POLICY BRIEF

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

Top items this week



Claire Ward names portfolio nominations for EMCCA



Hinckley National Freight
Interchange decision
extension



Plan unveiled for alternate
HS2 route

13 SEPTEMBER 2024



New LGA Publication on Migrant homelessness

CLAIRE WARD NAMES PORTFOLIO NOMINATIONS FOR EMCCA

The Board of the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) is set to discuss nominations for key political leadership roles at its next meeting to be held at Derby City Council on the 16th September.

Portfolio nominations are:

- Transport and Digital Connectivity: Cllr Ben Bradley and Cllr Anthony McKeown (deputy)
- Skills and Employment: Cllr Paul Hezelgrave and Cllr Milan Radulovic (deputy)
- Investment: Cllr Neghat Khan and Cllr Simon Spencer (deputy)
- Farming and Rural Affairs: Cllr Barry Lewis and Cllr Paul Peacock (deputy)

Mayor Claire has also nominated Cllr Nadine Peatfield, Leader of Derby City Council, as her Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Peatfield will take up the role following Board but will receive no salary.

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HINCKLEY NATIONAL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE: DCO DECISION EXTENSION

Transport Secretary Louise Haigh is "minded to reject" the development consent order (DCO) for the £750M Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange, subject to further information from the applicant.

Tritax Symmetry, the developer of the proposed rail hub, has been given until 10 December to provide more information on issues mainly relating to traffic that will be created by the development.

Haigh has set a new deadline for her final decision as 10 March 2025.

The Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project proposed to include railway sidings and freight transfer area alongside the two-track railway between Hinckley and Leicester.

This would become part of Network Rail's 'F2N' route between Felixstowe and Nuneaton.

It would be capable of accommodating up to 16 trains per day of up to 775m long.

The development would have 850,000m2 of warehousing and ancillary buildings.

PLAN UNVEILED FOR ALTERNATE HS2 ROUTE

A proposal to build a new 50-mile railway line between the Midlands and the North West as a slower and cheaper alternative to a scrapped section of HS2 has been unveiled. The proposal would see a new rail link created between Manchester and Birmingham, enhancing capacity for passengers and freight moving between the regions, a report commissioned by the mayors of Greater Manchester and the West Midlands found.

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NEW LGA PUBLICATION: MIGRANT HOMELESSNESS

A new LGA report warns that councils are spending significant amounts of money supporting asylum seekers after the support and accommodation they receive from the Home Office comes to an end. The LGA called for an extension of the 'move-on' period, the time between an individual receiving a decision on their claim and having to leave the accommodation, from 28 to 56 days.

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CALL FOR EVIDENCE: AN INSPECTION INTO THE HOME OFFICE'S USE OF AGE ASSESSMENTS

The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) has commenced an inspection of the Home Office's use of age assessments.

This inspection will focus on the efficiency, effectiveness and consistency of age assessments conducted by the Home Office, with a particular focus on the Illegal Migration Intake Unit, the Asylum Intake Unit and the National Age Assessment Board. This call for evidence will remain open until close of play 25 September 2024.

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UPCOMING MIGRATION TRAINING

IOM UK: Iran Refugee Information Sessions—two parts

Part one: Geography, History, Current Events and Services

This session's content will focus on the historical context and contemporary events in Iran. It will ill explore the challenges faced by displaced Iranians and their experiences with different services.

Part two: Cultural Norms, Family and Social Life

This session will primarily focus on different aspects of Iranian society, culture, and communication within the community.

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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