

154 COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) SUPPLEMENTARY**Staffing**

The member of staff currently self-isolating is abroad.

As of today, another member of staff is staying away from the Town Hall as a precautionary measure (they report having no symptoms but have been in contact with someone who is being tested).

Audit

The Local Government Secretary has advised that the deadline for external audits has been extended from 30 June to 30 September.

Meetings

The Government is considering bringing forward legislation to allow local authority committee meetings to be held virtually for a temporary period..

It will consider bringing forward legislation to remove the requirement for the annual council meeting to take place in person.

The above is aimed mainly at principal authorities: virtual meetings can take place only if all Elected Members have access to the necessary technology and have been trained in its use. This is obviously easier for councils with IT departments and which have provided their Members with a tablet/laptop.

It is anticipated that NALC will ask the Government to allow parish/town councils to postpone their annual council meeting (which would normally take place in May).