

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

Top items this week

17 SEPTEMBER 2021



COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021



Ministerial Appointments, September 2021



APSE Awards 2021



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

Ministerial appointments: September 2021

Prime Minister Boris Johnson carried out a reshuffle of his cabinet on Wednesday 15 September and Thursday 16 September.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

- Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government – Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
- Minister of State at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, jointly with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (Minister for Equalities) – Kemi Badenoch MP
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – Neil O'Brien MP

Department for Education

- Secretary of State for Education – Nadhim Zahawi MP

For more information visit [here](#).

Afghanistan Resettlement and Immigration Policy Statement

On 13 September 2021, the Home Office released the “Afghanistan Resettlement and Immigration Policy Statement” which outlines the variety of schemes relating to the evacuation of locally employed staff in Afghanistan along with setting out the details of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme and the position of those relocated under Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy ; and the position of other groups, for example how the Immigration Rules apply in terms of Family Reunion, the Points-Based System and Asylum. Details of the statement can be found [here](#).

Should you require further details relating to the scheme, please contact Hannah Smith, Resettlement Policy Officer (Hannah.smith@emcouncils.gov.uk) or Brein Fisher, Regional Migration Manager (brein.fisher@emcouncils.gov.uk).

Funding for councils as new Afghan resettlement plans set out - Local authorities will receive a funding package to support the resettlement of families who have come to the UK having been at risk in Afghanistan.

Councils who support people through the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) or Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) scheme will receive £20,520 per person, over 3 years, for resettlement and integration costs. This is based on the previous Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, but over 3 rather than 5 years, with more money provided in the crucial early period to help people settle and become part of their new communities.

Local councils and health partners who resettle families will also receive up to £4,500 per child for education, £850 to cover English language provision for adults requiring this support and £2,600 to cover healthcare.

A further £20 million of flexible funding will be made available to support local authorities with higher cost bases with any additional costs in the provision of services. In addition, the previously announced Afghan Housing Costs Fund will increase from £5 million to £17 million and run for 2 extra years to help local authorities provide housing and give certainty that funding will be available in the future [details [here](#)].

East Midlands Councils EMC Councillor Events

Climate Change: Behavioural change through Carbon Literacy, a workshop for Councillors, 1 October 2021 - EMC, the LGA and Midlands Energy Hub, working in partnership are offering a

series of virtual interactive workshops for Councillors on Climate Change. The third workshop in this 2021 series of events for Councillors on Climate Change will focus on behaviour change through carbon literacy.

Workshop details - 1 October 2021, 14:00 - 16:00, This is a fully subsidised event and is free. To book a place please use the online booking form available from [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) - The TfEM Board met on the 14th of September chaired by Sir Peter Soulsby. The Board received an update from East Midlands Railway (EMR) on its Operational Delivery Improvement Plan and endorsed a refreshed TfEM Strategic Statement for Rail. The Board went on to consider the implications of the Government's Transport Decarbonisation Plan and agreed a TfEM submission to the Chancellor's Spending Review which is due to be announced on the 27th October. The TfEM submission highlights the need for rapid delivery of existing schemes such as the A46 Newark Northern Bypass and the development of an investment pipeline of strategic interventions. Papers for the meeting are available from [here](#).

Transport Select Committee to hold one-off oral session on decarbonising transport - The Transport Committee is holding a one-off oral evidence session on the Department for Transport's transport decarbonisation plan, Decarbonising Transport: a Better, Greener Britain [details [here](#)]

Councils' role in supporting the exports industry - The exporting industry is complex and difficult to navigate. The Local Government Association (LGA) has therefore commissioned this guide to provide a resource to councils looking to support local firms to increase their level of exports [details [here](#)].

Economic Development

Rural recognition, recovery, resilience and revitalisation - Pragmatix Advisory has been commissioned by the Local Government Association (LGA) to explore the economic challenges facing rural and coastal areas, with a particular focus on deprivation, and outline what steps government can take to strengthen the recovery and resilience of these communities within the current context [details [here](#)].

A vision for urban growth and recovery - This LGA report analyses the consequences of COVID-19 and for urban economies and sets out a new vision for urban growth and recovery [details [here](#)].

Health & Social Care



COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - The government has published the 'COVID-19 Response - Autumn and Winter Plan 2021' setting out plans for autumn and winter 2021/22 in England [details [here](#)].

Shielding programme ends for most vulnerable - The government has agreed to end the requirement for shielding guidance for people previously considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable.

People previously considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable will not be advised to shield again, as the government agrees to end the requirement for centralised guidance for these groups following expert clinical advice. The closure of the shielding programme follows a pause to shielding guidance in place since 1 April 2021 [details [here](#)]. What the Health Profile for England shows us about the wider impacts of COVID-19 on health - Today Public Health England has published the [Health Profile for England 2021 report](#).

The [Health Profile for England](#) report provides the most comprehensive look at the state of the nation's health.

Like in previous year's reports, this update looks at a range of population health data, such as smoking and obesity, but it also provides an early summary of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on many aspects of health and health inequalities [details [here](#)].

Thriving places: Guidance on the development of place-based partnerships as part of statutory integrated care systems - This co-produced NHS England and NHS Improvement and the LGA document seeks to support all partner organisations in integrated care systems (ICSs) to collectively define their place-based partnership working [details [here](#)].

Guidance on Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Engagement - **The guidance** sets out The Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England and the Local Government Association's expectations for the role of Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) within Integrated Care Systems. It aims to support Local Authorities, Integrated Care Boards and other key stakeholders in considering what arrangements might work best in their area when laying the foundations for establishing ICPs [details [here](#)].

Employers' Information



Pay & Rewards Network, 1st October 2021 10.30 - EMC is re-establishing a regional pay and rewards network.

This is in response to feedback, and reflects the increasing priority that pay and rewards has on councils agendas. The first meeting will be on **Friday 1st October at 10.30**, on the agenda of the first meeting is the issue of the bottom of the pay spine and the challenges faced in the context of the National Living Wage policy. We will be joined by Harry Honnor, Senior Adviser from the LGA to discuss this and hear your views. For more information contact Samanther.Maher@emcouncils.gov.uk

Local Government News



APSE Service Awards 2021 - The APSE Awards are specific to frontline services provided by UK local authorities. The Awards are agreed by a panel of expert judges. This year, the awards included 22 categories, covering the vast majority of local services, as well as the Overall Council of the Year in Service Delivery Award.

EMC wish to congratulate all of those who were involved, including a number of winning entries from the East Midlands and Councils that were shortlisted. For the full results visit [here](#).

Award winners from the East Midlands

- Best Commercialisation and Entrepreneurship Initiative - Nottingham City Council
- Best Service Team: Highways, Winter Maintenance and Street Lighting Service – Derby City Council

Those from the East Midlands that were shortlisted

- Best Efficiency and Transformation Initiative Shortlisted - **Ashfield District Council**
- Best Climate Action Initiative Shortlisted - **North Northamptonshire Council**
- Best Service Team: Catering Service - **Shortlisted Leicestershire County Council**
- Best Service Team: Waste Management and Recycling Service - Shortlisted - **West Lindsey District Council**
- Best Service Team: Street Cleansing and Streetscene Service (Public Realm) - Shortlisted - **Nottingham City Council**
- Best Service Team: Parks, Grounds and Horticultural Service - Shortlisted - **Ashfield District Council and Derby City Council**

Voice of the sector: supporting rough sleepers at a time of national crisis - The LGA report highlights what can be achieved when all parts of the public, voluntary and community sectors work together towards a common goal [details [here](#)].

Tackling domestic abuse - innovative approaches by councils and partner organisations - Social Finance, on behalf of the LGA, has produced 12 case studies showcasing some of the innovative approaches taken by councils and partner organisations, to tackle domestic abuse before and during the COVID-19 pandemic [[here](#)].

EMC Events

Introduction to Team Coaching, 8 October - East Midlands Coaching Network is hosting a virtual workshop on 8 October 'Introduction to Team Coaching'. This is a virtual workshop, it will take place on 8 October, from 14:00 - 17:00. Team Coaching is a growing area of interest for coaches and many organisations. This interactive session will look at Team Coaching - what it is, how it might work, what it needs from you as a coach that may be a bit different to 1-1 coaching and how you can go on to develop skills and confidence as a Team Coach.

The workshop will explore; Team Coaching Approaches; What Makes an Effective Team?; Different Ways of Working with Teams; and Competences of a Team Coach. For more information visit [here](#).

East Midlands Virtual Challenge, 10 November 2021 - East Midlands Councils will once again host a regional Challenge event but this time with a virtual twist! The 2021 Challenge will include all the key elements of the previous versions but will take place using an exciting new virtual format. The Challenge will take place on 10 November 2021, with 12 team places available.

The event takes place throughout the day with a high intensity simulation exercise that gives a rare opportunity for aspiring managers to gain exposure to issues outside of their normal working lives and give them a taste of what senior management is like. It is also a brilliant way to hone those team working skills. For more information and how to book a team please visit our website [here](#).

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

East Midlands Councils

First Floor Offices, South Annexe
Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 0PB



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