

Ten questions about the East Midlands Leaders' Board and East Midlands Councils

1. What is the East Midlands Leaders' Board and what does it do?

The East Midlands Leaders' Board was formally launched in April 2010. It is made up of 14 Council leaders who act on behalf of all Councils in the region. It also includes the Peak District National Park Authority on Regional Strategy matters.

- It makes strategic, long-term decisions about housing, transport and the economy.
- It works with the regional development agency, *emda*.
- It is the Executive Board of East Midlands Councils.

For a list of its members, see the website www.emleadersboard.gov.uk

2. What is East Midlands Councils and what does it do?

East Midlands Councils is the representative and consultative forum for all 46 local authorities in the region. It provides support to Councils to improve their services and is a strong voice for the East Midlands.

3. Why do we need these bodies? Why couldn't Councils do their work?

They will enable Councils across the region to work together effectively to tackle strategic issues such as transport, housing and the economy.

4. How many staff will they employ?

Around 30 staff will work for East Midlands Councils and provide support to the Leaders' Board.

5. How much funding will they require each year and where will it come from?

In 2010/11 the Leaders' Board will receive £1.9 million from the Department for Communities and Local Government and East Midlands Councils will receive approximately £0.6 million from local authority subscriptions and other incomes.

6. What benefits will the public receive from these two bodies?

The public will benefit from local Councils working together to tackle big, strategic issues in a coordinated and effective way. They will not take any authority away from local Councils.

7. Are meetings open to the public and are reports and minutes freely available?

Yes – for further details, see the websites www.emcouncils.gov.uk and www.emleadersboard.gov.uk

8. Do these bodies work with the regional development agency?

Yes – they will work with the regional development agency, *emda*, to develop the new regional strategy.

9. Are they part of central Government or the Government's regional office?

No – they are independent of Government and wholly led by Councils but they will work closely with the Government Office for the East Midlands, as well as helping to represent the region in Europe, through the East Midlands European Office.

10. Where can I get more information?

Visit our websites www.emcouncils.gov.uk and www.emleadersboard.gov.uk or call **01664 502 620**.