

Clerk report – March 2024

Key Updates

- Sad news on the death of an ex-Mayor. Details to follow about the funeral which will potentially involve a civic element.
- Anti-Social Behaviour – we had some issues with criminal damage and ASB outside the Guildhall in half term week. Councillors have been kept apprised by email.
- Totnes Museum - I have been having regular meetings with the Chair of the Museum Trustees about future plans and support needed. Further updates to follow.
- Budget and Precept – Some further detail on the budget has been recommended to Full Council for ratification at March Full Council. Once done the communications around the budget decisions and how funds will serve residents (and the priorities set) will be finalised and sent out.
- Christmas Lights – Quotes being obtained for installing the existing lights in 2024 – so far only two quotes and we are struggling to get any more so it may need to be considered under a 'specialist service' and exception to the usual 3 quote system. The 'Welcome to Totnes' sign will be refurbished for next year, subject to budget.
- Community Economic Plan - Further to an email exchange with District Councillors and officers it seems that Totnes will be the next town to start the Community Economic Plan process. This is headed up by SHDC but with considerable input and time from the Town Council. The process takes 14-15 months so should be completed in the latter part of 2025. A meeting to discuss the details is being arranged and further information has been sent to Cllrs by email.
- Totnes Green Energy Club – There are some issues with the forecasted cost of electricity in the Civic Hall for 2024/25. The quotes show a significant increase to the Town Council and we will be outside of the 12 month indemnity offered by TRESOC around covering any difference in utility costs. Further information will be tables at the March Full Council meeting.
- Eastgate - Lease signed and paid, sub lease being arranged.
- Research – Officers have spent time spent going through Devolution deal outline documents and Martyn's Law standard tier consultation documents.
- Community Grants - reports have come in and these will go to the Council Matters Committee in March for noting. Some really positive projects have been delivered.
- Community Award nominations are open and to date ten nominations have been received. These will be considered in Part 2 of Town Matters in March.
- Cemetery – Valuation Office Return completed (every 3 years – includes details of space used, space remaining, average number of interments per annum).
- Public Art – We have appointed an artist, Zoe Curley, who has started painting in the Civic Square to brighten up a blank wall near the public toilets.
- OSSRW Review
 - Play areas/activity spaces meeting with SHDC officers on 8th February which was useful in updating on recent improvement and areas that will require investment in the future.
 - Churchyards/cemeteries -detailed updated received from St John's Church, and the Council Assets and Public Realm Working Group reviewed and updated St Mary's Churchyard and Totnes Cemetery entries on 21st Feb.
 - Outdoor and Indoor Sports Provision – local clubs contacted and asked for input by mid-March for review by Town Matters on 25th March.
- Staff structure – just a reminder that the tweaked staffing structure will commence from April 2024. This structure involves small cuts in hours and holds on recruitment to facilitate savings on the budget. Resources going forward will be allocated in line with the set priorities of the Council.
- DALC Survey - Please respond to the DALC survey below on the Devolution Deal as individual Cllrs. I have done so as Clerk. This is separate from the full Devon and Torbay CCA consultation on the March Full Council agenda.

To assist DALC in preparing our response to the [consultation](#), we would like to confirm and quantify some of our perceptions of councils views about proposals for a CCA and your views towards the constituent councils.

No matter your level of knowledge about Devolution Deals and Combined County Authorities, we encourage everyone to [respond](#). It will take just a couple of minutes!



Key Meetings and Learning

- An officer attended the Key Inspector Network meeting on 2nd February. Key points:
 - The Police have been busy since November. Increase of crimes from 60-80 to 83-106 per fortnight in the same period. Some concerns about whether that trend will continue into the busier summer period.
 - Key work areas in the last period are shoplifting, frauds, Marine Crime. Lots of domestic abuse and graffiti reports.
 - Operational days have been run in licensed premises in Totnes and Dartmouth and arrests made. This will be repeated.
 - Nighthawking at Berry Pomeroy Castle is still being investigated.
 - A Totnes business was burgled at night, investigation continues.
 - Priorities going forward are Totnes Town Centre
 - Quarterly letter to all members will be circulated to all members in February (I will send to all Councillors)
 - Please let the police know of local events in advance so they can programme in support.
- We had one of the agreed quarterly meetings of the Mayor, Chairs of Committee, District and County Cllr on Monday 26th March. Notes to follow to all Cllrs.
- I attended a DALC/DCC briefing on the Devolution Deal on Tuesday 27th February. Cllr Auletta also attended. The recording will follow in due course but most of the content has already been shared with Councillors.
- Myself and the Mayor will attend a full days session on Thursday 7th March held by DALC on the future of Devolution in Devon.
- I have circulated information to all Councillors about the Community Safety Partnership. I hope to attend the next meeting on 27th March and Cllrs are encouraged to sign up if they are interested.
- Myself and the Mayor are attending the next Mayor/Clerks meeting with SHDC on 1st April. Please let me know if you have anything to feed back or propose to that meeting.
- A Paige Adams Trust meeting will be set up for 8th April, prior to Full Council.

Training opportunities

NALC

- Reconnecting communities through community transport – 27 March
- Emerging Trends in Government Finance – 24 April
- Unleashing the power of local councils to tackle the climate emergency – 26 June
- Decoding the future of artificial intelligence in local governance – 24 July
- The future of neighbourhood plans – 25 September

DALC

- Being a Good Councillor 2 Powers, Duties and the Precept – 5 March
- Finance for Councillors – 5 March
- Code of Conduct – 11 March
- Councillors: Data Protection for Councillors – 11 March
- Emotional Intelligence and resilience – 25 March
- Being a Good Councillor 3 Local Council Meetings – 26 March
- Being a Good councillor 2 Powers, Duties and the Precept (evening course) – 15 April
- Being a Good Councillor 4 The Council in the Community – 16 April
- Chairing Local Council Meetings – 22 April
- Being a Good Councillor 3 – 13 May
- Councillors: Chairing meetings effectively – 26 March

Recent Correspondence

Date	Format	Enquiry	TTC Response
30/01/2024	Letter	Proposal for Table Tennis Table, Borough Park	Responded to say idea will be considered as part of the OSSRW Plan review.
05/02/2024	Email	Green Travel Guide - excellent, attractive and informative but bus section needs updating (omissions).	Replied that these will be checked and included in the updated version when it is reviewed; has subsequently been updated and new version on TTC website.
07/02/2024	In person	PCSO came to check if everything was ok at the moment. If we had any concerns about anything.	Explained that: still have some homeless people sleeping under the GH but this hasn't caused any problems recently: still have some graffiti issues which cause concern to MoPs; Friday afternoon teenagers probably causing the most disruption around the GH at the moment.
07/02/2024	In person	Complaint about the homeless people who have been sleeping outside the GH.	Explained that the Council Office aren't allowed to move possessions but we have informed PCSO of their presence. Asked MoP to report concerns to the Police directly and TTC emailed PCSO to make them aware of the situation.
08/02/2024	Email	Concern as to why no action is being taken around rough sleeping and ASB in the town	Replied with PCSO email address and asked MoP to report any concerns to him.
09/02/2024	Email	Rough sleeping and ASB complaint.	Email reply sent.
13/02/2024	Email	Business complaint about ASB (drinking, bad language) outside shop which reported to police via101.	Responded and police followed up with business owner (same day as incidents outside the Guildhall).
11/02/2024	Email	Complaint about advertising next to the Morrisons roundabout and the advertising using a van near the new bridge into Totnes.	Referred to the DCC report a problem page.

16/02/2024	Phone	A MoP having issues with prescriptions at Morrisons Pharmacy; requested Local MP's telephone number.	Suggested that it is also possible to collect prescriptions from Well Pharmacy in Fore Street and passed on local MP's telephone number.
19/02/2024	Email	Request to meet with someone to discuss parking outside of the school.	Directed to the DCC report a problem web page. CC'd Cllr Bennett into reply as education link councillor and representative on the Traffic and Transport Forum.
#####	Email	Reporting and providing photos of graffiti on the pedestrian bridge joining the Industrial Estate and the Borough Park.	Replied to set out action taken. Emailed PCSO to inform him of the Graffiti and logged it online on 101. Reference DP-4754-24-5050-IR01. Crime reference number received on 26/02/24 ref: 50240044845
#####	In person	Graffiti under East Gate.	The Graffiti was reported directly to the PCSO and online on 101. Reference DP-4752-24-5050-01. Contacted Duke of Somerset's office as landowner to inform of the damage. Crime reference number for this was received on 22/02/24 - ref: 50240041279
19/02/2024	Letter	DCC Highways	Letter about Road Markings in Totnes
20/02/2024	Phone	PCSO called about the spray can found by a member of the public.	The item was dropped to the office and handed to the police
21/02/2024	In person	Request to replace the street lamp bulbs on Ramparts Walk (dangerous to walk along there at night).	Referred to DCC report a problem page issue and TTC has reported it before.
24/02/2024	In person	Graffiti tag - Leatside surgery.	Reported via 101. Crime Reference Number was received on 24/02/24 - ref: 50240044845
26/02/2024	In person	Council recognition of two firefighters' long service at Totnes station.	Shared the press release for nominations for the community awards and suggested they nominate the firefighters mentioned.
26/02/2024	In person	Police request to review Guildhall CCTV footage linked to a theft from Mountain Warehouse.	CCTV footage shared. Information shared with Councillors.
28/02/2024	email	Concern about dogs digging holes around the trees on Vire Island.	Emailed photos and information to Councillors.
28/02/2024	In person	Police patrol conducted a stop and search on young people outside the Guildhall found them to be in possession of drugs. Asked the office if there has been further incidents over the last couple of days.	

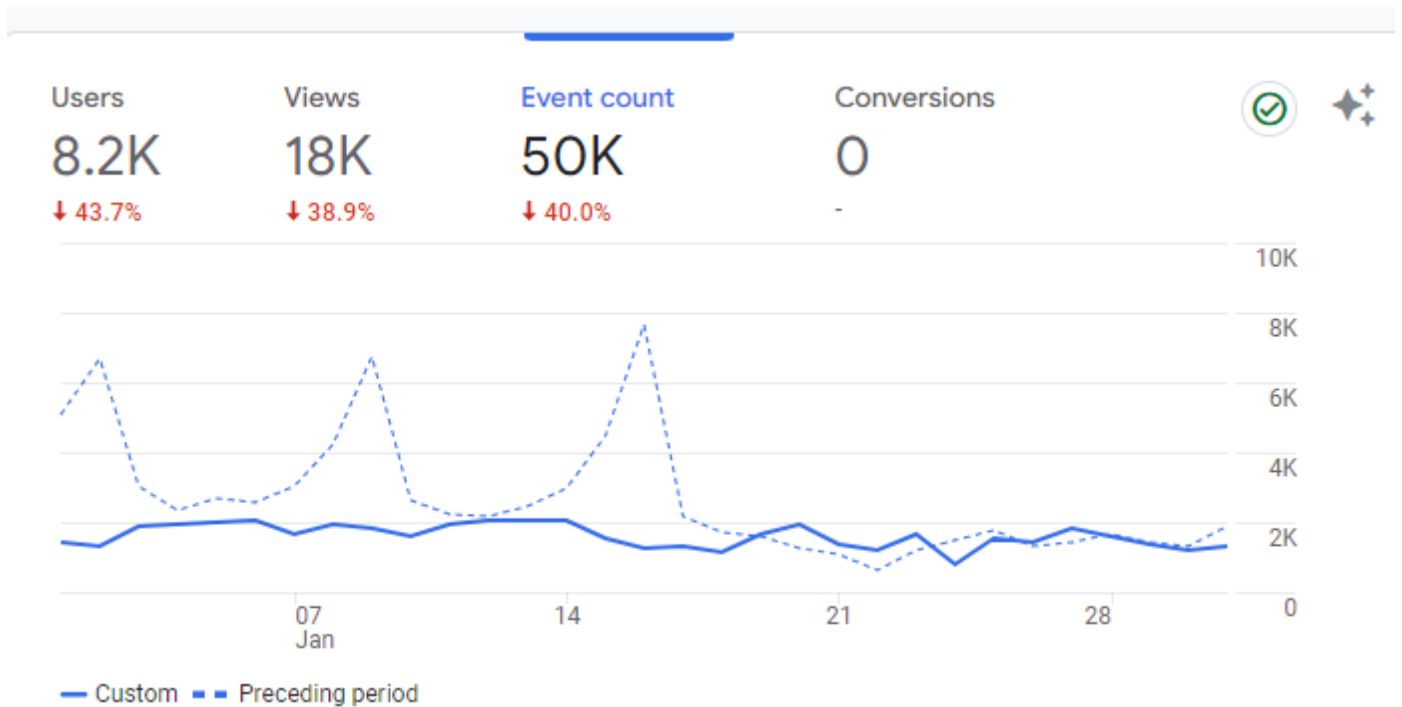
Venues Update

- The building work/installation of a new fire door in the civic hall is underway (slowly but surely)
- The Civic is now booked by regular hirers Monday-Thursday in the evenings until June

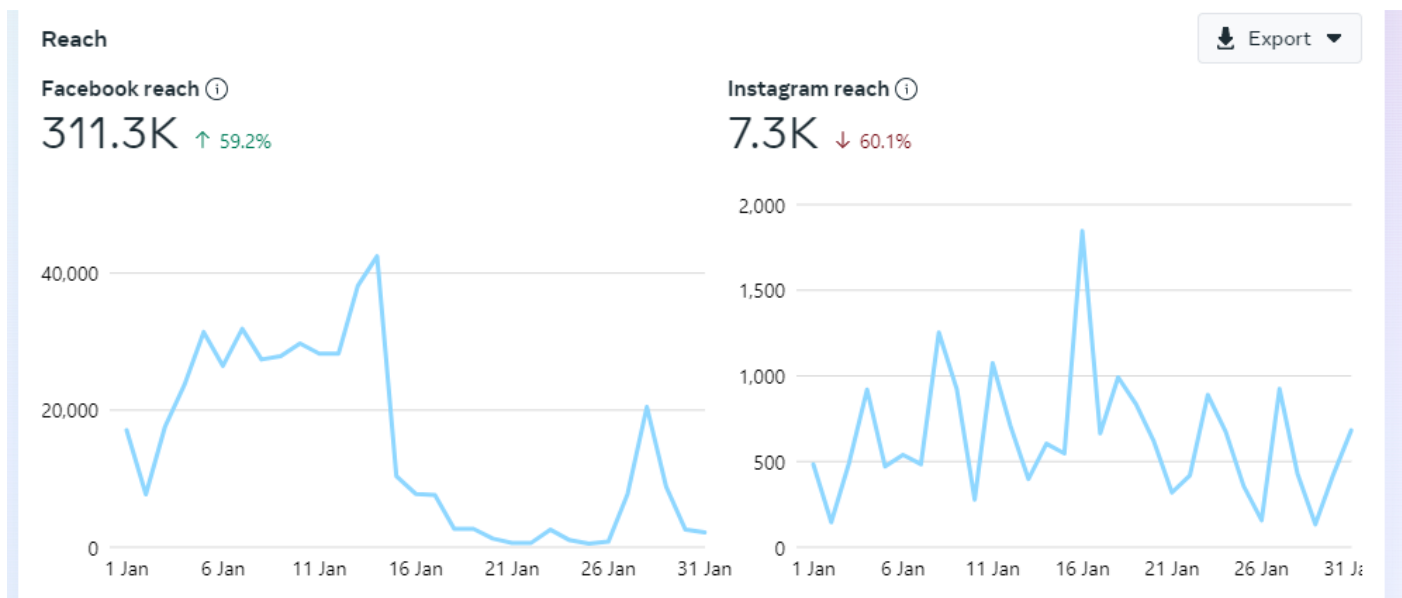
- Talks are underway with a Bristol based promoter (who has hired the venue for a Brian Bilston event in May) to put on other acts once the building work is complete and the capacity increase has been confirmed.
- The Wifi was found to be faulty and the router the cause. A new, updated internet router was installed on the 27th Feb just in time for a 'Live Stream' of an event in there on Saturday.
- Martyn's Law Webinar update sent separately.
- Guildhall wedding bookings are looking promising for 2024 so hopefully we will see an increase on 2023 bookings.
- Volunteer Coffee and Chat morning is planned for Friday 15th March @11:30am for 'old' and new volunteers to meet. Opening of the Guildhall is planned for April 2nd after the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.

Visit Totnes

Web stats January 2024



Social media stats Jan 2024



NALC / DALC updates

NALC chair's meeting with local government minister

Last week, NALC's chair, Cllr Keith Stevens, had an introductory meeting with the new local government minister, Simon Hoare MP. Keith was struck by the minister's genuine appreciation and support for the part our local (parish and town) councils play in local government to improve communities. The minister, who has previously been a parish councillor, set out his desire to work closely with NALC on the wide range of issues facing the sector and agreed to speak at some of our meetings and events. Keith took the opportunity to brief the minister on his [open letter](#) and priorities for the next two years, in particular highlighting standards in public life and our work through the Civility and Respect Project. Since the minister took up his role at the end of last year, both Keith and our president, Baroness Scott of Needham Market, have been lobbying him to take a fresh look at the government's approach to ethical standards in local government. The minister confirmed he had heard loud and clear our concerns and case to strengthen the regime and was actively considering this further. Keith also pressed the minister to look at remote meetings, outlining the numerous benefits this would bring to local democracy. The minister supported the principle of councils having the flexibility to hold meetings remotely but that some meetings should still be held in person, confirming this was another issue he was looking at. Other issues discussed included the Office for Local Government, local audit, local government finance, sector support and following NALC's representations work underway by the government on parish polls, community governance reviews and dependent's carers allowances for councillors.

Preventing harassment and bullying in the workplace conference

Standards in public life and safety for public figures has been top of the political agenda again over the last week. I was pleased to join colleagues from the public and private sectors at a [Westminster Insight event on preventing harassment and bullying in the workplace](#) where I spoke about our work with the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) to promote [civility and respect](#), including the resources available to promote training, good governance and our civility pledge (now signed by 1435 councils). My key takeaways from the event were the importance of inclusive leadership, early intervention and calling out micro-aggressions. I was also struck by the contribution from Tina Chander, head of employment law at Wright Hassall, who concluded from a representative survey of 2000 people that "what was clear is that workplace bullying and/or harassment are currently significant workplace issues in businesses of all industries and sizes." It was also good to note that many businesses and sectors are working hard to address this problem.

NALC National Networks: Coastal communities

[NALC's coastal communities network](#) held its latest online meeting on 27 February 2024. Luke Homes-Douglas, from The Crown Estate, delivered a riveting presentation on his contribution to The Crown Estate's emerging Marine Litter Strategy (MLS) for

England. Luke shared his [Coastline Running Initiative](#), where he actively collects shoreline plastic in collaboration with councils, schools, and local organisations. The network was also joined by Paul Johnson, from [Natural England](#) who gave a fascinating presentation on King Charles III England Coast Path and provided insights into coastal access and private beaches. Colleagues also discussed the results of our survey launched in November which is aimed at shaping the network's meetings for the next two years. It was good the survey showed 80% of respondents enjoy the network sessions and find the topics interesting, informative, and relevant! The network's next meeting is on 23 May 2024, so if you're a local council in a coastal area or are interested in coastal issues and want to connect with your colleagues, please do sign up.

NALC National Network: Super Councils

NALC's National Network for Super Councils met online on 14 February 2024, chaired by the network's co-chair, Cllr Mike Drew. Here are a few highlights:

- Natalie Turner, deputy director, and Charlotte Lewis, network manager, from the Centre for Ageing Better (CFAB), gave an informative presentation on how local councils can work better to create age-friendly communities in their areas. They spoke about CFAB's drive to encourage more towns to become age friendly and were keen for the network to play its part by getting involved and inspiring more councils to take an age friendly approach. Town councils that had adopted the approach were invited to share examples of the kinds of age-friendly activities they were undertaking by e-mailing charlotte.lewis@ageing-better.org.uk.
- Anders Hanson, member services manager, provided an update on the NALC/Local Government Association (LGA) corporate peer challenge programme for larger councils and invited councillors and clerks to get participate as peers, outlining that training would be provided. Larger councils interested in putting themselves forward for the peer challenge programme or joining a review team as a peer should email Anders.Hanson@nalc.gov.uk.
- Sevenoaks Town Council introduced an item on the sharing of contact details following local council elections. They outlined how when a candidate runs for election to a local council, the principal authority collects their contact details. However, after being elected, some principal authorities do not share these details with the clerk, making it difficult for them to issue a summons for the councillor to attend their first meeting. Data protection rules was cited as a reason for not sharing contact details with clerks, although most clerks had a legitimate interest in the data. It was agreed NALC would take this issue up with the Electoral Commission and Association of Electoral Administrators and propose a new tick box be added to the nomination form, specifying candidate consent for personal details to be passed to the relevant local council upon election.

Housebuilding market study published

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) published the [final report for the housebuilding market study](#) on 26 February 2024. The report covers their findings, concerns identified, and an assessment of potential interventions to address them. A key finding is that the complex and unpredictable planning system and the limitations of speculative private development are responsible for the persistent under delivery of new

homes. The study also found concerns about estate management charges, where homeowners often encounter high and unclear fees for managing facilities such as roads, drainage, and green spaces – echoing concerns previously highlighted by NALC to the CMA last year. The study also revealed apprehensions regarding the quality of some new housing. Recommendations include requiring councils to adopt amenities on all new housing estates, introducing enhanced consumer protections for homeowners on existing privately managed estates, and establishing a New Homes Ombudsman as soon as possible and setting a single mandatory consumer code so homeowners can better pursue homebuilders over any quality issues they face.

Commonwealth Day 2024

This year, Commonwealth Day is being celebrated on 11 March 2024, marking the 75th anniversary of the Commonwealth and designated as the Commonwealth Year of Youth. On this day, the Union Flag must be flown on UK government department buildings. Additionally, if there is a second flagpole available, UK government departments are encouraged to fly the Commonwealth Flag, if they have one. Many councils and other local organisations will have their own policy on the flying of flags, and they might choose to adopt similar practices. If you plan to fly the Commonwealth Day flag on 11 March, feel free to share a photo on your social media platforms and tag @UKinCW on X/Twitter. For more information, check out the government's [Union Flag flying guidance for UK government buildings](#).

Martyn's Law Steering Group

The NALC/SLCC Martyn's Law Steering Group held its latest online meeting on 9 February 2024 to progress sector activity regarding the Draft Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, otherwise known as Martyn's Law. Some highlights include:

- The Steering Group reviewed the interim feedback from the rapid response sector survey, noting that there were still relatively low awareness levels of Martyn's Law, that respondents so far had highlighted cost concerns and thought there should be a standard terrorism evaluation template form for local councils to complete.
- As the survey aims to inform NALC and SLCC's responses to the Martyn's Law standard tier consultation, the Steering Group agreed to extend the deadline to 23:45 on 29 February – please complete this short survey which should only take 5 minutes [here](#).
- It was agreed to meet again before the final Home Office [standard tier consultation](#) submission deadline for responses of 18 March 2024.

Fortnightly meeting with county officers

This week's meeting between NALC and county officers saw a presentation from Chris Cowcher, head of policy and communications at [Plunkett UK](#). Plunkett UK is an organisation that supports community-owned businesses nationwide, providing them with free expert advice, training, and funding. They already work with many local councils and emphasised how important local councils can be to making a success of many community-owned businesses. This presentation was an opportunity for them to explain a bit more about their work and to answer questions from county officers. The meeting concluded with some brief updates from NALC colleagues including a reminder of the 12 March deadline to submit policy motions for consideration by NALC's Policy Committee at its April meeting, the recent meeting of the Martyn's Law Steering Group and the forthcoming legal bulletin.

Funding to help VCSE organisations improve energy efficiency

On 7 December 2023, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport launched [a £25.5 million funding](#)

improve their energy efficiency. Eligible organisations are encouraged to apply for an independent energy assessment and capital grants to install energy efficiency measures. The scheme is open to frontline community organisations across England. Groundwork UK, which is delivering the scheme, is particularly keen to hear from small and medium organisations with significant concerns around energy which are directly supporting individuals and communities with critical needs, especially those related to the rising cost of living. Examples include:

- services that address poverty, including providing food, warmth, emergency supplies or personal grants.
- shelter, accommodation and housing for those most in need.
- advice for people experiencing financial, housing or legal challenges.
- services that address specific physical and mental health issues.
- education, training and employment services that improve employability.
- community hubs or centres, out of which a number of these services operate.

Councils are encouraged to share this scheme with VCSE organisations in their area and organisations are encouraged to apply as soon as possible!

Out and about

Our communications officer, Nadoya Reid, and our administrator, Olivia Kane, attended the Proud Ampthill and Flitwick (Proud AF) LGBT+ History Month celebration in Flitwick Bedfordshire on 15 February 2024. The event heard from Nelly Wright, a member of Proud AF who shared their personal story, and John Gross, Terrence Higgins Trust Milton Keynes, who spoke about the importance of HIV prevention PrEP. The event was supported by Flitwick Town Council and Ampthill Town Council who I want to thank for the invitation and hosting my colleagues. We hope to see more local councils organising events celebrating LGBT+ History Month and Pride – please let us know what you are doing to policycomms@nalc.gov.uk so we can share more widely.

And finally...

The campaign for this year's The Big Lunch (1-2 June) has begun! The Big Lunch – which I know many local councils have been supporting for several years – helps create safer neighbourhoods and addresses social isolation. By bringing people together over shared meals, this initiative plays a crucial role in strengthening social bonds, promoting a sense of belonging, and enhancing civic pride within local communities. 1 in 5 of the UK population took part last year and local councils are once encouraged to get involved. The Eden Project will be hosting a free webinar on 26 February 2023 at 1 pm, offering guidance on how councils can support the Big Lunch campaign and their communities. More information on the webinar and how to register can be found [here](#).

SLCC Updates

Improvement and Development Board meeting

On 19 February I attended a meeting in London with the Improvement and Development Board (IDB), the first in-person meeting since the appointment of its new Chair, James Alexander. The board reviewed its objectives in the context of the sector, the organisations, and the people within it, and considered that this presented a meaningful starting point for structuring its improvement and development work. The following task forces were agreed:

- **Civility and Respect** - to build upon and continue the collaborative work across the sector

- **Workforce** – specifically the pressing need to review job evaluations, role profiles and pay
- **Intervention** – to consider how the sector could respond when councils encounter difficulties
- **Data** – how the sector might develop a clearer, evidence-based, and accurate picture of itself

Finally, the board agreed that its title ‘Improvement and Development Board’ served to reflect its intent and objectives and would remain unchanged.

International Women’s Day

Friday 8 March 2024 marks International Women’s Day which celebrates women’s achievements, raises awareness about discrimination, and calls for gender parity. It is great to see that many of our members in England and Wales are running events to #inspireinclusion - Barry Town Council is hosting a [tea and coffee morning](#); Huntingdon Town Council a [women in local government talk](#); Sevenoaks Town Council [a lunch](#); and Lowestoft Town Council a [women’s forum](#). Do visit their websites should you be looking for ideas on how to take part.

Community Governance reviews and parish polls

Our work with the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) continues. In the last week we’ve been collecting case studies on community governance reviews for new guidance being issued – thank you to those members who have sent these in. We’ve again been discussing parish polls with colleagues in the Community Integration Directorate where they’re looking at possible changes around public participation, remit and the numbers triggering these polls. If there is an upcoming parish poll being held for your council, please let us know at shelley.parker@slcc.co.uk – DLUHC would welcome a chance to experience one in real time.

New podcast: Levelling Up - Regional Inequalities and Social Fabric Programmes

Finally, do have a listen to our latest podcast where we speak to Shivani H. Menon, a Senior Researcher on Onward’s Levelling Up and Social Fabric programmes and co-author of the report ‘Levelling Up Locally’. Shivani gives a detailed insight into the report and highlights how low cost, fast action policies can be implemented by local leaders with the resources that are already available, despite the financial hardships faced by local councils.

[Listen to the podcast here.](#)

Proposed changes to national planning rules for brownfield sites

The government has announced proposed changes to national planning rules for brownfield sites and has opened a consultation for views.

The changes include proposals that will “make clear that when considering planning applications, local planning authorities should give significant weight to the benefits of delivering as many homes as possible, especially where this involves land which is previously developed”.

Click the button below for more information and to complete the online consultation





Biodiversity Net Gain requirements

In England, the new Biodiversity Net Gain requirements in the planning process came into effect this week.

Biodiversity net gain is a way of creating and improving biodiversity by requiring development to have a positive impact ('net gain') on biodiversity. In England, biodiversity net gain is required under a statutory framework introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by the Environment Act 2021). This statutory framework is referred to as 'biodiversity net gain' in Planning Practice Guidance to distinguish it from other or more general biodiversity gains.

The Big Lunch 2024 – guidance for councils webinar



Now in its 16th year, The Big Lunch has become the largest community-led fundraiser and neighbourhood get-together in the UK. Taking place on 1-2 June 2024, The Big Lunch helps create safer neighbourhoods, reduce social isolation and increase civic pride. One in five of the UK population took part last year and local councils are urged to get involved.

£3 billion affordable housing boost to deliver 20,000 new homes

The government has announced further financial support for the provision of affordable homes. 20,000 new affordable homes will be built across the country due to a £3 billion increase in a government-backed loan fund which opened 12 February 2024.

The Affordable Homes Guarantee Scheme 2020 provides low-cost, flexible and long-term loans to help fund investment in new and existing affordable homes across England, including those for social rent, affordable rent and shared ownership.

As part of the scheme, providers will be able to apply for loans to help make homes fit for the future. These energy upgrades, such as solar panels, could potentially save tenants hundreds of pounds on their energy.

Government announces new measure to address short-term lets of homes

The government has announced changes in planning rules concerning the short-term lets of homes which will come into force in the summer. It states that "Under the reforms councils will be given greater power to control short-term lets by making them subject to the planning process. This will support local people in areas where high numbers of short-term lets are preventing them from finding housing they can afford to buy or to rent".



In parallel to, and in support of the planning changes, the Department for Culture Media and Sport has introduced a new mandatory registration scheme for short-term lets.

Procurement Act 2023 – transforming public procurement

Rules governing public procurement are changing with the new Procurement Act 2023, which was given royal assent on 26 October 2023.

Procurement rules regulate public authority purchases of supplies, services and public works from the private sector. This new act will improve the procurement process and ensure value for money. It will better tailor the procurement framework to the country's needs, and make procurement simpler, quicker, more transparent and less bureaucratic.

The new regime is expected to go live in October 2024, following a notice period of a minimum six months, and will bring a range of benefits to the public sector.

Consultation on changes to various permitted development rights

The government has announced a consultation on changes to Permitted Development Rights, which, amongst other things, would allow for the alteration, extension and, to a lesser extent, the construction of certain buildings without requiring planning permission as well as relax restrictions on the siting and size of electric vehicle charging points and air source heat pumps.

This consultation will last for 8 weeks from 13 February 2024 to 9 April 2024.



Agenda planner

MONTH	FULL COUNCIL	COUNCIL MATTERS	PLANNING	TOWN MATTERS
March	<i>Clerk's Report (general updates and correspondence)</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>
	<i>CCLlr & DCllr Reports</i>	<i>Consider the budget monitor inc reserve projection</i>	<i>Tree Works applications</i>	Consider community award nominations and recommendation to FC [P2]
	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Consider bank reconciliations [P2]</i>	<i>Planning applications</i>	OSSR Review - Indoor Sports, Outdoor Sports, Play Areas
	<i>Consideration of Recommendations</i>	<i>Staffing Update [P2]</i>	<i>Note Traffic & Transport Forum Minutes</i>	Consider Exeter Uni study proposal
	<i>Confidential items from Committee [P2]</i>	CA&PR WG Actions	<i>Events on SHDC Land</i>	
	<i>Note a list of future meeting dates, comms points & link cllr updates</i>	Civic Budget & Mayoral Allowance		
	<i>Elmhirst Project (Standing item)</i>	Community Grant Reports from June 23 awards		
	Community Development Budget set for 2024/25			
	Strategic Plan 2024-27			
	Alcohol PSPO consultation			

	Devolution Consultation (24 Mar)			
	Martyn's Law (18 Mar)			
April	<i>Clerk's Report (general updates and correspondence)</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>
	<i>CCLr & DCILr Reports</i>	<i>Consider bank reconciliations [P2]</i>	<i>Tree Works applications</i>	<i>OSSR Review - Cemetery and Churchyards, Greenways; & recommendation to FC</i>
	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Staffing Update [P2]</i>	<i>Planning applications</i>	
	<i>Consideration of Recommendations</i>	<i>Note sick leave & overtime balances [P2]</i>	<i>Note Traffic & Transport Forum Minutes</i>	
	<i>Confidential items from Committee [P2] incl Consider Community award nominations</i>	<i>Consider the Mayor's engagements and budget</i>	<i>Events on SHDC Land</i>	
	<i>Note a list of future meeting dates, comms points & link cllr updates</i>	<i>Note revised S137 value for 2023/24</i>		
	<i>Elmhirst Project (Standing item)</i>	<i>Review Financial Risk Assessment and Risk Register (annual in Apr)</i>		
	<i>Nominations for chairs of committees and committee membership, WG membership, link cllrs & reps on outside bodies</i>	<i>To note the year end timeline (annual in Apr)</i>		
	<i>Election of Mayor/Chair</i>	<i>To review the earmarked reserves (annual in Apr)</i>		

	Cllr roles in Mayor Making	Arts & Events WG actions		
May	<i>ANNUAL MTG OF THE COUNCIL</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>No meeting</i>
	<i>Clerk's Report (general updates and correspondence)</i>	<i>Consider the budget monitor inc reserve projection</i>	<i>Tree Works applications</i>	
	<i>CCLr Report</i>	To note the 2022/23 Outturn statement.	<i>Planning applications</i>	
	<i>Confirmation of minutes</i>	<i>Consider bank reconciliations [P2]</i>	<i>Note Traffic & Transport Forum Minutes</i>	
	<i>Consideration of Recommendations</i>	<i>Staffing Update [P2]</i>	<i>Events on SHDC Land</i>	
	<i>Confidential items from Committee [P2]</i>	Election of Deputy	Election of Deputy	
	<i>Note a list of future meeting dates, comms points & link cllr updates</i>	CA&PR WG Actions		
	<i>Elmhirst Project (Standing item)</i>	Complaints Procedure		
	Review Standing Orders	Investment Strategy		
		Staff Loans Policy		