

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

Top items this week

21 SEPTEMBER 2018



Regional Employers' Board
and Regional Migration Board

East Midlands Pay Modelling
Workshop

Rail Review

EMC Events for Councillors
and Officers

Pay Modelling Workshop, Monday 5 November 2018

At the request of those attending the Pay Spine Implementation Workshop earlier this year and as part of East Midlands Councils ongoing support to local authorities, we have organised a follow up workshop on pay modelling. This will take place on Monday 5 November 2018 from 10.30am – 1.00pm.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to understand the principles of pay modelling together with the key considerations for local authorities and the type of help that is available. Our EMC associate Graham Thurston will be providing valuable knowledge and insight at this workshop, which will also be attended by Harry Honnor and Simon Pannell from the LGA's negotiations team. As always, there will be an opportunity for Councils to learn from each other by sharing experiences, problems, issues and solutions.

The workshop is being held at Pera Business Park, Melton Mowbray and refreshments will be available from 10.00am. Lunch will be provided. To attend, please book online [here](#).



EMC News

Executive Board Meeting - The next EMC Executive Board meeting will take place on Friday 28 September 2018. This board, chaired by Cllr Martin Hill, Leader of Lincolnshire County Council

will consider

- Public Investment, Local Government and Wider Governance in the East Midlands, including; levels of Public Investment in the East Midlands
- Growth and Infrastructure, including; HS2 in the East Midlands, East Midlands Rail Franchise Competition and Midland Mainline Electrification
- Asylum and Refugee Resettlement in the East Midlands
- Employment Issues for Local Government

The board will receive an update presentation from the LGA.

For more information on the board visit [here](#).

EMC Support Activity

East Midlands Scrutiny Network - The Scrutiny Network will meet next Friday, 28 September and will include a facilitated session by Ed Hammond from the Centre for Public Scrutiny. The Centre for Public Scrutiny has been commissioned by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to draft parts of the new statutory guidance on overview and scrutiny in local government guidance. For more contact

Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

East Midlands Councillor Development Network - The Councillor Development network meeting will take place on Wednesday 26 September at Newark and Sherwood District Council. The meeting will focus on supporting local authorities with their Councillor Induction Plans, providing an opportunity to share plans and discuss evaluation findings from previous Induction programmes. For details of the network contact Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk

EMC Councillor Events

East Midlands Housing & Planning Summit, 5 October 2018 Melton Mowbray - East Midlands Councils will host the East Midlands Housing and Planning Summit on 5 October. The Summit will include contributions from the University of De Montfort, the Local Government Association and Town & Country Planning Association [details [here](#)].

Modern Slavery - The challenge for Communities, December 2018 - Working in partnership with the East Midlands Special Operations Unit, EMC is holding a conference on Modern Slavery. The event will give Members the opportunity to gain a better understanding of Modern Slavery, the impact on victims and communities and what Members can do to support the police and partners in the statutory, non-statutory and business sector in making the East Midlands a hostile environment for the perpetrators of this crime whilst supporting potential victims. The conference is supported by the East Midlands anti-human trafficking partnership which next meets on 20 September.

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Government announces 'root and branch' review of rail - A review to transform Britain's railways has been launched this week by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling.

The review — led by independent chair Keith Williams, the former British Airways chief executive and deputy chairman of John Lewis Partnership — will build on the government's franchising strategy — bringing track and train closer together to reduce disruption and improve accountability, and considering regional partnerships and how to use innovation to improve services and value for money for passengers [details [here](#)].

Its has been confirmed that this review will not affect the East Midlands Rail Franchise Competition.

Midlands Connect calls for role in government rail review - Responding to the announcement of the Department for Transport's rail review, Sir John Peace, Chair of Midlands Connect, said:

"This review is a major undertaking of crucial importance to the Midlands. Midlands Connect is seeking assurances that the partnership has an active role throughout the process. We continue to work alongside our partners and neighbouring bodies, including both West Midlands Rail Executive and Transport for the East Midlands, to ensure that local expertise can drive continued improvement of the rail network and services across the Midlands." For the full press release visit [here](#).

Government investment to overcome barriers to building - The £1.3 billion Land Assembly Fund, will be used to acquire land needing work and get it ready for the market, making it less risky for developers to invest in and start building. Outside of London this work will be carried out by Homes England.

For public land owners or local authorities that are struggling to get building on land in their area, the £630 million Small Sites Fund will provide grant funding to speed up getting the right infrastructure in place to support home building on stalled small sites to provide the homes their communities need.

From today, the government is intervening by providing 2 streams of investment – the Land Assembly Fund and the Small Sites Fund – for Homes England to deploy alongside their expertise. This will help release land to deliver 300,000 new homes a year by the mid-2020s. For more information visit [here](#).

PM speech to the National Housing Federation summit: 19 September 2018 - available [here](#).

Employers' Information



East Midlands Regional Employers' Board - The Regional Employers' Board met on 21 September 2018, chaired by Cllr Tom Beattie, Leader of Corby Borough Council. The Board reviewed the work plan priorities, to include;

- Apprenticeships - supporting councils to maximise return on the levy and identify apprenticeships to assist with skills shortage areas and workforce development.
- Pay and rewards.
- Recruitment and retention within planning, building control and social care.

Coaching Champions - This week coaching champions from members of the East Midlands Coaching Network met. The group discussed coaching virtually, using Skype or telephone and the need to develop skills and confidence of coaches in coaching when not face to face. The group discussed the activity of the East Midlands Coaching Network and enhancements that can be made to the matching process of coachee to coach across the East Midlands. For more information on the East Midlands Coaching Network visit [here](#).

Coaching in the digital age, supporting the development of coaches to coach using Skype or telephone, 06 Dec 2018 - The East Midlands Coaching Network is holding a very practical CPD session for Coaches on 6 December 2018, on coaching skills using telephone and Skye [details [here](#)].

Local Government News



75% business rates retention pilots 2019 to 2020: prospectus - Invitation to local authorities to pilot 75% business rates retention in 2019 to 2020. This prospectus invites local authorities to submit proposals to pilot 75% business rates retention in 2019 to 2020 and sets out the application process and the criteria on which applications will be assessed. Proposals for new pilots must be submitted to the department by Tuesday 25 September 2018.

This builds on the government's manifesto commitment to continue to give local government greater control over the money they raise. The government aims to increase the level of business rates retained by local government from the current 50% to 75% in April 2020. For more information visit [here](#).

Local Government News continued

LGA behavioural insights funding 2018 - Local authorities are invited to apply for funding from the LGA to contribute towards the delivery of a behavioural insights project aimed at managing demand into overstretched local services and achieving efficiencies. Successful applicants will receive up to £25,000 in match funding to commission a behavioural insights provider to design and deliver an evidence based behavioural insights trial, to include a robust evaluation of the impact of the trial. The Deadline for applications is 1 November 2018 [details [here](#)].

Nottingham City Council's work to reduce carbon emissions wins national award - Nottingham City Council's Energy Services have won The Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) Award for Best Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative [details [here](#)].

Migration, Asylum and Refugee Resettlement

East Midlands Regional Migration Board - Cllr Ivan Ould, Board Chair highlighted the key priorities for the board over the coming year including;

- the transition to new contracts to support and accommodate asylum seekers
- working with councils to support meeting existing pledges to the end of the current resettlement schemes in 2019 and to anticipate the future of resettlement from 2020 onwards
- respond to the outcome of the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children UASC funding review and to conduct a review of care leaver costs
- to take forward the recommendations of the English for Speakers of other languages ESOL mapping report
- to support councils in accessing additional funding to support newly arrived communities.

The Board also considered the impact of modern slavery on communities, the new arrangements for the support and accommodation of asylum seekers, an overview of the refugee resettlement programmes, an update on the controlling migration fund and an update on UASC.

Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) report: EEA migration - available from [here](#).

National Conversation on Immigration final report - The National Conversation on Immigration is the biggest-ever public consultation on immigration and integration [available from [here](#)]. Coordinated by British Future and HOPE not hate, the National Conversation engaged 19,951 people, with more than 130 meetings in 60 locations across every nation and region of the UK. Citizens' panels in each place were recruited to be representative of the local population and researchers also met local government, businesses, faith and civil society representatives. In addition to nationally representative research by ICM, an open online survey was completed by nearly 10,000 people.

The evidence of the National Conversation on Immigration highlights the importance of dialogue in reaching a consensus on immigration policy. Face-to-face discussion gives people a chance to express their views on immigration, debate issues with others, balance positives and negatives and, in many cases, come to a consensus.

EMC Events



Negotiation Skills, 11 Oct 2018 - EMC is holding a full day workshop on Negotiation skills. This full day workshop will help managers to understand what negotiation is, and is not, in the business world. It will give them practical skills to enable them to prepare for a negotiation scenario, weighing up variables and anticipating challenges along the way [details [here](#)].

GDPR for HR 6 months on, 13 Nov 2018 - EMC are holding a follow up workshop, providing a space to explore GDPR for HR colleagues six months on from the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation back in May 2018. For more information visit [here](#).

Writing Press Releases, 14 Nov 2018 - EMC is holding a full day workshop for Councillors and Officers on Writing Press Releases. 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

East Midlands Councils

First Floor Offices, South Annexe
Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 OPB



Click on our [Twitter](#) & [YouTube](#) accounts for further information.