

Welcome to the Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC)

LALC was formed in 1944 and is an independent organisation representing the interests of Parish & Town Councils in Lancashire, Merseyside, and Greater Manchester. The Lancashire Association also incorporates the Merseyside Association of Parish & Town Councils.

It is governed by an Executive Committee, comprising the President, Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Atkins, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Vice Chairman, and representatives elected by each Area Committee. The AGM is held each year in November.

LALC is represented on several committees and groups, including the North West Federation of Town and Parish Councils, which comprises the county associations of Cheshire, Lancashire, Merseyside, and Cumbria.

The aim of the Association is to offer support to member councils to help them achieve the highest standards of Local Government, to offer training and to represent the first tier of local government as widely as possible.

Updates and information is regularly distributed to members through the news and documents section on this website, through area meetings, direct email contact or our social media routes which you can find on our contact page.

LALC is affiliated to the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), which gives members access to legal and policy advice. The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer attend relevant events which provide updates on policy and provide networking opportunities with other County Associations.

Councils Should be LALC Members!

What is NALC and LALC

- **NALC, the National Association of Local Councils** established in 1947, is the only national body that represents the interests of 10,000 local (parish and town) councils in England. NALC works in partnership with County associations to support, promote and improve local councils – such as LALC.
- **LALC is the appropriate body for Parish & Town Councils** – A member based, not for profit organisation with a primary role to support Town and Parish Councils in the Lancashire County Palatine area.
- **LALC is run by its members** – representatives from member councils sit on an its Executive Committee; represent the area on other relevant bodies and sit on the NALC Council.

Direct Benefits for Your Council

- **Area Meetings are for your councils' representative** to attend LALC networking meetings, receive relevant updates and guidance and discuss with other local councils' best practices and recommendations.
- **Training opportunities specific and targeted to your Council** – responding to Councils' needs and requests and adapting to changes as they happen. Member councils also receive training fees at a discounted rate.
- **Vital News and Documents updates and information regularly distributed** – to members through the news section on this website, area meetings, direct email contact or social media.
- **Advice for councils and councillors** – guidance and advice on aspects of Parish & Town Council workings, identifying essential local government legislation, policy and best practice materials.
- **Specialist advice from NALC** – can be accessed through your LALC membership see the [Advice](#) page for the information.
- **Access to NALC documents** – template documents and policies can be obtained through website 'members' access.

Indirect Benefits for Your Council

- **Representation for Parish & Town Councils** – LALC amplifies the voice of individual Councils in consultations and through NALCs work.
- **Flexible and responsive** – LALC operates an agile business model with home-based staff which allows LALC to serve our members better and be more flexible and responsive to their needs.
- **Partners in the negotiations of the Charter** – along with other key partners. The Charter sets down key working relationships between Parish & Town Councils and the County Council.
- **Public Works Loans Board** – the loan applications process goes through the Local ALC network.
- **Dissemination of Information** – Government and some other bodies channel information directed at local councils through the NALC and its Association network.
- **Wider representations** – through memberships with relevant bodies LALC keeps abreast of information and best practices to update its members. Organisations such as Northwest Federation of Parish & Town Councils; Northern Group of Parish & Town Councils and others.

Advice

- **Advice for councils and councillors** – guidance and advice on aspects of Parish & Town Council workings, identifying essential local government legislation, policy and best practice materials. If you wish to seek advice [Contact](#) the office with your query.
- **Specialist advice from NALC** – can be accessed through your LALC membership. If you wish to seek further or specialist advice from NALC you will need to [fill in an enquiry form available here](#).
- **Access to NALC documents** – template documents and policies can be obtained through website 'members' access. You will need to request the 'members' access login and codes from the LALC office through the [Contact](#) page.

Area Meetings

LALC has a number of Area Meetings and your Council being a member allows you to send representatives from your Council to the Area Meetings.