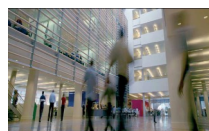


A weekly round up of local government news in the East Midlands brought to you by East Midlands Councils

Top items this week

7 JANUARY 2022



Regional Employment Law
Update

EMC HR Bulletin,
December 2021 edition

Climate Change Adaptation
Toolkit from Local
Partnerships

EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

EMC HR Bulletin, December 2021 Edition

The latest edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is now available from [here](#). In December's edition of the HR Bulletin, Employment Law Expert Darren Newman and his regular article looks into the legal position of back-dating pay when a pay award takes longer to agree. The December Bulletin includes:-



- XpertHR Regional Deal 2022-23
- Temporary Change to SSP Fit Note Timescales
- Employment Law Update 19 January 2022
- Local Government Apprentice of the Year 2022 – 25th/26th May 2022

Employers' Information

COVID Workforce Update - The latest COVID workforce update from the Regional Employers' Organisations and the LGA [here](#). This includes:-

- General Covid Update, Plan B - schools guidance, Plan B - Workforce
- Care guidance following Omicron measures
- Mandatory care home vaccination – self-certification extension
- Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund Update
- Alleviating winter workforce pressures in adult social care
- Acas Working from Home England Guidance
- LG Finance Settlement 2022/23



EMC News

Workshop on T Levels, 20 January 2022 - EMC will be hosting a free workshop for on 20 January 2022 from 10.00-11.30am in partnership with the LGA on T Levels. The session officers will explain what T Levels are and how the work placements will operate. For further information visit [here](#).

EMC Boards Activity

Upcoming EMC Meeting dates

- EMC General Meeting - 11 February 2022
- Regional Migration Board - 9 March 2022
- Regional Employers' Board and Regional Joint Council - 16 March 2022
- Transport for the East Midlands - 21 March 2022
- EMC Executive Board - 1 April 2022

EMC Support Activity

Mediation Support - Mediation is one of the services that EMC provides which councils find particularly valuable, given our independence. This week EMC colleagues have supported several authorities through our mediation offer. EMC colleagues have been able to develop our mediation support offer, so that our qualified and experienced mediators can support authorities virtually as well as face to face. We are already working with authorities in this way and for more information on mediation and how this might work for you please contact

Lisa.Butterfill@emcouncils.gov.uk

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



The IRP: our forever railway – Andrew Pritchard, Director of Policy and Infrastructure at East Midlands Councils features in Rail Magazine December 2021/January 2022 edition, with an article on the IRP. To read the article visit [here](#).

‘The Future of Rail is Derby’ event, 14 January 2022 - Derby made its intentions known some time ago that it intends to bid for the opportunity to host the headquarters of the new organisation Great British Railways. The formal bidding process has yet to be announced, this brief virtual event is an opportunity to understand what preparatory work is already underway and how the rail sector itself can contribute to the development of a compelling proposition to Government. For more information and to book a place visit [here](#).

Midland Mainline - The next stage of electrification on the Midland Mainline starts, ultimately it will bring cheaper and quieter trains, greater decarbonisation and better connectivity in the region [details [here](#)].

Nottingham to Lincoln business rail survey - Please find the link to the survey [here](#). Evidence suggests that the rail network may be under-serving the potential market and we are keen to understand how improvements to the service may impact residents, local businesses, and their employees.

National e-cycle pilot programme: competition - Competition for organisations to offer opportunities for people to try e-cycles and to provide e-cycles to remove barriers to employment, education and training [details [here](#)]. Launched by the Department for Transport, this competition is aimed at finding an organisation or consortium to deliver the national e-cycle support programme.

Markets and outdoor marquees allowed permanently - Measures originally introduced during the pandemic will now be made permanent following public consultation.

- Local hospitality businesses no longer need planning permission to put up marquees on their land and councils will no longer need planning permission to hold an outdoor market
- Measures originally introduced during the pandemic will now be made permanent following public consultation

High streets and local business are set to benefit from changes to planning rules, which mean markets can be held more often and marquees put up in pub and restaurant gardens without the need for planning permission, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities announced [details [here](#)].

Local Government News

Our condolences on learning of the death of Councillor Lewis Rose OBE - The longest serving councillor on Derbyshire Dales District Council, [Councillor Rose](#) was the last founder Member of the authority still serving, dating back to Local Government Reorganisation in the early 1970s. He was Leader of the Conservative group for 45 years until 2019, for most of that time he served as Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council.

Cllr Rose was a representative on East Midlands Councils, and served as a member on both the EMC Executive Board and the East Midlands Regional Employers' Board.

The Derbyshire Dales press release is available [here](#).

Voter identification at polling stations and the new Voter Card - The policy statement includes details of the rationale for the list of accepted photographic identifications in the Elections Bill and further information around the government's plans for the application process for Voter Cards [details [here](#)].

Leadership webinar on time management for councillors, Wednesday 19 January 2022, 11:00 – 12:00 - This LGA webinar, funded by government, aims to examine how councillors can balance these pressures and expectations and develop effective time management strategies which work. It will also examine the related issue of personal resilience and how councillors can avoid burnout and stress through a number of practical steps [details [here](#)].

Homelessness

£316 million government funding boost to tackle homelessness - The government's [Homelessness Prevention Grant](#) will support households in England who are homeless or at risk of losing their home. Councils will use the funding to help them find a new home, access support for unexpected evictions and secure temporary accommodation where needed.

The funding includes an additional £5.8 million to support people forced into homelessness by domestic abuse. This follows the landmark Domestic Abuse Act, which ensures councils give people who find themselves in this situation a "priority need" for assistance.

- Homelessness Prevention Grant will support the homeless and those at risk of losing their home
- Councils will use the funding to help people find a new home, get help with evictions, or move into temporary accommodation
- Funding includes £5.8 million for those forced into homelessness by domestic abuse

Funding will be allocated to all councils responsible for housing in England based on local homelessness need in individual areas [details [here](#)].

Homelessness information continued

Push to protect and vaccinate rough sleepers with £28 million government funding boost - Rough sleepers are being helped to get their COVID-19 vaccines and move into safe accommodation over the winter thanks to a £28 million government funding boost, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities announced in late 2021.

- The Protect and Vaccinate scheme will increase vaccination amongst people sleeping rough and provide emergency accommodation
- £28 million to be allocated to councils across England
- Builds on government's work throughout the pandemic to support rough sleepers and national effort to Get Boosted Now

The Protect and Vaccinate scheme will help to increase vaccine uptake among people who are homeless and sleeping rough, supporting those who are hesitant about getting their vital booster jabs and funding emergency accommodation to get people off the streets [details [here](#)].

Climate Change

Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit and event on Thursday 20 January 2022 - A free adaptation toolkit for local authorities has been launched. The toolkit is intended to provide a supportive framework to enable local authorities to develop their risk assessments and adaptation pathways by providing a bridge to the technical information and guidance provided by UKCP18, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Committee on Climate Change. The toolkit includes a tool to help you match your risk profile to the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment. Local Partnerships have consulted extensively with local authorities whilst developing this toolkit and we are keen for you to take a look. The tool is available on the Local Partnerships' website and the webinar, jointly hosted with the LGA, will provide more information.

- Details of the vent can be found [here](#) and the Toolkit can be found [here](#)
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Health & Social Care

Funding for adult social care over January 2022 - The government is providing an additional £60 million to local authorities to support the adult social care response to COVID-19 in January.

The government will provide an extra £60 million to local authorities to support the adult social care response to COVID-19 in January, Minister for Care Gillian Keegan has announced (29 December 2021).

Local authorities can use the funding to support the sector and protect people from COVID-19 infection. This includes investing in improved ventilation, increasing the use of direct payments – which are offered to people with eligible social care needs so they have choice and control over their care and support arrangements – or paying for COVID-19 sickness and self-isolation pay for staff [details [here](#)].

EMC Events

Regional Employment Law Update on 19 January 2022 (virtual event) - EMC are very pleased to be able to provide a virtual Regional Employment Law Update on **Wednesday 19th January 2022, 10:00 - 12:15** facilitated by Darren Newman.

The session will cover current employment law issues with a focus on the frequent questions and concerns that you have been raising with us at EMC relating to current challenges presented by the pandemic.

On wider employment law, the session will also cover implications of important cases on collective bargaining, discrimination, employment status, redundancy, flexible working, disability discrimination and an employee's political activities.

This session will give you an overall view of what has been going on in employment law over the last 12 months and look forward to what we can expect in 2022. As usual there will be plenty of time for questions.

The cost to attend will be discounted at **£65 per delegate** with a further discount for multiple bookings. To book places please visit our website [here](#). A purchase order number will also be required.

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE

Vice Chair: Cllr David Mellen

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.

