



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

Top items this week

24 OCTOBER 2025



Clean Energy Jobs Plan
published



Chancellor announces
reforms to reduce
bureaucracy for businesses



Fishing and Coastal
Growth Fund
announcement



EMC 2025
Membership Survey

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS PLAN PUBLISHED

This week, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero published the Clean Energy Jobs Plan, outlining how the UK will build a skilled workforce to support a clean energy economy. The plan estimates that the clean energy sector could support up to 860,000 jobs by 2030. The plan outlines the government's ambition to train young people, support green workforce transitions and expand regional net zero skills programmes.

Councils have a vital role in delivering place-based skills interventions that will upskill the workforce and deliver a local pipeline of skills to meet the government's Clean Energy Superpower Mission.

James Naish MP (Rushcliffe), Chair of the East Midlands APPG, has welcomed the plans, stating: "For many years, communities have been calling for a steady stream of high-quality jobs for our children and grandchildren to replace lost industries, notably coal mining. This is finally starting to materialise at scale which is really exciting."

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SHOWCASING LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAREERS AT THE DMU CAREERS FAIR

East Midlands Councils showcased local government careers at De Montfort University Careers Fair this week as part of ongoing support for the Leicestershire Districts and Rutland Recruitment Campaign and the wider national drive to promote careers in local government.

The team were joined by colleagues from Melton Borough Council, Harborough District Council and Blaby District Council, who helped showcase the wide range of rewarding and meaningful roles available across local government.

The Careers Fair provided a great opportunity to speak directly with students and graduates about the diversity of work within councils, the chance to make a tangible difference in local communities, and the variety of pathways available to enter the sector.

A big thank you to our district partners for their enthusiasm and support throughout the event.

FAIR PAY FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

East Midlands Councils is hosting a meeting for council officers on Fair Pay for Adult Social Care with DHSC and LGA on 28 October at 2.30pm. The aim of this meeting is to understand more about the proposals, identify areas of concern and support councils in preparing a response to the consultation. To attend this meeting on 28 October, please email Samantha Maher:

samantha.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk. This week DHSC updated the open consultation to include an impact assessment for the proposed fair pay agreement, and the consultation is open until 16 January 2026.

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EMC 2025 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

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.

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FISHING AND COASTAL GROWTH FUND ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has announced the launch of the Fishing and Coastal Growth Fund to support the UK's fishing industry and coastal communities. The £360m fund will support modernising fishing fleets, investing in new technology and equipment and training the next generation of fishers. Local councils may wish to engage with regional delivery partners to support coastal economic growth, tourism and skills development.

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UPDATE TO COMMUNITIES FOR AFGHANS SCHEME GUIDANCE

This week, MHCLG has updated its guidance for local authorities in the Communities for Afghans scheme. The latest update includes revised guidance for phase 1 and phase 2 of the scheme.

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CHANCELLOR ANNOUNCES REFORMS TO REDUCE BUREAUCRACY FOR BUSINESSES

The Chancellor has announced a package of reforms at the UK's first Regional Investment Summit to reduce business admin and boost regional growth.

The government plans to cut unnecessary paperwork and streamline planning processes, aiming to save UK businesses nearly £6bn per year by the end of Parliament. Measures include simplified corporate reporting, digital planning checks and a new online map of underground utilities to reduce delays.

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CONSULTATIONS

Strengthened powers for environmental offences

The Government has launched a consultation to expand the current range of financial penalties available to the Environment Agency to reduce environmental offences. The consultation runs from 22 October to 3 December 2025.

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Improved safeguarding and protection for vulnerable people

This week DHSE announced an upcoming consultation on Liberty Protection Safeguards, aimed at improving protections for people who lack the mental capacity to make decisions about their care. The consultation will launch over the first half of next year, and the government is encouraging input from councils to help shape a more effective safeguarding system.

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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



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