



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

Top items this week

16 FEBRUARY 2024



Top lawyer takes key role
in EMCCA



Employment Law Update
with Darren Newman



Wellingborough
by-election results



Brownfield sites planning
consultation

TOP LAWYER TAKES KEY ROLE IN EAST MIDLANDS DEVOLUTION DRIVE

David Williams, Chairman of Derby-based law firm Geldards, has been appointed to the shadow board of the new East Midlands Combined County Authority.

Ahead of the first election for the East Midlands Mayor in May, Mr Williams will take on the role of interim business representative, joining politicians from Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

OFFICE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: CORPORATE PLAN

Yesterday, the Secretary of State for LUHC, Michael Gove MP, set out a formal strategic remit for the Office for Local Government (Oflog).

Oflog has also published a draft corporate plan, and has launched a consultation on that plan.

Oflog is consulting formally to help ensure that the plan is helpful to local government and shaped by your views. During the consultation period, Oflog will also hold three open-invite workshops with council Leaders and Chief Executives to discuss the draft plan.

CONSULTATION

EMPLOYMENT LAW UPDATE

Tuesday 5 March, 2024

EMC's popular Employment Law Update facilitated by Darren Newman, will offer 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 10.00am to 12.15pm, including a 15-minute break.

To book your place, please email Mila Pereira:

EMAIL MILA

WELLINGBOROUGH BY-ELECTION RESULTS

Wellingborough has elected a Labour MP for the first time since 2001.

Yesterday's by-election, which was called after former Conservative MP, Peter Bone, was recalled by constituents last year, saw Labour's Gen Kitchen overturn an 18,500 majority, receiving 13,844 votes and becoming the constituency's first female MP.

Across the country in Kingswood, South Gloucestershire, Labour's Damien Egan, previously the mayor of Lewisham in South East London, overturned a Conservative majority of more than 11,000.

BROWNFIELD SITES PLANNING CONSULTATION

This week, the government announced that councils in England will need to prioritise brownfield developments.

The bar for refusing brownfield plans will also be made higher for those not reaching their locally agreed housebuilding targets. Planning authorities in England's 20 largest cities and towns will need to follow a 'brownfield presumption', if housebuilding drops below expected levels.

This will make it easier to get permission to build on previously developed brownfield sites.

A consultation on these proposals will run until Tuesday 26 March.

CONSULTATION

EAST MIDLANDS CHALLENGE 2024

Authorities across the East Midlands can enter teams of aspiring leaders to participate in the Challenge, where they will face a series of tasks and challenges as they respond to various scenarios as part of a fictional council's senior leadership team.

The challenge is a fantastic opportunity for aspiring leaders to gain exposure to issues outside of their normal work and giving them a taste of what senior management is really like, identifying priorities and dealing with politically sensitive issues, all while maintaining a customer focus and delivering services.

This year's challenge will take place on Tuesday 23 April 2024 at Leicester Racecourse in Oadby.

If your authority is considering entering this year's challenge, take a look at our brochure and contact us to enter your team!

READ MORE

EAST MIDLANDS TENDERS

East Midlands Councils has this week launched two new tender exercises:

For the undertaking of research to benchmark and evaluate ESOL provision in the East Midlands

EMC invites qualified and experienced research and evaluation partners to submit tenders for the undertaking of research, and delivery of a corresponding evaluation report, looking at establishing a benchmark for English for Speakers of Other Languages ('ESOL') provision at the regional level.

For the delivery of an East Midlands Refugee Housing Enabler Project

EMC seeks to commission a suitably qualified and experienced partner (or partners) to deliver an East Midlands Refugee Housing Enabler Project for 12 months. This research will complement and strengthen efforts being undertaken by local authorities across the East Midlands to support the resettlement of refugee families.

READ MORE

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



East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire

