

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

Top items this week

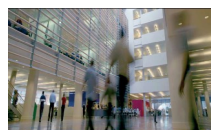
30 APRIL 2021



East Midlands Councils (EMC)
Nomination Process



EMC HR Bulletin, April
2021 Edition



High Court on virtual meeting



EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

EMC HR Bulletin, April 2021 Edition

The latest edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is now available from [here](#). In this month's edition, Employment Law Expert Darren Newman and his regular article considers sleepover shifts.

The April Bulletin includes:-

- East Midlands Exchange: Future & Agile Working Arrangements – 12th May 2021

Learning & Development

- National Local Government Apprentice of the Year 2021 Results
- EMC Coaching Support

Round-up of National Developments

- Pay Negotiations
- Employing Armed Forced Veterans – NI Contribution Relief
- LGA Apprenticeship Newsletter, April 2021

LGA/NARE: COVID-19 Workforce Update Issue 29: Week Ending 23rd April - The latest COVID workforce update from EMC and its regional and national counterparts [available [here](#)].

SIGI News - SIGI Europe's newsletters provide an update on recent developments at European level on workforce matters and the most recent newsletter is available from [here](#).

EMC News

Economic Recovery - Whitehall colleagues are considering options to best support cities in the short-term through a phased approach to accelerating the return of activity in city and town centres, in line with the government's four-step roadmap out of lockdown.

Working with MHCLG's Local Economic Recovery Group, to ensure that Government understand the key issues at a local level, we would welcome your reflections on the following questions, to help us get a fuller sense of what is happening on the ground:

- What sorts of activities are you already planning at a local level to support short-term recovery in city and town centres, for example, through the use of the Welcome Back Fund or in facilitating outdoor activities?
- What examples of best practice are you able to share on work you are doing locally to stimulate footfall and spend in the short term? Can you share case studies?
- We are keen to understand how reopening of the economy and our regions can translate into longer term resilience. What are your longer term plans to improve the resilience of your town and city centres, as we look beyond short/medium term recovery?

Please email Stuart Young, stuart.young@emcouncils.gov.uk with any reflections on the above questions.

EMC Councillor Events

EMC Councillor Development 2021 - 2022 - EMC offers a comprehensive, value for money Councillor Development programme discounted for member councils in the East Midlands. Supporting Councillors is a key area of our work, more information on how we support Councillors and Councils can be found on our website [here](#), or in our Councillor Development 2021 brochure [here](#). The programme includes ;

- Charing and effective meetings, Friday 18 June, 10:00 - 13:00 - [here](#)
- Workshop for Chairs and Vice chairs of overview and scrutiny, Thursday 24 June, 10:00 – 13:00 - [here](#)
- Workshop for Chairs and Vice chairs of Overview and Scrutiny, Tuesday 29 June, 10:00 – 13:00—[here](#)

East Midlands Councils (EMC) Nomination Process - EMC will shortly be inviting nominations for membership. All local authority member authorities are allocated one place on EMC, which is usually the Leader of the Council unless otherwise specified. In addition to this there are another 40 added places which are allocated based on the political balance of the region. For more information on EMC Representation and Nomination visit [here](#).

EMC Support Activity

Low cost CPD Programme for Planners - Over 90 Planning Officers from across the region attended a Planning Law & Enforcement webinar this week. The webinar was part of the Low Cost CPD Programme for Planners which authorities can sign up to in order to take part in the 6 events per year which are currently being held on-line. Delegates received presentations from Kylie Wesson, Legal Director at Shakespeare Martineau who gave some excellent law case studies; Mark Child from Dentons talked about the potential changes to the Planning White Paper and Izindi Visagie, Partner at Ivy Legal talked about the National Association of Planning Enforcement (NAPE) Handbook of which she was an editor. If you would like to find out more about the Low Cost CPD programme please contact lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing

New data on housing affordability - The Office of National Statistics has published new data on housing affordability for all local authorities in England & Wales with a time series stretching back to 1997[available [here](#)].

Town & Country Planning Association Guidance - The Town & Country Planning Association has published new guidance on delivering '20 Minute Neighbourhoods' [available [here](#)].

National Audit Office 'A financial overview of the rail system in England' – the National Audit Office has published its report 'A financial overview of the rail system in England'. This overview sets out the cost of running the rail system in England and the challenges and opportunities facing government [available [here](#)].

Local Government News and wider

Councils will not be able to continue to meet virtually after 6 May - The application to the High Court made by ADSO, LLG and Hertfordshire County Council in relation to virtual meeting provision for local authorities has this week been dismissed.

The Judgement is available from [here](#). The Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) response [here](#) and Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) [here](#).

Landmark Domestic Abuse Bill receives Royal Assent - The bill provides protection to millions of people who experience domestic abuse and strengthens measures to tackle perpetrators [details [here](#)].

Leading the homelessness sector: A councillor's guide, 11 May 2021, 10.00am - whether you are a cabinet member, a scrutiny committee member or a ward member with homelessness high on your local agenda this event will offer you insights and ideas into how to tackle one of the most significant issues facing local government today [details [here](#)].

The LGA has developed an online Councillor Hub for those elected this May. It replaces the current Councillors Guide and provides a 'one stop shop' of information for new councillors, alongside the LGA's wider national and regional support offer for newly elected councillors. It also features our work on the new model Code of Conduct for councillors [details [here](#)].

Health & Social Care

Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK - The official UK government website for data and insights on coronavirus (COVID-19). Including data on Testing, cases and vaccinations. With case information by region and local authorities [[here](#)].

EMC Events

Report Writing, 30 June 2021 - EMC is hosting a 3 hour virtual workshop on report writing. The virtual workshop will be highly interactive [full details [here](#)]. The virtual workshop will use both plenary and breakout time to ensure maximum delegate participation, making the session interactive for those taking part.

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE
Vice Chair: Cllr David Mellen
Vice Chair: Cllr Jonathan Morgan
Conservative Group: Cllr Roger Blaney
Labour Group: Cllr Alan Rhodes
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE
Independent Group: Cllr Jason Zadrozny
Executive Director: Stuart Young

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