



## Members' Newsletter August 2019

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### **Code of Conduct Review**

This campaign has continued as agreed at the June members' meeting. During July a letter was received by the NAC chair, Ald Michael Henderson, from the permanent secretary of the Department for Communities, Ms Tracy Meharg in response to the councillors' letters of protest which have been forwarded to her by council chief executives. Ms Meharg enclosed a copy of a letter that she has sent to all council chief executives in relation to this.

The NAC Secretary, Cllr Joe Boyle, received a reply to the letter we sent to Tracy Meharg asking to be included in the new working group being formed by her department. She has invited NAC representatives to attend a meeting with her officials and they will "set out the evaluation review process and get your initial views on any issues you have with the current legislative framework and resulting practices and procedures". The NAC officers have accepted this offer as has Derek McCallan of NILGA, the meeting date is currently being arranged and is likely to be mid-November.

### **Local Government Training Group (LGTG) Review**

We sent another meeting request to Stephen Reid, chair of the LGTG on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019, this crossed a reply he had sent by post to our previous letter and subsequently a meeting was arranged. The NAC chair, Ald Michael Henderson and NAC Secretary, Cllr Joe Boyle attended the meeting with representatives from NILGA on 7 August. Mr Reid outlined the review process and answered questions in relation to the process and training budgets. Further meetings have been arranged for 23 October 2019, 22 January 2020 and 22 April 2020 with the assurance given that if Mr Reid becomes unavailable he will arrange for a deputy to stand in for him rather than cancel.

### **NAC UK Conference**

Details of the next National Association of Councillors UK Conference have been sent to all NI councillors and councils. The conference will be taking place at:

The Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

For enquiries please contact the NAC UK general secretary directly:

Councillor Brian Nelson on 0191 3789947 or 0779 1574879 or by email ~  
[generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org](mailto:generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org)



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### **NAC UK Certificate for Councillors**

Information on this course was received from the NAC UK general secretary, Cllr Brian Nelson and this has been forwarded by us to all council chief executives and democratic/members services officers.

### **The NAC NI Region Annual General Meeting**

#### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown**

There will be representatives from NAC UK, NILGA, AILG and LAMA in attendance and we have arranged for a guest speaker, Andrea Winders of [Disruptieve](#) to provide a presentation before the AGM. Full details including a timetable and agenda will be circulated shortly.

A preliminary meeting notice has already been sent to all councillors and appropriate resolutions should be notified to the Secretary by 2 September 2019 with the name of the Mover and Seconder in writing. No other resolution, other than Motions of Procedure shall be permitted and only eight delegates per council will be allowed to vote. (Those delegates as nominated by their council).

Please note that no other business or discussions will be entered into during the AGM as these can be raised at the Members' Meetings.

### **Sponsorship of Awards**

The NAC EC have agreed to sponsor the NILGA Local Government Awards and the Social Enterprise Northern Ireland Awards again this year.

The NILGA Awards are now open for entries and we encourage you to participate in our category - The award for Best Initiative by a Councillor/Councillor Group.

Details and entry forms available on the [NAC Website Home Page](#).

It gives me great pleasure to announce that we are supporting the Local Government Awards NI Region again this year.

I encourage council officers and councillors to get involved by nominating their colleagues for awards and by booking places to attend the Awards Recognition Evening. This most prestigious event provides a great opportunity to cheer on the finalists, do some networking or catching up and, based on last year's event, I'm sure it will be a brilliant evening.



Alderman Michael Henderson MBE,  
Chairman  
National Association of Councillors  
Northern Ireland Region

### **Next NAC NI Region Members' Meeting**

Scheduled date and time is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 11:00am, the host council will be Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, the venue is to be confirmed and details will be circulated and published on our website.