

EMC POLICY BRIEF

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



East Midlands Councils
–Nomination Process



Ongoing National
Consultations



ILM 7 Certificate in
Executive Coaching
and Mentoring



EMC Councillor
Development
Programme

East Midlands Councils–Nomination Process

EMC will shortly be inviting nominations for membership.

Local Authority members are allocated one place on EMC, which is usually the Leader of the Council unless otherwise specified.

In addition to this, there are a further 40 places which are allocated based on the political balance of the region.

For further information on this please contact lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk.

National Consultations

Consultation on proposed reforms to the electricity market and their implementation

This week, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) has published a consultation on proposed reforms to the electricity market and their implementation.

The Reformed National Pricing programme replaces the Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA).

The REMA decision included a commitment to publish a delivery plan describing the various reforms that make up the programme and outlining how they will be delivered.

As part of the plan, DESNZ is consulting on reforms it intends to make to siting and investment levers.

The consultation closes on 2 June.

Read more:  [Reformed National Pricing: reforms to siting and investment levers](#)

Reminder: Consultation on New Towns Draft Programme

On 23 March, MHCLG launched a consultation seeking views on the draft New Towns Programme, preferred locations and the government's proposed offer to potential new towns locations.

Since the publication of the New Towns Taskforce report in September 2025, the government has been developing the programme to unlock economic potential, lay the foundations for long-term sustainable growth, and create places at a scale that allows them to be built with all the infrastructure they need to succeed.

The consultation invites views on:

- how the new towns draft programme could operate the seven proposed locations
- how new towns could be delivered and planned
- the proposed approach to design and planning policy
- the government's offer to locations

Councils are encouraged to share this information as appropriate. The consultation closes on 19 May. If you have any questions, please contact:

NewTownsConsultation@communities.gov.uk

Read more:  [New Towns Draft Programme](#)

Reminder: Consultation on fees for planning applications

On 23 March, MHCLG launched a consultation on fees for planning applications. The consultation seeks views on proposals to:

- establish a new national default fee schedule, based on 90% of estimated costs, to bring planning fees to a level closer to cost recovery and act as a baseline from which a new local fee setting model will operate
- introduce new fees and restructure existing fee categories in order to reduce complexity for users
- implement a surcharge on planning fees for statutory consultees, set in the region of 10% of the national default fee
- establish the key principles behind local fee setting, as well as seek views on the potential to implement a cap on locally set fees

- review the future role of discretionary services such as Planning Performance Agreements and pre-application advice in light of proposed increases to default fees and the introduction of the local variation model

The consultation closes on 18 May. If you have any questions, please contact:

Planningfees@communities.gov.uk

Read more: [👑 Fees for planning applications](#)

Soulbury Pay Claim for 2026 and Employers' Side Consultation

The unions representing employees covered by the Soulbury Committee have submitted their pay claim for 2026. Soulbury covers employees who are Education Improvement Professionals, Educational Psychologists and Young People's Community Services Managers.

To help inform their response to the claim, the Employers' Side of the Soulbury Committee, which negotiates on behalf of local authorities on national terms and conditions/pay, is consulting councils through a survey.

We will continue to keep colleagues updated. All of the latest updates on Pay and Rewards can be found on our website: [🌐 Pay and Rewards](#)



East Midlands
Councils

Latest
Updates

ILM 7 Certificate in Executive Coaching and Mentoring

EMC is pleased to offer this 9-day programme designed for those who are involved in Executive Coaching and Mentoring, who wish to gain an internationally recognised qualification on the National Qualification Framework at Level 7.

It is also relevant for those engaged in coaching or mentoring others at a senior level in organisations, where strategy, critical thinking and organisational development are integral parts of the coaching and mentoring journey, or those who aspire to develop a career path in coaching and mentoring at this level.

[🌐 ILM 7 Certificate in Executive Coaching and Mentoring](#)

L&OD Practitioners Network

On Tuesday 21st April L&OD practitioners from across the region came together to share learning and collaborate. At the network a well-received presentation and Q&A was provided by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue in relation to their recently developed and evolving culture dashboard, which is a strength-based organisational tool that brings together key qualitative and quantitative cultural metrics to provide a clear snapshot of cultural performance across the Service.

Attendees benefitted from understanding the organisational drivers behind its creation, the conceptual basis for its design, and the practical journey from initial scoping through to implementation.

The L&OD network is open to all members of East Midlands Councils and is a valuable community and resource. For more information, contact [Lisa Butterfill](#).

EMC's Low-Cost CPD for Environmental Health

Yesterday, over 110 local authority Environmental Health officers attended a low cost CPD webinar on the topic of Environmental Protection.

Delegates heard some interesting presentations on Air Pollution Research Findings from Sheffield University & Derbys C C, benefits of working across agencies from Derbyshire Fire & Rescue and an interesting case study in relation to fly tipping from Derby City Council.

This webinar was part of the low cost CPD subscription-based programme for Environmental Health.

If you would like to find out more about signing up to the programme for 2026/27 please contact lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk.

LGR – Learning Points for HR Leads

Yesterday, EMC held a virtual session for HR leads to hear the most important insights on LGR, based on the experience and knowledge of going through LGR within the Northamptonshire county area.

Over 50 officers attended the session, and feedback was how useful it was to hear about the experiences and learning points to help HR colleagues who are working on LGR now.

Many thanks to Marie Devlin-Hogg from North Northamptonshire Council and Alison Golding from West Northamptonshire Council for sharing their experiences with us.

For more information on how we can support you in the lead up to LGR, contact Sam Maher: samantha.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk



East Midlands
Councils

Councillor Development Programme

East Midlands Councils

Councillor Development Programme

East Midlands Councils provides a comprehensive, value for money, councillor development programme for member councils in the East Midlands, which is updated throughout the year to compliment your councils in-house provision. We have a range of sessions currently available for members, including:

Making an Impact at Meetings

27th May | 6 – 8 pm | Delivered Virtually

This practical workshop aims to strengthen councillors' confidence, influence, and effectiveness in meetings by developing practical questioning and communication techniques that enhance decision-making, scrutiny, and collaboration.

🌐 Making an Impact at Meetings for Councillors

The Role of the Civic Head

8th June | 10.00am – 3.00pm | Face to Face at Melton Borough Council

Our annual interactive workshop aimed at supporting incoming Mayors or Chairs of Council is back by popular demand. This is an insightful and extremely useful opportunity to explore expectations on your role from a range of perspectives, understand the qualities and skills that make a great Civic Head and identify measures of success for your term of office.

🌐 The Role of the Civic Head

Chairing Skills

17th June | 6.00pm – 8.30pm | Delivered Virtually

This workshop is suitable for chairs or vice-chairs who will be provided with tips and techniques associated with being a skilled chair of a meeting.

🌐 Chairing Skills for Councillors

Overview and Scrutiny – Realising the Potential

1st July | 6.00pm – 8.00pm | Delivered Virtually

This focused training session helps councillors deepen their understanding of scrutiny's purpose, potential, and practical application as well as tackle common barriers to good practice.

🌐 Overview & Scrutiny Training – Realising the Potential

Overview and Scrutiny – Questioning Techniques

16th July | 6.00pm – 8.00pm | Delivered Virtually

This focused training session aims to help councillors to consider a range of questioning techniques and develop the skills and knowledge to increase questioning effectiveness across different settings.

🌐 Overview & Scrutiny Training – Questioning Techniques

Building resilience through effective time management

22nd September | 5.00pm – 7.00pm | Delivered Virtually

This practical session will help you enhance personal resilience, wellbeing, and productivity by developing practical strategies to manage stress, use time effectively, and maintain a healthy work-life balance

🌐 Building resilience through effective time management for Councillors



East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 OPB



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