



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

## Top items this week

7 FEBRUARY 2025



Greater Lincolnshire CCA  
Officially Established



Elections to Proceed as  
Councils Invited to Submit  
Reorganisation Plans



Gedling to Develop Its  
Own Local Plan



EMCCA Appoints First  
Permanent Chief  
Executive

## GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED

The Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) has now been formally approved by the government, becoming an official public body. The leaders of Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire, and North East Lincolnshire unitary authorities have received confirmation from the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution, Jim McMahon OBE MP. The first meeting of the new authority's board is set to take place in early March, ahead of the planned mayoral election on Thursday 1 May. This comes as six new areas, none of which are in the East Midlands, have been confirmed to join the government's Devolution Priority Programme.

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## LOCAL ELECTIONS TO PROCEED AS COUNCILS INVITED TO SUBMIT REORGANISATION PLANS

Jim McMahon OBE MP wrote to all two-tier authorities earlier this week, inviting council leaders to develop proposals for local government reorganisation. The letters encouraged councils to work together on a single proposal for a unitary authority. While councils are expected to develop a single, joint proposal for their area, the government will consider alternative submissions if consensus cannot be reached.

Interim plans are due by 21 March 2025, with full proposals required by 28 November.

County council elections in Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire will take place as planned on 1 May 2025. This follows requests from Leicestershire and Derbyshire to cancel the elections to allow time for local government reorganisation.

## GEDLING TO DEVELOP ITS OWN LOCAL PLAN

Gedling Borough Council has announced its decision to withdraw from the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan (GNSP) to focus on developing its own Local Plan.

This move, which is subject to approval at a full council meeting on 17 February, aims to address all of the borough's housing and development needs, meeting the government's updated requirements for councils. The decision follows changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which introduced new housing targets.

By creating a standalone Local Plan, Gedling Borough Council aims to fully meet its housing need of 609 homes per year, rather than the 80% coverage that would have been achieved under the GNSP.

## EMCCA APPOINTS FIRST PERMANENT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) has appointed Amy Harhoff as its first permanent Chief Executive.

Amy joins from Durham County Council, where she served as Corporate Director for Regeneration, Economy, and Growth, leading major initiatives over the past four years.

She brings extensive leadership experience from senior roles at Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, South Yorkshire Combined Authority, and Transport for Greater Manchester.

Her appointment marks a significant milestone for EMCCA, making it the only Mayoral Combined Authority in the country with both a female Mayor and Chief Executive.

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## DESIGN MIDLANDS RECRUITING NEW PANEL MEMBERS

Design Midlands is seeking additional panel members for its independent design review panel. This is an opportunity for professionals to contribute their expertise to shaping high-quality design across the region.

Applications are open until 28th February. If you know someone who may be interested, please share the opportunity. More details and the application form can be found here:

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## NEW BLOG POST: THE TRAIN AT PLATFORM SIX IS...

There is a continuing debate about the future of rail travel in the UK, and in particular what kind of technology we should be using to make trains cheaper, cleaner, and more reliable.

Read our latest blog post from EMC's Director of Policy and Infrastructure, Andrew Pritchard's, which acts as a handy guide to the different options – and what they might mean for the East Midlands.

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## EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL PAY BRIEFING

A reminder that EMC will be hosting a regional pay consultation briefing on Thursday 13 February 2024 from 10am to 12 noon. The briefing provides an opportunity for senior officers and lead Members to meet with the national negotiators to discuss the claims from the joint trade unions and to inform the National Employers' response. To book a place please email [mila.pereira@emcouncils.gov.uk](mailto:mila.pereira@emcouncils.gov.uk).

## PAY CLAIM FOR CRAFTWORKERS

This JNC craft pay claim for 2025/26 has been made by the Joint Trade Union Side to the Local Government Association. The claim is for an increase of at least nine per cent for craft rates taking into account NMW rate for Apprentices, differentials and cost of living challenges; pro rata increase to all other allowances and plus payments; A reduction in the working week to 35 hours with no loss of pay; an additional two -days of annual leave.

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### EMC Leadership

Chair: Cllr Martin Hill OBE

Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Russell

Vice Chair: Cllr Tricia Gilby

Conservative Group: Cllr Phil King

Labour Group: Cllr Jewel Miah

Liberal Democrat Group: Cllr David Bill MBE

Independent Group: Cllr Matthew Relf

Executive Director: Stuart Young



### East Midlands Councils

Pera Business Park

Nottingham Road

Melton Mowbray

Leicestershire

LE13 0PB