EMC POLICY BRIEF





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

Top items this week

EMC HR Bulletin, October

2022 Edition





National Pay Agreement Update



East Midlands Scrutiny Network

EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

EMC HR Bulletin, October 2022 Edition

The latest edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is now available here.

It covers the following:-

- Further details of the Virtual Exchange on the Practical Implications of the Brazel-v-Harpur Trust Ruling 8 November
- Employment Law Seminar 9 November 2022
- A reminder of the Early Bird discount to sign up for the 2023 East Midlands Challenge
- Updates on networks including the opportunity for action learning on equality, diversity and inclusion
- A round-up of developments with national pay negotiations
- National guidance on workforce issues for Integrated Care Systems

News on T-levels

Darren Newman's article as part of the EMC HR Bulletin (October) can be found <u>here</u>. This month's article from Darren looks at the importance of consultation before redundancy selection – including when those affected are on fixed term contracts.

National Pay Agreement for 2022 for "Green Book" Employees and Chief Officers - Agreement has been reached on pay awards for **local government services** ('Green Book') employees and local authority **Chief Officers**. For more information visit <u>here.</u>

Don't leave East Midlands transport spending behind, says TfEM

Strategic transport body, Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) is calling on the new Chancellor not to leave East Midlands transport spending behind in the upcoming autumn statement.

Transport spending in the East Midlands has consistently fallen below the national average, and Government figures* released earlier this year showed that transport infrastructure spending was at a deficit of just 64.7 per cent of the UK average for 2021/2022.

Last month, TfEM and Midlands Connect launched eight transport priorities to boost growth and investment for the region in their 'Shared Vision'.

Sir Peter Soulsby, Chair of TfEM and City Mayor of Leicester, said: "Our priorities set out a clear opportunity for growth and investment in the region, and now is the time for the Chancellor to solidify this Government's commitments laid out in the Integrated Rail Plan almost one year ago, including the continued electrification of the Midland Main Line, the only mainline route yet to be fully electrified."

Read the full article here.

EMC News

EMC Boards Activity Upcoming EMC Board meeting dates

- Regional Migration Board -23 November 2022
- Regional Employers' Board and Regional Joint Council 30 November 2022
- EMC Executive Board 16 December 2022
- Transport for the East Midlands 19 December 2022



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EMC Support Activity

Councillor Development Network, 22 November 2pm via MSTeams - The November meeting of the East Midlands Councillor Development network on 22 November will include an opportunity to discuss current councillor development priorities and shape the agenda for 2023. We are also pleased to be joined by LGA colleagues to discuss practical support to help councils assist disabled councillors and candidates to ensure accessibility and inclusion. For further information about this network visit <u>here</u> or contact <u>Lisa.Butterfill@emcouncils.gov.uk</u>

East Midlands Scrutiny Network, 2 December 2022 - The next Scrutiny network meeting will take place on 2 December, virtually via MS Teams, 10:00 – 11:30. The network meeting will include a presentation from Ed Hammond from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny. For more information visit <u>here.</u>

The East Midlands Councils Scrutiny network is a local authority network for Councillors and Officers involved with Scrutiny. The network provides Councillors and Officers with the opportunity to share knowledge, work programmes and information, as well as providing an opportunity to explore national developments concerning scrutiny.

Ministerial Appointments commencing: 25 October 2022

The King has approved the following appointments:

- Rt Hon Michael Gove MP as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations
- Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP as Secretary of State for the Home Department
- Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP as Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
- Gillian Keegan MP as Secretary of State for Education
- Rt Hon Mel Stride MP as Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
- Rt Hon Dr Thérèse Coffey MP as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
- Rt Hon Mark Harper MP as Secretary of State for Transport
- Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP as a Minister of State (Minister for Immigration) in the Home Office. He will attend Cabinet.
- Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP as a Minister of State in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities;
- Helen Whately MP as a Minister of State in the Department of Health and Social Care
- Felicity Buchan MP as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

The following have been re-appointed:

- Lee Rowley MP re-appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
- Neil O'Brien OBE MP re-appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department of Health and Social Care
- Dehenna Davison MP re-appointed as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

For details of all appointments visit here.

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing

Midlands Connect - The Midlands Connect Strategic Board met on the 3rd November 2022. The East Midlands was represented by Sir Peter Soulsby (Chair of TfEM), ClIr Ben Bradley MP and ClIr Nick Rushton. The Board discussed latest developments with the Midlands Rail Hub proposal and arrangements for implementing a review of Midlands Connects governance and accountable body arrangements.

HS2 progress and impact on environment investigated by Transport Committee - The Transport Committee met on 2 November and questioned the CEO of HS2 and heads of environmental groups on the project's progress, costs and impacts on the environment [details <u>here</u> and the session can be viewed <u>here.].</u>

EMC Events

Employment Law Seminar with Darren Newman - We are pleased to offer an Employment Law Update Seminar with Darren Newman on Wednesday 9 November 2022. Back by popular demand, the seminar will offer Darren's pragmatic advice and interpretation of the main developments in employment law and implications for councils.

The session will take place via MS Teams and will run from 10.00 to 12.15, including a 15-minute break. To book, please go to our website at the following link <u>here</u>.

Local Government News

Levelling-Up Committee Private renters inquiry questions Government Minister, Monday 7th November - On Monday 7 November, the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (LUHC) Committee continues the public evidence sessions for its inquiry into <u>Reforming the Private Rented Sector</u>, examining the Government's proposals set out in its recent White Paper, <u>A Fairer Private Rented Sector</u>.

The LUHC Committee will question witnesses representing local government and then Felicity Buchan MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and Charlotte Spencer, Director, Private Rented Sector, DLUHC. Further information <u>here.</u>

Scrutiny and work programming - This paper provides an update, and summary, of material on scrutiny work programming produced by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) in 2020. While that material sets out some detailed steps for councils to follow in formulating and delivering their work programmes, this document is intended to act as a shorter, accessible introduction to some of the key principles underpinning effective work programming. Further information from <u>here.</u>

Place-based adult skills and training - Improving adult skills is vital to individual progression in work and to the productive growth of the economy. The LGA commissioned this study, by the Heseltine Institute at the University of Liverpool, to evidence the continuing need for improved adult skills and the contribution of local government to delivering inclusive, economically relevant and place-based training [details <u>here]</u>.

Health & Social Care

Made with Care campaign highlights opportunities for careers in care - People across England are being encouraged to join the adult social care workforce with government launching its annual recruitment campaign this week [here].

The 'Made with Care' campaign is returning for a second year and highlights the wide range of opportunities available to build a career in care and help others to live happy, healthy, fulfilling lives.

Running until March 2023, campaign advertising will appear to millions across video-on-demand platforms such as ITV Hub, Sky Go and All 4; radio and digital audio channels such as Spotify; and social media and digital channels like Facebook and Instagram, to direct job seekers to <u>www.adultsocialcare.co.uk</u>.

Integrated workforce thinking guide: Practical solutions to support integrated care systems - This LGA guide has been written to support employers in integrated workforce thinking, in line with delivering the ICS strategy [here].

DHSC and CfGS Roundtable event on Health Scrutiny Guidance, 16 November - CfGS, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Social would like to invite you to participate in the audience of a virtual round table event. The event will bring together scrutiny practitioners and others to discuss the possible content of forthcoming health scrutiny guidance and guidance relating to the Secretary of State's intervention powers. As you may know the Health and Care Act makes changes to the legal framework around health scrutiny.

The Act's implementation will involve the drafting of Regulations and statutory guidance - in CfGS's view it's important that this material supports the principle of local accountability. This event will provide an opportunity for national policymakers and commentators, and scrutiny practitioners, to come together (with DHSC in attendance) to chart a way forward. Further information about this CfGS event is available from <u>here</u>.

Responding to fuel supply disruption: supporting the social care sector (LGA Publication)- Lack of access to fuel has serious consequences for the social care sector. This publication has been developed with the Care Provider Alliance to support councils, local resilience forums and care providers in responding to future challenges around fuel supply [details <u>here]</u>.

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Russell 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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