



Serving Parish & Town
Councils in Kent

KALC Chief Executive Bulletin – Issue 1 (October 2019)

Dear Member Councils

Welcome to the first edition of my monthly Bulletin. I am conscious of the growing number of e-mails that we send out to all our member councils. This is mainly due to the growing importance of Local Councils at national and county level and the resulting increase from many organisations in engaging with our member councils. The aim of my Bulletin is to make you aware of important current national and county issues and at the same time trying to reduce the number of e-mails that we send out to you. I therefore hope you find the following information helpful and would welcome feedback (chief.executive@kentalc.gov.uk) so that I can refine it for future issues.

- **KALC Website** – The KALC website (www.kentalc.gov.uk) is an invaluable one-stop hub for all your Council's needs, providing information, guidance, NALC Legal Topic Notes and toolkits. All clerks and councillors can access the information. All you need to do to register for a password is to contact manager@kentalc.gov.uk with your e-mail address and the name of your council.
- **KALC AGM Saturday 30 November 2019** – Please note that the papers for the AGM are being sent out on 16 October. The papers will also be placed in the Members Section of the KALC website (www.kentalc.gov.uk). I am delighted that our 2 guest speakers are Tracey Crouch MP on loneliness and David Astley OBE, Chairman of the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust. The AGM will also include the proposed Membership Subscription Rate for 2020/2021, which includes the cost of a new post within KALC (Learning & Development Support Officer). We hope you will have seen the flyer on the new post, including the costs and benefits, which was sent to all member councils earlier this week. Member Councils can send 2 voting representatives to the AGM.
- **2020 KALC Community Awards Scheme** - Please note that we will be launching the 2020 Community Awards Scheme on 11 November. The deadline for nominations will be 31 January 2020. Further details will be sent to member councils on the day of the launch.
- **Local Government Audit Review – Call for Evidence** - A [formal call for evidence](#) was recently announced by Government and details were circulated to member councils on 8 October. I would encourage all member councils to submit evidence to the review and to complete NALC's own online survey ([here](#)). The deadline for submitting evidence directly to the Independent review is **22 November**. The deadline for completing the NALC survey is **8 November**.
- **NALC Election Survey – deadline extension** – Please note that NALC has extended the deadline for completing their Elections Survey to **20 December**. There are 2 surveys as follows:
 - [for councillors](#)
 - [for local councils](#)
- **Government Landscapes Review: AONBs and National Parks** – For those member councils within AONBs, you will wish to be aware that the Government has just published the 'Landscapes Review: AONBs and National Parks' (also known as 'The Glover Review'). Proposal 24 says that "AONBs strengthened with new purposes, powers and resources,



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renamed as National Landscapes". The review is available at [designated-landscapes-national-parks-and-aonbs-2018-review](#)

- **Transport for the South East (TfSE): Draft Transport Strategy Consultation** – TfSE has just issued a consultation on its draft Transport Strategy for the South East. At the heart of their transport strategy is the question “What kind of place do we want the South East to be thirty years from now?”. There is a regional roadshow in Canterbury on Tuesday 22 October. The deadline for responses to their consultation is **10 January 2020**. Details of the consultation are contained in the following link ([Find out more](#)).
- **KCC Consultation on the future of community well-being services** – KCC is seeking views on the future of community-based wellbeing services for older people, adults living with dementia, physical disabilities or sensory impairments. The Council spends £5.9m on these services each year across 52 voluntary and community organisations, which funds befriending, volunteer run transport schemes, dementia cafes, support services for people with sensory impairment and peer support for people with physical disabilities. Further details can be found via the following link www.kent.gov.uk/wellbeingconsultation. The consultation deadline is **1 December 2019**.
- **Spot the signs of financial abuse** – Last year, Trading Standards secured funding (including a contribution from the Kent Community Safety Partnership using the Police & Crime Commissioner’s Crime Reduction Grant) to produce a short hard-hitting film depicting the devastating effects of Doorstep Crime. It is based on real-life stories of vulnerable adults in Kent. We all probably know someone who could be vulnerable. They could be a member of your own family, a friend or neighbour – so it’s important we all learn how to spot the signs of financial abuse and how to protect potential victims. We would encourage you to please watch the film via this link - <https://www.kent.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/consumer-protection/Spot-the-signs-of-financial-abuse> or via YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYvsuynSJQs>. Please share the link via your own council and on your own social media platforms to help reach and inform many more people.
- **Upcoming KALC Events** (see the KALC website for further details www.kentalc.gov.uk)
 - a) **Saturday 19 October – Dynamic Councillor Workshop, Faversham** – the closing date for registering is Monday 14 October.
 - b) **Tuesday 22 October – Dynamic Councillor Workshop, Minster (Thanet)** - the closing date for registering is Friday 18 October.
 - c) **Saturday 26 October – Transport Conference, Faversham** - the closing date for registering is Friday 18 October.
 - d) **Saturday 9 November - Dynamic Councillor Workshop, Kings Hill** - the closing date for registering is Monday 4 November.
 - e) **Tuesday 12 November Dynamic Councillor Workshop, Speldhurst** - the closing date for registering is Thursday 7 November.

Terry Martin
Chief Executive