



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

Top items this week

26 JANUARY 2024



East Midlands loses out
on funding to protect
against flooding



Missions: Impossible?
Levelling Up the East
Midlands



Government announces
£600 million funding for
councils



Homes for Ukraine
scheme funding update

EAST MIDLANDS LOSES OUT ON FUNDING TO PROTECT AGAINST FLOODING

Following a National Audit Office report which confirms that the region is losing out on much-needed funding to protect against flooding, East Midlands Councils is calling on the Government to update the model for investment in flood defences.

The NAO's analysis of the Environment Agency's investment programme confirms that the East Midlands receives almost the lowest level funding per property at risk at £3,227, despite large areas of the region being vulnerable to fluvial, surface water, and coastal flooding.

This compares unfavourably to North East which receives almost 4 times the funding at £12,563 per property and the North West at £10,204.

According to Environment Agency data, just 120 properties across Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire were protected from flooding in 2022/23 after receiving Government funding.

EMC has written to the Government highlighting these concerns, including with the Government's model for investment and business case appraisal that has made it increasingly difficult to secure funding despite a clear need and the obvious value for money that our region offers.

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MISSIONS: IMPOSSIBLE? LEVELLING UP THE EAST MIDLANDS

Yesterday, the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities released a "Statement of Levelling Up Missions". This statement includes the government's objectives to reduce geographical disparities and details of how the government proposes to measure progress against these objectives.

DLUHC's publication aligns with EMC's review of the 12 Missions applied to the East Midlands. It leads to several important conclusions & questions, that would merit further consideration over the coming months.

You can read this analysis here: [READ MORE >](#)

And the DLUHC Statement of Levelling up Missions here: [READ MORE >](#)

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES £600 MILLION FUNDING FOR COUNCILS

On Wednesday 24 January, DLUHC announced councils will receive an additional £600m support package to help deliver key services.

A majority of the extra funding, £500m, will be added to the Social Care Grant.

There will also be an increase to the funding guarantee to uplift Core Spending Power to at least 4% before council tax. The Rural Service Delivery Grant has also been increased by £15m, £3m one off funding has been pledged to councils struggling with Internal Drainage Board levies

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HOMES FOR UKRAINE SCHEME FUNDING UPDATE

Last week, DLUHC published grant determination letters and funding allocations for Homes for Ukraine scheme (July to September 2023).

In the East Midlands, these allocations are as follows:

Authority	Total Allocation	Authority	Total Allocation
Derby	129,550	North Northants	411,750
Derbyshire	793,459	Nottingham	452,700
Leicester	162,300	Nottinghamshire	537,600
Leicestershire	666,950	Rutland	45,850
Lincolnshire	744,500	West Northants	516,450

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INVITATION TO TENDER: UASC CARE LEAVERS AND CARERS SUPPORT

East Midlands Councils is looking to commission an experienced research and evaluation partner to undertake primary research with former UASC care leavers and UASC carers across the region. This research will complement work already being done by EMC to gather and analyse data from Local Authority social work professionals and feed into the development of a comprehensive UASC strategic needs assessment.

Bid should be submitted to SMP@emcouncils.gov.uk by 17:00hrs on 1st March 2024.

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EAST MIDLANDS CHALLENGE 2024

The East Midlands Challenge will return in April 2024, seeing public sector teams from across the East Midlands 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, as they identify priorities and deal 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!

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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



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