

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

Top items this week

20 OCTOBER 2023







National Infrastructure Assessment Report 2023



Managing and resolving conflict: Practical skills for Managers



Government consults on safe and legal routes for refugees

# EAST MIDLANDS MPs CALL FOR GREATER CERTAINTY ON THE DELIVERY OF MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The East Midlands APPG has called for greater certainty on the delivery of major infrastructure projects in the region following an inquiry into the social and economic opportunities of investment.

The APPG launched the inquiry in May this year, hearing evidence from local leaders and business representatives highlighting the crucial relationship between infrastructure investment and local activity to create more prosperous and inclusive economies.

Now, in the wake of the cancellation of HS2 to the East Midlands and the publication of 'Network North', this report outlines five recommendations as the basis for engagement with Government and the NIC, which they hope can start to address the Region's infrastructure deficit.

Read the full report:



## NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION: 2ND ASSESSMENT REPORT (2023)

This week, the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) published the second National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA). In the report, the NIC advise that improving infrastructure to boost economic growth across the UK and meet climate goals is both achievable and affordable if the right policy steps are taken now.

The 46 recommendations in the report are grouped around three themes:

- Asset and Climate Resilience as a priority
- Economic growth through city connectivity
- Modernisation of Energy and Net Zero

There is strong focus on energy modernisation and resilience, but the NIC also highlight the implications for long distance connectivity of the Government's decision to cancel HS2. The Government is required to respond to the new NIA in the form of a revised National Infrastructure Strategy.

East Midlands Councils is preparing a brief summary of the report and the impact of its recommendations for the region, which we will be sharing with Chief Executives in due course.

The full report can be found here:



#### MANAGING AND RESOLVING CONFLICT – PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR MANAGERS

Being able to manage difficult situations and conflict with and between employees is a key attribute for any manager.

EMC is hosting a one-day training session on Conflict Resolution Skills for Managers on 30th November. This practical course will equip you with the understanding and skills to address your own and others' disagreements, and is tailored for managers, team leaders and HR practitioners.

To find out more and book:



### **GOVERNMENT CONSULTS ON SAFE AND LEGAL ROUTES FOR REFUGEES**

Local authorities will be consulted on plans to determine an annual cap on the number of refugees resettled in the UK each year, based on the UK's capacity to accommodate and support people coming to the UK via safe and legal routes.

The UK-wide consultation will seek to better understand the capacity of local authorities to accommodate and support vulnerable and at-risk people coming to the UK via safe and legal routes – with a view to the UK taking only as many refugees as local communities can support.

The cap does not include the Ukraine visa schemes, the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP), the Hong Kong British National (overseas) route or the Mandate Scheme. However, the government is also asking local authorities to consider the impact of these routes in their responses to ensure an accurate picture of their capacity.

The cap will be agreed in Parliament and will launch in January 2025.



#### LEVELLING-UP AND REGENERATION EVENT

During the Conference season levelling-up and housing took centre stage and look likely to be key issues at the next General Election. Reflecting on the latest developments, including proposals for new County Combined Authorities, EMC will be holding a free event for EMC member councillors and senior officers on the 8th December 2023 in Leicester. Booking information will be made available next week.

### INVITATION TO TENDER LAUNCHED FOR NEW EMC WEBSITE

East Midlands Councils is inviting qualified and experienced web design and development agencies to submit tenders for the redesign, development, and maintenance of our website.

The website serves as a vital platform to represent the interests of local councils, provide essential information on various policy areas, and the work of EMC.

Should any of your internal web-development teams wish to bid for this work, more information can be found here:



# **EMC Leadership**

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Russell Vice Chair: Cllr Tricia Gilby Conservative Group: Cllr Phil King Labour Group: Cllr Jewel Miah

Liberal Democrat Group: Cllr David Bill MBE Independent Group: Cllr Matthew Relf Executive Director: Stuart Young



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