

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

## Top items this week

18 MAY 2018



Housing and Planning News



Pay Spine Implementation Workshop



Westminster Hall debate, on Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

## Pay Spine Implementation Workshop - 23 May 2018



EMC is organising a workshop on implementing the new national pay spine. This event will take place on Wednesday 23 May 2018, 11:00—13:00.

The aim of the workshop is to enable councils in the region to share information and approaches to implementing the new pay spine that will come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. We have received a number of queries regarding implementing the pay spine and the impact on current pay and grading structures. This workshop will give delegates with the opportunity to raise issues and queries with Harry Honnor and Simon Pannell from the LGA's negotiations team and will feed into the development of national guidance and FAQs.

The workshop is being held at Pera Innovation Centre and refreshments will be available from 10.30. Lunch will be provided. To attend, please email Lisa Hopkins [lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.hopkins@emcouncils.gov.uk).



East Midlands  
Councils

## East Midlands Councils - Political Balance and Membership Nominations

Following the elections, the Conservative party remains the largest group in membership of East Midlands Councils. The political balance figures are:-

- Conservatives - 51.70%
- Labour - 36.10%
- Lib Dem - 5.70%
- Other - 6.50%

In advance of our AGM on 13 July 2018, EMC is 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 46 added places which are allocated based on the political balance of the region. If you wish to become a member of EMC, and if you have an interest to be a member of any of EMC's boards, please get in contact with your relevant political group leader (details on final page of the Policy Brief) and Democratic Services teams who will advise further. There are 2 full EMC meetings a year (July and February) in addition to the following Boards: Regional Employers Board and Regional Migration Board.

### EMC Support Activity

**East Midlands Scrutiny Network meeting** - The meeting of the next East Midlands Scrutiny network will take place on Friday 22 June at Bolsover District Council. Andrew Lewer MP, Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee member will attend this meeting to talk about the work of the select committee. For more information visit [here](#).

### EMC Councillor Events

**Charing and Facilitation Skills for Councillors, 26 June 2018** - EMC is running a half day Charing and Facilitation Skills event for Councillors. The training is to be delivered by Nelson Training, an award winning training company, details [here](#).

**An Introduction to Commissioning for Elected Members, 20 Sep 2018** - EMC is offering Councillors in the East Midlands the opportunity to take part in an introduction to commissioning for elected members workshop [details [here](#)]. The objectives of the seminar are to enable councillors to develop their understanding of:

- Commissioning in the context of public sector reform
- How a commissioning council works
- Procurement, contract management and performance monitoring
- Ways in which a robust and effective procurement strategy can benefit from transparency and democratic oversight

---

## Local Government News



**Northamptonshire reorganisation consultation deadline extended** - James Brokenshire, Housing, Communities and Local Government secretary has this week extended the consultation period for reorganisation in Northamptonshire by four weeks, to the end of August.

**Derby City Council** - Derby City Council will hold their Annual meeting of the Council on Wednesday 23 May 2018, the meeting will see the Election of the new Leader of the Council. This meeting follows the election results on 3 May, where Labour lost their majority to No Over All Control and Council Leader Ranjit Banwait lost his seat. Cons/LD/UKIP deal likely.

**Westminster Hall debate, 17 May 2018 on Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees** - First Report of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee, Effectiveness of local authority overview and scrutiny committees, HC 369, and the Government Response. The Hansard transcript is available from [here](#).

**LGA Cyber Security Stocktake** - The LGA has this week written to Chief Executives regarding the LGA's Cyber Security Stocktake, an online survey to be undertaken by councils, which will include:

- the technical arrangements and standards councils have in place
- council's leadership and governance structures, such as which boards/committees oversee cyber security arrangements
- training and awareness raising activities for staff and elected members
- the plans in place for managing a cyber incident.

The findings and analysis from this work will be used to inform and implement a plan of support for local government commencing in the autumn, using tried and tested LGA peer improvement models.

**Government launches fund for restoration of UK coastal landmarks** - The £1 million Coastal Revival Fund will support the restoration of some of the nation's most iconic and best-loved coastal architecture. For more visit [here](#).

**Polling on resident satisfaction with councils: May 2018** - The LGA Publication is available from [here](#).

**LGA Publication, Revitalising town centres: a handbook for council leadership** - For more information visit [here](#).

**LGA Publication, Clean, connected and in-control: what tomorrow's transport technology could mean for councils** - For more information visit [here](#).

**LGA Publication, One community: A guide to effective partnership working between principal and local councils** - For more information visit [here](#).

---

## Asylum and Refugee Resettlement

**Leicester social enterprise service is rated as Outstanding by the Care Quality Commission** - Inspectors found that the Assist practice (part of the Inclusion Healthcare Social Enterprise CIC) in Leicester city centre which provides care for asylum seekers and refugees was providing an innovative, compassionate and responsive service to all of its patients. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has found the quality of care provided by to be Outstanding following an inspection carried out in March 2018. The full report is available [here](#).

---

## Employers' Information

**National #LoveyourHR Conference, 21 June Birmingham**. The West Midlands Employers in partnership with LGA will hold a national HR conference, with headline speaker David Ulrich, Professor and International HR thought leader. To book a place visit [here](#).

**CEEP UK News Alert - 11 May 2018** - available [here](#).

---

## EMC Events

**Commercial Awareness Programme for Operational Managers, 06 Jun 2018** - This four day modular programme is designed to support operational managers in public services to support them in becoming more commercially aware when looking for opportunities to trade their service both internally and outside the organisation [details [here](#)].

**Negotiation Skills, 04 Jul 2018** - EMC is holding a full day workshop on Negotiation skills. This workshop will help managers to understand what negotiation is, and is not, in the business world. It will give them practical skills to enable them to prepare for a negotiation scenario, weighing up variables and anticipating challenges along the way [details [here](#)].

---

## Housing

**LGA opens bids for Housing Advisers Programme support to tackle housing crisis** - The Housing Advisers Programme, an innovative scheme set up by the LGA to help councils overcome housing challenges in their local areas, is opening for bids from 15 May. The Programme funds the provision of an independent expert for councils undertaking specific projects to tackle the effects of the housing crisis in local communities – including on housing delivery, planning for homes, and reducing homelessness. The Housing Advisers Programme aims to help councils deliver local priorities. Expressions of interest can be sent in from the today and will close on 26 June, find out details on how to submit applications or email [housingadvisers@local.gov.uk](mailto:housingadvisers@local.gov.uk). For more information visit [here](#).

---

---

## Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



**Raynsford Review of Planning** - Over the last 10 months, the Town and Council Planning Association has been progressing the Raynsford Review of Planning, chaired by its President, Rt. Hon Nick Raynsford, the highly respected former planning minister. The Raynsford Review aims to provide a holistic appraisal of the kind of planning system the nation needs. It will identify the ingredients for a successful and positive planning system in terms of:

- the vision for the future of the nation;
- the principles underpinning a fit-for-purpose planning system;
- the structures and processes at a national, sub-national or city-regional, local and neighbourhood scale; and the leadership, resources and skills needed to transform planning.

The interim report aims to promote debate about the future of the planning system in England by setting out how the system was founded, examining its current structure and providing an initial analysis of the evidence present to the review about its current performance. The report ends by offering a series of provisional propositions that will help to inform the recommendations of the final report to be published in the winter of 2018.

**Regional Events** - 25 May, 13:00 – 15:00, Birmingham City Council; 4 June, 13:00 – 15:00, Leeds City Council; 14 June, 13:00 – 15:00, Gateshead City Council. Each event will be chaired by Nick Raynsford and Hugh Ellis and will be a chance to discuss the interim report and feed in to the final output of the review. The full press release is available from [here](#). While there is no East Midlands event — EMC is working on proposals for a Planning and Housing Summit that will include this planning review.

**Major planning bodies unit to tackle climate change** - The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) have come together to produce a new guide which will help planners and politicians tackle climate change through the strategic use of policy and legislation.

The new guide, 'Planning for Climate Change – a Guide for Local Authorities', launched this week, provides an overview of policy and legislation which can be used to address climate change at a local level, overcoming the barriers faced by many local authorities in England. For more information visit [here](#).

**Government announces it will fully fund unsafe cladding removal in social housing** - The government will fully fund the removal and replacement of unsafe cladding by councils and housing associations, estimated at £400 million, it was announced this week. Local authorities and housing associations, which are non-profit making, will be given access to the money to help with reasonable costs of removing and replacing unsafe cladding from buildings which they own to ensure people are safe in their homes. For more information visit [here](#).

**Melton Mowbray bypass will help support thousands of jobs and homes** - Transport Secretary Chris Grayling announced £49.5 million of government funding to drive the scheme forward this week. The town, which suffers from congestion, is set to receive a single carriageway road, almost 7 kilometre in length, around the east of the town. The scheme will cost £63.5 million in total, of which Leicestershire County Council is providing £14 million. For more information visit [here](#).

**East Coast rail update** - London North Eastern Railway to run East Coast Mainline services - Oral statement to Parliament by The Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP available [here](#).

**'Radical reform' of building regulatory system needed, finds Dame Judith Hackitt** - The Chair of the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety has found that fundamental reform is needed to improve building safety and to rebuild trust among residents of high-rise buildings. For more information 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

## East Midlands Councils

First Floor Offices, South Annexe  
Pera Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB

Click on our [Twitter](#) & [YouTube](#) accounts for further information.

