

Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Faith and Communities

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/dluhc

9th February 2023

Dear Councillor Stevens,

As you will be aware, the Coronation ceremony for His Majesty King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6 May at Westminster Abbey. As well as the ceremony itself, other events are being planned around the weekend of the Coronation. This includes the 'Coronation Big Lunch' on Sunday 7 May, with a concert taking place at Windsor in the evening, and 'The Big Help Out' community activity on Monday 8 May, which has been designated a Bank Holiday. Further details on both of these events are set out below.

The Government wants to see people across the UK and the Commonwealth come together to celebrate this momentous occasion. The Coronation aims to reflect the modern, diverse, multi-faith United Kingdom and to promote the themes of youth, community, diversity and sustainability.

I know that efforts made by local councils and their communities will be central to making this a momentous weekend of UK-wide celebration. I would welcome your support as NALC chair in sharing opportunities to get involved with your members to help ensure local celebrations take place right across the country.

Street Parties

Street parties should be encouraged, and communities should be made aware of all the support that is available and no one should be put off by needless red tape. Guidance regarding this can be found via this link: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/your-guide-to-organising-a-street-party/your-guide-to-organising-a-street-party</u>. There is also guidance on 'Street Meets' which can be found via this link: <u>https://www.streetparty.org.uk/guide/street-meet/</u>. These offer an even easier way to bring neighbours together.

The Coronation Big Lunch

The Coronation Big Lunch, taking place on Sunday 7 May, will encourage communities to come together and to celebrate their connections and get to know each other better. It will bring the Coronation festivities into the heart of every community. Regarding how to get involved with these, guidance is available via this link: <u>https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch</u>.

The Big Help Out

The Big Help Out, on Monday 8 May, will provide an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of His Majesty's service and showcase the impact of volunteering within communities. There will be

opportunities for people to get involved right across the UK. Information on getting involved is available via this link: <u>https://thebighelpout.org.uk/</u>.

National Lottery funding

Funding of up to £10,000 is available for events and activities through the National Lottery 'Awards for All' programme. I strongly encourage both parish councils and community groups to apply. Although there is no deadline for applying to the National Lottery 'Awards for All' programme, you should note that it can take up to 12 weeks from the point of application submission to receiving funding if successful, which means applications for the Coronation weekend should be made before the middle of February. Funding criteria and terms and conditions can be found via this link: <u>https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/under10k</u>.

As with Her late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) have launched a Coronation website, accessible via this link: <u>https://coronation.gov.uk/</u>. They are also planning to add an interactive map to the website to publicise local events, and details will be published in our local government bulletin once available. You can subscribe to the bulletin via the form through this link: <u>https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EGg0v32c3kOociSi7zmVqFn6r-mA3DRLignAhnyNoBJUNEFZWjZGSzY5MUJHWE9TWjVPRTZNNDIJUi4u&wdLOR=c73965</u> 641-F721-4F3D-A0EA-E5B84E64E713.

I know that efforts by local and parish councils, as well as other voluntary and community groups, will be central to making this a weekend of nationwide celebration. I look forward to hearing about the exciting and creative ways in which you and your colleagues choose to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, and I do hope you will share these with me and my officials.

Yours ever,

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK