Mini eUpdate from Northants CALC

To Member Councils in Northamptonshire:

[Please read and circulate to all councillors]

Elections Countdown

Following last week's Friday mini *eUpdate*, thank you so much for the incredible enthusiasm you've shown. I have received dozens and dozens of messages telling me all about your exciting plans to promote candidacy. Our webpage

at <u>https://northantscalc.gov.uk/elections</u> contains all sorts of useful and pertinent information and we will use it as the place to put all our election resources. I'll let you know in the Friday mini *eUpdate* each week what's been uploaded since the last week. If your council is producing a newsletter, flyer, or any other publication that includes promotion of your election then **I would love to receive a copy** by email, and we'll put them on the webpage for other councils to see. All three sessions of Our Planning for Elections course

(https://northantscalc.gov.uk/training-planning-for-elections) are fully booked, which is brilliant. With less than 100 days to go until Election Day, and with the deadline for delivery nomination papers (1600 on Wednesday 2 April 2025) just **68 days away**, the excitement is palpable. If your council is not yet in full swing promoting candidacy and the elections in your parish, it's time to get your skates on. There will be more on elections in the next bi-monthly *eUpdate* (due out on 31 January 2025), including all you need to know about the pre-election period (formally known as purdah).

Strengthening Standards

Another thank you, to all the parish and town councils that have had an item on their January agenda "To consider and respond to the government's consultation on strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England". The specific proposals are to **reintroduce the power to suspend and/or disqualify a**

councillor for serious breach of the Code, and to create a new national body (remember the Standards Board!?) to oversee the standards framework in England. There is still time if your council hasn't yet responded; the consultation closes on **26 February 2025**. Please do consider responding... this is an important one for the future of our sector. Please see https://tinyurl.com/2p8xhnmy for all the details.

Local Council Vacancies

We are aware of clerk vacancies coming up between Wellingborough and Kettering and another between Towcester and Daventry. If you or anyone you know are interested in being a local government officer, please let me know.

Full details of all vacancies are at https://www.northantscalc.com/council-vacancies.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Best regards,

Danny.

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****Have you tried the Member Enquiry Service (MES) yet? If your enquiry is not complex or specific to your council e-mail it to <u>mes@northantscalc.com</u> and get an answer from an experienced, qualified and Northants-based local council clerk.****

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