



KALC Chief Executive Bulletin – Issue 3 (December 2019)

Dear Member Councils

Welcome to the third edition of my monthly bulletin. I hope you find the latest edition helpful and would welcome feedback (chief.executive@kentalc.gov.uk) so that I can refine it for the next edition. I hope you all have a good Christmas and New Year.

- **New part-time KALC Learning & Development Support Officer** – At the KALC AGM on Saturday 30 November, delegates approved the KALC Membership Subscription rate for 2020/2021. The subscription rate for 2020/21 includes the recruitment of a new part-time Learning & Development Support Officer, 30 hours per week on a 2-year fixed term appointment, with an option for an additional 3rd year. We are therefore very pleased to start recruiting for this new post. Further details, including the job description, person specification and application form are available on the KALC website at www.kentalc.gov.uk. The closing date for applications is 7 February 2020.
- **KALC Annual General Meeting – Saturday 30 November 2019:** 127 delegates from 94 member councils attended our 72nd Annual Conference at Ditton Community Centre. We had 2 excellent speakers from Imago and SECAMB – their presentations are available on request to manager@kentalc.gov.uk. The 2018/2019 Annual Report and Accounts and the Strategic Plan were adopted, and the 2020/2021 Membership Subscription rate was approved (see above). We also had lively debates on 5 motions, which were all approved, covering: Councillor Election Process; Housing targets; the need for Planning applications and Local Plans to have a robust air quality assessment with mitigation; monitoring of Particulate Matter (PM2.5/10) on roads directly impacted by manufacturing and mineral operations; and Travellers. The motions will be taken forward by our Advisory Committees in the New Year.
- **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. All you need to do is provide your e-mail address and the name of your council.
- **KALC Community Awards Scheme 2020** – The 2020 Community Awards Scheme was launched on 11 November at Rochester Castle. The deadline for nominations is **31 January 2020**. The press release, outline of the scheme and nomination forms have been sent to member councils and can also be downloaded from the KALC section in the Members Area of the website (www.kentalc.gov.uk).
- **KALC Health & Well-Being Conference – 6 February 2020:** We are delighted to announce that our first Health & Well-Being Conference will be taking place on Thursday 6 February 2020 at the Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley. We have an excellent line up of speakers covering a wide range of national, county and local health & well-being initiatives. The Conference Programme and booking details are on the KALC website at www.kentalc.gov.uk.
- **Government consultation on strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments** – on Tuesday 5 November Government launched a consultation on new

powers to criminalise unauthorised encampments, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/strengthening-police-powers-to-tackle-unauthorised-encampments>. The closing date is **4 March 2020**.

- **Transport for the South East (TfSE): Draft Transport Strategy Consultation** - Just a reminder that the deadline for responses is **10 January 2020**. Further details can be found at <https://transportforthesoutheast.org.uk/tfse-news/south-east-transport-strategy-sets-out-plan-to-transform-the-economy-boost-jobs-and-hit-net-zero-carbon-emissions-by-2050/>
- **National Transport and Highways Survey 2019/20** – Councils across the UK are asking residents to tell them what they think of transport and roads services in their area. The National Highway and Transport Network have provided 6 independent surveys. You do not have to take them all. Each survey will only take a few minutes of your time. They are asking for views on accessibility; roads maintenance; public transport; road safety; tackling congestion; and walking and cycling. The surveys close on **29 February 2020**. See https://kccconsultations.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/Nationaltransportsurvey2019_20/consultationHome for further details.
- **Kent County Council Parish Seminars:** KCC held 4 Parish Seminars in November (Canterbury, Westgate-on-Sea, Tunbridge Wells and Ditton), which were well-attended by Parish, Town and Community Council representatives. The presentations for the Seminars have been placed in the Members Area of the KALC website under “KALC” and then “Presentations”.
- **KCC EIS Website:** As highlighted in our Information Notes on IT Updates on Parish Websites issued in September and October, the free KCC EIS websites will be closed by September 2020 due to the current format not being compliant with the Accessibility Regulations. Councils who currently use the EIS website will need to make plans to change their website before then and budget accordingly for 2020/2021.
- **Upcoming KALC Events** (see KALC website for further details www.kentalc.gov.uk
 - a) **Monday 16 December – Dynamic Councillor Workshop, New Romney** – the closing date for registering is today - Thursday 12 December.
 - b) **Thursday 9 January 2020 – Allotments Workshop, Lenham** - the closing date for registering is – Monday 6 January.
 - c) **Monday 20 January 2020 – Web Accessibility Regulations Workshop, Teynham** - the closing date for registering is Wednesday 15 January.
 - d) **Friday 24 January 2020 – Web Accessibility Regulations Workshop, Ditton** - the closing date for registering is Tuesday 21 January.
 - e) **Thursday 6 February 2020 – Health & Well-Being Conference, Swanley** - the closing date for registering is Thursday 30 January.
 - f) **Wednesday 19 February 2020 – Burial Law & Management Event 2020, Ditton** - the closing date for registering is Friday 14 February.
 - g) **Friday 13 March 2020 – Annual Planning Conference, Lenham** - the closing date for registering is Friday 6 March.

Terry Martin
Chief Executive