

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

18 MARCH 2016



Budget 2016



Greater Lincolnshire
A Place to Grow



Midlands Engine Update



EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers



Greater Lincolnshire
A Place to Grow

Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal Announced

Budget 2016 announced new devolution deals agreed with **Greater Lincolnshire**.

This document sets out the terms of a proposed agreement between government and the leaders of Greater Lincolnshire to devolve a range of powers and responsibilities to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and a new directly elected combined authority mayor.

Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will comprise Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, Boston Borough Council, City of Lincoln Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Kesteven District Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council, West Lindsey District Council.

This will give Greater Lincolnshire significant new powers over transport, planning, and skills. Greater Lincolnshire will also receive control of a £450 million investment fund over 30 years to boost economic growth.

Building on the Growth Deals, agreed in July 2014 and January 2015, this Devolution Deal marks the next step in the transfer of resources and powers from central government to Greater Lincolnshire and will enable Greater Lincolnshire to accelerate the delivery of its Strategic Economic Plan, which aims to increase the value of the Greater Lincolnshire economy by over £8 billion, creating more than 29,000 new jobs, and delivering at least 100,000 new homes.

The Great Lincolnshire Devolution Agreement is available [here](#)

Budget 2016

Through Midlands Connect and Midlands Engine, councils worked together in developing Budget propositions for the Treasury – and it was encouraging that this week's Budget included an number of important announcements for the East Midlands.

To boost transport and connectivity in the Midlands, the government will:

- Put Midlands Connect on a statutory footing by the end of 2018 to create a sub-national transport body for the Midlands thereby supporting Midlands Connect in developing and implementing a long-term Midlands Transport Strategy.
- Develop Midlands Connect's priority strategic roads schemes in this Parliament; upgrades to the M1 to provide a continuous smart motorway from London to Yorkshire, improvements to the A46 Newark bypass and its junction with the A1, upgrading the single carriageway link on the A45 Stanwick to Thrapston, and upgrading the M42 and M5 around Birmingham to a four lane smart motorway
- Allocate £11 million during 2016-2017 to fill around 214,000 potholes
- Allocate £1 million to expand car parking facilities at Market Harborough rail station – part of the work for the upgrade of the Midland Mainline.
- Build on the region's strengths in space science and research by establishing a new Enterprise Zone across Loughborough and Leicester.

Provide £16 million in R&D funding, matched by industry, to support aerospace firms in the East Midlands. This includes £7 million to help Rolls-Royce develop new high-temperature alloys in Derby. The Midlands will also receive over £15 million funding to support R&D into lowering vehicle emissions.

The Full Budget report is available [here](#).

LGA Migration Task Group - The LGAs Migration Task Group meeting will take place next week. James Brokenshire MP, Immigration Minister and Richard Harrington MP, Minister for Syrian Refugees will be attending the meeting, along with Cllr Peter Robinson, Lincolnshire County Council who will be representing the East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership.

EMC Support Services

Appraisal Training - This week EMC Officers have been asked to support a member authority with Appraisal training. For further information about support services available from EMC visit [here](#).

EMC Councillor Events

The Role of the Civic Head and Team, 25 May 2016 - The day will include discussion on the role of prospective Civic Heads, Mayoress, Consorts or Escorts, their Deputies and all Civic Support Officers and will identify any concerns and further needs that the delegates may have in carrying out their duties. For further information visit [here](#).

East Midlands Regional Programme of Policy Events for Councillors, 2016-17 Programme of Development - In 2016-17 EMC are launching their new look programme, which will combine policy briefing events and specific skills workshops to provide a rounded programme of development to support Councillors. For further information about the programme visit [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



#ChangingBritain (HS2) - In February the Government published the Changing Britain Report [available [here](#)] This report sets out how the HS2 project is already changing the way central and local government and local enterprise partnerships work together to plan the future.

HS2 Bill - The House of Commons will conclude its consideration of HS2 Phase One Bill next Wednesday 24 March. This is crucial stage not only for link from London to Birmingham, but also for Phase 2, including the route to Leeds and the proposed East Midlands Hub Station at Toton. The EMC Executive will consider the latest position on HS2 at its meeting today.

Derby County Football Club hosts iRail2016 - iRail is an annual event that showcases the exciting range of careers open to young people in Britain's flourishing railway sector. Now in its seventh year, iRail2016 saw almost 70 pupils from 17 schools compete in a 'Dragon's Den' style competition.

The event has recently been adopted by the Rail Forum East Midlands (RFEM) and is a key part of the Rail Forum's strategy to promote railway careers as well as the local railway industry, which sits as the heart of the 'Midlands Engine'. The iRail challenge was preceded by a Business Breakfast for local rail businesses providing the opportunity to discuss skills issues and ends in the evening with the IMechE sponsored distinguished lecture for rail engineers. For more information on #iRail2016 please contact [Elaine Clarke elaineclark@midlandsrail.co.uk](mailto:Elaine.Clarke@midlandsrail.co.uk)

Midlands Engine



Midlands comes together to win £14 billion of investment - The Midlands has this week set out its stall to win £14 billion from global investors as part of its plan to turn itself into one of the world's leading regional economies.

The plan, dubbed the Midlands Engine Pitchbook, will be used to showcase investment opportunities to key markets such as China and the US. It unveils 33 major opportunities for investors, which combined can create 178,000 jobs, 32,000 new homes and 57.9 million sq ft of property space for the region.

Peter Richardson, chair of the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2) LEP, said: "The Midlands has invested heavily in its transport infrastructure, turning the UK's best connected region into an investment hotspot. The region's road and rail infrastructure means that 92% of the country is within a four hour commute of the Midlands, and the forthcoming arrival of HS2 is only set to improve links to other UK economic hubs. With three international airports, investors from over 200 countries can easily access our region."

The Pitchbook is now live on the UKTI website and can be found [here](#):

Midlands Engine Steering Group - The next meeting of the Midlands Engine Steering Group is scheduled for 24 March, further details will be provided in next weeks Policy Brief.

Employers' Information



National Pay Developments - The Low Pay Commission has announced that the existing National Minimum Wage (NMW) of £6.70 will increase by 3.70% to £6.95 on 1 October 2016. However, from 2017 the NMW and new National Living Wage (£7.20 from 1 April 2016) will both increase on 1 April each year [available [here](#)]

The Employers' final pay offer would increase the 'Green Book' bottom pay point (SCP6) to £7.52 on 1 April 2016 and to £7.78 on 1 April 2017. This offer has been rejected by both Unison and Unite and was accepted by GMB. The Joint Union Side meets on 18 March to decide next steps and the Employers' Side meets on 1st April.

Chief Officers - Agreement has been reached for Chief Officers of a 1% increase on 1st April 2016 and 2017.

Employers' Information



CEEP UK : Newsletter : 11 March 2016 - The Newsletter includes details of the Intergroup Public Services Event this week, which will include a panel discussion “**Jobs creation in rural areas** “ will explore the importance of the role of economic and non-economic SGIs and is organised in cooperation with the Intergroup on RUrAl, Moutaineous and Remote Areas (RUMRA).

To access the Newsletter visit [here](#). *In this issue:*

- Intergroup Public Services Event – Role of SGIs for Job creation in Rural Areas
- International Women’s Day 2016: Istanbul Convention & Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality (translations)

Midlands Connect



Midlands Connect Steering Group Meeting - The next Midlands Connect Steering group meeting will take place on 24 March in Derby. It will consider progress on the technical work and a first draft of an interim report entitled ‘Midlands Connect: Picking up Pace’.

Local Government News



What Works in Parenting Support? Innovation and Quality in Practice, 19 April, Nottingham Conference Centre - Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham Trent University present this unique conference exploring what works in parenting support. The conference will also showcase the innovative work and impact of the Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) project between the Council and the University. The event will be an opportunity for local authorities, managers, policy makers, practitioners and researchers to come together to share best practice and good quality evidence on parenting support. For more information and to register your attendance at the free conference, please visit [here](#).

Health & Social Care



Adult Social Care Strategy - Rutland County Council launched its new Adult Social Care Strategy to set out how it will support the growing number of people in Rutland who need help because of illness, old age or disability. It estimates that the number of people in Rutland over the age of 75 and living alone will reach 3,800 out of a population of 46,000 within 15 years. The Strategy is available [here](#).

Health Inequalities - This week Public Health England launched ‘One You’, a new evidence-based campaign designed to reduce health inequalities. The Global Burden of Disease UK study, published by PHE in the Lancet, revealed that in the past 25 years, there has been little, if any, reduction in the gap between life expectancy for those living in the most deprived areas, and those living in the least deprived areas – that’s a gap of eight years for men and seven years for women.

EMC Events



East Midlands Coaching Conference 2016, 22 Jun 2016 - The date for the fourth Annual Coaching Conference has been set for 22 June 2016 and will be held at Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Arnold. Our 4th Annual Coaching Conference provides a range of experiences, tools and techniques for all coaches. The conference will provide delegates with the opportunity to attend two out of **four** brilliant, practical and enlightening workshop designed to support coaches in their coaching practice. For further information visit [here](#).

Local Authority Challenge 2016 - East Midlands, 24 Nov 2016 - East Midlands Councils is bringing the Local Authority Challenge to the East Midlands for the first time in 2016. The challenge will offer a rare opportunity for aspiring managers across local government to gain exposure to issues outside of their normal working lives and give them a taste of what senior management is like. For further information visit [here](#).

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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