



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

Top items this week

6 SEPTEMBER 2024



Home Office will not use RAF Scampton for asylum accommodation



Nottingham Broad Marsh park opens to public



First look inside EMR's new Aurora Bi-mode fleet



Current Vacancies with East Midlands Councils

HOME OFFICE WILL NOT USE RAF SCAMPTON FOR ASYLUM ACCOMMODATION

The Home Office has made the decision to end plans to house asylum seekers at RAF Scampton, the former Ministry of Defence site in Lincolnshire.

According to the Home Office, opening the site from this autumn as planned would have cost a total of £122 million by the end of its use in 2027, meaning the site no longer represents value for money.

A total of £60 million has already been spent on the site.

The Home Office has stated that work to close the site will begin immediately with the sale happening in line with the process for disposing of Crown land.

West Lindsey District Council plans to accelerate a £300 million regeneration plan for former RAF Scampton following announcement from the government.

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NOTTINGHAM BROAD MARSH PARK OPENS TO PUBLIC

A new park has opened to the public at the heart of the former Broad Marsh shopping centre in Nottingham. The green space, dubbed as the city's 'Green Heart', is part of a wider masterplan to transform the partially-demolished site since the collapse of the centre's former owner, Intu, in 2020.

The Green Heart is the latest step in the plans to regenerate the area, following on from the radical transformation of Collin Street from a three-lane traffic choked road to a peaceful pedestrianised area with a playground in front of the new Central Library, as well as the new Broad Marsh car park and bus station.

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ROLL OUT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Following the successful National Recruitment Campaign event held in Leicester in July which was jointly hosted with EMC and the LGA. We will be holding an update meeting for recruitment and communications leads, taking place via MS Teams on 18th September. At the meeting, the LGA will provide an update on the developments with the national recruitment campaign, and we will look ahead to next steps in rolling out the toolkit of resources to support councils.

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FIRST LOOK INSIDE EMR'S NEW AURORA BI-MODE FLEET

East Midlands Railway (EMR) has shared a first look at the interiors of their new £400 million Aurora fleet.

EMR say that the Hitachi built bi-mode trains will 'transform the experience of customers' as they travel on the Midland Main Line when introduced during 2025 and throughout 2026.

Features of the new state of the art trains include more seats and luggage space than EMR's existing Meridian fleet, modern interiors, air conditioning, free WiFi, power sockets and USB ports at each seat and live passenger information.

More information about the upgrades can be found:

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LGCOMMS EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL NETWORK

East Midlands Councils is working with LGComms to host a regional network meeting for communications colleagues in the East Midlands.

This free event will be a chance to share, learn about and debate some topical issues for public service comms in the East Midlands, such as devolution, recruitment, working with the new Government and the future of the local media.

There will be contributions from the LGA, East Midlands Combined Authority, Baker Baird, the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership.

For more information and to book:

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WORK WITH US!

UASC CARER RECRUITMENT CO-ORDINATOR

This is a unique opportunity to be an integral part of an innovative regional programme supporting some of the most vulnerable young people in our society, by increasing the number of carers for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC).

The role will focus on supporting the recruitment of additional UASC carers through working with Local Authorities and EMC to develop an effective communications strategy, direct engagement with local community groups, and supporting the EMC Programme Manager with continuous improvement.

The closing date for applications is Monday 9th September 2024 (5pm)

Interviews will take place in the week beginning 30th September 2024

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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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