

NEWS Release from East Midlands Councils
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THE EAST MIDLANDS: INVESTING IN OPPORTUNITY

Local councils are making the case for greater investment across the region.

A major new prospectus called 'Investing in Opportunity' has been launched by East Midlands Councils, highlighting the key opportunities in the area for both the Government and the private sector. The prospectus has today been presented to Planning Minister Nick Boles MP and Toby Perkins MP, Shadow Minister for Small Business, in Nottingham.

Cllr Martin Hill OBE, Chair of East Midlands Councils, said:

"The region deserves a greater slice of national funding. There's huge potential here in terms of both jobs and homes. And with the right level of national funding we can make these things a reality, giving a major boost to national prosperity. It's vital this is reflected in national investment decisions."

Cllr Jon Collins, Vice Chair of East Midlands Councils, added:

"The East Midlands is key to the Government's stated objective of re-balancing the economy away from the south east and an over-reliance on financial services. We must secure infrastructure investment that will lead to sustainable economic growth."

Cllr Jim Harker OBE, Chair of EMCs Infrastructure Group said:

"Improving infrastructure is vital to unlocking growth. The prospectus sets out a limited number of infrastructure priorities that will help to deliver much needed jobs and homes across the East Midlands."

The prospectus is split into three main sections:

- **Key economic growth opportunities**
Highlights the predominance of the East Midlands in manufacturing and key sectors where local businesses have a competitive advantage, such as transport equipment, food and drink, and construction.
- **Key housing growth opportunities**
Demonstrates the continued commitment of councils across the East Midlands to providing housing for local communities, and the importance of infrastructure investment in making this happen.
- **Strategic infrastructure priorities**
Identifies investment in five strategic transport corridors and in broadband, flood defences and energy infrastructure as crucial to both national and local competitiveness. Also highlights six projects where there is an immediate opportunity to support collective action by councils and local enterprise partnerships.

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Notes to Editors

East Midlands Councils is the consultative forum for local authorities in the region. It provides support to councils to improve their services and is a strong voice for the East Midlands.

www.emcouncils.gov.uk

The prospectus will be launched at EMCs General Meeting, which will take place on the 15th February between 10.30am and 12.30pm at County Hall, Nottinghamshire County Council, West Bridgford.

The prospectus is available [here](#)

Contacts

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