

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

Top items this week



Attracting and
Developing Talent Conference



Abellio announces supplier of
bio-mode trains



EMC HR Bulletin - July Edition



EMC Events for Councillors

2 AUGUST 2019

New trains for the Midland Main Line will not be built in the East Midlands

East Midlands Councils (EMC) is hugely disappointed by the news that a fleet of new inter-city bi-mode trains, to be introduced onto the Midland Main Line under the new East Midlands Railway Franchise, will not be built by Bombardier in Derby.

The decision is a massive missed opportunity to support highly skilled local jobs and a body-blow for the East Midlands rail supply chain at a time of considerable economic and political uncertainty.

Bombardier took the time to explain its bi-mode proposition to both the Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) Board and to the East Midlands All Party Parliamentary Group. Council Leaders and MPs were impressed with the design capability to run at 125 mph under both electric and diesel traction, and with the flexibility to replace diesel engines with electric or battery units at a future date.

EMC and TfEM will continue to work with East Midlands Railway and the Department for Transport to ensure that the new rail franchise, which starts in August 2019, delivers improved services for local communities and businesses.

HM Treasury - Regional Expenditure Statistics

The most recent HM Treasury [report](#) confirms the region is continuing to lose out in terms of public investment. Of concern are the consistently low levels of infrastructure and economic development funding – with an obvious implication for future rates of local and regional economic growth.

In summary, it remains that 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 total of public expenditure on services per head.
- Total UK public expenditure per head indexed (UK = 100); the East Midlands = 90, North East = 105, North West = 105, London = 111.

With the current focus on regional investment....the timing of updated [Treasury stats](#) is impeccable. It puts the challenge for [this](#) region in very sharp focus indeed...the summary report is available [here](#).

Attracting and Developing Talent – Wednesday 9 October 2019

People professionals have an important role to play in providing support and guidance in designing and developing approaches to attracting, engaging and retaining talent that fit the needs of the organisation.

This includes understanding the key challenges facing the organisation in attracting, recruiting, developing and retaining talented people to meet immediate and future strategic objectives and business needs. It's also important to develop and signpost career opportunities for all employees and creative strategies for unleashing employee potential. East Midlands Councils is providing an opportunity for our people professionals to hear from key speakers renowned in this important area from organisations that include:

- Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)
- SHL - a global leader in talent management, helping organisations improve business performance by making the best possible people decisions in recruitment, employee development and succession planning.
- Nottingham Trent University
- Local Government Association (LGA)

Our speakers will provide research, information and practical case studies on themes relating to modernising recruitment, understanding the candidate experience and what they want, workforce planning including career pathways, talent management strategies and employee engagement.

There will also be opportunities for networking throughout the day. For more information visit [here](#).

- Team Development day facilitation
- Training for Councillors on Employment & Appeals
- Assessment Centre for Recruitment & Selection for Chief Executive

For more information on how EMC could support an area of work for you, then please contact Sam Maher sam.maher@emcouncils.gov.uk

EMC Councillor Events

An Introduction to Commissioning for Elected Members, 7 November - EMC is offering Councillors in the East Midlands the opportunity to take part in an introduction to commissioning for elected members workshop on Thursday 7 November 2019 at 10.00 am, Pera Business Park, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

Advanced financial scrutiny skills, 21 November - EMC is working with the Centre for Public Scrutiny to provide a full day workshop on advanced financial scrutiny skills on Thursday 21 November 2019 at 10.00 am, Pera Business Park, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

Infrastructure, Planning & Housing



Guidance on applying to the local pinch point fund - This guidance explains how local highway authorities can apply to the local pinch point fund. This local pinch point fund builds on the previous funds that took place between 2013 and 2015 and which comprised 5 tranches in total. A total of 112 local pinch point fund projects received £262 million of government funding in those years. A further £150 million of funding is available in 2021 to 2022 and 2022 to 2023 [details [here](#)].

Advises on how planning can manage potential noise impacts in new development - This guidance has been updated see [previous version](#) and available from [here](#).

Housing and economic land availability assessment - Sets out method for assessing housing and economic land availability. This guidance has been updated see previous version and available [here](#).

Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal - Provides clarity on the need for sustainability appraisal and strategic environmental assessment in relation to plan development [details [here](#)].

Public attitudes to social housing: findings from the British Social Attitudes Survey 2018 - Report on public attitudes towards living next to social housing and the fairness of decisions about social housing allocations [details [here](#)].

Employers' Information



EMC HR Bulletin July 2019 - The latest edition of the EMC HR Bulletin is now available from [here](#). The July Bulletin covers;

- Employment Law expert Darren Newman's article this month on equal pay claims

Local News

- EMC is currently conducting the annual region sickness absence survey
- ILM 5 and Coaching Programmes
- National Pay Negotiations, Regional Pay Roadshow Event - 12 September 2019, EMC will be hosting a Pay Roadshow event to enable councils in the East Midlands to be consulted on the national pay negotiations and engage directly with the employers' national negotiating team.

National Developments

- The LGA's latest Apprenticeships Newsletter July

Health & Social Care

LGA interactive local authority musculoskeletal health (MSK) report - the report [available from [here](#)], produced by Versus Arthritis and Public Health England (PHE) produce this on the LGA LG Inform platform. The report is designed to support health and wellbeing boards and their partners in understanding the local needs and service provisions for people with MSK conditions. The report presents a collation of existing indicators available on LG Inform relevant to MSK health. Users can select a local authority area and see how they compare to similar areas as identified by CIPFA.

EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE
Vice Chair: Cllr David Mellen
Vice Chair: Cllr Jonathan Morgan
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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