

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

Top items this week

8 OCTOBER 2021



EMC Virtual Workshop on Planning Reform for Councillors



Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM)



EMC Leadership Development Programme



EMC Events for Councillors and Officers

## Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) sets out new ambitions for improving rail in the East Midlands

TfEM has published a refresh of its 'Rail Strategic Statement in the East Midlands' recently agreed by the TfEM Board, which outlines the shared vision of local leaders for continuous improvement of rail, supporting levelling up and transport decarbonisation.

Transport for the East Midlands (TfEM) brings together the ten Local Transport Authorities in the region together under the auspices of East Midlands Councils (EMC) to provide collective leadership on strategic transport issues.

TfEM's ambition is to use rail to drive more sustainable patterns of movement and growth in the East Midlands by increasing connectivity for people and businesses within the region, and with the rest of the UK.

The East Midlands does not have an extensive rail network and despite planned improvements, much of our rolling stock remains old and slow and increasingly unreliable. Yet there is a clear case for growing rail in the East Midlands to support population growth, deliver 'levelling up' and address the Climate Emergency that many councils have recognised.

The Strategic Statement sets out TfEM's expectations for regional rail investment policies, improved operational performance and an improved customer offer supporting value for money, quality and convenience. It also supports the innovative Rail Collaboration Agreement TfEM has with the Department for Transport and will inform regional engagement with the emerging Great British Railways, Network Rail, train operators and sub-national transport bodies like Midlands Connect and Transport for the North. The full details are available from [here](#).

## EMC News

**EMC Virtual Workshop on Planning Reform for Councillors** - EMC is hosting a two hour virtual workshop for Councillors in the East Midlands on Planning Reform. The workshop will explore the emerging planning reform agenda following the appointment of Michael Gove as the new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and provide Councillors with the opportunity to share their perspective on what changes to the planning system would work best locally. The date will be confirmed shortly and information on how to book will be included in the Policy Brief next week.



Chaired by Cllr Roger Blaney, key speakers include;

- Hugh Ellis, Director of Policy, Town and County Planning Association
- Malcolm Sharp, Sharp Planning Plus
- Andrew Pritchard, Director of Policy & Infrastructure, East Midlands Councils

## EMC Support Activity

**EMC Leadership Development Programme** - the second cohort of this Leadership Development programme will start next week, with information on the programme available from [here](#). One place remains available, please contact [Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:Kirsty.Lowe@emcouncils.gov.uk) if you are interested in this place.

Developed around four key themes of Self Leadership, Leading the Organisation, Leading People and Leading Teams, this programme will help leaders and managers to:

- Develop self-awareness of their own leadership and resilience during turbulence and change.
- Respond to the challenges a crisis and long-term uncertainty create for organisations, teams, and people.
- Identify ways in which organisations can build their resilience, adapt to change, and engage their people during turbulent times.
- Address key challenges when leading and managing people during change and uncertainty.
- Identify strategies and actions to support performance, engagement, and wellbeing of people during change.

---

## Infrastructure, Planning & Housing

### Revealed: the UK towns and cities where chronic transport connectivity puts jobs out of reach

- Landmark new dataset reveals for the first time how many jobs are reachable by car and public transport in every local area in the UK - exposing a shocking transport gap between North and South.
- Workers in towns like Halifax and Mansfield can reach half as many jobs by public transport compared to Aldershot and Horsham, despite similar populations and jobs markets.
- In London, public transport nearly quadruples residents' local access to jobs, but in Newcastle and Glasgow, public transport only boosts local access to jobs by a third.

The Government's defining Levelling Up agenda must prioritise transport in regional towns and cities, where chronic public transport networks are holding back jobs and economic opportunity, the thinktank Onward will say today. The report is backed by the influential Levelling Up Parliamentary Taskforce of 65 Conservative MPs.

Onward's report, *Network Effects*, is based on a brand new dataset that for the first time reveals the number of jobs accessible by car and public transport from every local area (LSOA) in the country. To access the report visit [here](#).

**Changes to the National Planning Policy Framework: letter to the Planning Inspectorate** - A letter from the Minister of State for Housing to the Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate regarding recent changes to the National Planning Policy Framework [details [here](#)].

**The Good Home Inquiry final report: the role of councils, Thursday 14 October 2021, 2.30pm** - This LGA webinar, funded by Government, will discuss in detail the findings of The Good Home Inquiry. More than 80% of homes that will be needed in 2050 already exist today [details [here](#)].

---

## Asylum Support, Refugee Resettlement and Modern Slavery

**Statutory guidance, Modern slavery: how to identify and support victims** - Describes the signs that someone may be a victim of modern slavery, the support available to victims, and the process for determining whether someone is a victim [details [here](#)].

---

## Health & Social Care

**COVID-19 contain framework: a guide for local decision-makers** - This is a guide for local decision-makers in England. It sets out how national, regional and local partners should continue to work with each other, the public, businesses, and other partners in their communities to prevent, manage and contain outbreaks of coronavirus (COVID-19). The framework applies to the autumn and winter period, and will be reviewed and updated as necessary in spring 2022 [details [here](#)]. This framework sets out:

- the roles and responsibilities of local authorities and local system partners, and the support local authorities can expect from regional and national teams, as well as the decision-making and incident response structures
- the core components of the COVID-19 response across the spectrum of outbreak prevention and management, including to variants
- the requirements of local authorities on the continued COVID-19 response, as well as how this should be factored into local outbreak management plans (LOMPs)

The framework should be read in the context of the government's [COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021](#) and the government's overall public health objectives for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### COVID-19 Vaccination data

- Available from this link [Vaccinations in East Midlands | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#)
- Available from this link [Interactive map of vaccinations | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

**COVID-19 case data** - Available from this link [Cases in East Midlands | Coronavirus in the UK \(data.gov.uk\)](#)

The **UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)**, the nation's new public health body focused on health protection and security, has become fully operational [details [here](#)].

**The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities has been launched** - Further information [here](#).

- New body will tackle health disparities across the UK which mean men in the most deprived areas in England are expected to live nearly 10 years fewer than those in the least deprived
- Preventing health conditions before they develop will reduce pressure on the health and care system
- Chief Medical Officer, Professor Chris Whitty, will provide professional leadership to OHID

**Better Care Fund policy framework: 2021 to 2022** - The policy framework sets out the national conditions, metrics and funding arrangements for the Better Care Fund in 2021 to 2022. Better Care Fund plans are jointly developed by health and social care partners in every area in England and support integrated, person-centred care in communities.

The document should be read alongside the [BCF Planning Requirements for 2021 to 2022](#), which are published on the NHS England website [details [here](#)].

---

---

## Local Government News

**UK City of Culture 2025 longlist revealed** - Eight places have been longlisted for the prestigious UK City of Culture 2025 title, including Derby in the East Midlands. Following a record 20 bids, the eight longlisted locations are Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, Bradford, Cornwall, County Durham, Derby, Southampton, Stirling and Wrexham County Borough [details [here](#)].

**Consultation outcome, Domestic abuse support within safe accommodation: statutory guidance and regulations consultation** - This is government's response to the consultation on the regulations and statutory guidance. Alongside this we are publishing the [final statutory guidance](#) underpinning the new duties on local authorities relating to the provision of accommodation-based support to domestic abuse victims and their children.

The guidance has been developed in consultation with local authorities, expert domestic abuse organisations, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and other government departments. The duty came into force on 1 October 2021 [details [here](#)].

**Government should press ahead with devolution agenda, say MPs** - The new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Michael Gove, should press ahead with further devolution in England and examine the case for devolving greater powers over services including health, housing, planning and education, says the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee in a report published 1 October [details [here](#)].

**Police and local authorities given extra £23.5 million for safer streets** - Police forces and local authorities across England and Wales, are to receive a share of £23.5 million to make public spaces safer for all through projects to help women and girls feel safer on our streets as part of the government's Safer Streets Fund.

Created with the objective of tackling local acquisitive crimes like car theft and burglary, the latest round of the Safer Streets Fund has a particular emphasis on the safety of women and girls. The investment will go to police forces and local authorities across England and Wales as well as the British Transport Police to spend in the 2021 to 2022 financial year [details [here](#)].

### East Midlands Total - £3,114,836.46

- Lead Bidder - Grant funding awarded (£)
- Derby City Council - 550,000.00
- Leicestershire PCC - 550,000.00
- Lincolnshire PCC - 401,626.46
- Northampton Borough Council - 513,210.00
- Nottinghamshire PCC - 1,100,000.00

---

## Economic Development

**The South East Midlands Start-up Programme, 12 hours of free business start-up support** - The programme provides residents of Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire, Milton Keynes and **Northamptonshire** with access to free business start-up support [details [here](#)].

---

## EMC Events

**IOM UK Cultural Adjustment Session, 2 Nov 2021** - EMC is hosting a 2 hour virtual Cultural Adjustment session on Tuesday 2nd November 2021 & Wednesday 3rd November 2021 from 2pm-4:00pm delivered by IOM UK after recent feedback from past IOM training in the region. This session will discuss the resettlement process, IOM pre-departure services, and cultural adjustment and integration of refugees after they arrive [\[here\]](#).

**Low Cost CPD Programme for Planners, Major Growth Proposals in the East Midlands** - The seminar topic is Major Growth Proposals in the East Midlands and takes place on 25 November 2021 and will currently be held virtually. If your authority subscribes to the programme, the designated contact in your authority will receive a copy of the programme and will be asked to send in the names of your delegates. For further information regarding contact Lisa Bushell [lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.bushell@emcouncils.gov.uk) or visit [here](#).

---

## 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 Rob Parker  
Lib Dem Group: Cllr David Bill MBE  
Independent Group: Cllr Jason Zadrozny  
Executive Director: Stuart Young

---

## East Midlands Councils

First Floor Offices, South Annexe  
Pera Business Park  
Nottingham Road  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0PB



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