



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

Top items this week



Consultation Launched on A1 Crossing Points in the East Midlands



Online Immigration status (eVisa) update



CPD for Environmental Health

6 DECEMBER 2024



Impact: The Local Government Graduate Programme

CONSULTATION LAUNCHED ON A1 CROSSING POINTS IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

National Highways has launched a consultation on the future of 57 crossing points along the A1 between Blyth and Stamford, following safety concerns raised by councillors and MPs. Proposals include closing 16 central reservation gaps between Little Ponton and South Witham in Lincolnshire, currently used for pedestrian or farm access. This initiative is part of a broader commitment to improving safety along the A1, which has been developed through an officer working group comprising TfEM, National Highways and the 3 LTAs of Lincolnshire CC, Nottinghamshire CC and Rutland. National Highways is engaging with landowners, parish councils, emergency services, and other stakeholders to gather feedback. A further consultation is planned for early next year. The proposed changes will align with upgrades to central reservation barriers to enhance road safety and reduce risks for all users.

ONLINE IMMIGRATION STATUS (EVisa) UPDATE

From 31 October, new visa applicants are being issued eVisas, and existing visa holders must create a UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) account to access theirs. The Government has extended the deadline by which all visa holders currently using a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP), Biometric Residence Card (BRC), or passport visa vignette must transition to eVisas to 31 March 2025, subject to an ongoing review. This means that BRPs and BRCs that expire on or after 31 December 2024 will be accepted as valid evidence of permission to travel. Guidance, resources, and a list of organisations offering support are available at www.gov.uk/eVisa. Councils are encouraged to share this information with employers and stakeholders to support affected individuals.

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CPD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Earlier this week over 200 local authority Environmental Health Officers attended a webinar on Housing. Delegates heard some interesting presentations on Illegal Evictions, Hoarding, Damp & Mould and Tall Buildings in relation to fire safety. This webinar was part of EMC's low cost CPD subscription-based programme for Environmental Health Officers. If you would like to find out more please contact lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk.

CONSULTATION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

A consultation has been launched on the Government's review of the Local Government Pension Scheme 'Fit for the future' open consultation by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

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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 have updated and re-launched the regional jobs platform East Midlands Jobs, where authorities can advertise their roles, and potential candidates can see vacancies and available throughout the region. Councils can advertise vacancies free of charge for the duration of the national campaign.

For more information about the campaign, or East Midlands Jobs, please contact [Lisa Bushell](#).

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[EAST MIDLANDS JOBS](#)

NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution, Jim McMahon OBE MP is setting up a new Local Government Workforce Development Group to gain a shared understanding of the key problems the sector is facing and how we should respond – including locally by councils, collective action and government action.

The National Association of Regional Employers (NARE) has been invited to join the group and EMC as a member of NARE will ensure that the issues faced by the region are fed into the meetings and workstreams. The first meeting is on 10th December

EMC HR BULLETIN

The latest EMC HR Bulletin is now available. This month's edition contains updates on the East Midlands Jobs & Recruitment Advertising Campaign, HR-Inform – Regional Deal for Councils in the East Midlands and an article from Darren Newman, employment law expert, on the Employment Rights Bill. Read the full bulletin here:

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IMPACT: THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRADUATE PROGRAMME

Councils can register interest and sign up to Cohort 27 of Impact (formally NGDP) – the LGA's flagship graduate scheme, which has been introducing fresh talent into the sector for over two decades. The two-year programme attracts and develops the future leaders of local government, placing high-calibre graduates in councils across the country. To find out more, please contact the team by [emailing \[impact@local.gov.uk\]\(mailto:emailing_impact@local.gov.uk\)](mailto:emailing_impact@local.gov.uk).

EMCCA—BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

Business leaders and entrepreneurs from across the region have been appointed to the East Midlands Combined County Authority's (EMCCA) Business Advisory Board.

Following an extensive recruitment process, 11 business representatives have been recruited to the board, and they met yesterday for the inaugural meeting of the Business Advisory Board, which took place at Bolsover District Council in Derbyshire.

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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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