



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

Top items this week

22 SEPTEMBER 2023



Latest update on
National Pay
Negotiations



Public Investment in
the East Midlands



Regional Mediation
and Conflict
Resolution Training



Upcoming EMC
Asylum and
Resettlement Training

NATIONAL PAY NEGOTIATIONS

The full NJC Trade Union Side met earlier this week to discuss the National Employers' full and final pay offer, which they received on 23 Feb. No decision on the pay offer was reached at this meeting, but the unions did agree to reconvene within a few days of GMB's strike ballots closing.

UNISON announced recently it would not be taking any strike action and wished instead to, "...resolve this year's pay dispute and get that pay increase in [its members] pockets as soon as possible."

Unite is currently engaged in industrial action in a small number of councils, and GMB is conducting industrial action ballots, targeted at some councils and schools, which close on 24 Oct.

EMC will continue to update members on any developments as they arise.

[READ MORE >](#)

EMPLOYMENT LAW UPDATE WEBINAR

Back by popular demand EMC are holding our Employment Law Update facilitated by Darren Newman.

The session will take place on Wednesday 4th October 2023 via MS Teams and will run from 10.00 to 12.15, including a 15-minute break.

The seminar will offer Darren's pragmatic advice and interpretation of the main developments in employment law and implications for councils.

For more information or to book:

[BOOK NOW >](#)

ILM LEVEL 5 AWARD IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

East Midlands Councils, in partnership with Challenge Training, are providing an opportunity for current and aspiring middle managers to extend their skills to get the best from themselves, their team and their organisation in times of change and continuous improvement.

This five-day course, split over four face-to-face days and two online half-days, is designed to encourage participants to assess their own leadership capability and performance, and to provide confidence and competence within their role to create a culture of continuous improvement where teams and individuals feel valued and engaged.

[BOOK NOW >](#)

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

The Treasury publishes an annual Public Expenditure Statistical Analysis (PESA) every July on where public money (capital and revenue) is spent and on what. There are a number of evident trends:

- Economic Growth funding and transport spend per head has been very significantly below the UK average level for a number of 20 years.
- Transport expenditure per head in the East Midlands has declined to just 60% of the UK average for 2021/22, the lowest level of any UK region or nation.
- The disparity in levels of investment spend per head between the East Midlands (£394) and the West Midlands (£688) has significantly widened. This is likely due to large-scale infrastructure programmes including HS2.
- If the region was funded at a level equivalent to the UK average, a not unrealistic target, the East Midlands would have an extra £1.28bn a year to spend on transport investment and services.

On rail spending specifically, all regions, with the exception of the North West and West Midlands, have seen a reduction in expenditure on rail from 2020-21 levels. The East Midlands has the 2nd lowest level of rail investment per head nationally, and only 40% of that of the West Midlands.

This is important context for the levelling up ambition of the region and has a number of policy implications going forward. Read more in EMC's latest Executive Board Report:

[READ MORE >](#)

UPCOMING REGIONAL MEDIATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION TRAINING

EMC has developed a range of courses to help councils become more self-sufficient in the provision of Mediation and Conflict Resolution.

1. Conflict Resolution Skills for Managers – 1 day on 30 November 2023
2. Workplace Mediation Skills – 2 days on 9 & 10 January 2024
3. The Interpersonal Mediation Practitioner's Certificate (IMPC) – 5 days on 15 – 19 January 2024
4. Mediation Development Day (Refresher) – 1 day on 30 January 2024

For further detailed information on the courses and to book, please click on the following link:

[READ MORE >](#)

UPCOMING ASYLUM AND RESETTLEMENT TRAINING

Preventing Vicarious Trauma

Wednesday 27 September 2023—9am to 12pm (Online)

[BOOK NOW >](#)

Working with Interpreters Training

Thursday 12 October 2023—10am to 12pm (Online)

[BOOK NOW >](#)

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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