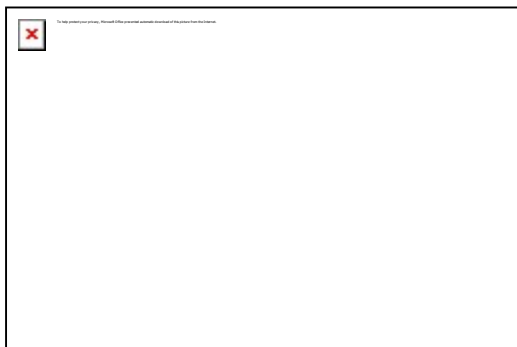


From: Wendy Amis <chiefofficer@derbyshirealc.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 March 2024 14:41
To: Kath Gruber
Subject: DALC March 2024 Newsletter



Welcome to our March newsletter with a new look. We hope you find it easier to read and access the information it contains. This is for everyone in the council so please share with councillors and staff. As always, we welcome any comments or queries.

Wendy Amis | Chief Officer | Derbyshire ALC



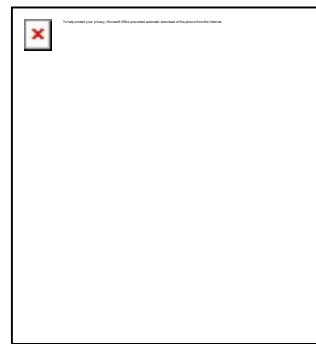
We're on the Road Again!

We're excited to confirm five venues for our Spring Roadshow (with one for South Derbyshire still being organised)! Come and join us for a chance to chat with colleagues from other councils, hear news and updates, discuss the latest issues and – we hope – let us know what DALC can do to improve its service. There'll also (of course!) be hot drinks and homemade cake, so come and join us at:

Wingerworth Community Centre – **Friday 26th April**
Wirksworth Memorial Hall – **Monday 29th April**

Chapel-en-le-Frith Town Hall – **Wednesday 1st May**

Ockbrook & Borrowash Parish Hall – **Thursday 16th May**



Latest on Fraud and Cyber Crime

Now accounting for over 50% of all crime, fraud and cyber crime are an ever-present threat. In a bid to keep our member councils protected from these threats, we've collaborated with Derbyshire Police's Protect Officer Samantha Hancock to deliver a series of courses in March. These sessions cover how to use email, the internet or a smartphone safely, and the words, almost everyone!

Sessions are online, and registration is open.

Wednesday 20th March – 6.30-7.30pm
Open to all councillors, but clerks and admin staff are also invited to join.

Thursday 21st March 10:00-11:00am
Open to all admin staff, but councillors are also invited to join.

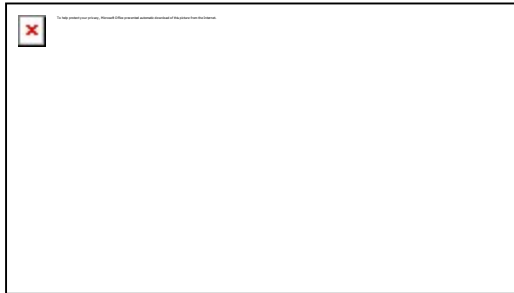
Dalbury Lees Parish Hall – Friday 17th May

More Information

Each day will have two sessions: 10am-12noon for clerks and officers, 12.30-1.30pm for chairs and councillors. Places, which are free, can be booked via the DALC portal.

If you would like to submit any questions before hand, please email them to chiefofficer@derbyshirealc.gov.uk

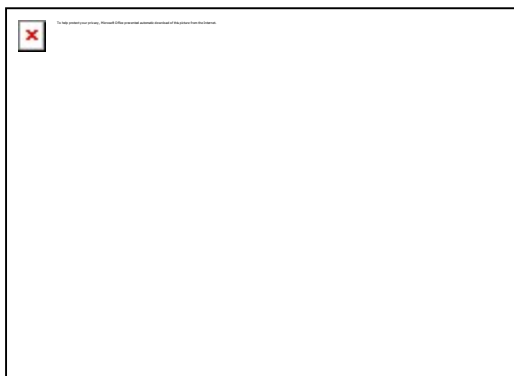
Book Your Place Here



Climate Change Initiative

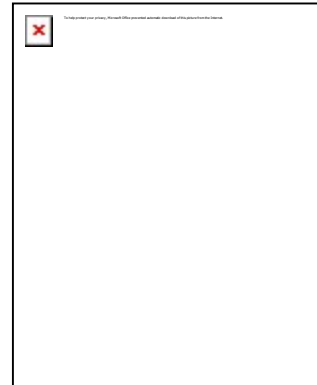
We are liaising with Derbyshire County Council to develop an easy way to inspire you and to take action to meet your biodiversity and environmental duties. There are also plans to offer a formal Derbyshire-wide accreditation for councils who can evidence climate and biodiversity action.

More information on this will be shared at our Spring Roadshows.



DALC Excellence Awards now open! New sponsor and new category!

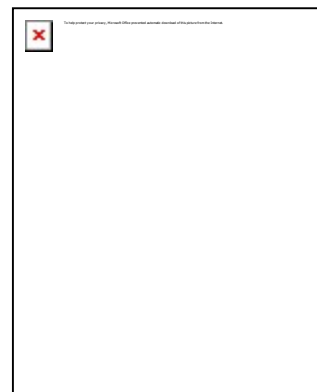
We're excited to announce that our 7th annual Excellence Awards are now open! And we're delighted to welcome a new Derbyshire sponsor – **TDP Ltd of Wirksworth** – who will be backing our new 'Environmental Project' category.



Save the D

This year's DALC Day will be held 2024 at the Chesterfield FC SMH

Along with speakers and exhibitors DALC AGM and the 7th year of our presentation.



Community Ownership - next fun

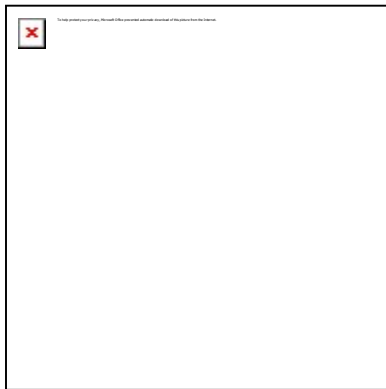
With grants of up to £2million available for councils striving to save communities the Community Ownership Fund is

TDP are an award-winning manufacturer of 100% UK recycled plastic garden and street furniture, and have been keen participants in DALC's events for several years.

TDP's Commercial Director Kym Barlow, who is also Crich parish councillor, said: "We're really excited to be part of DALC's Excellence Awards, and look forward to hearing about the amazing environmental work we know is being done by councils throughout Derbyshire."

In addition to the new environmental category, we welcome entries in the Council, Clerk and Councillor of the Year categories.

[Further details and an entry form can be found here.](#)



Year End and Audit

Internal audit: As we approach the financial year end, this is a reminder that all councils must appoint a competent internal auditor. Please do get in touch with us if you need an internal auditor, or visit our website for more information.

External audit: You should expect to be hearing from the external auditor at the beginning of March. The key reference for recording and reporting your financial accounts is the **Practitioner's Guide**.

[Our Website](#)

Full details of how to apply can essentially the Fund aims to help o assets that would otherwise be los could include community centres, theatres, galleries, museums, mus office buildings, pubs, shops, or sp facilities.

Some of the ways an asset might be closed or sold, it's being neglected or collapse, or it's not being opera

The asset must offer value to local must be able to run it sustainably t

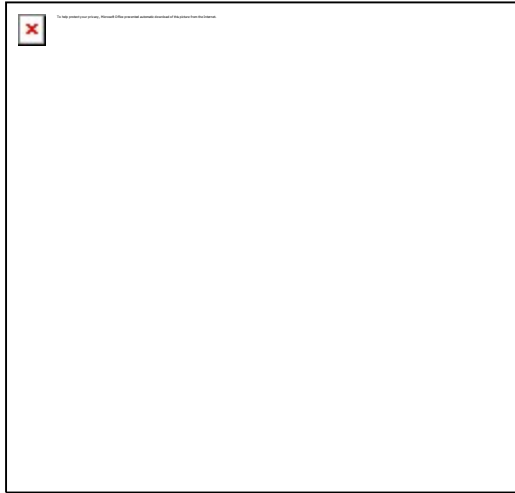


Free Royal Portrait - Dead

Councils wanting to acquire a free off Charles III are reminded that the dead is Thursday 28th March.

Full details and a registration form for being funded by central government o

[Find Out More](#)



Defibrillator Offer

Clive Rowlandson of the British Heart Foundation discusses their mission to triple survival rates from out of hospital cardiac arrests by 2030 by increasing defibrillator installations and training more people in CPR.

To support defibrillator installation, a special offer on Defibrillator bundles is available for local town and parish councils and non-profits. To qualify, councils must commit to accessibility, provide suitable locations, and register on The Circuit – a national defibrillator network. Clive has a blog on the NALC website with more information.

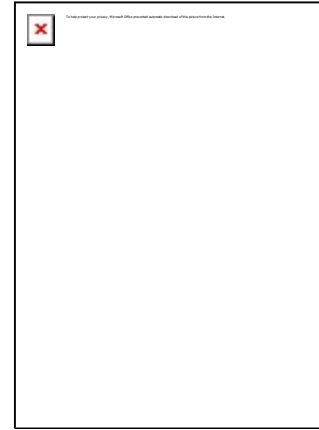
NALC Website



Templates

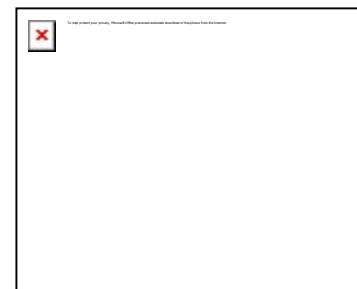
A reminder that we have a range of template policies and procedures available for you to use. All can be accessed by clerks through the portal by clicking on 'Knowledgebase'. The new model contract of employment is also available here.

DALC Portal



Round Robin Email

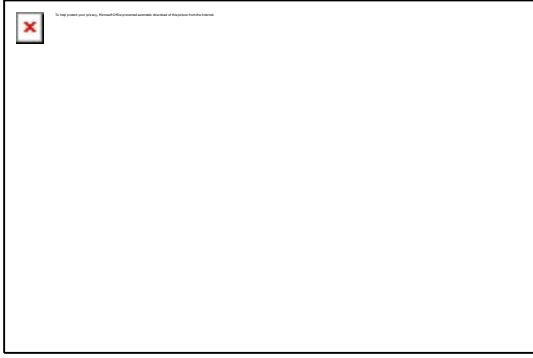
As always, we're getting a steady stream of clerks asking for advice on supplier recommendations. These can range from IT support to installers to website hosting companies. We'd remind members that we are unable to recommend individual contractors. Recommendations are forwarded in our 'Round Robin' emails. Remember, therefore, that these are shared experience, not 'official' DALC advice!



.gov.uk Email Address

We previously mentioned that suppliers encourage councils to sign up to these services. You can now register your interest in doing so through their website.

Sign up...



Get Updated - April '24 Employment Law Changes

A number of changes to employment law come into effect this April. These range from start-and-finish times to the right to ask for home-working from day one of employment, and also include new arrangements for paying holiday-pay as part of an hourly rate. We'll be delivering a FREE training session on Wednesday 24th April at 10am. Places for the one-hour course can be booked via the DALC portal.

DALC Portal



Flag Flying on Commonwealth Day

Commonwealth Day is being celebrated in 2024, marking the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Flag must be flown on UK government buildings. Additionally, if there is a second flagpole, government departments are encouraged to fly the Commonwealth Flag, if they have one. We encourage you to choose to adopt a similar practice. If you have a flagpole, flying the Commonwealth Flag, if you have one. For more information on the government's Union Flag flying policy, please see the government's Union Flag flying policy for government buildings.

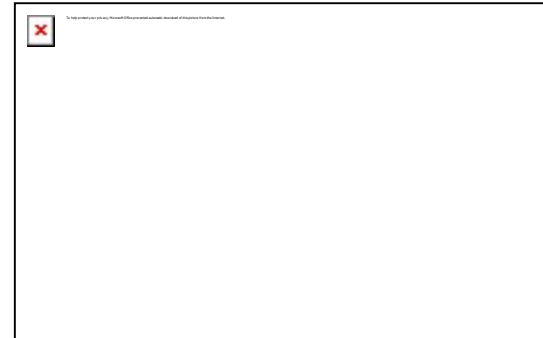
Read More



Improvement and Development Board

This sector-wide body has a new Chair – James Alexander – and now a refocused direction. As one of three representatives sitting on the Board on behalf of the County Associations, I was pleased that the immediate focus for improvement initiatives will be:

- Continuation of the Civility and Respect programme



March Chair and Clerk Forums

The next forums will be held on Wednesday 20th March, clerks 10.30am-12.30pm and chairs 2.30pm. As a reminder, we are happy for other councillors to attend where the chair is unavailable.

Our topics will include updates on Martyn's Law, annual meetings (and General Power of Competence, plus any matters for discussion) can either be sent to me in advance or taken at the forum.

The link for the sessions (same link for both sessions) is:

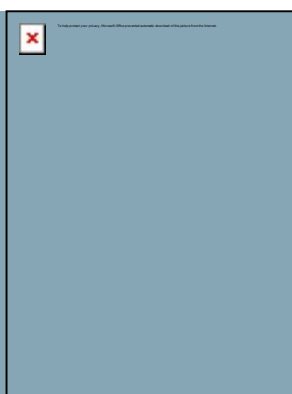
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4663925358?pwd=SUNVcFcyG5J...>

Meeting ID: 466 392 5358

- Sourcing sector data and understanding how we can make use of it
- Intervention (how to help councils when they encounter difficulties)
- Workforce matters with a review of clerk job profiles and working hours

Featured Training

18 April
10am - 12pm

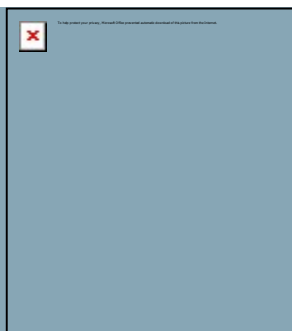


Social Media

This session will provide background on what s strategies and how to manage expectations.

[Registration](#)

24 April
10am - 11am



Employment Law Update

This one hour session is free and will enable new entitlements, and to update their terms

[Registration](#)

Derbyshire ALC

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