

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

Top items this week

23 JANUARY 2026



EMC General Meeting



New Vision for Water
White Paper



Understanding our
energy future



READ MORE

EMC Learning and
Development Events

Invitation to Councillors – EMC General Meeting

The East Midlands General Meeting will be taking place on Friday 27th February 2026. Confirmed speakers include Alex Norris MP for Nottingham North and Kimberley, and Minister of State at the Home Office; and Tony McArdle, Senior Sector Advisor and Member of MHCLG's Local Government Reorganisation Advisory Group.

This meeting will be held at the offices of Newark & Sherwood District Council, Castle House, Newark, NG24 1BY. Registration will commence from 9am, with political pre-meetings taking place at 9.30am.

The General Meeting will begin at 10am, concluding with lunch at midday. The invitation to attend the EMC General Meeting is open to councillors from across the region. If you would like to attend, we would be grateful if you could confirm by emailing

lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk

Postponement of Local Authority Elections

The Government have announced that elections scheduled for 7th May will be postponed for 29 councils, including that for City of Lincoln Council. The intention is to release capacity for councils to deliver LGR, as well as addressing concerns regarding the cost of holding elections for councils that will soon cease to exist. Legislation will be brought forward to enable the postponement for a period of one year.

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Road conditions in England to March 2026

This week DfT have released official statistics into the road conditions in England to March 2025. This annual release presents information on the condition of roads in England, covering surface condition, skidding resistance and highway maintenance treatments and expenditure.

Automated survey machines and visual surveys are used by local authorities and National Highways (NH) to monitor the condition of the road surface.

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New Vision for Water White Paper

Government have recently launched the Water White Paper which outlines plans to reform the water sector and the wider water system to deliver:

- safe and secure water supplies
- a protected and enhanced environment
- fair outcomes for customers and investors

It sets out how these changes will create a more efficient and integrated system.

[READ MORE](#)

EMC Learning and Development Events

Supporting leadership and management development needs in the lead up to LGR is a key priority and EMC are providing a range of ILM accredited courses to facilitate this. We will be advertising further ILM sessions in the next couple of months.

- [ILM3 Award in Leadership and Management - Cohort 1 - Starting 4 February 2026](#)
- [ILM3 Award in Leadership and Management - Cohort 2 - Starting 12 March 2026](#)

This is a 6-day programme designed for those currently managing or aspiring to lead multidisciplinary teams, particularly within the context of local government, with cross-functional collaboration. It is ideally suited to officers and managers who work through influence and partnerships to deliver outcomes.

Have we got the Energy? Understanding the decisions that will shape our energy future

EMC is hosting a focused session for senior officers and councillors to provide a timely overview of the national and regional energy policy to support your planning, strategy and place-based work. This session will offer practical insight to support councillors to effectively scrutinise major infrastructure and planning decisions, by providing a clear, non-technical introduction to energy systems, markets, national policy and regional energy strategic planning.

The event will take place on 19th March 2026 from 10.00am-1pm at Devonshire Place in Leicester with only 25 places left!

[BOOK NOW](#)

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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