

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

Top items this week

10 SEPTEMBER 2021



Behavioural change through
Carbon Literacy, a workshop
for Councillors



East Midlands Challenge
2021



Investment to reform NHS and
Social Care



EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

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.



The programme for the event will include;

Behavioural Change: Theory and practical application – Dr Andrew Reeves, De Montfort University and RCE East Midlands. Dr Reeves will cover the key concepts underpinning behavioural change theory, and their practical application in a local government context in leading change to promote climate sustainability.

Carbon Literacy: What is it, why it's important and how to get involved - Colleagues from the Carbon Literacy Carbon Literacy in action: Case study examples - Three case study examples to bring to life the application of Carbon Literacy showcasing individual, community, organisational and place-based scale, and the role of local leadership within this.

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](#).

£36 billion investment to reform NHS and Social Care

The Prime Minister has this week set out plans to tackle the Covid backlogs, reform adult social care, and bring the health and social care system closer together. The announcements include;

- new £36 billion investment for health and social care
- action taken to provide catch-up programme for the NHS and reform the adult social care system
- NHS capacity to increase to 110% of planned activity levels by 2023/24, offering more appointments, treatments, and operations
- Social care reform plan, and include extra investment in care sector to improve training and support

From April 2022, the government will introduce a new, UK-wide 1.25 per cent Health and Social Care Levy, ringfenced for health and social care. This will be based on National Insurance contributions (NICs) and from 2023 will be legislatively separate. For more details visit [here](#).



EMC News

East Midlands Councils Virtual Practitioner Exchanges - This week EMC and colleagues at the Association for Democratic Service Officers have hosted a virtual network meeting, providing an opportunity for Democratic Service Officers to meet.

Upcoming EMC Virtual Exchanges;

- Councillor Development Network—16 September [details [here](#)]
- Performance Management Network - 17 September [details [here](#)]
- Learning and Development Network—28 September [details [here](#)]
- Cyber Security Network—22 September [details [here](#)]
- Scrutiny Network—24 September [details [here](#)]

Health & Social Care

Making vaccination a condition of deployment in the health and wider social care sector - The government is seeking views on whether or not to extend vaccination requirements to other health and care settings for COVID-19 and also for flu. This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 22 October 2021, details [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Government launches public consultation to make outdoor measures for high streets permanent -

Temporary measures that have given a huge boost to high streets and hospitality during the pandemic could be made permanent following a [public consultation](#) launched.

The government is aiming to make a number of these permanent so that people can continue to enjoy outdoor hospitality and local attractions, and businesses can innovate, as we build back better from the pandemic. The public will now be able to give their views on the proposed reforms, so they can continue to benefit everyone in the future.

The permitted development rights introduced over the past year and that the government are now consulting on include:

1. Right for markets to be held by or on behalf of local councils
2. Right for moveable structures in the grounds of pubs, cafes, restaurants and historic visitor attractions

The consultation will also seek views on new permitted development rights to support the efficient development of Ministry of Defence sites. This includes providing more accommodation, workspace, and training facilities at fewer facilities to reduce the pressure on local authorities [details [here](#)].

National Model Design Code - The National Model Design Code provides detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design. The National Model Design Code sets out clear design parameters to help local authorities and communities decide what good quality design looks like in their area [details [here](#)].

Levelling Up The Tracks, The Power of HS2 and British Railway Engineering, 17 September 2021, 14:00- this workshop will feature case studies from 3 of the Country's Leading Rail Engineering Firms: Alstom, Unipart and the Spencer Group. MP's, Local Leaders, principles of colleges, universities and SMES who will speak with passion about what is happening today and plans for further levelling up based on the rail industry. To register please visit [here](#).

The Future of the East Midlands Economy Westminster Hall Debate, 7 September - Briefing Note from East Midlands Councils & East Midlands Chamber on Growth, Productivity & Investment in the East Midlands can be accessed [here](#). A written record of the Westminster Hall debate on the future of the East Midlands Economy led by Ben Bradley MP can be found [here](#).

Employers' Information



EMC Fortnightly Summary of COVID-19 Guidance & Information for HR Colleagues - EMC continues to provide a weekly summary to HR colleagues in the East Midlands updating developments relating to COVID-19, along with information on the frequently asked questions we have received and responded, this information can be found [here](#).

Government funded Incentive payments for hiring a new apprentice (this will end on 30 September) -

Incentive payments for employers who hire a new apprentice between **1 April 2021 and 30 September 2021**.

- The incentive payment applies to any new apprentice that started/starts their employment with you from **1 April to 30 September 2021**. They must commence into their actual Apprenticeship between 1 April 2021 to 30 November 2021. This applies to any apprentice of any age.
- Applications to receive the payment close on **30 November 2021**.
- The payment is in addition to the £1,000 employers already receive for hiring an apprentice aged 16-18, and those aged 19-24 with an education, health and care (EHC) plan or who has been in the care of their local authority.

The LGA have called for incentives for new apprenticeships to be extended beyond the end of the furlough scheme. The LGA are calling on government to extend the duration of the incentives until at least 31 March 2022 to enable employers to use of them as part of local economic recovery plans [details [here](#)].

Inspire People Professionals, Inspire Academy - The Inspire Academy is part of a national workforce programme of support to councils across the regions, working in partnership with the EMC, LGA, CIPD and other Regional Employers Organisations. The Academy combines the essentials of HR and OD and is an evolution of two successful initiatives (Aspire HR Business Partners and Inspire OD). The aim of this new programme is to help people professionals in councils be better prepared, building the skills and mindset required in a changing world, for the COVID recovery and reset work that lies ahead in 2021 and beyond and the need to build more inclusive work cultures. To see a detailed overview of the Inspire Academy programme **click on the brochure [here](#)**.

Registering a place on the programme - applications for further cohorts to run from September to November 2021, January to March 2022 and March to May 2022 are now being taken. To book a place on the programme visit [here](#) for the September course. Details of the future cohorts will be available shortly.

COVID-19 Workforce Survey, week ending 9 July 2021 - This report is part of a series of monthly surveys of all councils in England and Wales collecting key workforce data on how the sector is responding to COVID-19 [\[here\]](#).

Local Government News and wider

Midlands Anti Slavery Research Collaboration (ARC): Law Enforcement Event - This virtual event will focus on one of the four key research areas, Law Enforcement, and will showcase some of the research taking place in this area within the ARC, highlighting the importance of this research and to identify any gaps for more research. The event will further discuss building on existing relationship between researchers and practitioners in the area of law enforcement and modern slavery [details [here](#)].

Spending Review 2021 launch letter - The Chancellor of the Exchequer has this week written to Secretaries of State to launch Spending Review 2021 (SR21). SR21 will set departmental Resource and Capital DEL budgets from 2022-23 to 2024-25, and will conclude alongside an Autumn Budget on 27 October 2021 [details [here](#)].

Bill to strengthen democracy to be debated in House of Commons - Legislation which will strengthen the integrity of elections in Britain debated in the House of Commons this week [details [here](#)].

The measures set to be scrutinised by parliamentarians will protect the rights of electors to vote in secret and without fear. New laws will strengthen action against intimidation of voters, by improving and updating the offence of 'undue influence' in electoral law, to prevent people from being coerced into giving up control over their vote.

The Government's wider Elections Bill will also:

- improve access to voting for electors with disabilities
- tackle electoral fraud by post and proxy
- increase transparency and accountability within our elections
- empower British citizens living overseas to participate in our democracy
- amend voting and candidacy rules for EU citizens following our departure from the EU

New £1 million fund to help faith groups support communities - The Faith New Deal pilot fund will be open to faith-based organisations to deliver projects to provide community wide services open to all the local population. Additionally, the funded projects will aim to have a positive impact in fostering good relations between people of faith and those of other faiths or none within local communities [details [here](#)].

- **Guidance on how to apply for the £1 million Faith New Deal Pilot Fund** - details [here](#).

Improving digital citizenship: Research and good practice - This LGA guide outlines research in relation to councillors and digital citizenship, and looks at the good work going on in the UK and abroad [details [here](#)].

Improving digital citizenship: A practical guide for councillors - This LGA guide provides practical advice and resources for councillors as they continue to navigate this space [details [here](#)].

EMC Events

Afghanistan Cultural Orientation Session - East Midlands Councils have organised a **2 hour virtual Afghanistan Information Session**. IOM UK will provide an overview of Afghan communities through topics such as cultural heritage, health and education experiences, recent history, and conditions of displacement.

- 06 Oct 2021 14:00 - details [here](#).
- 12 Oct 2021 14:00—details [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

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