

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

Top items this week



Local government finance policy statement



East Midlands APPG re-established



Integrated National Transport Strategy unveiled

29 NOVEMBER 2024



National Recruitment Campaign for Local Government

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE POLICY STATEMENT

The Government has announced plans to focus council funding on areas with the greatest need, using deprivation as a key measure. Minister Jim McMahon confirmed new funding allocations, including £680m for the Social Care Grant, £250m for a Children's Social Care Prevention Grant, and £600m for a Recovery Grant, aimed at councils facing high demand for services and limited ability to raise income locally.

A consultation on an overhaul of the funding system will be launched next month to replace what ministers describe as an “outdated and inefficient approach” that has seen disparities between councils, with some increasing reserves while others struggle to balance budgets.

The Government has pledged that no council will see a reduction in core spending power next year, with most expected to receive real-terms increases.

Labour has also committed to an updated funding assessment starting in 2026/27, alongside the first multi-year settlement in a decade. The English Devolution White Paper, which is scheduled for publication next week, will set out plans for more efficient local government structures, including moves towards unitary councils.

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EAST MIDLANDS APPG RE-ESTABLISHED

This week, MPs and Peers from across the East Midlands came together to re-establish the East Midlands All-Party Parliamentary Group (EMAPPG).

James Naish MP for Rushcliffe was elected to Chair the group, while Rosie Wrighting MP, Kettering, Jonathan Davies MP, Mid Derbyshire, and Lord McLoughlin, former MP for Derbyshire Dales, were elected as officers for the group.

East Midlands Councils, alongside East Midlands Chamber, will continue to support the APPG, which is a cross party collective voice for the East Midlands in Parliament.

TRANSPORT SECRETARY UNVEILS INTEGRATED NATIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Then Transport Secretary, Louise Haigh, announced plans this week for the Department for Transport's (DfT) new Integrated National Transport Strategy, which will set the vision for how England's transport system evolves over the next decade.

Speaking at Leeds Civic Hall on 28 November, Louise Haigh emphasised the need to make transport work seamlessly across modes, enabling smoother door-to-door journeys.

To inform the Integrated National Transport Strategy, the DfT has issued a “call for ideas” inviting input from all types of transport users.

Louise Haigh resigned from her ministerial position this morning with Heidi Alexander MP announced as the new Secretary of State.

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LGA SUSTAINABILITY BULLETIN

Each month, the LGA Sustainability Bulletin delivers a roundup of the latest developments in sustainability and climate action. It includes:

- Best practice case studies from councils across the country
- Training opportunities, such as carbon literacy courses
- Virtual events and roundtable discussions on a variety of sustainability topics

These resources help local authorities to make informed decisions and drive action and ambition in environmental sustainability.

For more information about the LGA Sustainability Improvement Programme, in partnership with the Crown Commercial Service, please visit their online sustainability hub:

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NEW LEADER FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Sam Smith has been announced as the new leader of Nottinghamshire County Council, after Ben Bradley announced he would be stepping down in December.

Cllr Smith is currently cabinet member for education and special educational needs and disabilities.

He is expected to be confirmed as the authority's new leader at a Full Council meeting on 5 December.

We congratulate Cllr Smith on his new appointment and look forward to working with him.

NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE ANNOUNCED FOR RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Adam Hill had been proposed as the new Chief Executive for Rushcliffe Borough Council, subject to being ratified at a Full Council meeting on 5 December.

He is set to start the position next year and is currently CEO at Mansfield District Council and was previously Deputy Chief Executive at Swansea Council.

If confirmed he will replace Chief Executive Kath Marriott. We look forward to continuing our work with Adam Hill in his new position.

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NATIONAL RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

East Midlands Councils is proud to have supported the Local Government Association and our member authorities in preparing for the launch of the national recruitment campaign for jobs in local government, which began on Monday 4 November 2024.

To support the campaign, we are pleased to have re-launched our regional jobs platform East Midlands Jobs, where authorities can advertise their roles, and residents can see opportunities available throughout the region.

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[EAST MIDLANDS JOBS](#)

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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