



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

Top items this week

12 SEPTEMBER 2025



New Ministerial
Appointments Announced



Regional Transport
Inequality Raised in
Commons



EMC 2025 Membership
Survey



Managing Change –
Training for Middle
Managers

NEW MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

The Government has confirmed a series of new ministerial appointments. Rt Hon Steve Reed MP has been appointed Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, joined by Alison McGovern MP as Minister of State, and Miatta Fahnbulleh MP and Samantha Dixon MBE MP as Parliamentary Under Secretaries of State. They join existing ministers Matthew Pennycook MP and Baroness Taylor of Stevenage in the department.

Other senior appointments include Rt Hon David Lammy MP as Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice (and Deputy Prime Minister), Rt Hon Darren Jones MP as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP as Foreign Secretary, and Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood MP as Home Secretary.

Several East Midlands MPs have also taken up government positions. Liz Kendall MP becomes Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology; Alex Norris MP is appointed Minister of State at the Home Office; Lucy Rigby MP takes up the role of Economic Secretary to the Treasury; Louise Sandher-Jones MP becomes Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Defence; and Lilian Greenwood MP has been appointed Vice-Chamberlain of HM Household (Government Whip).

[READ MORE](#)

REGIONAL TRANSPORT INEQUALITY RAISED IN COMMONS

Supported by EMC-led research and wider briefings, Catherine Atkinson MP raised concerns in Parliament this week about ongoing regional transport inequality, highlighting that the East Midlands continues to receive the lowest level of transport funding per head in England.

Spending in 2023–24 was just £368 per person, around a quarter of London's level and well below the national average. It was also suggested that, had the region received funding at the national average over the past decade, it would have gained around £10 billion more for local transport.

James Naish, Chair of the East Midlands All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), also emphasised the importance of tackling long-standing underinvestment. He pointed to the need for commitments to complete electrification of the Midland Main Line and to ensure fairer long-term funding to support economic growth and improved connectivity across the region.

The debate acknowledged recent government pledges and wider local transport investment, but stressed that these commitments must form part of a sustained and fairer approach to addressing transport inequality in the East Midlands.

[READ MORE](#)

EMC 2025 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

East Midlands Councils (EMC) is keen to hear from its membership to help inform our upcoming Programme of events, services and support.

Feedback from both Councillors and Officers is key to ensuring that our work is tailored to the priorities of the sector and brings value to our membership.

This survey should take no more than five minutes to complete, and the feedback will help inform the scope of our services and wider support provided to our membership over the coming year.

[READ MORE](#)

EMPLOYMENT LAW UPDATE WITH DARREN NEWMAN

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 10—12.30 (ONLINE)

Back by popular demand, EMC are holding another Employment Law Update facilitated by Darren Newman.

The session will take place on 5th November 2025 via MS Teams and will run from 10.00am - 12.30pm. The update will offer Darren's pragmatic advice and interpretation of the main developments in employment law and implications for councils.

[BOOK NOW](#)

MANAGING CHANGE – TRAINING FOR MIDDLE MANAGERS

East Midlands Councils is running a Managing Change training course to support managers in embedding change effectively alongside business as usual.

The programme is split across two half-day workshops: a virtual session on 28 October 2025 (10am–1pm) focusing on underpinning knowledge, followed by an in-person session on 12 November 2025 (10am–1pm, with lunch) at PERA Business Park, Melton Mowbray, which will focus on practical application.

Aimed at middle managers, the course will explore the challenges of managing strategic change, barriers to embedding change, and how to bring people with you through the process.

It will be facilitated by Dr Suzanne Ross, founder of 2thrive, who brings over 20 years' experience in leadership and organisational development.

[BOOK NOW](#)

RAF SCAMPTON ASYLUM SEEKER PLAN COULD BE REVISITED

Following the news that the government are revisiting all Ministry of Defence sites for asylum accommodation, West Lindsey District Council has reiterated its position, stating that the site is "wholly unsuitable as a site for asylum accommodation."

The Home Office officially abandoned its plans for the site a year ago this month, acknowledging its unsuitability and being found not being value for money.

[READ MORE](#)

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Sean Matthews

Vice Chair: Cllr Elly Cutkelvin

Vice Chair: Cllr Tricia Gilby

Conservative Group: Cllr Phil King

Labour Group: Cllr Jewel Miah

Independent Group: Cllr Ashley Baxter

Lib Dem Group: Cllr Gale Waller

Reform UK Group: Cllr Martin Griffiths

Executive Director: Stuart Young



East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park

Nottingham Road

Melton Mowbray

Leicestershire

LE13 0PB

