

EMC POLICY BRIEF

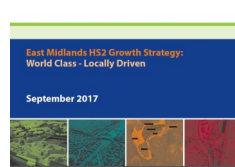
A weekly round up of local government news in the East Midlands brought to you by East Midlands Councils

Top items this week

13 OCTOBER 2017



EMC response for DfT's EM Franchise consultation



East Midlands Infrastructure Summit



East Midlands LA Challenge 2017



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers



East Midlands Infrastructure Summit: Driving Growth - Investing in our Infrastructure

Following a series of significant announcements on infrastructure investment in the East Midlands, not least the recently announced cancellation of the Midland Mainline Electrification, East Midlands Councils and East Midlands Chamber (Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire) will host a special Summit to discuss the future of the region's transport projects and how local business growth can be maximised through their delivery.

Bringing together leading businesses and politicians, this event will offer attendees the opportunity to help shape the development of strategic transport projects and investment, to inform our work with Government in securing this investment and to learn more about the potential impact of new projects, including plans for HS2 in the region.

Key speakers include:

- **Rt. Hon Nicky Morgan MP** (Loughborough), Chair of the Treasury Select Committee
- **Lillian Greenwood MP** (Nottingham South), Chair of the Transport Select Committee
- **Sir Peter Soulsby**, City Mayor, Leicester City Council
- **Cllr Kay Cutts MBE**, Leader, Nottinghamshire County Council
- **Cllr Roger Blaney**, Leader of Newark and Sherwood District Council on East Midlands Rail Franchise

The summit will include speakers from the private sector including representatives from Rail Forum East Midlands and business leaders, with further information to follow in future editions of the Policy Brief. This event is by invitation only. For more information on this event visit [here](#).

Date, time and venue - Monday 27 November, 10:00-14:30, City Hall, Leicester City Council, LE1 1FZ



Policy Update Event for Councillors, 3 November

EMC is holding its annual Policy Update Event for Councillors in the East Midlands on Friday 3 November 2017. Speakers include;

Jim Crawshaw, Homelessness Advice and Support Team, DCLG will provide an overview of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and what this means for Local Authorities

Andrew Pritchard, Director of Policy & Infrastructure at East Midlands Councils will deliver an overview of the latest developments in planning and the key future considerations.

Laura-Beth Hutton, Senior Associate, Eversheds Sutherland will present an overview of the law relating to Neighbourhood Planning.

Cllr Roger Upton, Chairman of Radcliffe on Trent Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee will present the process and lessons learnt regarding the Radcliffe on Trent neighbourhood plan.

For more information on this event and to book a one of the remaining few places visit [here](#).



East Midlands Local Authority Challenge 2017

EMC will hold the second annual East Midlands Local Authority Challenge event on 16 November 2017 at Donington Race Track. In 2016 South Kesteven District Council became the first Local Authority Challenge Winner for the East Midlands, taking part in the interactive, high pressure exciting development focused competition.

The 2017 Local Authority Challenge will see the introduction of a new award to the Challenge, the Best Partnership Working award, recognising the vital part that partnership working plays in local government. The team registration deadline date is 1 November, but early booking is advised. For more information visit [here](#).

Coaching Support - This week EMC Colleagues have provided Coaching support to a number of individuals within EMC member authorities. EMC manages the East Midlands Coaching Network (a network of 10 local authorities that share coaches and coaching hours) and has four qualified in-house coaches. For more information contact Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

EMC Councillor Events

Local Government Finance, 12 Dec 2017 - The seminar will cover the emerging impact of major changes to local government finance: including the journey towards the 100% localisation of Business Rates, the end of Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and the expectation of councils generating local economic growth to help fund services. This seminar comes after the **Autumn Budget** that will take place on **22 November**. For more information visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



EMC Consultation response for DfT's EM Franchise consultation - This week the Government's consultation on the future specification of the East Midlands Rail Franchise came to an end. EMC's own consultation response was considered and approved by Transport for East Midlands and East Midlands Councils Executive Board. Copies of the consultation response and covering letter can be found [here](#).

Job Alert: Vacancy for Programme Manager - Strategic Infrastructure - East Midlands Councils is offering a fixed term or secondment opportunity as Programme Manager to support its responsibilities for strategic infrastructure and policy, particularly relating to strategic transport priorities. For more information visit [here](#), the deadline for applications is 27 October 2017.

LGC Analysis 'DCLG's housing estimates expose north-south divide' - This week the Local Government Chronicle has published an article detailing its analysis of DCLG's housing estimates that were published in September. This LGC analysis of the difference between the number of homes the government thinks each region should build each year and local estimates. The analysis highlights a north side divide with the North West (-26%), Yorkshire and Humber (-25%), and the West Midlands (-13%) in negative figures. While the **East Midlands** (+13%), South West (+19%), East of England (+14%), South East (+5%) and London (+75%) all require additional increases.

Capacity in the homebuilding industry: government response to the Select Committee report - The House of Commons Communities and Local Government Committee conducted an inquiry into capacity in the homebuilding industry which concluded with a [report](#) in April 2017. This is the government response to the Committee report. The report is available from [here](#).

Communities and Local Government Select Committee - At this week's meeting of the Communities and Local Government Select Committee, the Secretary of State Rt. Hon Sajid Javid announced that the Government will not provide any additional funding to councils carrying out fire safety improvement works to tower blocks – but local authorities will be given 'flexibilities' to increase the borrowing cap of housing revenue accounts or they'll be able to use money from council general funds to pay for the works. For more on the Select Committee visit [here](#).

Scope of the Communities and Local Government Select Committee DCLG inquiry - The one off Committee meeting was established to question the Secretary of State and Ministers on the Department's work since the election, as well as its policy priorities in the new Parliament, including how the Government intends to proceed with its reforms to business rates, the adult social care green paper, and its plans for leasehold reform and wider housing policy [details [here](#)].

New £48 billion funding for Britain's railways - Transport Secretary Chris Grayling unveiled this week the latest stage in the government's investment in Britain's railways.

He set out the next round of rail funding, [announcing that around £48 billion will be spent on the network over a 5 year period](#), from 2019 to 2024, including more maintenance and a huge uplift in renewals to increase reliability and punctuality for passengers. For more information visit [here](#).

Employers' Information



Derbyshire County Council Leader outlines commitment to 'Dying to Work' charter - Derbyshire County Council Leader Councillor Barry Lewis has met with a leading campaigner on employment rights for people with terminal illnesses to reaffirm their commitment to the cause. For more information visit [here](#).

EMC highlighted the Dying to Work Campaign earlier this year at the April 2017 Regional Joint Council meeting. Additional information was provided to our members at our Annual AGM back in July. For more information on the Dying to Work Charter visit [here](#).

Local Government News and wider



LGC article, 'East Midlands cities seek partners to break devo deadlock' - This week the LGC publication has featured an article following an interview with Cllr Jon Collins, Leader of Nottingham City Council. In his LGC interview, Cllr Collins revealed membership of the Metro strategy between Nottingham and the unitary Derby City Council could be extended to other parts of the East Midlands, a following the collapse of the proposed North Midlands mayoral devolution deal last year.

LGA Publication, Bright Futures – getting the best for children, young people and families - This paper sets out seven clear priorities for coordinated action across the public, community and voluntary sectors, which we believe will help drive the improvement necessary to consistently offer the brightest future for children and families. To access the report visit [here](#).

LGA Publication, Corporate Parenting Resource Pack - Looking after and protecting children and young people is one of the most important jobs that councils do and when a child, for whatever reason, can't safely stay at home, it is up to us as the local authority to step in and give them the care, support and stability that they deserve. This pack aims to help them fulfil that role as effectively as possible. To access the pack visit [here](#).

LGA Publication, Support for care leavers resource pack - [here](#).

Update on the future of DWP jobcentres - DWP confirms that some smaller jobcentres will merge with larger ones, and others will be co-located within local government premises. For more information visit [here](#).

Health & Social Care

Adult social care: government response to the Select Committee report - The Committee issued 2 [reports](#) earlier in 2017 concerning adult social care. This document responds to the Committee's recommendations and was prepared by the Department of Communities and Local Government in consultation with other government departments. For more information visit [here](#).

LGA Report, Must Knows for Elected Members: Prevention - Prevention involves tackling the wide range of determinants that contribute to poor health in individuals and populations, with the aim of promoting health and wellbeing, and reducing health inequalities. Lead members are well placed to be health champions, engaging with communities to hear their priorities, and supporting them to take an active role in prevention [report available [here](#)].

Public Health England's Chief Executive Duncan Selbie Friday message - 13 October 2017 - Duncan Selbie's weekly blog is available from [here](#). In this weeks blog he refers to his contribution to a summit on policing and public health "where delegates discussed the shared aim of intervening early to address the common factors that bring people into contact with the police and criminal justice system and ultimately poor outcomes throughout life". In this blog he sites an example in Northamptonshire, where work with young offenders in Northamptonshire found that bereavement is the main driver in 40% of youth offending service court cases and by working together something as obvious as this could have been handled differently. To access the blog visit [here](#).

LGA Publication, Adult social care funding: State of the nation - October 2017 - Report available [here](#).

EMC Events



Mediation & Conflict Resolution Skills, 31 Oct 2017 - East Midlands Councils together with experienced practitioners from South East Employers are providing an opportunity to undertake a 3 day ILM endorsed programme in Mediation and Conflict Resolution which will give you the skills and confidence to undertake mediation from initial meeting with the parties to closure, following a mediation model. For more information visit [here](#).

Understanding the needs of refugee and asylum seeking children and young people, 02 Nov 2017 - East Midlands Councils and the Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum (NNRF) are holding a one day event on understanding the needs of refugee and asylum seeking children and young people. 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

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