



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

Top items this week

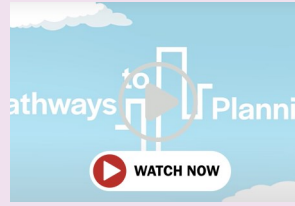
7 MARCH 2025



Greater Lincolnshire CCA
Holds First Meeting



East Midlands to get multi-
million EV charge funding



Pathways to planning—
Council registrations
open



Council Support for
Afghan Resettlement

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY HOLDS FIRST MEETING

The newly formed Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) held its first meeting at Lincoln Cathedral, setting out its priorities for local powers and investment.

Leaders from Lincolnshire emphasised their commitment to supporting businesses, upskilling residents, and improving infrastructure, with an elected mayor set to lead from 1 May.

Council leaders highlighted key sectors such as defence, food security, decarbonisation, and logistics as major economic drivers.

They stressed the benefits of devolution, enabling local decision-making and targeted investments to create jobs, enhance transport, and drive business growth. The GLCCA aims to connect decision-makers and businesses to maximise the region's potential.

During the meeting, council representatives were elected to the GLCCA board in line with governance agreements, and key papers were reviewed.

More details, including meeting agendas and reports, are available on the GLCCA website: www.greaterlincolnshire-cca.gov.uk, where minutes will also be published.

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EAST MIDLANDS TO GET MULTI-MILLION EV CHARGE FUNDING

More than £40 million in government funding has been awarded to 13 Midlands councils to install over 16,000 new electric vehicle (EV) charging points.

Councils across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, and Worcestershire will use the funding to expand charging infrastructure, particularly in areas with limited off-street parking. The investment aims to support the growing number of EV drivers and help residents transition to cleaner transport options ahead of the 2035 ban on new petrol and diesel vehicles.

Overall the councils will receive £40.8m of funding. A partnership of eight local authorities across the Midlands region, led by Lincolnshire County Council and Worcestershire County Council, successfully bid for £20.64m of funding, while another partnership, led by Nottinghamshire County Council, received £20.17 million.

Of the funding, Derby City Council will receive £1.76m, Derbyshire County Council £6.6m, Nottingham City Council £1.7m, Nottinghamshire County Council £5.5m, Lincolnshire County Council £3.2m, with Rutland securing £257,000.

With tenders already underway and procurement plans set for spring 2025, councils are working to deliver the new charging infrastructure over the next five years.

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POLITICS VS PLANNING EAST MIDLANDS ROADSHOW

East Midlands Councils is participating in the second Cavendish Politics vs Planning roadshow, taking place in Derby on Wednesday 2 April 2025.

The event will focus on the Government's commitment to establishing Great British Railways (GBR) in Derby and its impact on the city, the wider region, and the rail industry.

Discussions will explore how rail can drive economic growth in the region and align with the new government's ambitions.

EMC's Director of Policy and Infrastructure, Andrew Pritchard, will be attending as a key speaker alongside Will Rogers, Managing Director of East Midlands Railway, and Sarah Spink, Strategic Partnerships Lead at Midlands Connect.

The discussion will be chaired by Cavendish's Anna Collins. Find out more and register here:

[READ MORE](#)

NEW APPRENTICESHIP IN PLANNING – INVITATION TO WEBINAR DISCUSSION

On Thursday 13th March (1.00pm -2.30pm), Nottingham Trent University and Bolsover District Council are jointly hosting an interactive webinar looking at solutions to address recruitment and retention issues in local planning authorities, in the context of challenges facing the East Midlands relating to planning for growth and Net Zero.

EMC's Director of HR, Learning and Development, Sam Maher, will be a key speaker at this session.

This innovative project aims to explore the feasibility of creating a pathway into the planning profession through a Level 4 Apprenticeship in Town and Country Planning creating more opportunities for our young people to access higher skilled and higher paid jobs.

Find out more and register here:

[READ MORE](#)

PATHWAYS TO PLANNING—COUNCIL REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Councils can now sign up or express interest in Cohort 3 of the Pathways to Planning programme, hiring graduates who will start in September 2025.

Those unsure about funding graduate salaries can complete an expression of interest form, with the option to apply for a salary bursary.

The deadline to express interest in bursary funding is 21 March 2025, with outcomes announced by early April.

Councils with salary funding for at least one graduate planner can sign up directly to secure a place.

Workshops on Teams will be held on Thursday 13 March and Monday 31 March from 10:00–11:00 am for councils interested in learning more.

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EMC INCREASES ENGAGEMENT WITH GRADUATES IN LEICESTERSHIRE

East Midlands Councils has attended two careers fairs over the last month with the Leicestershire Districts and Rutland.

As part of a wider programme of work to encourage students into considering careers in local government we have been engaging with students from Loughborough University and the University of Leicester, promoting roles available across councils in Leicestershire and beyond via our East Midlands Jobs portal. Engagement has been positive, and more activities with universities are planned throughout the year.

COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT

Councils continue to play a vital role in supporting Afghan arrivals, having welcomed over 30,000 individuals in the past three and a half years. From 1 March, all resettlement schemes have been consolidated into the Afghan Resettlement Programme (ARP), covering both new arrivals and those in transitional accommodation.

Councils are being asked to find transitional accommodation including hotel, or another type of temporary accommodation. Councils can also offer to deliver this directly, with funding still to be confirmed. If not, hotels will continue to be procured by central government.

Each region and nation will also receive an annual allocation of new Afghan arrivals into transitional accommodation, with this process still to be agreed.

[READ MORE](#)

DERBYSHIRE ESOL NETWORK

TUESDAY 18 MARCH | 10:30AM—1:45PM

Be part of the very first Derbyshire ESOL Network Meeting, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders from across Derbyshire to exchange ideas, share information, and help shape the future of ESOL delivery in the region.

This interactive session, hosted by East Midlands Councils (EMC) and supported by Migrant English Support Hub (MESH), is designed to foster collaboration, build sustainable partnerships, and establish ongoing networks tailored to local needs.

[READ MORE](#)

EMC COUNCILLOR DEVELOPMENT

The Role of the Civic Head - 20th May 2025 10am - 3pm, North Kesteven District Council

This session will benefit Elected Members who anticipate election to the office of Mayor or Chair of Council at Annual Meetings in May 2025.

[READ MORE](#)

Chairing Skills for Members - 18th June 2025 - 6pm - 8.30pm on-line

This 2.5-hour session has been developed for Councillors in the East Midlands, who are interested in developing their chairing skills in face to face, virtual and hybrid settings.

[READ MORE](#)

Look out for the following learning events too!

Regional Induction Session for New Councillors

We are planning a regional induction session for new councillors in early July 2025 to help them hit the ground running! The date and further details will follow shortly but the aim is to complement your own council's induction programme by covering a range of national and regional issues as well as further understanding the local ward role.

Implications of the Devo White Paper and the Government's planning reform agenda

Save the date on **5th June 10am – 4pm** at Devonshire Place in Leicester, where councillors and officers can meet to hear an update on the latest government policy reforms regarding the devolution framework, national planning policy and housing and to consider the impact for councils and communities. This event will be bookable soon on our website.

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 Ashley Baxter

Executive Director: Stuart Young



East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park

Nottingham Road

Melton Mowbray

Leicestershire

LE13 0PB