



Meetings Update

The EC had meetings on the 7 August and the 4 September 2023.

Members met on 20 September 2023 at the Guildhall in Derry.

The AGM was held on 20 October 2023. Long Service Awards were presented to those in attendance – Ald Allan Bresland, Cllr Billy Webb and Ald McDowell.

Guests included representatives from AILG and LAMA who in addressing the audience highlighted the value they place on the bond between them and NAC, offering support in the NI campaign for salary equality.

EC Elections

The new Chair is Ald Alan McDowell, Secretary, Cllr Joe Boyle, Treasurer Cllr Billy Webb, Senior VC Cllr Valerie Harte, Junior VC Ald Hazel Legge. The Women's representative is Cllr Christine McFlynn.

The DUP is represented by Ald Alison Bennington, UUP by Ald Derek Hussey and

SDLP by Cllr Terry Andrews. There are currently vacancies for SF, APNI, IND and TUV.

NAC NI Constitution

Changes were made to the current Constitution to update it this year. Approval has now been given by all Council's in NI.

Councillor Equality

The Department for Communities (DFC) have advised the NAC that the interview stage for a competition for the appointment of a Chair to conduct an independently led review of councillors' allowances is now complete. A submission is currently with the Permanent Secretary seeking his confirmation to make the Chair appointment.

CAN WE HELP?

The NAC offer support to any of our members who have experienced problems whilst carrying out their role as an elected member.

If you require assistance, please contact the NAC office by email at:

office@nac-ni.org

or you can call the Secretary, Cllr Joe Boyle on 07711 932943



NAC N. Ireland Leadership Series 2023/24, Events II and III.

Local Enterprise Training Solutions (LETS):

“Developing A New Economy”

The NAC is developing and leading two workshops planned for early in 2024. We want to encourage councillors, senior officers and partner bodies who have a passion to improve their understanding and delivery of new, transformative local enterprise, jobs and sustainable growth to attend. The workshop will gather, present and report on insights from speakers, panellists and attendees, to enable new enterprise policies and actions at a time when Northern Ireland's economy desperately needs the innovation, impetus and inclusion of local entrepreneurs, local communities and embed local investment in people and place.

Welcome

We welcome a new member of staff – Linda Williamson who will be providing administrative support for the Association. Linda has a strong strategic background working in business improvement and income generation following her retirement as Chief Executive of Citizens Advice.

We are moving

On the back of increases, rent and service charges, the EC decided to take up an offer from NILGA of shared accommodation at Bradford Court in Belfast. It makes good sense financially and further cements our approach to working in partnership. The EC's first meeting in January 2024 will be held there.



Dates for Diaries

The next Members meeting, Wednesday 22 November 2023, will be hosted by Mid Ulster Council in the Chamber and Committee Room 3 in Magherafelt.

If you are an NAC delegate, hopefully you can attend. Non-delegates are also welcome to come along, please send an email request to office@nac-ni.org if you would like to attend.

The “Developing A New Economy” sessions will take place on;

Friday 19 January 2024 – 12.00pm – 4.45pm, Ulster University, York Street Campus, Belfast &

Friday 26 January 2024 – 12.00pm – 4.45pm, Ulster University, Magee Campus, Derry / Londonderry

Formal invitations for the sessions will follow.

www.nationalassociationofcouncillorsni.org.uk