

**Joyce Holman**

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**From:** Katie Fielding <kfielding@communityfirst.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 November 2018 13:31  
**Subject:** Public Toilet Tax Survey

Dear Colleagues

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) is supporting Falmouth Town Council in re-submitting a proposal, under the Sustainable Communities Act, for legislative change to grant parish and town (local) councils mandatory 100% business rates' relief on public toilets that they own or manage. This follows the submission of a proposal in December 2017 from Falmouth Town Council formally requesting complete mandatory rate relief from the Government on all public conveniences owned or managed by local councils. It is NALC's belief that such a removal of business rates would improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing as they are an unwanted price tag around many assets and liabilities transferred to local councils by principal local authorities unable to run them any longer.

This agenda also clearly fits into the health and wellbeing domain. Despite the Government's commitment to ending the toilet tax (by 2020) in the Budget 2018 on 29 October 2018, the sector cannot rest until the end of the toilet tax is formally on the statute books. For this reason the NALC Policy Committee (at its 2 October 2018 session) asked that NALC/Falmouth Town Council gather further evidence to support the proposal ahead of its formal re-submission in January 2019. A sector survey was considered to be one way of achieving this (NALC is also gathering other qualitative data to support the re-submission, aside from the survey).

The responses to the survey will help support the proposal to be re-submitted to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government by mid-January 2019 under the Act. The Government has asked that the request is supported with evidence that the change is required. To that end, NALC has asked that this survey is circulated to all member councils.

The survey will take just a few minutes to complete but the completion by local councils across the country will help gather evidence to support the request. The survey may be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BKJ92FP>

**Please complete by 17:00 on 10 December 2018**

Many thanks

Katie

Katie Fielding | County Secretary | Wiltshire Association of Local Councils [www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk](http://www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk)

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