

EM IEP Monthly News Bulletin

September 2009



East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership



EMPA Minor Works Framework Contract Launched

[See pages 13 for more >>>](#)

EMPA Chair Richard Hanson (right) is pictured signing the EMPA Minor Framework Contract with Scape System Build Development Manager Alan Coole, (left) and contractor representatives.



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Free Event

Vehicles & Fleet (Efficiencies, carbon reduction, grey fleet, corporate manslaughter risk)

9.30am Tuesday 6 October 2009, Pera, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 0PB

Overview

Vehicles and fleet are one of the top spend categories within most local authorities and so should present opportunities for efficiencies in the current financial climate. However, this workshop will also consider the hidden costs of the “grey fleet” and importantly the associated risks and the carbon reduction opportunities across both fleets.

This workshop will:

- Provide an overview of the OGC Fleet collaborative programme
- Consider Strategies for collaboration
- Grey fleet - what is it? Why is it important?
- The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 and what this means for your authority and you as an individual
- Greening your fleet

Target Audience

Procurement, legal and fleet professionals, efficiency leads and those involved in carbon management who want to keep up to date with recent developments and learn about opportunities for efficiencies and consider collaborative strategies.

Facilitator

The workshop will be facilitated by members of the National Fleet Category Strategy Team.

Please email lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk to register your attendance, or call 0115 977 4921.



Free Event

The Legalities around the Shared Services Agenda

9.15am – 3.00pm Wednesday 14th October 2009

Shoosmiths Offices, Waterfront House, 35 Station Street, Nottingham. NG2 3DQ

Background

In the current financial environment there is considerable emphasis being placed on shared services between local authorities and other public sector bodies. However, there appears to be a minefield of legal issues surrounding this agenda. This workshop is intended to help professionals identify those issues, what can and cannot be done, and to provide a structure for further discussion.

Objectives

To provide detailed discussion across a number of legal areas, including:

- The procurement issues involved in a number of common shared services models. An update on recent case law on shared services, including the *Brent* and *Landkreise Rotenburg* cases, and a discussion around which forms of “administrative co-operation” between authorities may now be outside the procurement rules entirely.
- (Briefly) what the *Brent* case said on vires, wellbeing powers and shared services
- The contractual structures used in shared services arrangements, and how best to allocate risk between the parties, particularly when commercial partners are involved.

Target Audience

Procurement and Legal professionals and those managers actively involved in the Shared Services agenda who already have a good understanding of EU legislation but who now require specific knowledge of the legislation around the shared service agenda.

Note due to the complexity of the subject area this workshop will be strictly number limited.

Facilitator

The workshop will be led by Peter Andrews, Head of Shoosmiths’ EU law team. He is recognised by the legal press as a national leader in the field for his practical approach. David Jackson, a partner in the firm’s Commercial and Projects team will lead the discussions on contract structures.

Why you should attend

The Shared Services agenda will have considerable importance over the coming months and it is important to keep up to date with recent developments to reduce the risk to your authority from a challenge.

Please email lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk to register your attendance, or call 0115 977 4921.

Free Event



East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership

Partnerships, Innovation & Efficiencies in Highways

10 – 3.30pm, 29 October 2009, Austin Court, Birmingham

This **FREE** workshop provides an opportunity to hear the learning lessons on the improvement and efficiency programme from the members of the Midlands Highway Alliance (MHA). The MHA is an alliance of 24 Highway Authorities in both the East and West Midlands focusing on new ways of working to deliver sustainable service improvements and efficiency savings.

To date, ten demonstrator projects have been completed delivering projected savings of over £20 million. This has significant additional potential to be rolled out further across the Midlands area and generate huge savings. The MHA is recognised nationally as a forerunner in innovative partnership and collaborative working and a way forward for the future as Councils and partner organisations respond to the current difficult economic and environmental challenges and pressures.

Who should attend and why?

All Directors, Assistant Directors, Members and Senior Managers will benefit from attending this workshop because it will:

- Provide an overview of how the governance and programme management arrangements are funded, delivered, monitored and reviewed.
- Provide an insight into how the ten demonstrator projects have identified the potential to save £20 million within their own Councils with significant additional potential regionally.
- How partnerships were cultivated between Councils and their private sector partners to focus on a common goal to improve services and deliver sustainable cashable savings
- Allow you to listen and learn on the practical experiences, the lessons learned and how partnership “clusters” were developed and successfully delivered.
- Listen to how the modern best practice techniques of LEAN thinking, smarter procurement and sustainability are embraced positively within the programme to deliver benefits.
- Enable participants to debate and implement the key learning lessons from the day into their Councils.

Register now for this event online at:

<http://www.wmcoe.gov.uk/index.php?page=27&iID=944>



Free Events

Green Public Procurement Workshop

9.30am – 3.30pm Thursday 26 Nov, Trent Bridge Cricket Ground, West Bridgford, Nottingham

Background

Against the Government's Green Public Procurement (GPP) targets, which require 50% of public procurement tenders to include GPP criteria by 2010, this workshop will aim to raise awareness of and look at what is Green Public Procurement, the areas of sustainability on which it focuses, the Government position on Green Public Procurement, and the tools and techniques available to help procurement professionals deliver against this objective.

Target Audience

Procurement professionals and those managers actively engaged or interested in the sustainability agenda.

Facilitator

This event is being facilitated by Action Sustainability and is funded by Defa.

Aims & objectives

The aim is to ensure that attendees understand what is covered by Green Public Procurement, how it is relevant to their role, and support on implementation.

- Raise awareness of sustainable procurement and Green Public Procurement amongst non-central government procurement professionals.
- Help attendees understand what sustainability means today, and provide EU exemplars of sustainable procurement and Green Public Procurement.
- Ensure that attendees understand what is covered by Green Public Procurement, how it is relevant to their role, and support on implementation.
- Provide an overview of the tools and techniques of sustainable procurement, and how these can be used to deliver the Green Public Procurement targets.

Please email lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk to register your attendance, or call 0115 977 4921



Event

Breaking New Ground - New ways and means in Action Learning

The International Foundation for Action Learning Conference and AGM

10.30 – 4pm, Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th October 2009 at Scottish Youth Theatre, Glasgow

Keynote speaker:

Ian McGill, co-author of 'The Action Learning Handbook'

A timely opportunity to explore and share innovations in action learning, experience new ways of introducing it to others, identify new audiences and consider new applications.

Despite a surge of interest in Action Learning (AL) in the past few years, AL remains underutilised and even at times perhaps, misunderstood. Why is this? What needs to happen to make AL more mainstream? This conference is your opportunity to join other practitioners and supporters of AL in order to chart the way forward. The conference will include case studies, discussions and the opportunity to work in Sets. Not forgetting, of course, the social and networking opportunities which make the International Foundation for Action Learning (IFAL) gatherings so welcoming and memorable!

The Scottish Youth Theatre is a light and beautifully designed space inside the Old Sheriff Court, only a few minutes' walk from Glasgow's two main railway stations. The venue is fully accessible.

There are numerous moderately priced hotels and guest houses within easy reach of the venue (links are available on request). If you are flying to Glasgow airport, a frequent bus service takes you into the city centre in 15 minutes.

Fee: £180 (£130 for IFAL members) includes refreshments and buffet lunch on both days.

To book your place at the conference, please complete follow the link under the 'News & Updates section of our website homepage:

<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk>

Publications

Joint Improvement Partnership launches quarterly Newsletter

The very first edition of the quarterly East Midlands Joint Improvement Partnership (JIP) Bulletin was distributed by email on 17th September.

The newsletter has been distributed to over 150 adult social care staff across the region and is aimed at keeping all those involved in adult and child care informed of latest developments, news, views and publications. If you would like to be added to the circulation list please contact Tanya Frost at tanya.frost@dh.gsi.gov.uk or visit our website:

<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/publications.htm#CareServices>



Members Guide to Procurement of "Professional Services" Launched

The Local Government Association (LGA), working in partnership with the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs), has issued the first of a proposed series of Procurement Guides for Elected Members. The first guide provides information and advice regarding the Procurement of "Professional Services", which includes Consultancy and Agency Staff.

Research suggests that savings of approximately 8% on the average cost of Agency Staff and 6% on the average cost of Consultants are available through smarter Procurement of these services.

A copy of the guide is available at:

<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/publications.htm#Procurement>

Publications

Productivity: getting the best out of your people

Productivity is all about improving the ratio of inputs to outputs and outcomes:

- achieving more with the same resources
- achieving the same with fewer resources

Staff are often a council's largest area of cost. Improving the productivity of your workforce by tackling how they deliver your authority's objectives, offers opportunities to:

- improve the quality of the service delivered
- free up time for staff to focus more on customer and citizen needs
- generate financial savings

This resource outlines the factors that impact on productivity, with a focus on workforce. It identifies the different approaches to improving productivity, and how they can be combined to create more efficient services.



Visit the following link for more information and to download the above document:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelid=11771556>



Free Training

Support for Business

The **Winning Public Sector Business** workshops have been designed especially to give information to small and medium sized businesses about working with the public sector. These workshops are part of an initiative funded by the East Midlands Development Agency and delivered by the regional Business Link service. These workshops are the next step in developing your knowledge and skills to supply to the public sector.

There are four different workshops in this series:

- Competing for Contracts – the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Understanding Pre-Qualification Questionnaires
- Quality standards for competitive advantage
- How to write and present effective tenders

Please note – due to limited places at all workshops, as an individual you may only attend one workshop in the whole series. However, you may send a colleague if your company wishes to attend more than one workshop in the series.

The workshops are all a single day and are completely free of charge to attend. Lunch and complimentary refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

Your choice of when and where

Each of the four workshops will be held a number of times around the East Midlands, to give the maximum opportunity for delegates from across the region to attend. Full details of dates and venues and the content of each workshop can be found on our website www.procurementem.co.uk

Book your FREE place today.

Winning Public Sector Business

For further information please visit: www.procurementem.co.uk and click on the workshop names in the tab on the left hand side.

Or contact: Kim Newton, Business to Business Ltd
Tel: 02476 236 290 / fax: 02476 236 294
Email: kim@btob.co.uk



Training

East Midlands Property Alliance Training

The East Midlands Property Alliance (EMPA) consists of County, Unitary and District authorities who came together in 2007 to develop a regional collaborative strategy that would provide long term benefits and significant efficiency savings thorough framework contracts.

EMPA will deliver major changes in working practices, give a significant volume of work to local contractors and suppliers, provide improved long-term programme management and the flexibility to adapt to changing market conditions and projected expenditure.

As well as the above EMPA will provide regional procurement, training and development opportunities, support for improved management of property assets and develop the regional supply chain, leading to a reduction in the overall cost of procurement.

EMPA's latest training schedule is listed on the right.

15 Oct or 3 Nov - How the Framework Works (Technical Staff and Stakeholders)

28 Sep or 19 Nov - Collaborative Working Processes and Techniques for Delivering Improved Project Performance

29 Sep or 17 Nov - NEC3 Short Form and Option C for Construction Clients & Stakeholders

5 & 6 Oct or 5 & 6 Nov - Collaboration in Construction

20 Oct or 26 Nov - Risk Management

2 Nov or 1 Dec - Live projects Day

9 Nov or 3 Dec - Leadership and Management Part 1

12 Nov or 9 Dec - Leadership and Management Part 2

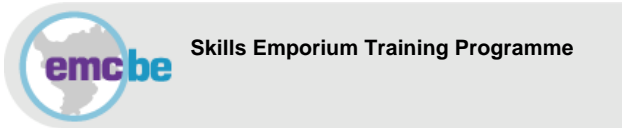
24 Nov - The Role of the Project Manager in the NEC

11 Dec - Designing Out Waste

21 Dec - How the Framework Works (For Non-Technical Clients and Stakeholders)

All the above courses carry a small fee.

For more information email: info@emcbe.com





Consultation

Mental Health Discussion - New Horizons

You have the opportunity to participate in an online discussion that will feed into the Department of Health's consultation process for New Horizons, a new national strategy for mental health and wellbeing from 2010 and beyond.

From the **7th of September 2009**, the IDeA's Healthy Communities Programme will be hosting a discussion on their Community of Practice (Cop) on this new mental health strategy.

The debate will focus on the well-being framework, which provides a structure that communities can use to promote well-being across their populations. It is made up of five elements:

- Ensure a positive start in life
- Build resilience and safe, secure base
- Integrate physical and mental health and well-being
- Develop sustainable, connected communities
- Promote meaning and purpose

It identifies the causes of poor mental health and provides cost effective approaches to promote well-being that can be implemented through things like Local Area Agreements.

Each week a different element of the well-being framework and the recommended interventions will be used as the discussion topic. From the discussion we would like to know whether you think any gaps exist, whether you think any interventions are missing, what national support you would find helpful and whether you have any examples of best practice you would like to share.

The discussion will also ask for comments on the five daily habits to achieve well-being which are:

Ensure positive social contacts: talk with someone you like, smile at a stranger.

Limit harmful emotions: acknowledge and let them go, don't harm others with violence or abuse.

Look after your body: keep physically active, eat healthily, do not smoke, and drink only in moderation.

Engage with nature: walk in a park, grow a plant, stroke an animal.

Reflect and learn: reflect to try to resolve problems and learn something new everyday.

To participate in this discussion please follow the joining instructions below:

Go to <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk> and under 'Register and become a member today' select 'Register'

EMPA Marketplace Event

The East Midlands Property Alliance (EMPA) held a very successful and well attended Marketplace event at Pride Park Stadium, Derby in late September.

The event was attended by over 100 delegates who learned about EMPA, opportunities available to them, met framework contractors and found out more about the help that is available to all East Midlands local authorities.

The event officially launched the Minor Works framework contract, the EMPA supply chain registration portal, the EMPA Academy and provided information about the East Midlands Regional Development Agency's (emda) Regional Procurement Strategy.

EM IEP had an information stall at the event to promote good practice and to be on hand to offer advice and provide assistance.

EM IEP Director Chris Allison is pictured at the event talking with two delegates.

For more information about EMPA go to:

<http://www.em-pa.org.uk>



Next steps: towards local authority-led improvement

By Councillor David Parsons, Chair, LGA Improvement Board

“From May to July, the LGA and IDeA consulted the local government community and others involved in improving public service delivery. They sought the sector’s views on proposals to develop a new framework for local government improvement that establishes a greater role for local authorities in owning and sharing among themselves the responsibility for their own improvement.

“We received nearly a hundred responses to the ‘Setting the Pace’ consultation, from councils, regulators, professional bodies and central government. We were heartened to hear that there is an appetite within the sector for taking a local government-led approach to improvement to a new level.

“Local authorities are in the best position to judge the needs of their communities and to identify priorities and actions to improve people’s lives within their area. There is a real desire among the local government community for the creation of a truly sector-led performance management framework that requires local authorities and their partners to be accountable to local people, rather than to central government, for improving outcomes within their area.

“There is also a desire for authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), working with the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs) and the IDeA, to better support each other. We are all keen to maximise the effectiveness of support from our peers, make better use of well-researched examples of best and innovative practice and have access to more in-depth support in challenging times.

“Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) results in recent years have shown that authorities are improving well. But we recognise that we still face performance challenges and these challenges are likely to become more acute over the coming months and years as pressure on the public purse increases.

“The LGA Group’s Improvement Board is committed to promoting the concept of sector-led improvement. We will, over the coming months, be working with councils, the IDeA and RIEPs to ensure that our sector-led improvement support is able to respond to the challenges that authorities face”. ([...continued on web](#))

To read the rest of this article click on the following link:
<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=13317621>

‘Meet the RIEP’ goes down a treat at the GOEM!

In September, the EM IEP Support Team paid the staff at Government Office East Midlands (GOEM) a visit enabling staff to meet the team in person and learn more about our work programme.

The event, hosted by Jan Sensier, allowed GOEM staff to hear about the work of EM IEP, watch video case studies featuring good practice from around the region, meet the team and talk in depth about programme areas listed below through two carousel sessions.

- Care Services
- Environmental Services
- Local Area Agreements/CAA/Equalities and Neighbourhood Resource Centre
- Business Transformation and Shared Services Economic Growth (& Worklessness)
- Efficiency and Procurement
- Communication and Events

Staff at GOEM felt it was a very worthwhile event. EM IEP Director Chris Allison is pictured at the event presenting information to delegates.

For more information about EM IEP go to:
<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk>



Midlands Highway Alliance - Local Authority Efficiencies Summary 2008 - 2013

The Midlands Highway Alliance (MHA) is a project funded by the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP), it comprises nine East Midlands councils, one East of England council and the Highways Agency.

These organisations have common interests in improving performance and making potential efficiency savings of £16.752 million in the delivery of highway services working in collaboration. They have joined forces to improve the design and delivery of highways projects and achieve efficiency gains.

The table on the next page summarises the actual and predicted savings the MHA is and will be making and also provides examples of some of MHA's efficiency saving.

To find out more about the MHA read our good practice case study at:

http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/case_studies.htm#Procurement

or watch our ninety second video case study at the following link: (Click on the EM IEP Shared Services film)

http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/case_studies.htm#Video



Midlands Highway Alliance - Local Authority Efficiencies Summary 2008 - 2013

The table opposite summarises the MHAs current and predicted savings (as at July 2009). Below are some examples of how these efficiency savings have been established:

Commodities

Joint procurement to establish a salt supply Framework. Efficiencies forecast over 2 years with potential to increase as more join = **£172,000**

ECI & Innovation - Medium Schemes Framework

During the Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) stage the Contractor requested an island kerb line be moved as part of the permanent works to accommodate barriers and preserve traffic flow. **Resulting in reduced duration and savings of £233,000.**

Use of Benefil in place of foam concrete
Scheme Saving = £30,000

Examples Of Non cashable savings

Joint management of risk - potential delays removed.

Contractor takes ownership of previously Client held functions and ensures notification in terms of the delivery programme – Potential delays and utility penalties removed.

	Actual (July 2009) £m	Future Predicted £m	Total (May 2013)
Procurement	0.700	4.500	5.200
ECI and innovation	0.520	8.490	9.010
Commodities	0.172	0.270	0.442
Professional Services	1.025	1.075	2.100
Total	2.417	14.335	£16.752m

Consideration of traffic management at time of design – to ensure the most efficient Term Maintenance (TM) and maximisation of delivery within that TM.

Involvement of Contractor in scheme planning and programming – this allows schemes to be run fully or partly concurrent saving time overall and delivery of more schemes per year.

For more information visit:

http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/knowledge_centre/topics/Procurement/Construction/index.htm

East Midlands Personalisation website is now LIVE!

Find out everything you need to know about how our region is getting on in implementing Putting People First, and contribute yourself by sharing good practice, or asking questions about aspects of personalisation.

The East Midlands Personalisation Programme is a partnership between the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the Deputy Regional Director for Social Care in the Department of Health. The programme is supporting the 9 local authorities in the region to transform their adult social care services in line with Putting People First, personalising care and putting adults in control of their own support systems and services.

The programme is one of a number of programmes under the East Midlands Joint Improvement and Efficiency Partnership and is led by the Executive Director (Adult Services Group) at Lincolnshire County Council, supported by the Personalisation Programme Director and Support Officer.

The website will: keep you up to date with how the region is getting on with implementing Putting People First, let you find out about support and training events taking place, keep you up to date with the projects and workstreams and allow you to view minutes and papers from key meetings.

There is also a page on [mietool](#). mietool is a major new resource for local authorities. It is designed to help heads of service and project managers measure improvement and efficiency savings on projects.

And remember - the 'discuss and debate' page lets you keep in contact with your colleagues around the region. Got a question? Post it on the 'discuss and debate' page and wait for the answers to come flooding in (hopefully!)

Visit:

<http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/Personalisation/Regions/EastMidlands/about/>

National GovMetric Awards 2009

The National GovMetric Awards 2009 recognise the great work that you do, and to tell others about it. GovMetric are looking for short examples of how GovMetric has helped your organisation. This does not have to be a full length case study, it can be as short as one paragraph describing an anecdote.

Customer Service Culture Case Study 2009
Service Excellence Case Study 2009
Efficiency Case Study 2009
Crisis Management Case Study 2009

Overall Winner Award: Council of the Year Award

The Council of the Year trophy will be presented to the Council that has demonstrated outstanding performance, be it by increasing take up of GovMetric, maintaining strong levels of feedback, utilising the results to make positive change etc.

Along with the trophy, the Council will also receive a certificate and will be promoted at various GovMetric events and publications.

Why Get Involved?

- **Your name in lights!**

All winners will have their photo and name appear on a number of publicity items. This includes the GovMetric website and newsletter as well as our exhibition stand at this year's Solace Annual Conference.

- **A National Award**

National recognition for the work that you have done along with the recognition that you are the best in the country.

- **Customer Excellence**

If you are working towards Customer Service Excellence accreditation, these GovMetric awards provide a real boost to your profile.



To find out more visit <http://www.govmetric.com> or if you wish to discuss potential case study ideas please contact: Sue Hayles at sue.hayles@govmetric.com or telephone 07826 911188 or to submit an entry for the case study awards email Claire McGrory at claire.mcgrory@govmetric.com . The closing date for your case study submissions is 16th October 2009.

District Authorities Save £1.7m By Collaborative Insurance

The West Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership have recently published a case study highlighting how an innovative partnership between seven District Councils delivered £1.7 million savings through one of the first insurance collaborations in the country.

In 2008 five Worcestershire District Councils came together to jointly tender their insurance requirements, they were later joined by a further two authorities to form a seven authority insurance cluster to go into the market. This insurance cluster formed part of a regional pilot project to seek to obtain best value on insurance and to stimulate the marketplace.

Insurance was unanimously chosen by the seven councils as it is a significant spend and was considered an area where potential savings could be achieved.

Download the case study at:

<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/publications.htm>

and scroll down to the 'Insurance' sub-heading.

Efficiency Saving Opportunities - ICT Hardware - e Auction

Following the successful running of auction number 11 for IT Hardware Office of Government Commerce (OGC) will be undertaking auction number 12 in the first quarter of 2010.

If your interested in participating get in early with your requirements.

Contact Chris Chettle at OGC

Email: chris.chettle@ogc.gsi.gov.uk



Contact Details and Useful Websites

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Websites

East Midlands Improvement & Efficiency Partnership
www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

EM Procurement Hub (Password Protected)
<http://secure.emce.gov.uk/procurement/index.htm>

Sustainable Procurement Information Network (SPIN)
www.s-p-i-n.co.uk

Source East Midlands Contract Portal
www.sourceeastmidlands.co.uk

East Midlands Law Share Partnership (EM LawShare)
www.emlawshare.co.uk

Postal Address

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