

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

Top items this week



£866 million investment to help unlock potential 200,000 new homes



East Midlands All Party Parliamentary Group



EMC HR Bulletin - January Edition



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

2 FEBRUARY 2018

East Midlands All Party Parliamentary Group

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Stuart Young, Executive Director of EMC, met with MPs from across the East Midlands on Wednesday 31st January in order to support the re-establishment of the region's All-Party Parliamentary Group of MPs.

Responding to recent reports that have confirmed the extent to which the region is losing out in terms of public expenditure, investment and infrastructure spending, MPs have agreed to meet monthly to engage with Ministers and support the submission of ambitious and deliverable investment proposals in advance of the Autumn Budget.

The APPG co-chairs were agreed as Nigel Mills (Cons) and Alex Norris (Lab), with HS2, East Midlands rail franchise and investment, culture and tourism to be the focus for the discussions. In particular, MPs were supportive of the region's work in developing 5/6 ambitious investment priorities and recognised the need for closer working with council and business leaders in order to secure their delivery and to make progress in meeting the objectives of the recently signed Declaration [the Declaration can be found [here](#)].

A summary note on East Midlands investment opportunities and supporting analysis demonstrating the low cost of securing GVA growth in the region is available [here](#).

HS2 Strategic Board



The HS2 Strategic Board met on the 30th January in Nottingham and discussed emerging proposals for the Phase 2b Hybrid Bill - which will effectively provide outline planning permission for the line and the HS2 Hub Station at Toton. The next meeting will consider a substantive paper on proposed delivery bodies for the associated economic growth in both the Toton and Chesterfield/Staveley areas.

East Midlands Councils EMC News

Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) - TfEM met on the 26th January at Leicestershire County Council, and discussed a draft document on strategic transport priorities and emerging proposals for defining a Major Road Network comprising key local authority roads across the East Midlands. The meeting also agreed a proposal for ongoing role for TfEM in the management of the East Midlands Rail Franchise and a regional response to the Government's Community Rail consultation.

EMC Boards Activity

- **EMC General Meeting** - 2 March 2018, to be held at Nottinghamshire County Council
- **Regional Employers Board** - 23 February 2018
- **Regional Migration Board** - 27 February 2018
- **Executive Board** - 23 March 2018

EMC Support Activity

Recruitment and Selection Training - This week EMC staff have supported an authority with an in-house workshop on recruitment and selection. The workshop covered; Equality and Legal Implications, the Recruitment Process – including writing Job Descriptions & Person Specifications, Adverts, Shortlisting and effective Interviewing including planning, managing and following up your interview. For more information about the support EMC can provide contact Lisa.Butterfill@emcouncils.gov.uk

East Midlands Scrutiny Network - the next meeting of the East Midlands Scrutiny network will take place on 16 March at Erewash Borough Council. This will include a presentation on a review by Erewash Borough Council on Water Safety/drowning prevention and local council's responsibilities. For more information contact Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

How well do you understand the health and wellbeing needs of your local community?

13 Feb 2018 - Last chance to book a place at this free seminar for elected members. Already over 45 Councillors from over 20 authorities in the East Midlands have registered to attend. To book one of the fully subsidised places visit [here](#).

Negotiation Skills for Councillors, 7 Feb 2018 - EMC is offering a half day workshop for Councillors on Negotiation Skills. A small number of places are still available on this workshop. This half-day module will help delegates to understand what negotiation is, and is not, in the business world [details [here](#)].

The Role of the Civic Head and Team, 23 May 2018 - In May EMCs annual Civic Head and Team event will return. The one day seminar will include discussion on the role of prospective Civic Heads, Mayoress, Consorts or Escorts, their Deputies and all Civic Support Officers and will identify any concerns and further needs that the delegates may have in carrying out their duties. For more information and to book a place visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



£866 million investment to help unlock potential 200,000 new homes - Up to 200,000 new homes are set to get off the ground as government confirms £866 million investment in local housing projects this week. This latest investment will fund key local infrastructure projects including new roads, cycle paths, flood defences and land remediation work, all essential ahead of building the homes. Full details available from [here](#).

Projects awarded funding in the East Midlands are detailed below. The total for the East Midlands is £55,203,000 .

Local Authority	Project	HIF Funding (£m)
Boston	Quadrant Q1 Boston	3,500,000
Corby	A43/Steel Road Roundabout	3,973,252
Derby	Castleward Urban Village (Derby City press release here)	3,150,000
High Peak	Hogshaw and Granby Road sites, Buxton	2,000,000
Kettering	Desborough North Marginal Viability Bid	3,636,476
Leicester	Ashton Green, Leicester (Leicester City press release here)	10,000,000
Lincoln	Spa Road development	2,824,579
North Kesteven	Sleaford West Quadrant (North Kesteven press release here)	2,000,000
Rushcliffe	South of Clifton Housing Infrastructure (Rushcliffe press release here)	9,995,239
South Holland	Northern Spalding Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) and Section 5 of the Spalding Western Relief Road (SWRR) (South Holland press release here)	12,000,000
West Lindsey	Gainsborough Southern Urban Extension (West Lindsey press release here)	2,123,184

Improving the use of planning conditions: consultation on draft regulations - This consultation invites comments on draft regulations which create an exemption to the requirement in the [Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017](#) that local planning authorities obtain the written agreement of an applicant before imposing a pre-commencement condition on a grant of planning permission [details [here](#)].

Local Plans - An update on Local Plans has been provided by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local government. Details are available from [here](#).

Employers' Information



EMC HR Bulletin, January 2018 Edition - The latest edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is available from [here](#), this month's Bulletin includes;

- Information on the regional deal EMC has negotiated for Xperthr, the on-line HR information system.
- Information on this year's National Graduate Development Programme, and details of a open session to discuss with the LGA's adviser Welna Bowden on 23rd February in Melton Mowbray.
- Employment Law expert Darren Newman's article looks at the recent EAT (Employment Appeal Tribunal) ruling on collective bargaining and the risks of making unlawful inducements.
- All of the developments and links to recent circulars on national pay negotiations are set out in the national news round-up, including those relating to Chief Executives, Green Book employees and Coroners.

LGA Workforce news podcast, January 2018 - the January edition of the LGA Workforce podcast is available from [here](#), this podcast focuses on Gender Pay Gap reports.

CEEP UK News Alert - 26 January 2018 - The latest edition of the CEEP UK News Alert is available from [here](#).

Midlands Engine



EY's latest UK Regional Economic Forecast - The Midlands Engine monthly newsletter highlight the EY report on the UK's Regional Economic Forecast. To access the report visit [here](#). According to the report the East Midlands is forecast to average 1.7% growth in Gross Value Added (GVA) over the same period putting the combined Midlands area ahead of Scotland (1.5%), North West (1.5%) and Yorkshire & Humber (1.4%). To read further about the East Midlands visit [here](#).

Local Government News



New government backed advisory panel commits to help eradicate rough sleeping - Leading experts from homelessness charities and local government met for the first time this week as part of the government's new rough sleeping advisory panel. The new panel chaired by Homelessness Minister Heather Wheeler will help develop the national rough sleeping strategy to halve rough sleeping over the course of the Parliament and eliminate it altogether by 2027, full details available from [here](#).

Local government ethical standards: stakeholder consultation - The Committee on Standards in Public Life invites responses to its consultation to inform its review of local government ethical standards. The review will consider all levels of local government in England, including town and parish councils, principal authorities, combined authorities (including Metro Mayors) and the Greater London Authority (including the Mayor of London). This consultation closes at 5pm on 18 May 2018, further information available from [here](#).

Boost for drivers as government backs clamp down on rogue parking firms - Government will support new legislation aimed at raising standards in the private parking industry [details [here](#)].

Government review of gaming machines and social responsibility - The Local Government Association has raised repeated concerns about the impact of high stakes Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) and betting shop clustering in local communities. We were therefore pleased that the Government launched the review of gaming machine stakes in 2016 [details [here](#)].

Health & Social Care

Public Health England Chief Executive Duncan Selbie's Friday message - The latest edition of the Friday message is available from [here](#).

EMC Events



GDPR for HR, 01 Mar 2018 - EMC is holding a one day seminar on the General Data Protection Regulation, this seminar has been designed specifically for HR colleagues. The EMC's **GDPR for HR** course takes an overview of **GDPR requirements** and looks specifically at the requirements of **HR people** and departments, covering; GDPR introduction and overview, Data Protection Refresher, New Principles & Accountability, Processing, GDPR Mandatory Requirements, Other GDPR Implications and preparing for... Data Protection Audits.

Delegates will gain a clear understanding of the GDPR reforms to data protection, learn the tools to effectively identify and manage risk, avoid punitive fines, and leave with the confidence and knowledge to comply with the Data Protection Act and GDPR. For more information visit [here](#).

Taking the Minutes, 22 March 2018 - EMC is holding a one day course on minute taking, designed to support people when taking minutes on Thursday 22 March 2018. This one day course explains why and shows how easy it is to take effective, readable minutes. In the process delegates learn how to set and use an agenda - including what 'any other business' is really for - and find out who should be doing what if the meeting is to work well. For more visit [here](#).

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE
Vice Chair: Cllr Jon Collins
Vice Chair: Cllr Chris Millar
Conservative Group: Cllr Roger Blaney
Labour Group: Cllr Anne Western
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE
Independent Group: Mayor Kate Allsop

Executive Director: Stuart Young

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