



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

Top items this week

24 MAY 2024



Unison responds to National Employers pay offer



Prime Minister announces date for next General Election



Home Office confirms changes to the EU Settlement Scheme



Focus on East Midlands at Real Estate, Infrastructure and Investment Forum

GENERAL ELECTION DATE SET

This week, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced that the next general election will take place on Thursday 4 July 2024. Parliament will be discontinued as of today, and dissolved next Thursday, 30 May.

The Cabinet Office has announced that the pre-election period will start tomorrow, Saturday 25 May.

More information about the pre-election period can be found on the LGA website:

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UNISON RESPONDS TO PAY OFFER

Yesterday (23 May), Unison responded to the pay offer received from the National Employers last week.

The union will now consult hundreds of thousands of workers in local government over the £1,290 offer made last week, with a recommendation they vote to reject it.

The consultation will run from 5-28 June.

GMB and Unite have not yet announced their response to the offer.

EMC will keep colleagues informed of any further developments.

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HOME OFFICE CONFIRMS CHANGES TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME

The Home Office has announced changes to the EU Settlement Scheme which will ensure that all those granted pre-settled status can continue to prove their rights, including:

- Automatic extensions for pre-settled status extended from 2 years to 5 years.
- Pre-settled status will only lapse after an absence from the UK of 5 years, instead of 3 years.
- The expiry date will be removed from the digital status that employers, landlords and letting agents see when carrying out right to work and right to rent checks
- Employers, landlords and letting agents will no longer be required to carry out repeat right to work/right to rent checks for pre-settled status holders.

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MIDLANDS UNIVERSITIES LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO ATTRACT GLOBAL INVESTMENT

On Tuesday (21 May), seventeen universities from across the Midlands launched a new £3million international campaign to attract inward investment into Research & Development (R&D), innovation and science – leveraging their global connections to drive economic growth across their region.

Led by Midlands Innovation and the Midlands Engine Partnership and hosted at Loughborough University, the Invest in UK University R&D – Midlands Campaign was launched at the UK Real Estate, Infrastructure and Investment Forum (UKREiF), which was attended by nearly 13,000 investors, delegates and developers.

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£8M EARLY STAGE ANGEL INVESTMENT FUND LAUNCHED FOR DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUSINESSES

D2N2 LEP Chair Elizabeth Fagan announced the launch of D2N2 LEP's Early Stage Angel Investment Fund at UKREiF.

The purpose of the Fund is to stimulate investment and growth in 'early stage' companies – those that have been trading between six and 24 months – that are based in the D2N2 area.

D2N2 LEP is contributing £4 million to the Fund and this will be match-funded by their investment fund manager, Haatch.

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LEICESTERSHIRE'S ANN CARRUTHERS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF ADEPT.

Ann Carruthers, director of environment and transport at Leicestershire County Council, has been appointed the president of the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport (ADEPT).

She was previously vice president of ADEPT and the first female chair of Transport and Connectivity Board.

In her inaugural address at the ADEPT President's Awards, Ms Carruthers outlined her key priorities for the year, which will focus on building resilience.

This will include:

- Resilience across place services in what and how we deliver
- Resilient organisations against a backdrop of changing local government landscape
- Resilience for ourselves and our people.

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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



East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 0PB

