

From: National Association of Local Councils newsletter@nalc.gov.uk
Subject: 🦠 CORONAVIRUS — INFORMATION FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS
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To: clerk@waddingham.gov.uk



Coronavirus — information for parish & town councils

NALC has updated its dedicated webpage on the coronavirus. This includes allotments, HR issues, national events and celebrations, updates on engaging with the government and the Public Works Loan Board. See the updates below:

Allotments

The National Allotment Society has issued [useful guidance on how to manage allotments](#) in accordance with government regulations.

HR issues

NALC's partner HR Services Partnership are [keeping their website updated](#) with issues related to the coronavirus.

Are national events and celebrations being affected?

Many local councils were planning to get involved in national events and celebrations such as [Great British Spring Clean](#) and [VE Day 75](#), these have been postponed. The national commemorations to mark VE Day 75 on 8 May are being scaled back and the government is working on new plans to ensure the nation can still thank the Second World War generation on VE Day in May and provide the fitting tribute they deserve. Local councils are instead being encouraged to support local digital solutions for celebrations. Once this immediate crisis abates, communities may also be encouraged to turn their attention to planning for VJ day on 15 August. The Great British Spring Clean has also decided to postpone its annual event and relaunch later in the year, with the postponed campaign hoping to take place between 11 and 27 September

ZUZU. For these and other events, local councils should check the relevant event website for the latest information and updates.

Engaging with the government

NALC is continuing to engage with the government and other stakeholders (including Local Government Association and Public Health England) on how local councils are responding to the current health crisis and raising issues regarding any impact on the operation of our local councils.

The fast-tracked Coronavirus Bill was considered by the House of Commons on 23 March and House of Lords on 24/25 March. It has now received Royal Assent and is an **Act of Parliament**. Provisions of particular relevance to local councils are on the postponement of local elections and local authority meetings. We are pressing the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government to work with us on any subsequent regulations. We don't have the timeframe for those at present but will keep you updated.

Public Works Loan Board

We have sought clarification on whether repayments would be subject to deferral in keeping with other measures announced regarding mortgages and loans.

This information forms part of a NALC's dedicated webpage on the coronavirus. It should not be used as a substitute for government advice, however, there are some practicalities specific to local (parish and town) councils where we hope this information will help you plan ahead and manage your risks. If you would like further advice and support on any of these topics for your local council then please **contact your local county association**. This is a fast-moving situation and we will be updating the webpage regularly.

Find out more



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