

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

## Top items this week

9 JANUARY 2026



Have we got the Energy?  
Understanding our energy future



EMC Learning and Development Events



East Midlands Challenge 2026



National Local Government Recruitment Campaign:

## Have we got the Energy?

*Understanding the decisions that will shape our energy future*

EMC is hosting a focused event for senior officers and councillors on the key elements of national and regional energy systems, markets and planning that will shape local decision-making in the coming years.

This event will take place on **Thursday, 19 March 2026**, from 10 am to 1 pm at Devonshire Place in Leicester.

This FREE event will cover:

- How energy systems and markets work, including demand, supply and pricing
- Regional Energy Strategic Planning
- The role of Distribution Network Operators
- Opportunities for community energy generation
- The role of local authorities

[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.

### ILM 3 Award in Leadership and Management (6 days)

This is a 6-day programme designed for those currently managing or aspiring to lead multi-disciplinary 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. The course covers essential leadership and management topics to build confidence in navigating complex challenges, improving service quality, and driving innovation in public service delivery.

- [Cohort 1 \(6 days\) Starting 4 February 2026](#)
- [Cohort 2 \(6 days\) Starting 12 March 2026](#)

### ILM 7 Certificate in Executive Coaching and Mentoring

This 9 day programme is designed for those involved in Executive Coaching and Mentoring, who wish to gain an internationally recognised qualification on the National Qualification Framework at Level 7 (assessed as similar to Masters Level).

### ILM 5 Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring

This 7 day programme is suitable for those who are required to coach &/or mentor others within their organisation either as a line manager or as a participant in a wider coaching pool. It is also suitable for established or aspiring coaches and mentors who wish to attain knowledge and skills.

## East Midlands Challenge

The East Midlands Challenge returns on 29 April 2026, offering a practical, high-pressure development experience for future leaders across local government, health, housing and emergency services.

It is a full-day, immersive development exercise that places teams in realistic, time-pressured scenarios involving service planning, competing priorities and customer needs.

Teams work through complex, realistic scenarios that test resilience, decision-making and political awareness.

We encourage organisations to ensure they make the most of our early bird discount before it comes to an end on 30 January 2026.

You can register your intent to submit a team, and clarify the exact participants at a later date.

[READ MORE](#)

## National Local Government Recruitment Campaign:

### Make a Difference, Work for Your Local Council

The LGA, supported by East Midlands Councils as the Regional Employers' Organisation, has launched this years' National Recruitment Campaign to promote careers in local government and highlighting how rewarding working in the sector can be.

The campaign, funded by UK Government, will run from 5 January 2026 for six weeks until 15 February 2026, and will be promoted across multiple media channels including outdoor billboards, radio, social media, podcast adverts and many more.

This is a great opportunity for councils to promote their existing roles, and encourage interest in the sector locally.

The LGA has developed a [free toolkit](#) to help councils promote the campaign in their area

[READ MORE](#)

## EMC Tender Opportunity

East Midlands Councils is inviting tenders for the delivery of a region-wide digital advertising campaign.

The commission is for the planning and delivery of a paid digital media campaign, using an established recruitment website, existing campaign branding, copy and case study video assets.

No additional asset development is expected as part of this work.

This opportunity may be relevant to agencies or practitioners with experience delivering paid digital campaigns, particularly those working across regional or public-facing programmes.

Full details, including scope, requirements and how to submit a bid, are available here:

[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

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