

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

Top items this week

28 SEPTEMBER 2018



East Midlands cities shortlisted for major transport funding



EMC Executive Board



East Midlands Pay Modelling Workshop



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

## EMC Executive Board

The Executive Board met today to consider recent key developments for the sector. Included within the agenda and papers (available [here](#)) was an update on growth, investment and infrastructure and the importance of clear, credible and ambitious proposals to the Treasury as part of the Autumn Budget. This work has been undertaken in conjunction with Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect.

Of concern are the persistently low levels of public investment that the region receives and how this is holding back the growth potential of local areas and the wider region. The most recent HM Treasury report [link [here](#)] confirms the region is continuing to lose out in terms of public investment especially in terms of the comparably low levels of infrastructure and economic development funding (summary note available [here](#)).

The lack of public investment was reported to Executive Board 12 months ago and was a catalyst for renewed collective work and lobbying by council and business leaders, and MPs. While it may be too soon to expect any significant improvement in investment levels – it is disappointing to note that the trend is continuing to worsen. In summary the East Midlands has:

- The lowest level of public expenditure on 'economic affairs'.
- The lowest level of public expenditure on transport, in total and per head.
- The lowest level of public expenditure on rail per head.
- The 3rd lowest on health care.
- The 3rd lowest on education.
- The 3rd lowest total of public expenditure on services per head.
- Total UK public expenditure per head indexed (UK = 100); the East Midlands = 90, North East = 106, North West = 103, London = 111.



## EMC News

**East Midlands Environmental Health CPD Programme** - the latest event in the East Midlands Environmental Health CPD Programme took place this week, focusing on Food Safety. The event included an update on Regulating our Future from the Food Standards Agency, Allergen Information and presentations on Control of Cross-contamination presentation and Acrylamide Regulations. The presentations from the event can be found [here](#).

## EMC Support Activity

**Regional Networks** - This week colleagues from East Midlands Councils have supported two regional networks, providing an opportunities for colleagues from across the East Midlands to come together and share information and learning. The East Midlands Councillor Development network meeting met on Wednesday and considered Councillor Induction Plans post May 2019 elections. The Scrutiny network meeting on Friday 28 September included a facilitated session by the Centre for Public Scrutiny on the new Government guidance for overview and scrutiny. For more information on both networks contact [Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk)

**IT Security Network** - On 7 November the East Midlands IT Security network will meet. This meeting will include a presentation from the National Cyber Security Centre and the East Midlands Special Operations Unit will be demonstrating a business continuity exercise. For more information contact [Kirsty.lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto: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](#)].

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## Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



**PM announces ten cities shortlisted for major transport funding across England** - Communities across the UK will benefit from £840 million to upgrade public transport links, the Prime Minister has announced.

The shortlist of ten city regions marks the next stage of the £1.7 billion Transforming Cities Fund which under the government's modern Industrial Strategy is supporting cities to make it easier, safer and quicker for people to travel and get to work by funding improved transport connections.

Local authorities in Derby & Nottingham, Leicester City, the North East, Norwich, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Sheffield, Stoke-on-Trent and West Yorkshire will bid for a share of the funding.

The ten shortlisted city regions will each receive an initial £50,000 as well as bespoke support from government to co-develop the strongest cases for investment. Once finalised, funding decisions will consider the relative strength of each bid and their impact on improving connectivity, supporting employment and driving up productivity.

While the city regions finalise proposals, £60 million from the Fund will be made available over the next year to share across transport schemes aimed at tackling head on some of the most pressing challenges faced by communities.

Further details [here](#).

Six Combined Mayoral Authorities have already been allocated funding from the Transforming Cities Fund at the Autumn Budget 2017. These are:

• West Midlands - £250 million	• West of England - £80 million
• Greater Manchester - £243 million	• Cambridge and Peterborough - £74 million
• Liverpool - £134 million	• Tees Valley - £59 million

**Guide to MHCLG housing statistics** - A guide showing how the different housing statistics produced by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government relate to each other. This guide explains how the different housing stock and housing supply releases produced by MHCLG relate to each other. For more information visit [here](#).

**Transport Committee publishes Government and Office of Rail and Road (ORR) responses** - The Transport Select Committee publishes the Government's and the Office of Rail and Road's (ORR) responses to the committee's Report on Rail infrastructure investment, published in June [ details [here](#)].

House of Commons, Transport Committee - Rail infrastructure investment: Government and Office of Rail and Road Responses to the Committee's Fourth Report, Fourth Special Report of Session

2017–19 available from [here](#).

**Local roads funding and governance** - The Transport Select Committee launched an inquiry into local roads funding and governance. If you wish to submit evidence to this inquiry, the deadline to do so is 2 October 2018 [Details [here](#)].

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## Asylum, Refugee Resettlement and Modern Slavery

**UK agrees principles for tackling modern slavery in supply chains** - The UK has developed, alongside the US, Canada, New Zealand and Australia, principles for nations to adopt to tackle modern slavery in global supply chains [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.

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## Health & Social Care

**East Midlands Summit, 'Co-designing for Health, Work & Inclusive Growth' on Friday 9th November 2018 9.30am - 4.00pm at Doubletree Hilton Hotel, Nottingham** - To register for this important summit, please email [divya.sonoo@phe.gov.uk](mailto:divya.sonoo@phe.gov.uk) at your earliest opportunity.

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## Employers' Information



**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 [details are available from [here](#)].

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## Local Government News and wider



**Regional Network of Police and Crime Panels** - The regional network of Police and Crime Panels met on Friday 21 September, hosted by East Midlands Councils and facilitated by Frontline Consulting who lead on work with PCPs. Panel chairs or their representative and support officers updated each other on their PCP's activity, their PCC's priorities and Force area issues around policing and crime. Financial pressures, the changing nature of crime and models of policing were issues for all participants, particularly the impact on neighbourhood policing which is valued by the public. The group talked about rural crime and heard how local police forces are able to tackle wildlife crime in new ways thanks to technological developments such as the use of drones. The group explored ways of working with PCCs and their Chiefs, considered the role of Deputy PCCs where appointed, discussed engagement whether through public attendance at meetings, webcasting or inclusion of witness sessions in proactive scrutiny by Panels.

East Midlands has a long history of regional or Force to Force collaboration and the Panels regularly consider how best to provide challenge and support for their PCC in respect of the impact on budgets, value for money and outcomes from collaboration. Participants were able to feed into planning for the seventh annual conference for PCPs in November and update each other on the setting up of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels (including PCPs).

The regional network of PCPs meets twice a year at EMC with a regular agenda of a round-up of Panel activity and discussion of hot topics of relevance to Panels. For more information visit [here](#). The seventh national conference for PCPs takes place on Monday 12 November in Warwick, details [here](#).

**£7.5 million fund for councils' digital innovation opens** - Councils seeking to transform their public services through digital innovation can apply to a new [£7.5 million fund](#) from 24 September, Local Government Minister Rishi Sunak MP has announced. Grants of up to £100,000 will be available for projects which demonstrate they benefit local public services and have the potential to be rolled out more widely across the country. The deadline to submit an expression of interest is 5 October 2018. A decision on which projects have been chosen is expected to be announced by 3 December. For more information visit [here](#).

**Local Digital Fund: prospectus** - Fund supporting local government collaboration, learning and digital innovation projects. For more information visit [here](#).

**Budget 2018 date confirmed** - Government will publish its next Budget on Monday 29 October 2018 [details [here](#)].

**Taking on the Housing Challenge: A Scrutiny Councillor's Guide** - This Centre for Public Scrutiny guide is intended to provide practical advice for scrutiny committees and task and finish groups working on housing issues. To access the report visit [here](#).

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## EMC Events



**Taking Minutes not Hours, 08 Nov 2018** - This workshop will give participants practical tips and techniques to help them write: effective agendas before meetings, notes during meetings, minutes after meetings. For more information visit [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](#).

**Report Writing, 21 Nov 2018** - EMC is holding a one day seminar on Report Writing for Officers. For more information visit [here](#).

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## 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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