**Brexit Update**

There remains some confusion on the immigration arrangements that will apply to EU citizens and their family members who are moving to the UK after 31 October 2019 in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal. To try and provide some clarity, we include a link to the latest Government policy paper that sets out the process for EU citizens applying for temporary leave to remain only after they arrive in the UK, with no special arrangements needed in advance (available here)  

As part of the region’s work with MHCLG on ensuring the implications of Brexit at the local level are factored into national considerations, local authority Brexit Lead Officers held a telecon last week to ensure all significant issues are factored into our ‘weekly returns’. A number of local authorities have raised concerns on the potential impact on homelessness and the risks of food price increases on vulnerable and low income groups in the local community – and subsequent pressure and likely resilience of local food bank supplies. We will ensure all information is shared with each council’s Brexit Lead Officer.

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**EMC News**

**Scrutiny Conference** - Last week East Midlands Councils held its first Scrutiny Conference, providing local authorities with the opportunity to hear from expert speakers on the Government’s scrutiny guidance published back in May. The conference included Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on her previous role of Chair of the Treasury Select Committee and Lilian Greenwood MP, Chair of the Transport Select Committee. If you would like to receive a copy of the presentations from the event contact kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

**EMC Support Activity**

**Recruitment and Assessment Support** - This week EMC staff have supported an authority with their recruitment to a senior officer role, through the provision of an assessment centre. For more information on the support EMC can provide for recruitment contact sam.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk

**EMC Councillor Events**

**An Introduction to Commissioning for Elected Members, 7 Nov 2019** - EMC is offering Councillors in the East Midlands the opportunity to take part in an introduction to commissioning for elected members workshop on 7 November. Given the rise in commissioning in local government and the impact of the outsourcing of contracts on service delivery, resident satisfaction and budgets, councillors increasingly are considering how they can exercise greater oversight of commissioning activity. For more information on this session visit here.

**Advanced financial scrutiny skills, 21 Nov 2019** - EMC is working with the Centre for Public Scrutiny to provide a full day workshop on advanced financial scrutiny skills. Many authorities recognise the need to invest in financial scrutiny training in order that members can provide constructive challenge to the assumptions underpinning a council’s approach to financial planning whilst also capitalising on the social intelligence implicit in councillors’ community leadership roles. This action-focused one day workshop is aimed at Scrutiny Chairs, Scrutiny Officers, Scrutiny Members, Backbenchers, Chairs of Audit, Section 151 Officers and Senior Finance Officers. For more information on the session visit here.
Houses in multiple occupation and residential property licensing reform: guidance for local housing authorities - This document has been prepared as a guide for local housing authorities to help them understand how to implement the reforms to houses in multiple occupation (HMO) licensing.

Under the Housing Act 2004, larger HMOs that are 3 or more storeys and occupied by 5 or more persons forming at least 2 separate households are required to be licensed.

With effect from 1 October 2018 mandatory licensing of HMOs will be extended so that smaller properties used as HMOs in England which house 5 people or more in 2 or more separate households will in many cases require a licence.

New mandatory conditions to be included in licences have also been introduced, prescribing national minimum sizes for rooms used as sleeping accommodation and requiring landlords to adhere to council refuse schemes [details here].

Transport Select Committee to kickstart conversation on national road pricing - The Transport Committee wants to start a national debate about road pricing – something that has been lacking for more than a decade since the then Labour Government’s road pricing plans were abandoned. This is in advance of an inquiry to be formally announced in early 2020, when the Committee will invite views from across the country from drivers and non-drivers alike about the future of road-based transport [details here].

Midlands Connect

Midlands Connect October Newsletter - The October edition of the Midlands Connect newsletter includes; Midlands Connect submits evidence to HS2 Oakervee Review; Midlands Engine Rail plans launched to widespread support; Party Conference season; Funding secured for A46 Newark Bypass and Major Road Network schemes and the Midlands Connect East Midlands Open Day. To access the newsletter visit here.

#MoreFreightByRail video - This week Midlands Connect have released on social media a #MoreFreightByRail video, which explains how the Midlands Rail Hub proposals will make space for up to 72 extra freight trains a day, with the potential to shift a million lorries’ worth of cargo a year from road to rail.

The tweet is available here: https://twitter.com/MidsConnect/status/1181168945178595330 the LinkedIn here.

Homelessness

Housing associations and councils working together to end homelessness - In November and December 2018, the Local Government Association (LGA) and the National Housing Federation (NHF) hosted five roadshow events across England, under the theme: ‘Working Together to tackle Homelessness’.

Held in the months leading up to the Homelessness Reduction Act’s first anniversary, these events were a valuable opportunity to reflect on the challenges that councils and housing associations collectively face in tackling homelessness. They were an opportunity to discuss how organisations can work together to achieve solutions.

In this report the LGA outline: our motivation for the events, what we learned, and how we can continue the conversation. For more information visit here.

Health & Social Care

Improved Better Care Fund 2018-19: quarterly and year-end reporting - Reports on data collected from Health and Wellbeing Boards outlining how the £674 million allocated for 2018-19 has been used [details here].

Vulnerable people receive almost 13 million extra hours of home care - Vulnerable people across England received almost 13 million extra hours of home visits from social care workers last year, new statistics show [details here].

Suicide prevent sector-led improvement prospectus 2019/20 - The LGA and ADPH ‘s suicide prevention sector led improvement programme prospectus outlines the following support available in 2019/20:

- **National**: a series of tools, products and events designed to provide wider and easier access to the good practice, learning and existing resources.

- **Regional**: grant funding allocated to ADPH networks to build on and support regional suicide prevention SLI activity.

- **Local**: bespoke expert support for up to twelve local authorities and partners who self-identify as facing significant delivery challenges locally around suicide prevention.

For more information visit here.
**Employers’ Information**

**Talent Conference** - This week EMC has held a conference for HR and Organisational Development colleagues focused on attracting and developing talent. The conference provided delegates with the opportunity to discuss and share the key challenges facing the public sector in attracting and development talent and provided an opportunity to explore solutions. If you would like to receive a copy of the presentations from the event contact Mila.Perira@emcouncils.gov.uk

**Local Government News**

**Litter strategy for England: progress reports** - These reports set out what progress has been made on the actions identified in the government’s litter strategy published in 2017 [details here].

**Local government finance settlement 2020 to 2021: technical consultation** - This consultation paper sets out the government’s intended approach for the 2020 to 2021 local government finance settlement [details here].

It will be of particular interest to local authorities, and representative bodies for local authorities.

**Over the summer Charnwood and Rushcliffe Borough Councils have received top award for Armed Forces Support** - Charnwood and Rushcliffe Borough Councils have received a gold award for their support of the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces Covenant Employer Scheme (ERS) Gold Award is the highest badge of honour for organisations which have signed the Armed Forces Covenant and demonstrates outstanding support for those who serve and have served.

The award recognises employers who actively support the Armed Forces community in their workplace and encourage others to follow their lead. Both councils currently have the silver award and are the first local authorities in the East Midlands to now receive gold.

**Press releases** - Rushcliffe Borough Council [here] and Charnwood Borough Council [here].

**Leicester City Council wins £2m bid to celebrate architectural heritage of city centre streets** - Leicester City Council has successfully bid for the £2million award from Historic England to help restore and regenerate buildings in Granby Street, High Street and Church Gate over the next four years.

The project is part of the national High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme and will see at least 40 of the most important historic shopfronts in the area shortlisted for grants to help pay for repair, restoration and a general spruce up. For more information visit [here].

**Millions set to benefit from faster broadband with new plans to tackle rogue landlords** - A new law will mean an extra 3,000 residential buildings a year will be connected to gigabit speeds. This part of the Prime Minister’s plan to level up the country and deliver nationwide coverage of fast broadband

This follows the government announcing £5 billion of new funding to bring gigabit-capable broadband to the hardest-to-reach parts of the UK earlier this month. It is the latest Government action to bust the barriers to faster broadband rollout and enable the private sector to get the job done [details here].

**EMC Events**

**ILM Coaching Programmes starting this autumn** - We have partnered with Coaching Focus to provide two unique opportunities to develop skills and knowledge in Coaching and Mentoring, with an ILM 5 Certificate in Effective Coaching and Mentoring [details here] and an ILM 7 certificate in Executive Coaching [details here] starting on 6 February, this is the second cohort that EMC has been able to make available.

**The Power of Constellations Coaching, 05 Dec 2019** - The workshop will be a mixture of theory, practice and a showcase of what Constellations Coaching looks like. There will be huge value for the beginner as well as the experienced coach. For more information visit [here].

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**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