

Our Ref: JS/lmd
11th January 2012

Dear Chief Executive

Performance Management Benchmarking in the East Midlands

I am writing to let you know about a project sponsored by the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP) to support performance management benchmarking for local authorities in the region, and also to invite you to send a representative to a seminar we are holding on 26 January at Rushcliffe Borough Council in Nottingham.

As you are aware, with the abolition of CAA, LAA and the Audit Commission, the onus for performance management and improvement now rests firmly with the sector. To support this approach, at its last Board meeting in October, the EM IEP agreed to a project for the development of collaborative work on performance management, including benchmarking. The Board's remit was that this work should complement and not duplicate the LGA's Taking the Lead programme and its LG Inform system currently being developed.

Following initial conversations with a number of performance management officers across the region, we have identified a system currently used by the 9 city, county and unitary authorities that provide an informal benchmarking tool, and that could equally be of use for district authorities. To this end, we are holding an initial seminar inviting all 46 local authorities in the East Midlands to send a representative so that together we can explore how councils can work together to maximise their resources on performance management and to share best practice. The seminar will be from 10:30-12:30 and Rushcliffe Borough Council have kindly agreed to act as our hosts. There will be a presentation of the system the county, city and unitary authorities are currently using, and then a discussion about how this can be developed for the benefit of all councils in the East Midlands, and the target audience is those responsible for performance management within their authority.

I do hope your council is able to take part in this seminar and would be grateful if you could let my colleague Lois Dale (lois.dale@emcouncils.gov.uk) have the name of your representative by **Friday 20 January**. We will then send out full details of the venue and agenda.



Jan Sensier
Interim Strategic Programme Manager
East Midlands Councils