



# Northumberland County Council

To All Town and Parish Councils

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:**

**Enquiries to:** Budget Consultation

**Email:** [budget@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:budget@northumberland.gov.uk)

**Tel direct:** (0345) 600 6400

**Date:** 5 December 2018

Dear Event Organiser

## **Consultation over Recovery of Costs for Provision of Traffic Management and Other Services to Event Organisers**

I am writing to you to advise you of the proposal to recover the costs incurred by the County Council when requested to provide services such as traffic management, litter picking and refuse collection by organisations running events in the county.

You may be aware that the County Council has to find £27m revenue budget savings over the 3 year period 2019/20 to 2021/22, whilst safeguarding the delivery of vital public services. In developing its budget savings proposals the Council has sought to prioritise the delivery and performance of statutory duties, whilst reviewing discretionary areas of service provision to make them more financially sustainable.

One such area of discretionary spending relates to the provision of traffic management and other services such as refuse collection, litter picking, etc for events that you may organise. Whilst the Council values the contribution that cultural, sporting, community and other events make to the quality of life and economy of the county, the provision of support activities to event organisers is a discretionary area of service provision and currently incurs costs for the Council of around £50,000 per annum.

As part of the Council's revenue budget savings proposals for 2019/20 it has been proposed that as from 1st April 2019 the Council would seek to recover the costs it incurs from the provision of support services requested by event organisers. This will apply to all events with the exception of Remembrance Day Parades and Armed Forces Parades. By seeking to recover these costs the Council will be able to safeguard the provision of other key front-line services that ensure the county remains an attractive place to live, work in or visit.

I am therefore writing to you now both to make you aware of this and to allow you to take account of this in the preparation and organisation of your events from April 2019 onwards.

**Paul Johnston, Interim Executive Director: Place**

County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF

T: 0345 600 6400

[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)



I can assure you that the decision to consider charging for the provision of traffic management and other services for events has not been taken lightly and we hope this will not have an adverse effect on your ability to continue with events and you will be able to fund these costs from alternative sources of funding or sponsorship.

The Council would welcome your feedback on these proposals. If you wish to respond to the proposals then please do so by **Monday 7th January 2019** so your feedback can be considered before any final decisions are made by the County Council when setting its overall revenue budget in February 2019.

All responses to this consultation should be submitted in writing to:-

Budget Consultation  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2EF

Or

Email: [budget@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:budget@northumberland.gov.uk)

May I also take this opportunity to remind all event organisers that if your event requires a Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 road closure; then as previously notified in our letters of 18th December 2017 and 27th February 2018, the Council will be seeking to recover the full cost of preparing and advertising such orders of £500. These charges will apply from 1st January 2019 and are not part of the budget consultation process.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Jones', written in a cursive style.

**Paul Jones**  
**Service Director - Local Services**