

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

## Top items this week

22 JUNE 2018



Town and County Planning Association Report



East Midlands Housing & Planning Summit



Great British High Street Competition 2018



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers



## East Midlands Housing & Planning Summit, 5 October 2018

EMC will host the East Midlands Housing and Planning Summit on 5 October. The programme for the day is in development. It will include discussions on;

- **The Future of Planning in England – the Raynsford Review** chaired by Rt Hon Nick Raynsford, President of the Town & Country Planning Association
  - **‘Housing the Nation - the Role of Councils’** chaired by Prof Janice Morphet, Bartlett School of Planning
- Further information and details of how to book will follow in future Policy Brief publications.
- Event venue: Pera, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0PB
  - Timings: 10:00 - 15:15

## EMC News



East Midlands  
Councils

**East Midlands APPG** - The region's MPs, EMC and Chambers of Commerce met with Robert Jenrick MP, Treasury Minister this week in order to discuss opportunities for securing greater levels of public investment into the region. With the focus on the Autumn Budget, and within the ever present tight financial context, MPs highlighted the region's commitment to playing a full part within the Midlands Engine and how investment in this region's strategic infrastructure priorities would not just be a major boost to the East Midlands economy and transport connectivity but would also deliver a greater rate of return to national productivity than elsewhere.

**East Midlands Scrutiny Network** - The latest meeting of the East Midlands Scrutiny Network took place on Friday 22 June at Bolsover District Council. The meeting included a presentation on Communities and Local Government Select Committee Inquiry into the Effectiveness of Local Authority Scrutiny Committees. The presentation explored the inquiry findings, recommendations and Government response. In addition the network members received a presentation on the East Midlands Clinical Senate. For more information on the East Midlands Scrutiny Network contact [Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk)

At the last East Midlands Scrutiny Network meeting in March 2018 network members received a presentation on the work of local councils and the Local Government Associations on Water Safety. Drowning Prevention Week taking place 15-25 June, the LGA have produced a Toolkit to support Local Authorities, which can be found [here](#).

## EMC Boards Activity

**EMC Annual General Meeting (AGM)** - The East Midlands Councils AGM will take place on Friday 13 July. The AGM will be held at Nottinghamshire County Council. All councillors and Chief Executives are invited to attend, the main meeting starts at 10:00, with political group meetings at 9:30.

## EMC Support Activity

**East Midlands Coaching Conference, 3 July 2018** - The East Midlands Coaching Network will host the 6th Annual Coaching Conference on 3 July in Melton Mowbray. The full programme for the event and to book a place visit [here](#).

## EMC Councillor Events

**Chairing and Facilitation Skills for Councillors, 26 Jun 2018** - EMC is running a half day Chairing and Facilitation Skills event for Councillors. For more information visit [here](#).

**Chairing and Leading Scrutiny, 11 Jul 2018** - Rutland County Council and East Midlands Councils are working in partnership to offer chairs and aspiring chair of scrutiny the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in scrutiny. For more information on the programme for the event visit [here](#).

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## Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



**Building for the future: the role of county councils in meeting housing need** - This Town and County Planning Association (TCPA) Report, part of the County Council's Network Building for the Future project, which aims to showcase innovative county councils and unitary authorities delivering high-quality homes and communities.

The report finds that there is an often-severe need for affordable housing among county and unitary authorities, with house prices in these areas among the highest in the country and at least nine times average earnings.

'Building for the Future: The Role of County Councils in Meeting Housing Needs' charts the progress of five counties trying to address local housing needs either through partnerships or direct delivery, ultimately calling on government to recognise the potential of this as a movement and make policy reforms to unlock further delivery. The report is available from [here](#).

There is an Inside Housing article written by Kate Henderson, Chief Executive of the TCPA to accompany the launch [available [here](#)].

**Roadwork permits help cut driver disruption** - An [evaluation report, by Ecorys](#), published this week by the Department for Transport shows permit schemes – where companies apply to highways authorities to carry out works – help reduce the length of disruption from roadworks by more than 3 days. It also showed these scheme cut the number of overrunning roadworks.

Permit schemes cover works on all local roads and can be complemented by lane rental, where utility companies are charged daily for digging up the busiest roads at peak times. Lane rental guidance will be issued later this year. Around 65% of authorities now have in place these schemes, which are making a real difference. The remaining 35% are being asked to introduce them so that their local communities can benefit from this positive impact on journeys. For more information visit [here](#).

**Sustainability of Right to Buy** - This LGA paper has sought to analyse the various features and factors affecting local authorities' ability to reinvest Right to Buy receipts within Retention Agreements (so-called 141 receipts agreements) signed with Government since 2012. It models the capacity to replace homes sold in the years ahead, adjusting for different factors. The model allows for these forecasts to be developed for individual local authority Housing Revenue Accounts, which may be helpful for councils thinking about their asks from Government in developing future build programmes. For more information visit [here](#).

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## Local Government News



**James Brokenshire publishes consultation on banning combustible cladding** - A consultation on banning the use of combustible materials on the external walls of high-rise residential buildings which are 18 metres or over has been published this week (18 June 2018).

This [consultation](#) is inviting views on our proposals to revise the building regulations to ban the use of combustible materials in the inner leaf, insulation and cladding that are used in external wall systems on these buildings. For more information visit [here](#).

**Launch of Great British High Street Competition 2018** - Communities across the UK are being urged to back their local high streets by entering them into the Great British High Street Awards 2018. Winners will receive a share of £25,000 and dedicated support and mentoring from industry experts. For more visit [here](#).

**First events announced for National Democracy Week** - The first National Democracy Week is due to take place this July. Events will be held throughout the UK to engage communities in democracy. A week-long festival coincides with the 90th anniversary of women securing equal voting rights. To see a list of events across the country visit [here](#).

**Government publishes key licensing changes to further protect tenants** - New guidance for landlords to further protect tenants from poor living conditions has been published. More details [here](#).

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## Asylum and Refugee Resettlement



**Update regarding Section 67 Leave from Head of UASC National Transfer and Funding Team** -

Last week the Government laid Immigration Rules to introduce a new form of immigration leave – section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 leave ('section 67 leave') – for those transferred to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 (known as the Dubs amendment) who do not qualify for international protection (i.e. refugee status or humanitarian protection). The published statement from the Home Office is available from [here](#).

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## Employers' Information

**CEEP UK News Alert - 18 June 2018** - In this issue: CEEP Newsflash 15 June 2018, Social Europe e-newsletters, Eversheds Sutherland : E-briefings, Updates and Conferences, the News alert is available from [here](#).

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## Health & Social Care



**Meeting the health and wellbeing needs of young carers** - Councils are under a legal duty to identify young carers and carry out assessments that consider the impact on the child and whole family. Identifying and keeping young carers engaged and involved so that the impact of their caring responsibilities can be minimised is no easy task. Meeting these challenges requires concerted effort on many different levels.

Being a carer takes its toll on a young persons education, physical health and emotional wellbeing. What can councils do to tackle these inequalities? To access this LGA report visit [here](#).

**The Health and Care Political and Clinical Leadership Offer** - The Health and Care Political and Clinical Leadership Offer is a joint support offer from the Local Government Association (LGA) and NHS Clinical Commissioners reflecting the joint commitment to strengthening the leadership of local health and care systems. For more information the flyer is available to download from [here](#). **All sessions are free.**

The leadership development sessions are aimed at:

- health and wellbeing board (HWB) chairs/co/vice chairs
- CCG chairs
- those in any other leading political role in a health and care system
- portfolio-holders/lead members with responsibility for adult social care.

**Induction session** - Thursday 28 June 2018 Beecham Room, LGA, 18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ

**Leadership essentials** - 10/11 July and 9/10 October 2018, Warwick Conference Centre, Coventry

**Public Health England Chief Executive Duncan Selbie's Friday message – 15 June 2018** - Last weeks message includes details of the work Public Health England are doing in partnership with the Local Government Association, on the [Spend and Outcome Tool](#) (SPOT). This allows local authorities to see how much is being spent on different interventions and the impact on relevant outcomes. It allows comparisons to be drawn across public health programmes and with other local authorities, identifying any significant variation that warrants further investigation. In the [joint blog](#) with the LGA they explain how this can be best used alongside our return on investment tools and the Public Health Outcomes Framework. A video introduction to the use of SPOT is available on the [SPOT website](#).

To Read the full blog visit [here](#).

## EMC Events



**Report Writing, 21 Nov 2018** - EMC is holding a one day seminar on Report Writing for Officers [course details are available [here](#)]. The course content includes;

- Introduction to course and participants' objectives
- Planning and getting started
- Structure
- Writing clearly and concisely
- Grammar, punctuation and spelling
- Layout and presentation
- Revising, evaluating and close

**Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - Age Assessment Training, 5 July** - EMC is holding a one day training event on Age Assessments for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC). This practical event will cover the legislative background to asylum claims; look at the relevant guidelines applicable; look at the Merton and other relevant decisions, and the issues involved in preparation for the assessment and then the assessment itself. For more information and to book a place visit [here](#).

## EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE  
Vice Chair: Cllr Jon Collins  
Vice Chair: Cllr Chris Millar  
Conservative Group: Cllr Roger Blaney  
Labour Group: Cllr Anne Western  
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE  
Independent Group: Mayor Kate Allsop  
Executive Director: Stuart Young

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