

**KALC Chief Executive Bulletin – Issue 15 (January 2021)**

Dear Member Councils

Welcome to the January edition of my Bulletin. Hope you are all managing to stay safe and well over this challenging period.

* **Covid -19 – Roll-out of the vaccination programme** – For latest details on the roll-out of the vaccination programme and the vaccinations sites in Kent and Medway please visit the Kent & Medway Clinical Commissioning Group website at <https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/your-health/coronavirus/covid19vaccine>. The website also contains FAQs which we hope you find helpful.
* **Covid-19/EU Transition/Winter** – We have been working with the Kent Resilience Forum on a mechanism for Local Councils to report local issues/concerns/incidents related to Covid-19, end of EU transition or winter. Local Councils should report such incidents to their District/ Borough/City/Unitary Council, who will be providing you with contact details.
* **Covid-19 – Financial Support Package** – As highlighted in the December issue, we have written again (16 December) to the Secretary of State (copied to Kent MPs) calling for a financial support package for our sector and are liaising closely with NALC on their national campaign. Our letter has been sent to all member councils. If your council has lost income or incurred additional costs in providing Covid-19 related services, then we would encourage you to also lobby your MP and the Secretary of State.
* **International Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January:** The Kent Equality Cohesion Council andDartford Borough Council have arranged an event to mark International Holocaust Memorial Day. This will take place on the day itself, Wednesday 27th January between 1pm and 2pm online via zoom. Please RSVP via email to kentecc@hotmail.co.uk by **Monday 25th January** and they will send you out joining instructions nearer the time. The theme this year is "Be the light in the Darkness" and they have an array of short films and speakers both local and national who will be contributing to the event.
* **New Model Councillor Code of Conduct:** The Local Government Association (LGA) recently published the new [**model councillor code of conduct**](https://nalc.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=16886b5d6c31eade2f9a50027&id=246234c3fb&e=07b89a8048) which NALC will be considering further at its upcoming Management Board and National Assembly meetings. NALC will continue to engage with the LGA and county associations on guidance and other support for member councils.
* **Department for Transport – Future of Transport - Rural Strategy:** The Department for Transport has issued a call for evidence on Future of Transport – Rural Strategy - see <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence>. The deadline is **16 February 2021**.
* **National Transport Survey 2021 -** Across the UK, residents are being asked what they think of transport and roads services in their area. The National Highway and Transport Network have provided six independent surveys.  You do not have to take them all, but they would like to hear your views on any of the topics that impact you. Each survey will only take a few minutes of your time. Views are being invited on accessibility, roads maintenance, public transport, road safety, tackling congestion, walking and cycling. The deadline for completing the survey is **28 February 2021**. See [**national transport survey 2021**](https://kccconsultations.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/NTH2020_21/consultationHome)**,** which is on the Kent County Council website, for further details.
* **Government Night Flights Consultation** – The Department for Transport has issued a two-stage consultation process (see [night-flight-restrictions-consultation](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/night-flight-restrictions-at-heathrow-gatwick-and-stansted-airports-between-2022-and-2024-plus-future-night-flight-policy/night-flight-restrictions) ) which seeks views on the regime at the designated airports beyond 2022, and night flights in the national context. DfT are formally consulting on their proposal to maintain the existing night flight restrictions for the designated airports (Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted) from 2022 to 2024 and their proposal to ban QC4 rated aircraft movements during the night quota period (23:30 to 06:00). They are also seeking early views and evidence on policy options for the government’s future night flight policy at designated airports beyond 2024 and nationally. The consultation deadline is **3 March 2021**.
* **Government consultation on a new ‘Right to Regenerate’ to turn derelict buildings into homes and community assets** – see https[://www.gov.uk/government/news/right-to-regenerate-to-turn-derelict-buildings-into-homes-and-community-assets](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/right-to-regenerate-to-turn-derelict-buildings-into-homes-and-community-assets). The deadline for responses is **13 March 2021**.
* **NALC Survey on climate change** - The survey will explore what local councils are currently doing to tackle climate change in their local area, the challenges they encounter and the difficulties they face when executing actions. The deadline to complete the survey is **29 January 2021**. The survey can be accessed via [**Complete the survey**](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HVNZMR6)
* **Centre for Sustainable Energy (cse.org.uk)  and  the**[**Town & Country Planning Association**](https://www.tcpa.org.uk/)**(tcpa.org.uk)** **Survey** – The CSE and TCPA are seeking funding to encourage communities to engage with their council and its local plan in order to press for stronger climate-focussed policies. In order to make successful approaches for funding the CSE need evidence that the programme is needed. The survey is available [**here**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Climate_planning_and_you)**.** The deadline for completing the survey is **12 February 2021.**
* **Her Majesty’s Land Registry Survey -** HMLR has issued an online survey regarding land ownership (an issue key to many local councils, especially when it comes to development and neighbourhood planning). This survey is specifically for Parish, Town and Community Councils. The survey link is here ([**https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160406652244**](https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160406652244) **)**. The survey closes **on 26 February 2021.**
* **Kent County Council given temporary powers to tackle illegal HGV parking -** You may have seen in the local media that KCC has been given temporary power by government to clamp and issue fixed penalty notices for inappropriate or illegally parked HGVs from 1 January 2021 in the following areas: Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Folkestone & Hythe, Maidstone, Swale and Thanet. For further details see <https://kccmediahub.net/leader-announces-new-powers-to-penalise-inappropriate-and-illegal-lorry-parking-in-kent745>
* **Kent County Council Highways** – Please see the following links for the KCC Highways Fault Reporting Tool and the Parish Portal which were referred to in the KCC Highways Parish Seminars earlier this week: [www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults); and <https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.ParishPortal.Web.Sites.Public/Unsecurepages/Login.aspx>
* **KALC Community Awards Scheme 2021:** A reminder that the closing date for nominations is **Friday 12 February 2021**.
* **Upcoming KALC Online Training:** We are delighted to highlight the following L&D online events using Zoom – please visit [www.kentalc.gov.uk](http://www.kentalc.gov.uk) for further details:
* 28 January 2021 **- Getting in Front of the Camera**: how to build your confidence and engage with your community through video and Facebook Live from 10am to 12 noon*. In association with Breakthrough Communications*
* 29 January 2021 – **Introduction to Planning** from 10am – 1pm
* 11 February 2021 - **Using Facebook to enhance your Council’s Communications** – from 10am to 12pm*. In association with Breakthrough Communications*
* 18 February 2021 - **Using Facebook to enhance your Council’s Communications** – from 10am to 12pm*. In association with Breakthrough Communications*
* 23 February 2021 10am to 1pm **– The Dynamic Councillor Workshop**
* 24 February 2021 am **– GDPR and Web Accessibility Workshop**
* 2 March 2021 10am to 1pm **– Delivering the Green Agenda for Local Councils**
* 9 March 2021 2pm to 5pm **– Delivering the Green Agenda for Local Councils**
* 11 March 2021 - **Beyond Facebook: how Councils can make the most of Instagram, Twitter and other Social Media platforms to get their message across** from 2pm to 4pm. *In association with Breakthrough Communications*
* 16 March 2021 morning **– The Dynamic Councillor Workshop**
* 17 March 2021 all day – **Annual Planning Conference**

We have also set up, in partnership with NALC and Nimble, a rolling programme of

e-learning opportunities on:

* Diversity and Equality Essentials
* Modern Slavery
* Managing and Reducing Stress
* Display Screen Equipment Assessment
* Introduction to Leadership
* Time Management
* Personal Safety
* Health and Safety Essentials
* Freedom of Information Essentials

Further details, and booking, can be found on our website here: [bite-size training](https://www.kentalc.gov.uk/Bitesize_Training_31970.aspx)

* **KALC website:** Just a reminder that all clerks and councillors from our member councils can access the Members Area of the website by asking for a password from manager@kentalc.gov.uk.

Terry Martin

Chief Executive