News (Our Blog).

Training courses are available to book via the portal (login required)

The Training Bulletin is issued monthly, and courses are available to book via the portal. If there is any specific training which you feel would be valuable, and we don't currently offer it, please let us know and we will investigate. The Training Bulletin can be found on the LALC website www.lalc.co.uk/training-2-1.

Clerks – when booking training for your councillors, please ensure that their email address is correct. If not, they will not receive the booking confirmation or any joining instructions. If you have set up your



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councillors on the LALC portal, you will be able to select their correct email address from a drop-down list when booking the training.

If you update your council email and are **already** booked on training, please let us know so that we can update your booking to ensure you receive the automatic reminders.

If one of your councillors resigns, and they were booked on LALC training, **please cancel their place**, so that others can book on. Failure to do so may not only deprive other councils from attending but could result in a non-attendance charge (see below).

Please note our training cancellation policy:

- For part day courses please ensure we receive cancellations at least 48 hours in advance
- For full day events please ensure we receive cancellations at least 5 working days in advance, as we need to pre-order and pay for lunches

Due to persistent non-attendance at booked events, it is unfortunate that LALC have had to amend the way we impose our cancellation fees. All members are charged 50% of the training cost when insufficient notice is received (as above) for non-attendance at training events. No shows will be charged at 100% of the course fee. All charges are regardless of whether the council is a member of the ATS or not.

Current vacancies	Position	Closing date
Fenton and Torksey Lock Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
Brookenby Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
Bardney Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
Wilsford Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	31st October 2025
Silk Willoughby Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	31st October 2025
Toft Newton Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
North Scarle Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	13 th October 2025
Colsterworth & District Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	No closing date
Crowland Parish Council	Senior Manager/Clerk RFO	No closing date
Hertfordshire Association of Parish and Town Councils (HAPTC)	Chief Executive	10 th November 2025
Hertfordshire Association of Parish and Town Councils (HAPTC)	Council Officer	10 th November 2025
Gedney Hill Parish Council	Clerk/RFO	30 th November 2025

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.

24th October 2025



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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 (this has increased in line with an increase in the LCC fee). 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.

The NALC Recruitment Manual (developed as part of the Civility & Respect project) is now available via the portal. Go into Knowledgebase and click on 'Recruitment Manual' in the 'Employment' menu area.

Sign up to the LCC Town and Parishes newsletter – email:

lcctownandparishnews@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Latest News

To see the latest NALC news (NALC login required): https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news
To see the latest SLCC news (No SLCC login required): https://www.slcc.co.uk/news-publications/

Now booking:

Sustainability & Climate Change Thursday 13th November, 10:00 – 12:00 Addressing the Biodiversity Crisis Thursday 27th November, 10:00 - 12:00

Organised by colleagues from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils Ltd (CAPALC), these sessions will be delivered by Mike Deegan Consulting.



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Mike Deegan has over 20 years' experience working with a charity and a decade as a councillor with his local parish council. His experience means he knows how to address relevant difficult situations to help find solutions and positive outcomes.

Both sessions will be via Zoom. Non-core training, £35. Book via the portal in the usual way.

lpha and lpha

Places available: Planning System Introduction

When: **27**th **October** 2025, 18:30 – 20:30, via Zoom.

Delivered by Andrew Towlerton of Andrew Towlerton Associates.

In this session we aim to help councils understand their role within the planning system and how to get the most out of it. It will explore:

- Roles and responsibilities of local councils in planning
- Local plan making
- The National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
- Guidance on how to respond effectively to planning applications
- Use of material considerations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) system.

Free for ATS members, £35 for non-ATS.

Now booking: Clerks Networking Day (including SLCC Lincolnshire branch AGM)

The Clerks Networking Day, including the SLCC Lincolnshire branch AGM will take place on **Thursday 20**th **November 2025**, at Bracebridge Heath Community Hub & Library.

Come along and network with fellow Clerks! The day incorporates the SLCC AGM, workshops and guest speakers.

Schedule for the day:

9:30 Registration for SLCC members

10:00 SLCC Lincolnshire Branch AGM

10:00 Registration for non SLCC members

10:30 Operation Bridge Briefing – by Mark Garthwaite, Emergency Planning & Business Continuity Officer, LFR

11:30 Break

11:40 Public Rights of Way - Peter Hinton, LCC

13:00 Festive Buffet Lunch

14:00 LALC Pay & Recruitment Group,

including an exercise looking at the Clerk's Job Description

24th October 2025



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15:30 Close

Cost: £25 plus VAT per delegate. Book via the portal in the usual way.

Place available - First Aid at Work

Due to a cancellation, we now have a place available on the upcoming First Aid at Work training, being held at Dunholme Old School, LN2 3QR on 28^{th} October (9:30 – 16:00).

Cost: £78 plus VAT.

Please book via the portal.

Now open for booking: One day RPII Play Area Routine Inspection training

24th June 2026 – with exam (£260 plus VAT – includes exam fee) OR 25th June 2026 – without exam (£110 plus VAT)

To be held at Washingborough Sports Pavilion, LN4 1AB

CiLCA congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr Lynnette Pryke of Alford Town Council for successfully completing CiLCA.

lpha and lpha

SLCC Award congratulations!

Congratulations to Elizabeth Raymond from Hemswell Parish Council, who was one of three recipients of the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) Exemplary Award at this year's SLCC awards.

The three recipients were identified by the CiLCA Assessment Team as having the majority, if not all, of their modules marked as exemplary. This recognition celebrates exceptional dedication, knowledge, and excellence in practice.

LCC Admissions Policy Consultation 2027-28

The following schools are consulting on their 2027/28 Admission Policy:



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School	Consultation period	Consultation
Wainfleet Magdalen Church of	20/10/25 – 28/11/25	https://www.magdalenwainfleet.co.uk/forc
England/Methodist School		e_download.cfm?id=1780
Gainsborough The Queen	10/10/25 - 21/11/25	https://www.qehs.lincs.sch.uk/admissions
Elizabeth's High School		
Bassingham Primary School	20/10/25 - 01/12/25	https://www.bassinghamschool.org/page/?title
		=Admissions&pid=42
Sleaford Carre's Grammar School	20/10/25 - 28/11/25	https://www.carres.uk/admissions
Branston Community Academy	16/10/25 - 27/11/25	https://branstonca.lincs.sch.uk/key-
		information/aboutus/admissions/
Sleaford – Kesteven & Sleaford	13/10/25 - 21/11/25	https://www.kshs.uk/page/?title=Admissions&
High School		<u>pid=84</u>
Grantham - Kesteven and	03/11/25 to 14/12/25	https://kestevengrantham.lincs.sch.uk/key_inf
Grantham Girls' School		ormation/admissions/admissions consultation/
		admissions consultation.html
Grantham The Isaac Newton	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
Primary School		admissions-consultation/
Caythorpe Primary School	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
		admissions-consultation/
Chapel St Leonards Primary	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
School		admissions-consultation/
Grantham Poplar Farm Primary	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
School		admissions-consultation/
Spalding St Paul's Community	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
Primary and Nursery School		admissions-consultation/
Deeping St James Linchfield	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
Academy		admissions-consultation/
Billingborough Primary School	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
,		admissions-consultation/
Osbournby Primary School	03/11/25 to 15/12/25	https://citacademies.co.uk/lincolnshire-
		admissions-consultation/

This notification is in accordance with section 1.47 & 1.48 of the School Admissions Code 2021: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2

SLCC: Government Rules out Reintroduction of Employment Tribunal Fees

Fees for taking a case to an Employment Tribunal were ruled as unlawful by the Supreme Court's decision in 2017, but it has recently been mooted that they would be reintroduced in some form.



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However, David Lammy, the Deputy Prime Minister, announced this week that 'it will remain free to bring a case to an Employment Tribunal, ensuring everyone, no matter their means, can stand up for their rights at work' thus ending all speculation.

Does your council have a Menopause Policy?

18th October was World Menopause Day, held every year with the aim of raising awareness, sharing knowledge, and improving the experience of women around the world: https://www.imsociety.org/education/world-menopause-day-2025/

SLCC have launched a new Menopause Policy (available to SLCC members), aimed at fostering a more inclusive, supportive, and understanding workplace for all employees affected by menopause.

LALC are currently working on a Menopause Policy which will be available soon in document templates in the LALC portal.

Centre for Ageing Better: The State of Ageing 2025

The Centre for Ageing Better have released a new chapter in their 'State of Ageing' report on society. The chapter looks into how older people take on varied roles in their communities but frequently come up against barriers of ageism, digital exclusion and cutbacks in local amenities and services.

A few highlights from the report:

- People aged 65 and over are the most likely to volunteer, and this is the only age group in which there has been an increase in levels of civic participation between 2021/22 and 2023/24.
- Older people tend to be more positive than younger people about where they live, with comparatively more older people feeling that they belong and are satisfied with their local areas.
- Feeling safe and the availability of green and natural spaces are the most common reasons people aged 50 and over give for being proud to live in their local area.
- Despite the contribution older people make to their communities, negative attitudes towards ageing and older people remain rife.
- There are clear inequalities in how older people in England feel about, and experience, their communities and neighbourhoods.
- The digital world remains a challenge particularly for older people who face other structural disadvantages such as poverty or lower qualifications. In the UK 3.5 million people aged 65 and over don't use the internet at home.
- Overall, the decline in local authority spending in England on some community services has slowed
 and even reversed since 2021. However, evidence shows that pre-pandemic austerity continues to
 have the greatest impact in those poorer communities that were hardest hit by cuts.

24th October 2025



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Read more: https://tinyurl.com/24psxxp8

SLCC: Annual Report on English Devolution 2024 to 2025

The government has published the Annual Devolution Report, which brings together updated information about Strategic Authorities established 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025. It covers the change of government following the July 2024 general election and the publication of the English Devolution White Paper, which introduced significant proposed changes to the approach, framework and structure of devolution in England.

Read the report: https://tinyurl.com/57whx2ab

National Digital Democracy Partnership Letter on Remote and Hybrid Meeting Attendance

As part of the National Digital Democracy Partnership, SLCC, together with the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO), Local Government Association (LGA), Lawyers in Local Government (LLG), the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS), the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and the Society of Innovation Technology & Modernisation (Socitm) has co-signed a letter to the Rt Hon Alison McGovern MP, Minister for Local Government and Homelessness, setting out the strong case for enabling town and parish councils to meet remotely or in a hybrid way where they choose to do so.

Previous letters and supporting compendium of evidence issued by the partnership demonstrated overwhelming sector-wide consensus that local councils should have the flexibility to decide how best to conduct their meetings in the interests of their communities. The recent government consultation on this topic showed the same enthusiasm and wide support across all tiers of local government.

The partnership has expressed its concern that the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill makes no provision for councils to hold remote or hybrid meetings. The joint letter expresses our thoughts on why this matter should be prioritised. The partnership is seeking an opportunity to meet with the Minister or her officials to discuss this further.

Read the letter: https://tinyurl.com/3yr5a664

NALC Blog features Old Leake

The latest NALC Blog, "The Bread and Butter Thing: Food, friendship and fighting isolation, the power of being hyperlocal", features a thriving Community Hub in Old Leake.

24th October 2025



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The Bread and Butter Thing shares how partnership and local action are transforming lives in Old Leake. What began as a simple warm hub initiative in 2022 has grown into a thriving community lifeline, offering affordable food, friendship, and vital support to hundreds of residents each week. With the backing of Old Leake Parish Council in Lincolnshire, the hub has become a model of how parish and town councils can empower grassroots change, combining food access with belonging and wellbeing. It's a powerful example of what happens when community pride, volunteer spirit, and local leadership come together to make a real difference.

Read the blog (NALC login required): https://tinyurl.com/yzc98vmn

NALC publishes its quarterly activity report

Highlights include:

- Around 500 people attended our events in the latest quarter. It includes sold-out and recordbreaking online events on navigating devolution in parks and open spaces and exploring alternative income sources.
- Our president, Baroness Ros Scott, called on the government to ensure that the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill lives up to its promise of delivering genuine local power in her article for PoliticsHome.
- We gave oral evidence to the Public Bill Committee on 16 September 2025. During the session, we answered questions from MPs covering various issues set out in our parliamentary briefing on the Bill.
- We attended the Labour Annual Conference 2025 in Liverpool, where we had an exhibition stand to raise the voices of parish and town councils.
- We published guidance on the local government services pay agreement 2025/26.
- We published an updated advice note on council email addresses following the introduction of Assertion 10 to the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.
- We published our annual analysis of parish and town council tax levels for 2025/26, showing that precepts continue to grow in scale and importance.
- We published our analysis of the parish and town elections held earlier this year in May.
- Our new research with the London School of Economics reveals that parish and town councils have become vital yet often overlooked first responders in local emergencies.
- We partnered with the Local Government Association and the Royal British Legion by signing a joint letter to show support for Remembrance parades.
- We successfully lobbied the government to introduce a rise in the upper threshold for smaller authorities, as the current £6.5 million threshold has not changed since 2014.

Read the report (NALC login required): https://tinyurl.com/bdh87tm5



24th October 2025



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Lincolnshire Show 2026

The Lincolnshire Show 2026 takes place on Wednesday and Thursday 17 Jun 2026, 08:00 – 18 Jun 2026, 19:00.

LALC had a marquee at the Show in 2025 and is considering its plans for 2026 if there is enough interest from member councils to support it.

If any Parish or Town Council in Lincolnshire might be interested in having a stand within a LALC marquee we would like to hear from you.

Likely commitment is expected to be a fee of £300-£500 (amount to be confirmed) and one or two persons to be present over the two days to man their stand. Each stand will probably need a display, leaflets and free gifts / prizes to give away. Set up must be completed on site Tuesday 16th June 2026 during the day. Exit from the site can take place after 7pm on Thursday 18th June. The fee would include entry fee for up to two persons per day to the show.

Early notice is being given in case you need to include this in your budgets and also LALC need to consider if the event is feasible early in 2026 when we finalise orders/booking.

If interested, please get in touch by email: enquiries@lalc.co.uk

24th October 2025



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NALC: Recent Martyn's Law webinar

We partnered with the Home Office and the Society of Local Council Clerks this week, on 21 October 2025, to host a free event on Martyn's Law, which had over 700 attendees. Although the legislation is not yet in force, the event helped parish and town councils prepare and understand how the implementation process will work. Attendees heard directly from experts on how the government will support the law, what free guidance will be available, and how to plan without needing to purchase specialist services.

Further information on Martyn's Law can be found here:

NALC website (NALC login required): https://tinyurl.com/bdcj9jhb

Protect UK: https://www.protectuk.police.uk/

LCC: Clocks go back this weekend - Streetlights will switch over for the darker evenings

On Sunday, October 26th the clocks will go back, temporarily affecting the timings of the county's streetlights.

There are around 42,000 streetlights across the county that are automatically switched off between the hours of roughly midnight until 6am.

With the nights drawing in, you might become aware that the part-night streetlights start to go off and come on at different times. This is as the system switches to GMT wintertime; it's not a technical fault. The streetlights have sensors that monitor the number of daylight hours and it's this bit of technology that sets each unit's individual clock.

Around the end of October every year, the lights enter a period of adjustment and as a result their timings may vary as they adapt to the switch to what's needed for winter. As it's part of the streetlight system and happens every year, it's unavoidable but will only last for a short time and is only temporary."

68,900 – the total number of streetlights operated by Lincolnshire County Council

45,060 – the number of streetlights that are LED

18,160 - the number of streetlights that are dimming units

46,000 - the number of streetlights that are 'Part Night'

Applications open for new grant with 10% match funding to help organisations and groups in North Kesteven

A new community grant with £18,000 available for community sector organisations in North Kesteven is now open for eligible applications. The Flourishing Communities Grant helps to make communities

24th October 2025



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healthier, safer and more inclusive. Grants of up to £1,500 are available through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, made available from the Government.

The fund is for capital only projects, such as defibrillators, play or leisure equipment, benches, and items for accessibility and inclusion. For this grant, 10% match funding is required.

Eligibility criteria and application details: https://tinyurl.com/3a843wdw

Public Sector Executive article: Could 90% of councillors be culled in local government reorganisation?

A recent article in the Public Sector Executive magazine suggests that councillors in shire areas are at risk due to the local government reorganisation. (The comments specifically relate to current councillors at County and District/Borough level).

Read the full article: https://tinyurl.com/bder8tc6

BBC: Paperwork error forces entire council re-election

A paperwork blunder is set to cost taxpayers nearly £4,500 after it was discovered that an entire local council would have to undergo re-election.

Voters chose who they wanted for Birchington Parish Council (BPC) in Thanet, Kent, in May 2023 but the authority was incorrectly elected due to an error in the way the ballot was administered,

Legally, the parish is meant to have two wards – Birchington North with four councillors, and Birchington South with six – corresponding to the TDC (Thanet District Council) wards of the same name.

But the mistake was not spotted, and no queries were raised.

District councillors met this week and decided to force a new election, using the ward names properly this time around.

The estimated cost of holding the election will be £4,400, the TDC report said.

Read the full article: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx2327d4974o



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