

# EMC POLICY BRIEF

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

Top items this week

15 JANUARY 2016



HS2 Programme Board



East Midlands Gateway  
Rail Freight Interchange



Marmot Health  
Indicators 2015



EMC Events

## East Midlands Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Approved



The Government has this week approved plans for the East Midlands Gateway Rail Freight Interchange. The East Midlands Gateway will be built on land to the immediate north of East Midlands Airport near Castle Donington, Leicestershire.

The East Midlands Gateway Rail Freight Interchange will include a new rail line, rail freight terminal, warehousing and an intermodal transport area. The Order would also grant development consent for improvements to Junctions 24 and 24A of the M1 and to the southbound carriageway of the M1 between those junctions; and a southern bypass of Kegworth to the east of the M1.

The proposal is expected to generate around 7,000 direct jobs once operational, and including training opportunities and integrated public transport facilities, as well as further employment through the construction phase.

The East Midlands Gateway plans have been granted by the Secretary of State (in practice Robert Goodwill MP) against the recommendation of the Planning Inspectorate.

Further information about the project is available from [here](#) and the letter from the Department for Transport granting approval can be accessed from [here](#).



East Midlands  
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EMC News

**HS2 Programme Board** - The HS2 Programme Board took place on Friday 15 January. The Board meeting covered;

- Agreement of Funding submission for East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy,
- Update on Toton Area Master Plan,
- Details of fourth coming visit of Sir David Higgins to the East Midlands later this month,

The papers for the board are available from the EMC website [here](#).

**East Midlands All Party Parliamentary Group, 9 February 2016** - The meeting of the East Midlands APPG will take place on the 9 February 2016, at 2.00-3.00pm, Portcullis House, London. The focus of the meeting will be to agree regional priorities for the group, which once decided will be used as the basis of collective action by Members going forwards. For further details of the East Midlands APPG visit [here](#).

### EMC Support Work

**Heads of Service Assessment Centres** - EMC staff are currently supporting several authorities with the delivery of assessment centres as part of recruitment activities for Heads of Service level posts. The assessment centres have included Personality profiling, verbal and numerical reasoning questionnaires.

**Senior Team Development** - EMC will shortly be working separately with two groups from different organisations on their senior management team development away days. Both senior team away days will incorporate an MBTI assessment, a personality tool widely used by members of organisations to develop understanding of themselves and their colleagues to enhance or create effective working relationships.

**IT Security Network** - EMC has run a network for IT Security professionals for the last 10 years. The next meeting due to take place on 28 January will include a session on Disaster Recovery, to support authorities in the development of their own Business Continuity plans. For further information about this network visit [here](#).

**Delivering the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Programme, 11 Feb 2016** - The conference will provide delegates with the opportunity to hear directly from the Richard Harrington MP Minister for Syrian Refugees about the operation of the programme as well as learning from councils who are currently participating and organisations who support refugees. The venue for this has been confirmed, Bio City, Nottingham. For further information and to book a place visit [here](#).

### EMC Councillor Events

**Community Leadership in the East Midlands, 2 Feb 2016** - East Midlands Councils is holding a workshop for Councillors on maximising impact in the community. EMC is keen to support Councillors with their community leadership role and is offering this frontline leadership session as part of our East Midlands Regional Programme of Briefing Events for Councillors. For more information on this event and details of how to book please visit [here](#).

**Speed and Effective Reading, 10 Feb 2016** - East Midlands Councils is holding a half day seminar on Speed and Effective Reading. For more information on this event and details of how to book please visit [here](#).

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### Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



**'Building Quality, Affordable Starter Homes in the UK', Thursday 17th March 2016** - This event in Central London is to be delivered by Inside Government, speakers will include;

- Councillor Peter Box, Housing Spokesman at Local Government Association (LGA) "Tackling our housing crisis will require an increase of all types of housing, including those for affordable and social rent alongside those to support home ownership".
- Ian Piper, Head of Land at Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) Regulating Housing and Supporting the Delivery of Starter Homes

For further information about this event visit [here](#).

**Housing and Planning Bill 2015** - Housing and Planning Bill moves to the Lords from the Commons - The Housing and Planning bill completed its passage through the Commons this week. No opposition amendments were successful during the legislation's report and third reading stages. The measures will now be scrutinised by the Lords.

**Ministers consult on the new National Infrastructure Commission** - The Government has launched a consultation on the governance and general modus operandi of the National Infrastructure Commission.

The commission is expected to produce long-term needs assessments and detailed reports on specific issues. The sectors it will cover are the same as the Planning Act 2008 (energy, transport, water, waste water and waste) plus flood defences and digital communications. Details are available from [here](#).

**Estate Regeneration Initiative** - The Prime Minister has unveiled an initiative to target the country's 100 worst housing estates and redevelop them. An Advisory Panel will be established, chaired by Lord Heseltine which will draw up a list from across the country by the Autumn Statement. The press release is available from [here](#).

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### Employers' Issues



#### Pay Negotiations Update

**Chief officer** - The National Employers have made a final pay offer to the Chief Officer JNC Staff Side. A details of the offer and claim can be found on the EMC website from [here](#).

#### Update on other groups

**Local Government Services (Green Book) Employees** - The Employers made a Pay offer to the Unions on 9 December [here]. Further negotiations were requested by the trade unions, and this was rejected by Employers, as the offer made was the final offer. One union, GMB has indicated that it would be consulting its members. The other unions (Unison and Unite) would be consulting their members and recommending rejection of the final offer.

As necessary, in the absence of a national agreement, we will be providing timely advice to local authorities on the implementation of the National Living Wage on 1st April 2016 to ensure that authorities are legally compliant.

**Chief Executives** - No pay claim in respect of Chief Executives has yet been received therefore the National Employers will consider their position and respond accordingly when a claim is lodged.

**Craftworker** - The National Employers made a final pay offer to the JNC Craftworker Trade Union Side last week, click [here](#) for further information.

For further information or support contact Sam Maher [sam.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:sam.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk)

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## Employers' Issues Continued

**CEEP UK News Alert, 8 January 2016** - The January addition includes details of the CEEP Work programme for 2016, this can be access from [here](#). One of the core priorities of that work programme is the Digitalisation of public services. CEEP has released a call for interest to take part in a CEEP Working Group on Digitalisation. Further information on this is available from [here](#).

The News alert includes;

- Adoption of European Single Procurement Document
- CEEP Environment Task Force: Work programme and dates for 2016
- CEEP Transport Task Force: Draft CEEP position on "State of the Energy Union" & Meetings in 2016
- CEEP Water Task Force: Work Programme and dates for 2016
- Social Europe e-newsletters : December and January
- Eversheds : E-briefings, Updates and Conferences

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## Local Government Policy



**Local Government Shared Service** - Milton Keynes Council is to join Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire CCs as an equal partner in their shared services company after the cabinet voted in favour. An outline business case states that Milton Keynes will save £4.47m over five years as Local Government Shared Services (LGSS) takes over provision of services including finance, IT, human resources, revenues and benefits, procurement and internal audit. LGSS was set up by Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire County Councils in 2010.

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## Health & Social Care



**The Marmot Indicators 2015** - Launched by the Institute of Health Equity, the Marmot Indicators 2015 are a new set of indicators of the social determinants of health, health outcomes and social inequality, that broadly correspond to the six policy recommendations proposed in Fair Society, Healthy Lives:

- Give every child the best start in life
- Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
- The attached link will enables you to find the results for each Local Authority.

To further details of the indicators please visit [here](#).

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## EMC Events



**Employment Law Update, 8 Mar 2016** - EMC are pleased to confirm that Darren Newman will be returning again to deliver an Employment Law Update. This event is aimed at senior HR and Legal professionals in the public sector and Elected Members with Portfolio responsibility for HR. For more information and for details of how to book a place visit [here](#)

**Planning Masterclass: Preparing for EIPs into Local Plans, 14 Mar 2016** - East Midlands Councils is holding a very practical one day Planning Masterclass on 14 March 2016 at our offices in Melton Mowbray to help local authority planning officers prepare for and perform well at EIPs into local plans. For more information visit [here](#)

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## EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE  
Vice Chair: Cllr Jon Collins  
Vice Chair: Cllr Neil Clarke MBE  
Conservative Group: Cllr Chris Millar  
Labour Group: Cllr Robert Parker  
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE  
Independent Group: Cllr Alan Walters  
  
Executive Director: Stuart Young

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