

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

Top items this week



EMC Nominations



Statutory Guidance on
Overview and Scrutiny



Local Election Results Round
up



EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

10 MAY 2019

Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny

This week the Government has published the 'Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities'. The report available from [here](#). Key points include:

- councils should adopt a position of sharing any information asked for by their scrutiny committee, and if information can't be shared in public they should consider sharing it in a closed session
- scrutiny committees should be constructive 'critical friends' with a vital role of amplifying the voices and concerns of the public when councils take important decisions
- local authorities should also consider whether contracts with companies delivering services should include a requirement to supply information to scrutiny committees

To read the Centre for Public Scrutiny's response to the publication visit [here](#).

EMC has supported local authority scrutiny for over 12 years with the East Midlands Scrutiny Network that meets quarterly. The next network meeting will take place on **28 June 2019** at Erewash Borough Council. EMC would like to invite all those involved with scrutiny to attend this network meeting. The agenda will be circulated in due course but will include discussion of the newly published guidance. For more information contact Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

Home Office UASC Funding Review Announcement

The long-anticipated results of the Home Office's review of UASC funding were announced on this week by the Immigration Minister. The Home Office announcement is [here](#).

In summary:

- The lower, Legacy rates have been removed, as has the age differential in the National Rates. From 1st April 2019, all UASC will be funded at £114 per child per night
- Nationally, approximately 80% of UASC are 16 and 17 years old so this uplift will apply to them and the overall additional funding is over £30 million per year
- In the East Midlands currently, 86% of UASC are 16-17 year olds, so the new funding represents a £2.24 million boost across the region to Children's Services' budgets
- The funding is still intended as a contribution by the Home Office to local authority costs rather than full cost recovery, although it is now closer to that.
- The national review of former UASC care leavers remains on-going

A letter from the Minister has been sent to Council Leaders and Chief Executives.

EMC welcomes the Government's recognition that it costs local authorities the same to care for and support 16-17 year old UASC as it does for those under 16, and that the existing levels of financial support have failed to cover the significant cost incurred by councils in caring for these very vulnerable children.

We would like again to thank everyone who contributed so much to the East Midlands Councils' report on Local Authority UASC costs, which was submitted on behalf of the region to the Home Office as part of this review. Regional work to determine the costs to councils of supporting former UASC care leavers is continuing and we will work constructively with the Home Office as they review these cost pressures.

East Midlands Rail Franchise

Abellio has been confirmed as new operator of the East Midlands Rail Franchise from August 2019 [details [here](#)]. Council leaders will meet the new team at the Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) meeting on the 5th June to discuss plans for improving rail services across the East Midlands. The meeting will also consider a draft Partnership Agreement with DfT which will enable TfEM to have an ongoing role in the management of the franchise to ensure it delivers for local communities and businesses, and to drive incremental improvements over and above the franchise agreement.

EMC Nominations

East Midlands Councils seeks nominations and expressions of interest once a year in May (after the elections) for the following:

EMC - These 46 places are appointed by 'one place per authority' which is usually the Leader of the Council unless otherwise specified. In addition to this there are an additional 46 added places that are allocated on the basis of the political balance of the region (not authority) and members are invited to express an interest in these places. There are 2 EMC meetings a year (July and February).

EMC Boards - Nominations are also invited to the following Boards. These places are worked out on political balance of the region. Members must complete an "Expressions of Interest" form in order for their name to be put forward.

- **Regional Employers Board** – 4 meetings a year - Further information can be found [here](#).
- **Regional Migration Board** – 4 meetings a year - Further information can be found [here](#).

All expressions of interest will be passed to the relevant EMC Political Group Leaders. For more information or questions please contact Lisa.Hopkins@emcouncils.gov.

EMC Councillor Development Events

Hitting the Ground Running: Development session for newly elected Councillors, 12 Jul 2019 - EMC and the LGA are holding a half day session that is open to all councillors who have been elected for the first time in May 2019 from across the East Midlands. The event is to give newly elected councillors a wider perspective of their new role, will enable them to meet newly elected councillors from other local authorities, and learn about the support available from the Local Government Association (LGA) and East Midlands Councils (EMC) so as to help you hit the ground running in your role. For more information visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Government to fund and speed up vital cladding replacement - The government has stepped in to speed up vital cladding replacement by fully funding the work, eliminating excuses used by some building owners and protecting leaseholders from the costs.

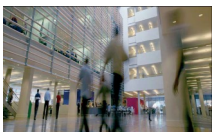
Around £200 million will be made available to remove and replace unsafe aluminium composite material cladding from around 170 privately owned high-rise buildings [details [here](#)].

Planning Act 2008: Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 - It has been updated in May 2019 to remove references to the current fee levels. For details of current fee levels please see the [Planning Inspectorate webpage](#). For full details visit [here](#).

Health & Social Care

Public Health England Chief Executive Duncan Selbie's update- 3 May 2019 - This weekly blog post includes the challenge of obesity, a new programme of work on tackling inequalities and a profile of the UK Public Health Rapid Support Team [details [here](#)].

Local Government News and wider



Polling on resident satisfaction with councils - This LGA report outlines the twenty second set of results in a series of regular Local Government Association (LGA) public polls on resident satisfaction with local councils, conducted every four months [details [here](#)].

First ten days as a lead member for children's services - This LGA guide is intended to help provide some structure to your first few days in office, and to cut through some of the initial 'noise', so that you can focus on what's important straight away, and what you need to be thinking about going forward [details [here](#)].

Government announces a range of new measures to crack down on intimidation, influence and disinformation, and safeguard UK elections - [details [here](#)].

Police granted funding boost for action on serious violence - Sajid Javid has announced that £12.4 million will be distributed to 18 forces dealing with high levels of violent crime [details [here](#)].

EMC Events



Charting your course: How to define success and achieve it! 12 Jun 2019 - This full day workshop help delegates to explore what it meant to them to be successful; the psychology behind goal setting; how to set goals they could achieve and how to quieten negative thoughts [details [here](#)].

LEAN Practitioner Training, 03 Jul 2019 - LEAN Practitioner Training is a two-day module to develop your understanding of how using a variety of LEAN thinking and improvement tools can achieve improved services and outcomes [details [here](#)].

Local Election Results in the East Midlands

The full results from last week's local council elections.

Amber Valley - LAB GAIN FROM CON (Lab 26, Con 18, Green 1)

Ashfield - IND GAIN FROM NOC (Independents 30, Con 3, Lab 2, Lib Dem 0)

Bassetlaw - LAB HOLD (Lab 37, Con 5, Independent 5, Lib Dem 1)

Blaby - CON HOLD (Con 25, Lab 6, Lib 6, Green 1, Independent 1)

Bolsover - LAB LOSE TO NOC (Lab 18, Independents 16, Con 2, Lib Dem 1)

Boston - CON HOLD (Con 16, Independents 11, Lab 2, UKIP 1)

Broxtowe - CON LOSE TO NOC (Con 20, Lab 14, Lib Dem 5, Independents 3)

Charnwood - CON HOLD (Con 37, Lab 13, Green 1, Independent 1)

Chesterfield - LAB HOLD (Lab 28, Lib Dem 17, Independent 3)

Derby - NOC NO CHANGE (Con 20, Lab 16, Lib Dem 7, UKIP 5, Independents 3)

Derbyshire Dales - CON HOLD (Con 20, Lib Dem 8, Lab 6, Independents 3, Green 2)

East Lindsey - CON HOLD (Con 29, Independent 18, Lab 7, Lib Dem 1)

Erewash - CON HOLD (Con 27, Lab 19, Lib Dem 1)

Gedling - LAB HOLD (Lab 23, Con 7, Labour and Co-Operative Party 4, Lib Dem 2, Independent 2).

Harborough - CON HOLD (Con 22, Lib Dem 11, Lab 1)

High Peak - LAB GAIN FROM CON (Lab 22, Con 16, Lib Dem 3, Green 2)

Hinckley and Bosworth - LD GAIN FROM CON (Lib Dem 21, Con 11, Lab 2)

Leicester - LAB HOLD (Lab 53, Lib Dem 1), Sir Peter Soulsby was elected as City Mayor.

Lincoln - LAB HOLD (Lab 24, Con 9)

Mansfield - NOC NO CHANGE (Independent 19, Lab 15, Con 2), Andy Abrahams (Labour) was elected as the new Executive Mayor of Mansfield.

Melton - CON HOLD (Con 22, Independent 5, Green 1)

Newark and Sherwood - CON HOLD (Con 27, Lab 7, Independent 3, Lib Dem 2)

North Kesteven - CON LOSE TO NOC (Independent 22, Con 20)

North East Derbyshire - CON GAIN FROM LAB (Con 30, Lab 18, Lib Dem 3, Independent 2)

North West Leicestershire - CON HOLD (Con 20, Lab 10, Lib Dem 4, Independents 3, Green 1)

Nottingham - LAB HOLD (Lab 50, Independents 3, Con 2)

Oadby and Wigston - LIB DEM HOLD (Lib Dem 24, Con 2)

Rushcliffe - CON HOLD (Con 29, Lab 7, Independent 3, Lib Dem 3, Green 2)

Rutland - CON HOLD (Con 15, Independent 8, Lib Dem 3, Green 1)

South Derbyshire - CON HOLD (Con 22, Lab 14)

South Holland - CON HOLD (Con 24, Independent 13, UKIP 0)

South Kesteven - CON HOLD (Con 40, Independents 11, Lab 3, Lib Dem 3, Liberal Party 1, UKIP 0)

West Lindsey - CON HOLD (Con 19, Lib Dem 12, Independents 5, Lab 0)

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 CBE

Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE

Independent Group: Mayor Kate Allsop

Executive Director: Stuart Young

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