

A weekly round up of local government news in the East Midlands brought to you by East Midlands Councils

Top items this week

23 SEPTEMBER 2022



Level 5 Award in Leadership and Management programme



Our Shared Vision for the East Midlands



Be part of our East Midlands Councils Team



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

Our Shared Vision for the East Midlands

Transport for the East Midlands and Midlands Connect have launched their shared vision for the future of the East Midlands and are working together to promote eight key strategic investment priorities that will support growth and investment across the region.

Better rail links, reduced congestion and safer roads are all highlighted as key priorities which will boost growth and investment, contribute to the Government's 'Net Zero' and 'Levelling Up' Agendas, and help address the historic underfunding of transport in the East Midlands.

The eight priorities are:

- Electrification of the Midland Main Line
- Improved rail connectivity between Nottingham, Leicester and Coventry.
- The delivery of HS2 to the East Midlands and Leeds
- Enhancements to the A46 Growth Corridor
- Supporting growth and improving reliability throughout the A50/A500 Corridor
- Reducing congestion and improving safety in the A5 Growth Corridor
- Improving safety and reliability on the A1
- Improving connectivity across EMDevCo and East Midlands Freeport areas.



To read the full document visit [here](#).

Chancellor announces new Growth Plan

This morning the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced his new Growth Plan. Further information can be found [here](#). The announcement included Investment Zones, where Government confirmed that it is in discussions with 38 local authorities to establish investment zones in England [details [here](#)]. In the East Midlands these are;

- Derbyshire County Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council

Investment Zones will only be chosen following a rapid expression of interest process open to everyone and after local consent is confirmed.

The Growth Plan 2022: Investment Zones - Areas hosting Investment Zones will benefit from:

- Lower taxes – businesses in designated sites will benefit from time-limited tax benefits.
- Accelerated development – there will be designated development sites to both release more land for housing and commercial development, and to support accelerated development. The need for planning applications will be minimised and where planning applications remain necessary, they will be radically streamlined. Development sites may be co-located with, or separate to, tax sites, depending on what makes most sense for the local economy.
- Wider support for local growth – subject to demonstrating readiness, Mayoral Combined Authorities hosting Investment Zones will receive a single local growth settlement in the next Spending Review period.

EMC News

Be part of our Team - Exciting opportunities are available within our Strategic Migration Partnership which delivers flagship government asylum, refugee and resettlement schemes across the region. We are currently recruiting for the following roles:

- Resettlement Policy Officer x 2
 - ◇ **Deadline for applications:** Sunday 25 September
- Programme Manager
 - ◇ **Deadline for applications: Sunday 2 October**

More information about the roles, including details on how to apply, can be found [here](#).

EMC Support Activity

East Midlands Scrutiny Network, 30 September 2022 - The next Scrutiny network meeting will take place on 30 September, 10:00 – 12:30. The theme for this network meeting will be on scrutiny the cost of living crisis and performance scrutiny. The network meeting will be hosted by Rutland County Council. For more information contact Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

The East Midlands Councils Scrutiny network is a local authority network for Councillors and Officers involved with Scrutiny. The network provides Councillors and Officers with the opportunity to share knowledge, work programmes and information, as well as providing an opportunity to explore national developments concerning scrutiny.

EMC Low-Cost CPD Programme for Environmental Health, Food Update – EMC hosted the latest virtual conference in the Low Cost CPD Programme for Environment Health this week, with a focus on Food. The virtual conference included a presentation on Household Food Insecurity by the Foods Standards Agency.

For more information about the EMC Programme of Low Cost CPD for Environmental Health visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing

£2 bus fare cap across England to save passengers money - Government to provide up to £60 million from January to March next year, to help bus operators to cap single adult fares at £2 per journey. Announced on 3 September 2022, the government will provide up to £60 million from January to March next year, to help bus operators to cap single adult fares at £2 per journey. The funding to keep fares down follows the government's announcement of [£130 million last month to protect vital bus routes and services across the country](#), which those on lower incomes in particular rely on [details [here](#)].

Decarbonising Transport Action Learning Sets – these will bring together councillors and officers virtually via Zoom to address decarbonising transport and local transport planning. They will seek to support councils' work, by enabling attendees to discuss a range of solutions and perspectives, on how reduced emissions could be achieved using local transport plans and associated transport investments. The cost of attending this training is fully subsidised including course materials and tuition. Programme dates and the expression of interest form can be found [here](#).

EV Charging Infrastructure – information event for councillors, 28 September, 3.30pm - Energy Saving Trust's Local Government Support Programme is running an introduction session for councillors on electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. The online session will be chaired by Cllr David Renard, Chair of the LGA's Economy, Environment, Housing and Transport Board, and will cover the role of local authorities and councillors in installing infrastructure, chargepoint technology, funding and examples of local authority projects. There will also be an opportunity to have your questions answered by the team at the Energy Saving Trust. To book visit [here](#).

Health and Social Care

Health and Social Care Secretary sets out plan for patients with Adult Social Care Discharge Fund -The government's plans for the NHS and social care to deliver for patients, this winter and next.

This includes a £500 million fund, to support discharge from hospital into the community and bolster the social care workforce.

The fund can be used flexibly by local health and care systems, targeting the areas facing the greatest challenges and strengthening the sector's ability to recruit and retain staff. This will improve pathways for people to leave hospital when they are ready, and with the right care and support in place. We will hold the local NHS and local authorities to account for implementation [details available [here](#)].

£150 Disability Cost of Living Payments begin this month - From 20 September around six million disabled people in the UK will start to receive their one-off £150 Disability Cost of Living payment [details [here](#)].

Homelessness

Rough sleepers helped to rebuild their lives with new strategy backed by £2bn government support - The cross-government [Rough Sleeping Strategy](#) is backed by £2 billion and builds on the significant action already taken by the government, which has driven a 43% drop in rough sleeping since 2019 and rough sleeping has fallen to an 8-year low [details [here](#)].

Migration, Asylum Support and Refugee Resettlement

East Midlands HKBNO Welcome Hub, Occupational English Test Pilot Project - EMC is funding 20 nurses to sit a preparation course with Klik2learn to help them to pass the Occupational English Test (OET) which is the first step on their pathway to employment. For more information and to watch our video visit [here](#).

Local Government News and wider

LGA's National Energy Category Strategy for Local Government 2022, energising procurement - The updated LGA strategy will help councils to optimise the way energy is managed and procured in today's markets. It includes practical examples, good practice and case studies in important energy procurement areas [details [here](#)]. These include:

- reducing energy consumption
- using energy efficiently
- looking at new ways councils can act to increase energy security.

£110m fund to level up rural communities - Rural businesses such as farms, wedding venues and pubs will benefit from up to £110 million of funding being allocated today to support countryside communities across England.

[The funding](#) will be invested in projects which will boost productivity and create rural job opportunities [details [here](#)].

Women's Health: How councils are making a difference (LGA publication) - Local government is working to ensure women's health is a priority in all they do. The case studies show the breadth of the work going on, from creating menopause-friendly environments to improving access to reproductive and sexual health services [details [here](#)].

LGA Public protection services: councillor handbook - This LGA handbook provides an overview of council environmental health, trading standards and licensing services which collectively fall under the broad theme of public protection services, and are part of a spectrum of place-focused protective services [details [here](#)].

National webinars civility in public life - The LGA has commissioned a contractor to deliver five national virtual events under the civility in public life programme covering personal safety for councillors and handling online abuse and intimidation respectively. Councillors can sign up to the events below.

- Handling online abuse and intimidation, [Thursday 27 October 2022, 10:30-12:00](#)
- Personal safety for councillors, [Wednesday 7 December 2022, 1:30-3:00](#)

Leadership webinar: Finance for non-finance cabinet members, 29 September 2022, 10.30am - This LGA webinar for non-finance cabinet members, will consider who should do what in ensuring there is effective financial governance, offer an overview of how finance works in your service area and provide councillors with the confidence and tools needed to be a proactive financial leader [details [here](#)].

EMC Events

Level 5 Award in Leadership and Management programme, starting November 2022 - EMC is hosting an ILM Level 5 Award in Leadership and Management starting in November 2022. The course will take place with a combination of face-to-face and interactive virtual workshops.

The programme information booklet can be accessed from [here](#)

Objectives

- To enable delegates to lead, coach and manage their teams and have a positive impact on those around them.
- Give them a set of behaviours to increase employee engagement
- Research and implement a business improvement project which will give your organisation a return on investment of five times the cost of their place on this programme.

For more information on the programme visit [here](#).

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE

Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Russell

Vice Chair: Cllr Jonathan Morgan

Conservative Group: Cllr Roger Blaney

Labour Group: Cllr Rob Parker

Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE

Independent Group: Cllr Jason Zadrozny

Executive Director: Stuart Young

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Click on our [Twitter](#) & [YouTube](#) accounts for further information.

