

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

#### Top items this week



**Update on National Pay Negotiations** 2023



Plans to close rail ticket offices in England scrapped

# **Understanding Local** Government **Finance** A Seminar for Elected Members

**Understanding Local** Government Finance - A Seminar for Elected Members

#### 3 NOVEMBER 2023



National and Local implications of the Government's Levelling Up Agenda

#### **UPDATE ON NATIONAL PAY NEGOTIATIONS 2023**

Agreement has been reached on the 2023 pay awards for local government services ('Green Book') employees which covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.



Agreement has also been reached on the 2023 pay awards for local authority Chief Executives which covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.



#### PLANS TO CLOSE RAIL TICKET OFFICES IN ENGLAND SCRAPPED

The Government has asked train operators to withdraw their proposals for the closure of railway ticket offices across England, following the conclusion of the consultation by transport watchdogs Transport Focus and London Travel Watch, which formally objected to the closure proposals. The consultation received 750,000 responses, 99% of which were objections. Transport for the East Midlands, who submitted a response to the consultation earlier this year on behalf of the 10 Local Transport Authorities, has welcomed this decision.



#### EMC HR BULLETIN: OCTOBER EDITION NOW AVAILABLE

The October edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is now available.

This month the bulletin covers:

- Equality Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Network Event
- Managing Absence & Getting the Best from Occupational Health EMC Support
- East Midlands Challenge is back on 23 April 2024!

An article from Darren Newman, Employment Law expert provides an update on holiday pay following a Supreme Court ruling on how far back claims for underpayment of wages can go.



#### UNDERSTANDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE - A SEMINAR FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

#### Wednesday 29 November 2023, 5pm-7.30pm via MS Teams

Every elected member has a responsibility to ensure they understand council finances. However, councils are funded from a variety of sources, which can appear complex to those without a financial background. The current system means that local decisions can have a significant impact on the funding your council receives and so it is essential that all elected members understand the potential impact of the new rules as they discuss wider strategies and plans.

This overall objective of this seminar is to demystify council funding and, therefore, enable councillors to engage with the council finances more effectively. The seminar, discounted by EMC, will consider how the council receives its funding and how it plans and controls its spending plans. Plenty of time will be provided for participants to ask questions, with all answers provided in plain English



#### NATIONAL AND LOCAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S LEVELLING UP AGENDA

#### FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER 2023, 10AM-1PM

### **DEVONSHIRE PLACE, 78 LONDON ROAD, LEICESTER LE2 ORA**

In line with the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) receiving Royal Assent, East Midlands Councils will be hosting a free event in December which will cover the political and legal aspects of the LURB, as well as an opportunity to hear directly about the emerging proposals for the new Mayoral County Combined Authorities in the East Midlands. This event is primarily aimed at councillors and senior officers, and it forms part of EMCs broader Member Development offer.

#### Hear from:

- Andrew Pritchard, Director of Policy & Infrastructure, East Midlands Councils on the 12 Levelling Up Missions and the current position in the East Midlands.
- Howard Leithead and Odette Chalaby No5 Chambers on the legislative landscape of the Levelling Up and Reform Bill
- Mark Rogers, Interim Chief Officer East Midlands Devolution Programme
- Justin Brown, Assistant Director, Growth, Lincolnshire County Council on emerging proposals for Mayoral County Combined Authorities in the East Midlands

For more information or to book your place at this session:



# **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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