

## EALC Support and Services

### Legal Newsletter - Responsible Person [marisa.baltrock@ealc.gov.uk](mailto:marisa.baltrock@ealc.gov.uk)

Since January 2015 the EALC has been producing its "Legal Update" - this is a monthly newsletter emailed to all Member Councils. The Legal Update gives important news on changes in Law, NALC briefings and resources, and in-depth but readable features on issues that Councils are currently asking us about.

### E Bulletin - Responsible Person [kerry.rolf@ealc.gov.uk](mailto:kerry.rolf@ealc.gov.uk)

The E Bulletin continues to be circulated each week. It contains short items of immediate interest and requests for information from other Member Councils.

### Training Bulletin - Responsible Person [pearl.willcox@ealc.gov.uk](mailto:pearl.willcox@ealc.gov.uk)

This year the Training Department began sending a weekly Training Bulletin to EALC Member Councils to keep them updated about current courses.

### Job Vacancies - Responsible Person [kerry.rolf@ealc.gov.uk](mailto:kerry.rolf@ealc.gov.uk)

Job Vacancies are now also notified on a separate Jobs Bulletin, to ensure that the information is brought clearly to members' attention.

### New Courses and Course Report

The Training Department and Training Room have experienced a busy year. Along with our regular courses of Councillor Training Days, Chairman's Day training, New Clerks training we have also had new courses in the Calendar this year, some that have actually been put forward and suggested by Councillors and Clerks, Financial Regulations, Social Media, DIY Public Relations & Exclusive Rights of Burial Cemetery Course, some of which we had to run twice owing to the demand. Along with our certificated courses for Fire Safety, Health & Safety & First Aid we have run over 50 courses this year.

Looking at the year ahead we expect to receive a high volume of new Councillors to be trained owing to the elections and also new Chairmen to seeking training. Planning for the year ahead we are introducing new courses; Basic Playground Inspection Course, Cemetery Customer Care Course and Risk Assessment.



### Message from Joy Darby (CEO)

The EALC staff take great pride in delivery services and support to Member Councils. We understand how hard Councillors work often giving their time freely and the burden that falls on Clerk to ensure that the Council is working within the law. The Association needs to work proactively in the distribution of information and changes in legislation in a timely manner. This is set against a difficult financial climate where we are asked to deliver more, cuts costs and maximise income, whilst acknowledging that Councils are concerned about the level of precept they set each year.

In order for the EALC to give a professional service it is imperative that we continue to refocus on the goals of the Local Councils we serve. If there is something we are not doing, please contact me to discuss the matter. It is important to listen and respond to the needs of Councils, Councillors and the Clerks.



### Newly Elected Looking to

Cllr John Gili-Ross joined Essex County Council as Chairman in November 2016. He works closely with my two wards and Town Council services.

Cllr Gili-Ross intends to:

- Support the development of the Asylum Seeker Community Centre
- Attend at least one meeting of each of the two wards
- Support civic events, and partners (e.g. Crime Forum etc)
- Promote the sector
- Continue as an active Parish Council
- Support community activities
- Champion change where appropriate
- Recognise professional behaviour within the sector

He fully supports local community end services, such as village halls and play centres. To achieve community aspirations takes time and effort to get things done.

If you would like to talk to John about the sector, please find out when the next opportunity will be available.



Essex County Council

Essex Association of Local Councils with support and financial commitment to



## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### Chris Manning-Press Retires

Chris Manning-Press became President of the EALC in September 2009 and he has served the Association well since that time, presiding over the Annual General Meetings, attending Coffee Mornings with member Councils, and other functions. In his acceptance letter he said "he hoped he would not disappoint members" and he certainly didn't! The MackMurdo medal which is the highest award the EALC could present was awarded for the first time in 1990 to Chris, when he retired as County Secretary. We now wish him well as he retires a second time. We thank him for the help and support he has given the EALC over the years.



#### Staff Members

##### Chief Executive Officer

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##### Finance Officer

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##### Committees Officer & PA to CEO

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##### Training Officer

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### Cllr John Jowers to be proposed as the New EALC President



In September 2012 Cllr John Jowers received the Mackmurdo Medal from the Association for his work in the Sector and his support for the EALC and its work with Parish and Town Councils. He attended a number of our Annual General Meetings as a popular Guest Speaker. John spent many years as the Cabinet Member for Localism and Planning at Essex County Council. He continues to serve as an Essex County Councillor. Earlier this year he was nominated by the Executive Committee. His name will be proposed by the Executive to the AGM in September 2015.

### Tony Hayward OBE Retires

The EALC says goodbye to Tony Hayward who had served the EALC as representative from the Braintree Association of Local Councils since Summer 1979. During his time as a Councillor he had been the Chairman of the Braintree Association of Local Councils. As NALC Council Member for the EALC, he became National Chairman and steered the NALC through a difficult period in its history. The Contribution that Cllr Hayward had made to the sector is immense. This has been recognised by NALC, when they appointed him a Vice President.



## NEW in 2015

### Local Councils

Essex Association of Local Councils leads the 2015 Award Scheme 2015.

Congratulations to all the Councils that have achieved Gold Status:

Achieving Gold Status:

Danbury Parish Council, Loughton Town Council

Achieving Foundation Status:

Canvey Island and Ongar Town Councils  
Wakes Colne, West Bergholt and Woodford Green Councils.

Cllr Peter Davey will be Chairing the EALC. The EALC Office will be supporting Councils through the year.

### Vine HR S



Vine HR

#### 1. NALC Legal Topic Notes via Member

Username: essexmember Password: hivemember

- Go to Legal section
- Go to section 10 Employment

#### 2. Terms of Reference for Standing Committees

There is a good guide to Terms of Reference for Standing Committees by Meera Tharamajah, available from the EALC website.

3. By email - to Joy Darby joy.darby@ealc.gov.uk
4. By phone - 01371 879722 ask for Joy Darby
5. EALC will take advice from the NALC Council.
6. The EALC will refer a Council to Vine HR if a service that EALC cannot offer, or requires a service that EALC cannot offer.