

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

Top items this week

19 JULY 2019



East Midlands APPG



East Midlands Scrutiny
Conference 2019



£2 million migration funding
helps alleviate council
pressures across EM



EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

East Midlands Scrutiny Conference 2019, 4 October 2019

In the run up to the 20 year anniversary of Local Government Scrutiny and to mark the publication of the recent 'Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities', East Midlands Councils is holding a Scrutiny Conference.

This conference is aimed at both Councillors and officers involved in Scrutiny.

Learning from Parliamentary Select Committees

The conference will include a keynote from **Lilian Greenwood MP**, Chair of the Transport Select Committee and **Nicky Morgan MP**, Chair of the Treasury Select Committee.

Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities

- **Ed Hammond, Centre for Public Scrutiny** will provide a presentation on the Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities.
- **John Cade, INLOGOV, University of Birmingham** will provide a deeper dive into the concept of Culture and how this can help and hinder scrutiny.

Interactive skills development workshops

The Conference will include a range of practical workshops designed to support both Councillors and Officers. Workshops confirmed already cover;

- Questioning Skills
- Chairing Scrutiny
- "Triage for Scrutiny Officers" - what are the challenges/how could they be overcome?

Additional workshops will be confirmed.

Date, Time & Venue - Friday 4 October 2019, 10:00 - 16.00, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7YG. **Costs** - Early bird - £125 if delegates book before 4 September 2019. Book [here](#).

East Midlands Councils EMC News

At the EMC AGM last week the chairs and vice chairs of East Midlands Councils were agreed, along with the political group leaders.

Chair and Vice Chairs

- **Chair:** Cllr Martin Hill OBE, Leader of Lincolnshire County Council
- **Vice Chair:** Cllr David Mellen, Leader of Nottingham City Council
- **Vice Chair:** Cllr Jonathan Morgan, Leader of Charnwood Borough Council

Political Group Leaders

- **Conservative Group:** Cllr Roger Blaney, Newark and Sherwood District Council
- **Labour Group:** Cllr Alan Rhodes, Nottinghamshire County Council
- **Lib Dem Group:** Cllr David Bill MBE, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- **Independent Group:** Cllr Jason Zadrozny, Leader of Ashfield District Council

Loughborough University undergraduate planning degree course - EMC organised a workshop for senior council planners from across the East Midlands to meet with academics from Loughborough University to discuss the establishment of a new planning undergraduate course. The East Midlands is currently the only region without an RTP1 recognised planning school. Experience from elsewhere suggests planning schools can help to promote best practice and learning within the councils and play a key role in workforce development. The workshop discussed the emerging course content and opportunities for students to undertake work placements with councils. The first cohort of students are expected to graduate in July 2023.

The East Midlands All Party Parliamentary Group met this week to consider the HS2 Eastern Leg – Priorities and Challenges. MPs, including Sir Patrick McLoughlin and Lilian Greenwood, discussed how they can strengthen collective leadership on HS2 in the East Midlands, working closely with local authorities and business representatives. With the forthcoming HS2 Hybrid Bill alongside current speculation on the future commitment for delivering this project, it will be important for regions MPs to make the positive case for the Eastern Leg. The EM APPG is chaired by Nigel Mills MP and Alex Norris MP, for more information on the APPG visit [here](#).

Asylum and Refugee Resettlement



£2 million migration funding helps alleviate council pressures across the East Midlands

A number of councils across the region are set to receive a total of £2.09 million to help ease pressures on local services resulting from recent migration. This is part of the latest round of funding through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's Controlling Migration Fund, totalling £28 million to local authorities across England [details [here](#)].

Local projects have been funded to support a range of services, from tackling rogue landlords, helping alleviate rough sleeping, and boosting community integration through English language lessons, to improving the outcomes of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and supporting care leavers to access education. In addition, funding has been received for a regional project to recruit and train more foster carers and supported lodgings providers for unaccompanied asylum seeking children in care;

East Midlands UASC Foster Carer and Supported Lodgings Provider Recruitment and Support

The project will bring benefits to the wider community through providing more foster carers and supported lodgings for children in care. An increase across the region of in-house carers and providers will mean better outcomes for the most vulnerable children in our care, and savings for local authority children's services. This was awarded £725,203, further information on the project will be provided by the East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership.

Authorities awarded the funding include, in the East Midlands; Bolsover, Boston (on behalf of 7 Lincolnshire councils), Derbyshire County Council, Leicester, Leicestershire (on behalf of East Midlands SMP), Lincoln, Lincolnshire, Mansfield and South Kesteven District Council.

The East Midlands project information can be found [here](#).

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Article: £130m of housing infrastructure bids rejected

In a LGC article this week, their research into the housing infrastructure fund announced in 2018 has revealed that 23 bids have since been rejected. The full article can be access from the LGC site [here](#) (please note that the LGC is a subscription based website). The article details that 2 bids were rejected from authorities in the East Midlands.

Roads policing review to improve safety

A first-of-its-kind joint review into roads policing and traffic enforcement will be launched later this year, in a bid to improve road safety. The 2 year review, jointly funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) and Highways England, will look at how roads policing currently works, its effectiveness, and where improvements could be made or gaps bridged. The DfT will be looking at this with the Home Office and the National Police Chiefs' Council. A pilot programme based on the review and consultation feedback could begin next year, and could test out new initiatives or ways of working to see what works best in reducing road casualties [details [here](#)].

Electric car chargepoints to be installed in all future homes in world first

Consultation proposing that new-build homes are fitted with an electric car chargepoint is launched [details [here](#)].

Housing Advisers Programme 2019/20

The Housing Advisers Programme is designed to support local authorities deliver a project that helps meet the housing need of their local area. It aims to be simple, flexible, and locally-led.

In the previous two years of the Housing Advisers Programme we have funded over 100 councils to help councils build homes, reduce homelessness, plan for ageing populations, understand the student housing market, increase supply of modular housing, and more. The LGA have funded a diverse range of projects from a variety of councils to help assist and advise local authorities on realtime housing issues.

Find out more about what the programme can offer your council in our prospectus [details [here](#)].

Health & Social Care

£10 million awarded to 9 air ambulance charities

Nine air ambulance charities across England will receive a share of £10 million funding, including Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance Charitable Trust in the East Midlands [details [here](#)].

Local Government News and wider



New inquiry asks 'can increased devolution boost England's cities and regions?' - The Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee has launched a new inquiry into progress on devolution in England. The inquiry will scrutinise the impact of recently agreed devolution agreements and ask if the transfer of further powers to England's cities and regions can boost local economies and provision of public services [details [here](#)].

Domestic Abuse Bill introduced to Parliament - A draft of the Bill was published in January and has undergone extensive scrutiny by a Joint Committee of cross party MPs and Peers as part of the government's collaborative approach to ensure this historic legislation is correct. The Committee published a report on the draft bill in June and made a set of recommendations which the government has considered carefully [details [here](#)].

Fly-tipping: council responsibilities - Guidance on how local authorities must deal with fly-tipping and the penalties they can charge [details [here](#)].

New public health duty to tackle serious violence - The new 'public health duty' will cover the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services. It will ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime. It will also allow them to target their interventions to prevent and stop violence altogether.

In addition, the government will amend the Crime and Disorder Act to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, which include local police, fire and probation services, by making sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime [details [here](#)].

Outcomes from the Counter Fraud Fund - This report sets out the outcomes from the Counter Fraud Fund (CFF), established by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), for which councils were able to bid in the autumn of 2014. The purpose of the fund was to support councils during the implementation of the Single Fraud Investigation Service (SFIS) as well as to increase the capacity and capability of local government to tackle losses from non-benefit fraud [details [here](#)].

How Derby created a 'hospital to home' care service - Derby City Council Home First Service won the LGC Business Transformation Award this year. In this LGC article, the service's head Julie Knight explains how it has innovated [to read the report visit [here](#)].

Active Cyber Defence (ACD), The Second Year - The second report examining how the NCSC's ACD programme is improving the security of the UK public sector and the wider UK cyber ecosystem.

The Active Cyber Defence (ACD) programme seeks to reduce the harm from commodity cyber attacks against the UK. The new report (PDF), written by the NCSC's Technical Director Ian Levy, presents an honest analysis of the outcomes achieved in the ACD's second year of operation [details [here](#)].

EMC Events



ILM Coaching Programmes starting this autumn - EMC believes in the power of coaching and mentoring in the development of others and the benefits this brings for both the individual and the organisation. Done effectively, it can empower people to take the steps they need to effect positive and lasting change, unlocking potential and improving performance.

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 13 November.

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](#).

EMC Leadership

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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

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