



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

## Top items this week

25 APRIL 2025



Planning Reform & Devolution (aka “The Perfect storm”)



East Midlands Councils—Nomination Process



EMR welcomes first revamped Class 170 train into service



Upskilling your teams: Upcoming EMC Training and development

## PLANNING REFORM & DEVOLUTION (AKA “THE PERFECT STORM”)

THURSDAY 5 JUNE 2025

EMC is holding an all-day in person event at Devonshire Place in Leicester on Planning Reform. The programme will cover the following:

- Devolution White Paper Summary and Emerging LGR Proposals
- Insights into the Government’s Planning Reform Agenda
- Sector Perspectives – what it means for them, challenges etc
- Legal Implications of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill
- Partner perspectives including the Environment Agency

The event is open to chief executives, councillors and officers.

To book a place please visit our website:

[BOOK NOW](#)

## EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS—NOMINATION PROCESS

EMC will shortly be inviting nominations for membership.

Local Authority members are allocated one place on EMC, which is usually the Leader of the Council unless otherwise specified.

In addition to this, there are a further 40 places which are allocated based on the political balance of the region.

For further information on this please contact [lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk).

## EMR WELCOMES FIRST REVAMPED CLASS 170 TRAIN INTO SERVICE

East Midlands Railway (EMR) has unveiled its first fully refurbished Class 170 train, the start of a £23 million upgrade to modernise its regional fleet. The refurbishment includes new seating, improved power and charging points, upgraded toilets and interiors, and enhanced passenger information systems.

This work will deliver a more comfortable and connected experience for passengers across the East Midlands and South Yorkshire. The programme is part of a wider £60 million investment in EMR’s fleet and is being supported by local suppliers,

The refurbishment of the Class 170 fleet is a key Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) priority. A newly refurbished train will enter service each month throughout 2025.

[READ MORE](#)

## UPSKILLING YOUR TEAMS:

### EAST MIDLANDS COACHING NETWORK

East Midlands Councils runs a Coaching and Mentoring Network (EMCN) which helps organisations build internal coaching capacity and enables people to access trained and experienced coaches from other local authorities and partner organisations to support performance, improvement, and personal development at very low cost.

We are currently offering the following CPD courses which are free to Network Members. Coaches from outside of the Network membership can pay to attend the events, subject to availability.

- **Mental Health in Coaching Practice: 16th May 2025 (virtual)**
- **Coaching Neurodiversity: 1st July 2025 (virtual event)**

[READ MORE](#)

### LEADERSHIP, TEAMS SKILLS & MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

EMC offers a range of quality leadership and management development accredited programmes to support managers at each stage of their career, from those taking their first steps to senior leaders. Some of our upcoming courses, discounted for EMC member councils, include:

- **ILM 3 Award in Effective Coaching (5-day programme starting 28 April)**
- **ILM 3 Certificate in Leadership and Management (9-day programme starting 30 April)**
- **ILM 3 Award in Leadership and Management (6 day programme starting 30 April)**
- **ILM 2 Award in Leadership and Management (4 day programme starting 13 May)**
- **And more including ILM 5 in Coaching and Mentoring and ILM 5 in Leadership**

[BOOK NOW](#)

EMC also offers in-house learning and development for teams and individuals, which can be tailored to your organisations needs. Contact [Samantha Maher](#) or [Lisa Butterfill](#) for more information.

### UPCOMING COUNCILLOR DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

#### **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. Attendance by civic office support staff has also proved useful and beneficial in understanding the role and building effective working relationships.

[BOOK NOW](#)

#### **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 and will provide participants with tips and techniques associated with being a skilled chair of a virtual, physical or hybrid meeting. It is suitable for both chairs and vice chairs.

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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 Ashley Baxter  
Executive Director: Stuart Young



#### **East Midlands Councils**

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