



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

## Top items this week

27 FEBRUARY 2026



East Midlands Councils' General Meeting



Afghan Resettlement Programme



Ukrainians to receive greater certainty



EMC Learning & Development Events

## EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS' GENERAL MEETING

The East Midlands Councils' General Meeting took place this morning, Friday 27th February 2026. Members from across the region came together to discuss key regional issues including Local Government Reorganisation. EMC will continue to work closely with members over the coming months as the local government sector continues to navigate the quickly changing landscape. Members were delighted to welcome Alex Norris MP, Minister of State (Minister for Border Security and Asylum) at the Home Office who gave a talk on the priorities for asylum policy and the role of local government in delivering this. Members also heard from Tony McArdle, MHCLG Senior Sector Advisor on Local Government Reorganisation who discussed developments regarding LGR and to advise on next steps, including on the range of issues that should be considered in preparation for, and implementation of, the final agreed propositions, likely to be confirmed this summer.

## IMMIGRATION SYSTEM STATISTICS DATA TABLES

The latest published Immigration Statistics detail the number of supported asylum seekers accommodated in each local authority area. As of December 2025, the East Midlands has welcomed over 10,000 Ukrainians under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, marking a significant milestone. Nationally, 234,361 Ukrainians have arrived to the UK since 2022; 10,060 of these to the East Midlands. Our gratitude goes to our partners for making this scheme such a success. These statistics can be found below.

[READ MORE](#)

## HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY

ONS has published the latest figures on the number of years people are expected to spend in "good" general health for the between 2022 and 2024 in the UK, its constituent countries and local authority areas. The figures show a general decline in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) compared to 2019-2021. In the East Midlands. HLE for men is now 59.4 years and for women 59.3 years. People living in Rutland continue to enjoy the highest HLE in the East Midlands, Nottingham City the lowest.

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## UKRAINIANS TO RECEIVE GREATER CERTAINTY ABOUT THEIR FUTURES

As we mark the fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Government has this week announced that the application window for Ukrainians seeking to extend their permission to stay in the UK will be lengthened from 28 days to 90 days prior to the expiry of their current permission. This follows the announcement last September that the Ukraine Permission Extension (UPE) scheme would be extended for a further two years, with the intent of providing Ukrainians in Britain greater certainty over their future. The new immigration rules covering this are due to be laid in Parliament in early March, and will take effect from April. We will publish further details of the next phase of the UPE scheme in due course. Further details on this announcement can be found [here](#).

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## AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME

MOD and MHCLG ministers have written to all local authorities on 26 February 2026 to advise on regional allocations for 2026/2027. UK Government intend to continue trialling the LA led approach and are encouraging continued engagement and participation in the 'LA pilot' model; no further hotels will be sought for this cohort. The regional allocation for the East Midlands is based on receiving 491 individuals, and the East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership is required to submit the return template to MOD by 23 March 2026 outlining the proposed approach for the region. Following the submission of regional preferences, MOD will collaborate with SMPs and LAs to determine and refine the best approach. LAs will also be invited to a webinar next month chaired by deputy directors responsible for ARP across departments.

## THE ROLE OF THE CIVIC HEAD FOR ELECTED COUNCILLORS

**8 June 2026 | 10am –3pm | Melton Borough Council**

This session will benefit Elected Members who anticipate election to the office of Mayor or Chair of Council at Annual Meetings in May 2026. Attendance by civic office support staff has also proved useful and beneficial in understanding the role and building effective working relationships.

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## EMC LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

### ILM 7 Certificate in Executive Coaching and Mentoring—starting 2 June

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.

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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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