

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

Top items this week

19 MARCH 2021



EMC Executive Board



Funding for NHS and social care for COVID-19 response and recovery



EMC Leadership Development for Senior/Middle Managers in times of Change



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

Major blueprint to create green jobs and slash emissions from industry, schools and hospitals

An ambitious blueprint to deliver the world's first low-carbon industrial sector and over £1 billion to cut emissions from industry, schools and hospitals has been announced by the Business and Energy Secretary [details [here](#)].

- Over £1 billion allocated to drive down emissions from industry and public buildings like schools, hospitals and council buildings
- new Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy sets vision for world's first low carbon industrial sector, slashing emissions by two-thirds in just 15 years
- package of measures will put the UK at the forefront of the global green industrial revolution, creating and supporting up to 80,000 jobs over the next 3 decades

Building on the Prime Minister's [10 Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution](#) published last year, the new Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy sets out the government's vision for building a competitive, greener future for the manufacturing and construction sector. Part of the government's path to net zero by 2050, the measures will create and support 80,000 UK jobs over the next 30 years whilst cutting emissions by two-thirds in just 15 years.

£7 billion for NHS and social care for COVID-19 response and recovery

- Government announces a £7 billion package for health and care services to support the next phase of the NHS response to COVID-19
- £6.6 billion in new funding will support the ongoing NHS response to the pandemic, continuing funding for the hospital discharge programme, infection control measures, long COVID services, and NHS staff support services

The government has announced an extra £341 million for adult social care to enable the continuation of rigorous infection prevention control measures and to support rapid testing to keep staff and residents safe in day care, respite care, care homes and other community care settings. This will support the protection of some of the most vulnerable in society as we begin to cautiously ease restrictions and reintroduce visits to care homes [details [here](#)].

EMC News

Regional Pay Briefing - EMC in conjunction with the National Employers facilitated our regional pay briefing on Monday 15th March via MS Teams. This provided an opportunity for councils to meet with the senior negotiators of officers and members of the National Employers Side, including the Chair, Cllr Sian Timoney, and provide an indication of their position in respect of the Trade Unions pay and terms and conditions claim for 2021-2022. The National Employers are due to meet again shortly to consider the feedback from all regions with a view to responding to the pay claim at a later date. As further information becomes available we will keep you updated.

Housing and Energy Efficiency - Councillor Development Session on Climate Change - East Midlands Councils, the LGA and Midlands Energy Hub working in partnership hosted workshop for Councillors on Housing and Energy Efficiency on Thursday 18 March. The virtual event will include a presentation from Cllr Richard Wright, Leader of North Kesteven District Council, along with three case study workshops. The event was the second in a series of four workshops to be hosted, information on the next workshop will be available shortly.

EMC Boards Activity

East Midlands Councils Executive Board - East Midlands Councils Executive Board met on Friday 19 March, chaired by Cllr Martin Hill OBE, Leader of Lincolnshire County Council and Chair of East Midlands Councils. For more information on the Board visit [here](#).

Regional Employers' Board (REB) and East Midlands Regional Joint Council (EMRJC) - The Regional Employers' Board (REB) and East Midlands Regional Joint Council (EMRJC) will meet on 26 March 2021. For more information about the Board and Joint Council visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing

Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) - The TfEM Board met on the 15th March 2021 chaired by Sir Peter Soulsby. The Board considered presentations from Highways England on investment in the East Midlands and from East Midlands Railway on covid recovery and the introduction of enhanced services from May 2021. The Board also considered the Government's Union Connectivity Review Interim Report, progress on the Integrated Rail Plan and Williams Review, and endorsed the initial outputs of the TfEM/DfT Rail Collaboration Agreement.

Prime Minister launches £3 billion bus revolution - Bus strategy to see passengers across England benefiting from more frequent, reliable, easier to use and cheaper bus services [details [here](#)].

The government's new bus strategy, backed by £3 billion of investment, will see passengers across England benefiting from more frequent, more reliable, easier to use and understand, better coordinated and cheaper bus services.

Levelling up services across the country will encourage more people to use the bus, rather than the car, as we build back better from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Travel demand management toolkit for local authorities - Help for local authorities in England outside London to manage a range of pressures on their transport networks during times of higher demand or reduced capacity [[here](#)].

Resilience of rail infrastructure: final report - Network Rail report on how the resilience of the UK's rail network to extreme weather can be enhanced, following the tragic Stonehaven derailment in 2020 [details [here](#)].

Homelessness

New National Lottery and government partnership to help more vulnerable people - Expanded £64 million Changing Futures programme will help more adults facing multiple issues such as homelessness, substance misuse and domestic abuse. The Changing Futures programme invites local organisations to form partnerships to better support those who experience multiple disadvantages, including homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic abuse, and contact with the criminal justice system [details [here](#)].

Prospectus setting out the aims and core principles of the Changing Futures programme, and inviting local areas to submit an Expression of Interest [details [here](#)].

Economic Development

Local economic recovery planning, LGA webinar, Thursday 25 March 2021, 10.30am – 12.00pm - This playbook on draws out the practical steps that councils should be considering when developing a local economic recovery plan. It captures the good practice from leading councils in the sector and explores the key ingredients for a good plan [[here](#)].

Local Government News and wider

Northamptonshire County Council: eighth commissioners' report - Commissioners' eighth report to the Secretary of State confirming good progress as the council prepares for the restructure planned for 1 April 2021 [details [here](#)].

Rural mobility fund: successful bids - The 17 successful mobility fund applications and their bid values have been announced, including two in the East Midlands [details [here](#)]. In the East Midlands; Leicestershire County Council - £ 1,300,000; Nottinghamshire County Council - £ 1,497,000.

Additional funding was provided to local authorities to support them with the development of their business cases and will be made available to deliver programme-wide monitoring and evaluation.

The MJ Awards entry deadline April 23 - The MJ Awards 2021 deadline for entries is April 23 [details [here](#)].

Employers' Information

COVID-19 Workforce Survey, weekending 5 February 2021 - This report is part of a series of bi-weekly surveys of all councils coordinated by the LGA in England, Wales and Northern Ireland collecting key workforce data on how the sector is responding to COVID-19 [details [here](#)].

Leadership Development for Senior/Middle Managers in times of Change - EMC has developed a leadership development programme that helps managers lead people through change and uncertainty. The first programme will start on 22 April 2021, details available [here](#).

The overall aim of this unique and focused programme is to provide senior and middle managers with the skills, knowledge, and capability to lead their people through turbulent times. Delivered virtually, this programme provides a flexible approach to learning through short webinars, action learning and a resource library, which address key issues and provide practical tools to support managers.

Migration, Asylum Seekers, Refugee Resettlement and Modern Slavery

The National Enforcement Powers Guide - The publication of this National Enforcement Powers Guide which will support this continued collaboration between law enforcement partners. It is hoped that this guide will serve as a crucial tool in supporting the governments work to ensure that victims are provided with the support they need and offenders behind these cruel crimes are prosecuted [details [here](#)].

Anti-slavery organisations Shiva Foundation and STOP THE TRAFFIK have launched a free toolkit for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) - The toolkit will be the first of its kind, being both free and specifically created for SMEs in consultation with business experts. Launched at a free webinar for SMEs and advisory groups, the toolkit includes key features such as a simple risk self-assessment, practical steps to protect employees, and clear guidance on how to report modern slavery concerns.

The Home Office has appointed the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to inspect services provided to survivors of modern slavery - The guidance which can be found [here](#) describes how the CQC inspect safehouse and outreach services delivered under the Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract (MSVCC).

EU Settlement Scheme applications exceed 5.1 million - Over 5.1 million applications have been made to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) according to the latest monthly statistics, with just over 3 months to go before the 30 June 2021 deadline. The figures show that, up to the end of February 2021:

- 5,175,100 applications were received
- 4,807,900 applications were processed
- Across the UK, 4,670,700 applications were received from England, 257,500 from Scotland, 85,900 from Wales and 83,800 received from Northern Ireland
- 2,553,900 (53%) were granted settled status and 2,099,200 (44%) were granted pre-settled status, totaling more than 4.6 million grants of status
- Of the remaining applications, 55,300 (1%) received a withdrawn or void outcome, 54,100 (1%) were invalid and 45,500 (0.9%) were refused

Applications can be made online at www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme along with details of the range of further support available.

Health & Social Care



Improving young people's mental health - what does a whole-household approach look like?, 22 March 2021, 2.00pm – 3.30pm - in this LGA webinar, Centre for Mental Health will present findings from their recent project on how councils support young people aged 14-25 with their mental health. The project focused on councils working with families and community partners to promote good mental health and wellbeing as children transition from teenage years to adulthood

[details [here](#)].

EMC Events



Solution Focused Brief Coaching, 24 March 2021 - EMC will host a virtual workshop on 24 March exploring Solution Focused Brief Coaching. The session will introduce coaches to solution focused brief coaching and provide an opportunity for coaches to have a go at using the approach in a safe environment. **Date and time** - 24 March 2021, 9:30 - 12:30. For more information and to book a place visit [here](#).

Coaching is an evidenced-based approach where the coach helps the client to build their own solutions by helping them; Identify clearly what they want; Focus on what is working already; Identify the strengths, qualities and resources they already have; and recognise those small changes that can lead to larger changes at a pace they can handle. Solution Focused Brief Coaching can often deliver results quicker than conventional approaches because it builds upon what is already working and recognises the limitations of traditional problem solving in resolving complex client issues and avoids it.

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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