

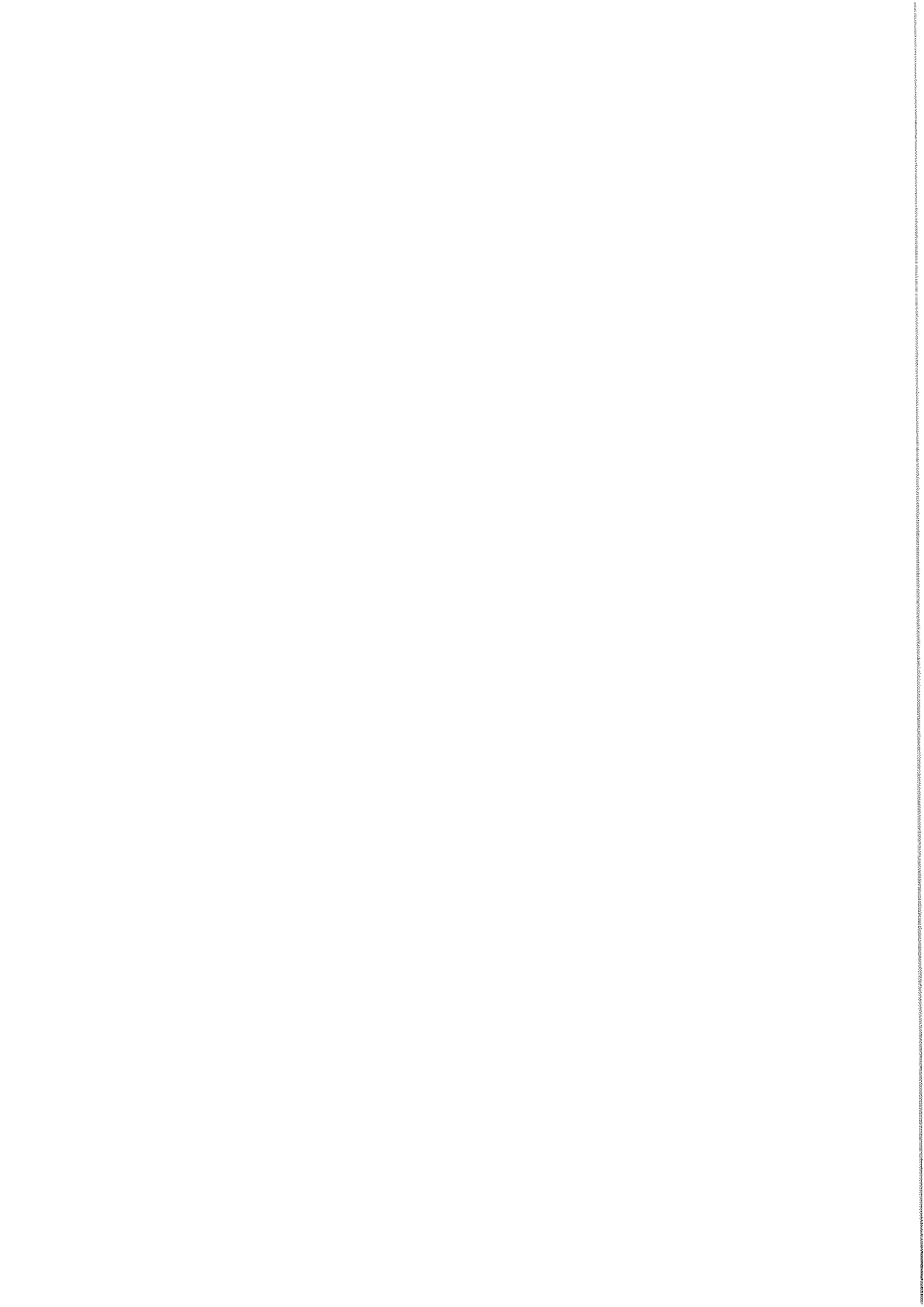
# CAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Council Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## CORRESPONDENCE

	FROM	SUBJECT
<b>19.1</b>	National Association of Local Councils	Media Release – Parliamentary inquiry backs nalc call to strengthen standards regime for 100,000 Councillors
<b>19.2</b>	Howard Fall	Youth and Young People Community Group Award (Annual)



30 JANUARY 2019

## MEDIA RELEASE | PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY BACKS NALC CALL TO STRENGTHEN STANDARDS REGIME FOR 100,000 COUNCILLORS

A year-long Parliamentary inquiry into ethical standards in local government, published today (30 January), has backed calls from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) for reforms to the current regime aimed at improving behaviour in 10,000 local (parish and town) councils.

NALC has campaigned for a range of measures to be introduced to support high standards of conduct by its 100,000 local councillors, including the re-introduction of sanctions, greater emphasis on training and development, and a single code of conduct for all tiers of local government based on NALC's own model code.

However, the national membership body – which represents the first tier of local government in England – has issued a plea to the Government to address the report's failure to recommend and promote more councillor training and development. NALC has been pressing for greater encouragement and support for induction and regular refresher training for local councillors on standards, coupled with new investment in a national training programme.

Measures recommended in the independent Committee on Standards in Public Life report on ethical standards in local government, presented to the Prime Minister, include:

- a new power for principal authorities, such as district and county councils, to suspend councillors from all tiers of local government
- revised rules on declaring interests, gifts and hospitality
- an updated model code of conduct, in consultation with representative bodies of councillors and officers of all tiers of local government
- a right of appeal for suspended councillors to the Local Government Ombudsman
- greater transparency about the number and nature of complaints.

Cllr Sue Baxter, chairman of NALC, said: "NALC is fully committed to promoting and supporting the highest standards of conduct by local councillors and officers in the first tier of local government, which is increasingly playing a bigger role in communities including the delivery of public services and community facilities.

# nalc

National Association  
of Local Councils

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"Since the Localism Act was introduced in 2010, NALC has long-called for its review, including the standards regime it introduced, and therefore strongly welcomed this inquiry into local government ethical standards.

"Whilst the present regime is not fundamentally flawed, it does require some strengthening, therefore I am pleased the Committee on Standards in Public Life has listened to the concerns of NALC, county associations of local councils, and local councils themselves.

"The Committee rightly acknowledges it is a minority of local councillors who engage in bullying or harassment, or other highly disruptive behaviour, therefore NALC is delighted the Committee agrees with our proposal for the regime to have more teeth through the re-introduction of sanctions for breaches of the code.

"However, NALC is bitterly disappointed at the report's failure to support local councillors by helping them develop a better understanding of the standards regime through councillor training such as induction and regular refresher training. That is why I am urging the government to go further and work with NALC to encourage and support training for local councillors, and to provide investment to support a national training programme comprising a range of initiatives including a member development charter. Such investment could come from existing funding into local government improvement.

"We support the recommendation to develop an updated model code of conduct to reflect the proposed changes, but given over half of local councils and many principal authorities use NALC's model code of conduct, this should be the foundation for the development of an updated model code of conduct for all tiers of local government. NALC looks forward to further dialogue and engagement with the Committee and the government over taking forward the report's recommendations."

#### More information and contact

Justin Griggs, head of policy and communications, on 020 7290 0317 or 07894 937885 or email [justin.griggs@nalc.gov.uk](mailto:justin.griggs@nalc.gov.uk)

RECEIVED

15 JAN 2019

15<sup>th</sup> January 2019

John Vickery-Parish Clerk-Cambourne Parish Council

**Subject: - Youth and Young Peoples Community Group Award  
(Annual)**

*I would like to suggest the following for consideration by Cambourne Parish Council*

The Cambourne Village Community over the past years have been very well served by the many various and flourishing Youth and Young People's Organisations in Cambourne.

These Organisations and their members have willingly given freely of their time assisting/participating in Village Events such as Remembrance Parades, Village Fete, 10K run, Fireworks, Light-up Cambourne etc

As a token of thanks and appreciation perhaps the Parish Council could consider making an annual award to the Organisation, who in their opinion, has made the most significant contribution to this Community.

The Award could be in the form of a trophy which the recipient Organisation could display at their HQ or an alternative in The Hub.

The Parish Council may also consider approaching the developers for their sponsorship, as the existence of such a variety of different flourishing youth organisations within this development, must be an appropriate marketing tool.

Cambourne Village should be very proud of its Youth and maybe this suggestion could be a way of showing our continuing appreciation.

**Howard Fall**

*Howard Fall*