



# National Association of Councillors Northern Ireland Region Members' Newsletter February 2023

## Meetings Update

The NAC's first members' meeting of 2023 took place in the Council Chamber at Lagan Valley Island on Wednesday 25 January.

The LCCC Deputy Mayor, Councillor Michelle Guy attended and provided a warm welcome to our members.



Dates for all 2023 NI regional meetings, national meetings and conferences have been set, meeting invitations/papers will be sent to councils and council nominated delegates in advance of each meeting.

Further details are on Page 2 of this newsletter for your information and can also be viewed on the Meetings Page of the [NAC NI Website](#).

If you would like to attend an NAC regional members' meeting or meetings but have not been nominated by your council as a delegate, you can ask to be added to the guest list by sending an email request to [office@nac-ni.org](mailto:office@nac-ni.org).

The NAC national meetings and conferences are arranged by the National Secretary, Cllr Brian Nelson, and any queries or bookings in relation to national events should be made directly to him (details on Page 2).

## Councillor Equality

Members of the EC will be meeting with DfC officials on 13 February 2023 to discuss the review of the councillor role which has been agreed by Minister Hargey.

An update on progress with the Terms of Reference (TOR) and panel selection will be requested and clarification will be sought on progress that can be made in relation to other aspects of the review, namely items that do not need legislative or NI Assembly approval.

We will keep members updated accordingly.

## Upcoming Workshop Event

The NAC NI Region is running a "Leadership in Local Enterprise" workshop for councillors and senior officers who have a strong passion to improve their understanding of future new local enterprise, jobs, and sustainable growth.

**The event will run from 10am to 3.30pm on Thursday 23 March 2023 at Craigavon Civic Centre and further details are being circulated shortly to all Council Chief Executives for inclusion at your next Council Meeting, and to all members.**

The workshop, facilitated by Derek McCallan, will gather, present and report on insights from speakers, panellists and attendees which will enable new enterprise opportunities in policy & practice, aligned to the newly elected councils in May 2023.

Speakers to date are: *Steve Pollard* Ulster University, *Maeve Monaghan* Now Group, *Adrian McCreesh* MUDC, *Alison Allen* NILGA, *Ald Alan McDowell*, NAC

## Executive Committee Update

Councillor Charlie Casey has recently retired from public office, and he attended his final EC Meeting in December 2022. Councillor Casey was a very supportive NAC member, serving on the Executive Committee over the past number of years; completing a two-year term as Regional Chairperson and later being elected as National Vice Chair and subsequently National Chair. We wish Charlie well in his retirement.





# National Association of Councillors Northern Ireland Region Members' Newsletter February 2023

## NAC NI REGION MEETING INFORMATION

Members meetings normally take place on third Wednesday of every other month, council nominated delegates will receive invitations, but all members can attend. These meetings are currently being held in Hybrid Format as requested by the NAC members. Meeting dates sometimes must be changed in line with public holidays, or they may have to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Some meeting venues are to be confirmed and details, when available will be circulated to council nominated delegates and published on the NAC website.

## NAC Northern Ireland 2023 Meeting Dates

DATE	VENUE	LOCATION
25 January	Council Chamber, Lagan Valley Island	Lisburn & Castlereagh
15 March	TBC	Mid & East Antrim
19 July	TBC	Newry, Mourne & Down
20 September	TBC	Derry City & Strabane
20 October *AGM*	TBC	TBC
22 November	Council Chamber, Magherafelt	Mid Ulster

## NAC NATIONAL MEETINGS & CONFERENCES 2023

These events are arranged by the NAC National Secretary, Cllr Brian Nelson, further details and booking forms are circulated by NAC NI to all members and councils prior to each event. For enquiries or booking information please contact Cllr Nelson directly on 07791 574879 or by emailing: [nationalsecretary@nac-uk.org](mailto:nationalsecretary@nac-uk.org)

## NAC National Conferences 2023 – for all NAC Members

DATE	LOCATION	Details
13-15 Jan	Mercure Fairfield York	Domestic Violence and Modern Slavery
24-26 Feb	Station Hotel Carlisle	Regeneration Opportunities
14-16 April	Royal Hotel Scarborough	Mental Health and Wellbeing
23-25 June	Waterfront Hotel Southport	TBC
22-24 Sept	Eastwood Hall Nottingham	England AGM & Conference
24-26 Nov	Holiday Inn A55 Chester	National AGM & Conference