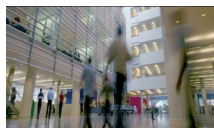


A weekly round up of local government news in the East Midlands brought to you by East Midlands Councils

Top items this week

12 FEBRUARY 2021



Details of £51 billion funding package for councils



Lateral Flow Device Shared Learnings Workshop



LGA COVID-19 Workforce Survey, 8 January



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

## East Midlands Lateral Flow Device Shared Learnings Workshop - Monday 22nd February 1.30pm-3.30pm

The East Midlands Testing Hub and EMC have arranged a workshop to share learnings around Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing. We have a range of presentations reflecting the fact that successful delivery of LFD testing is not just about Public Health colleagues. Without Comms, HR, Estates, EPRR and other teams the whole project simply wouldn't get off the ground and this will be reflected in the presentations.

Emma Alexander, Managing Executive Director from Derbyshire County Council has very kindly agreed to Chair the workshop and will be joined by colleagues around the East Midlands who will share and present their learnings through the following presentations:

- Use of LFD testing in a complex/vulnerable setting with a large homelessness services provider - Helen Johnston, Specialty Registrar in Public Health, Nottingham City Council
- Communications approach and learning for community testing - Helen Sisson, Marketing and Communications Manager, Mansfield District Council
- Workforce recruitment, training and mobilisation - Dean Wallace, Director of Public Health, Derbyshire County Council & Emma Crapper, Director of Organisation Development and Policy, Derbyshire County Council
- Managing rurality and lack of digital services - David Clark, Senior Programme Officer (Public Health), Lincolnshire County Council
- Using a University site for community testing - Rhosyn Harris, Consultant in Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council
- Blended Testing - Jo Allen, Corporate Resourcing Manager, Leicester City Council

To book a place please contact [lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk)

## Funding boost provides councils with certainty to plan for year ahead with £51 billion funding package

- Local Government Secretary confirms £51.3 billion package for councils
- £2.3 billion increase in core spending, includes access to extra £1 billion for social care
- An estimated £3 billion additional support for councils to deal with COVID-19 pressures

Final allocations for the £670 million fund to enable councils to continue reducing council tax bills for those least able to pay, have also been confirmed today, helping households impacted financially by the pandemic. This is over and above the usual council tax support available for councils each year [details [here](#)].

Mr Jenrick has extended the scheme that compensates councils for income lost during the pandemic from services including car parks, leisure facilities and museums, until June 2021.

In addition to the funding confirmed for councils, the government has announced the following:

- Rewards for welcoming new homes
- Giving residents a voice on council tax rises
- Support for rural areas
- Additional support to help a small number of councils
- Extension of the flexibility to use capital receipts to fund transformation projects
- Confirmation of £160.6 million for the Former Independent Living Fund Recipient Grant

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## EMC News

**HS2** - 120 businesses from across the North and Midlands wrote to the Prime Minister in support of the Eastern Leg of HS2 this week (available at [here](#)). Cllr Kay Cutts MBE and Cllr Tricia Gilby continue to work with political leaders Yorkshire and the North East to make the case for this vital investment. The Government's Integrated Rail Plan is due to be published during March 2021.

## EMC Boards Activity

Up coming EMC board meeting dates;

- **East Midlands Strategic Migration Board** - 3 March 21
- **East Midlands Regional Employers' Board** - 4 March 21
- **EMC Executive Board** - 19 March 21

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## Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



**Government to bring an end to unsafe cladding with multi-billion pound intervention** - Housing Secretary unveils a 5-point plan which will provide reassurance to homeowners and confidence to the housing market [details [here](#)].

**The draft National Model Design Code (NHDC), Call for pilots** - The draft National Model Design Code (NMDC) provides detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design. The draft NMDC can be found [here](#) and Guidance Notes for Design Code [here](#).

MHCLG are seeking 10 local authorities as pilots to test the application of the NMDC via an Expression of Interest which can be found [here](#).

As a member of the Design Network, Design:Midlands is identified as a 'Design Resource' to support Local Authorities in undertaking the pilot. Support can range from providing expertise not readily available within the Local Authority i.e. connectivity and movement specialist, landscape architect, community engagement specialist, sustainability expert etc.; a range of design tools to support the design code process from community-based workshops, place appraisals focusing on key issues i.e. movement, heritage, landscape etc. £50,000 grant is available per pilot.

The deadline for expressions of interest is **Monday 22nd February 2021**. If you are considering submitting or assembling a bid and would like to discuss how capacity can be provided to ensure delivery please do get in touch with Dharmista Patel ([dharmista@designmidlands.org](mailto:dharmista@designmidlands.org)) or Julie Tanner ([julie@designmidlands.org](mailto:julie@designmidlands.org))

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## Homelessness

**Move On Fund** - The Government is making available £50million across England (outside London) up to 2020/21 through the Move On Fund. The fund is part of a package of measures that have been announced through the Government's new Rough Sleeping Strategy.

The Move On Fund aims to free up hostel and refuge spaces by increasing the availability of affordable move-on, or second stage housing, for rough sleepers and those in hostel accommodation, and victims of domestic abuse currently living in refuges who are ready to leave this type of provision but might otherwise not be in a position to access the next stage of housing [details [here](#)].

**Legal literacy: safeguarding people experiencing homelessness, Monday 15 February 2021, 10.00am - 12.00pm** – this LGA webinar is part of a series of eight virtual seminars, developed to disseminate and take this work forward and to inform a further briefing on adult safeguarding and homelessness, including the impact of COVID-19 [details [here](#)].

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## Employers' Information



**LGA COVID-19 Workforce Survey, 8 January** - This report is part of a series of bi-weekly surveys of all councils in England, Wales and Northern Ireland collecting key workforce data on how the sector is responding to COVID-19 by the LGA. This report relates to the survey sent out on 13 January 2021 and covers the week ending 8 January 2021. The overall response rate was 57 per cent and covered around a third of the total workforce [available [here](#)].

**SGI News** - SGI Europe's newsletters provide an update on recent developments at European level on workforce matters and the most recent newsletter is available from [here](#).

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## Health & Social Care



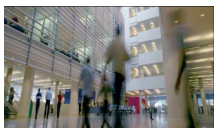
**Blueprint launched for NHS and social care reform following pandemic** - New proposals launched to join up health and care services and embed lessons learned from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic [details [here](#)].

### COVID Data

- The latest COVID-19 data [here](#) including testing, cases and vaccinations.
  - Letter to Local Authorities on Health Measures at the Border available [here](#).
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## Local Government News



**£125 million allocated to councils to support domestic abuse victims and their children** - Funding will help ensure victims and their children who need it are able to access life-saving support in safe accommodation [details [here](#)].

- Councils to provide support for victims and their children in safe accommodation
- Funding for new duty on councils to ensure life-saving support is available
- Part of landmark Domestic Abuse Bill and comprehensive support for victims
- Councils across England have been allocated £125 million funding to provide support for victims of domestic abuse and their children has been announced.

The money will fund a new duty on councils to ensure victims and their children are able to access life-saving support in safe accommodation – a key part of the government's landmark Domestic Abuse Bill.

The duty will come into effect later this year, subject to the Domestic Abuse Bill becoming law.

**£35.5m to support young people at risk of involvement in serious violence** - The government has today announced a further £35.5 million to help Violence Reduction Units across the country tackle serious violence and prevent young people being drawn into it [details [here](#)]. In the East Midlands;

- Nottinghamshire: £880,000
- Leicestershire: £880,000

**Minister for the Constitution & Devolution: Local Elections** - Copy of the statement laid by Constitution Minister Chloe Smith, on local elections and temporary changes to the nomination process [details [here](#)].

- Written Ministerial Statement - [here](#); Regulations - [here](#); Delivery plan - [here](#)

On 5 February, the Minister also announced the publication of a delivery plan for the May elections addressing: public health and social distancing; nominations and campaigning; voting; and the delivery of elections. An estimated £92 million of funding will be provided to councils for the elections. Of this, £31 million is an uplift to directly address costs associated with making the elections COVID-secure.

The Government is also providing an indemnity to Returning Officers for both the Police and Crime Commissioner elections, and for local elections in respect of coronavirus risks.

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## EMC Events



**IOM UK Cultural Adjustment Session, 16 Feb 2021, 14:00** - This session will cover components normally covered in the second half of the full day in-person sessions. The session will discuss the resettlement process, IOM pre-departure services, and cultural adjustment and integration of refugees after they arrive [details [here](#)].

**Barnardo's Child Trafficking and NRM session, 10 Mar 2021, 14:00** - This 2 hour briefing session will give an overview of what Child Trafficking is, how to spot some of the signs and indicators and what to do next. It will also detail what the NRM (National Referral Mechanism) is, how to complete one and the process that follows your referral. It will include an introduction to the Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship (ICTG) service and how we can support you [details [here](#)].

**Barnardo's Child Trafficking Safety Planning and Disruption**, 25 Mar 2021 10:00 - The session will explore the control and coercion mechanisms used by traffickers and the impact this has on children, and on how we safeguard and support them. We will use Barnardo's ICTG safety advice and guidance document to consider what may assist in safeguarding children who have been trafficked. Additionally, we will consider what disruption opportunities are available to disrupt perpetrators from a partnership approach, including an introduction to the Barnardo's and NWG Disruption Toolkit [details [here](#)].

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## 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 Alan Rhodes  
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE  
Independent Group: Cllr Jason Zadrozny  
Executive Director: Stuart Young

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