



East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership

EM IEP Monthly News Bulletin

August 2008

This month, we will be producing 2 newsletters, one focusing on procurement and efficiency issues which will be sent to those interested in procurement and efficiency and a general bulletin that will be circulated as normal.

If you would like to receive both bulletins please email: rebecca.parker@nottsc.gov.uk



Information

Consultation on the new Equality Framework for Local Government

The Equality Standard for Local Government (ESLG) has helped to make equality an integral part of service delivery. To reflect recent demographic changes and emerging thinking, the IDeA is developing a revised Equality Framework and have produced a draft version of the framework for consultation.

Responses must be received by 10 September 2008.

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=8488097>

Everything you wanted to know about sustainability from the IDeA

The IDeA has compiled some of the most common questions about sustainability, sustainable development and climate change. They are ideal for anyone new to this area of work or for those looking for inspiration to implement changes in their council.

For more information go to:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=8445487>

Building local authority skills to deliver complex projects

For any complex project, it is essential that the process of managing a contract from its inception through to the end of the operational period is run smoothly so that, ultimately, a first class service is delivered to local people. 4ps offers guidance specifically designed to raise local authorities' awareness of the key components of successful contract management, enabling them to set up effective contract management teams and build successful long-term relationships with their service providers.

More information on 4ps' Guide to Contract Management for PFI and PPP projects is available from:

www.4ps.gov.uk

LAA Priority indicators

CLG has now published the LAA priority indicators for all authorities available at:

<http://www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx>



Information

Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities

Statutory Guidance

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act received Royal Assent on October 30th 2007. This guidance explains the provisions of Part 5, Chapter 1 and Part 7 of the Act, which relate to the new statutory framework for Local Area Agreements (LAA), Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and the new, simplified best value regime, which includes a new duty to involve. It also provides updated guidance on the preparation of sustainable community strategies, under section 4 of the Local Government Act 2000. The guidance only applies to England.

To download this publication go to:

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

Local involvement leads to happier communities

A new report from the Local Wellbeing Project shows how neighbourhood and community empowerment can improve wellbeing.

The report examines how active citizenship can contribute to wellbeing by investigating empowerment initiatives in three very different local authorities: Hertfordshire, Manchester and South Tyneside.

Download additional information from the following link:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=8428462>





Information

(CLG) White Paper delivers power shift to local people

Communities Secretary, Hazel Blears, has published a White Paper setting out proposals to deliver a fundamental shift in power, influence and responsibility into the hands of communities and citizens. 'Communities in control: Real people, real power' sets out how the Government plans to give citizens and communities more rights and more power through:

- more information and greater influence over the local decisions that affect them;
- new means of holding politicians and councils to account;
- more opportunity (where they choose) to get directly involved in managing and shaping how local services are delivered.

Download the document from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/communitiesincontrol>

Operational Efficiency Programme launched

HM Treasury has launched the Operational Efficiency Programme. The programme forms a key part of the Government's drive to achieve greater efficiency savings across public spending, with the potential to deliver billions of pounds of savings.

The Operational Efficiency Programme will be wide-ranging, focussing initially on five strands examining cross-cutting areas of government spending and drawing on the best public and private sector experience.

For more information go to:

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



Information

East Midlands Local Authority Building Control (LABC) Awards:2008

Nottinghamshire County Council Property Division (Resources) has recently applied for the above awards with the event which took place on Tuesday 20th June 2008. The 3 categories were:

- Best Partnership with an Architect - NCC Property Division & Rushcliffe BC
- Best Education Project - Candleby Lane Primary and Netherfield Primary
- Best Sustainable Design - Candleby Lane Primary and Netherfield Primary

The Candleby Lane Primary in Cotgrave won the "Best Sustainable Design" award and both Candleby Lane Primary and Netherfield Primary received a Highly Commended status for the "Best Education Project" award.

The win will mean that Candleby Lane will go forward to the National LABC Awards in October 2008. Councillor John Stocks said "This is great news for every individual within Design & Procurement who worked and assisted on these schemes, our partner contractor (G F Tomlinson Ltd) and it is great news for the Authority as a whole".

These wins also clearly demonstrate our partnership credentials and best practice within our current Nottinghamshire Construction Framework (NCF) agreement. Both our other two contractors (Marriott Construction & Interserve) have each attained or are being nominated for awards for other NCC schemes as well.

Furthermore, we have just received news that Candleby Lane and Netherfield have also been short-listed for the "RIBA Regional Awards" which are to take place in October 2008. The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) is one of the leading architectural Institutes worldwide and to be even nominated is an honour in itself.

Cllr John Stocks will be presenting these awards to Full Council on the 17th July 2008.



From left to right:

John Brannan (NCC Team Manager), Cllr John Stock (NCC Cabinet member), David Eberlin (NCC Architect) and Nick Banks (Contractor - GF Tomlinson)



Information

NI 14 – Reducing Avoidable Contact Place Survey 2008 – 09 manual

The new performance framework for local government includes indicator NI 14 - 'Reducing Avoidable Contact'. By October 2008, local authorities will need to have the mechanisms in place to begin collecting data on this indicator. The first submission of data will be in April 2009.

To assist with the implementation of the new indicator, a guidance document has been jointly developed in partnership with local authorities, Cabinet Office, Communities and Local Government and the Improvement and Development Agency.

The guidance has been designed to assist officers and members to better understand the underlying causes of 'avoidable contact', as well as to share some of the practical tools developed by colleagues to capture data. This information can then be used to redesign how LAs deliver services more effectively and efficiently - from the point of view of customers and staff.

Download the guidance from the following link:
www.idea.gov.uk/ni14guidance

The Place Survey Technical Manual aims to provide local authorities with all the information required to run the survey in their localities, including the timetable for the survey, sampling methods and the sampling frame, options for running the survey in two tier areas, and how to submit survey results to the Audit Commission. The manual also provides advice on the strategies local authorities can use in order to maximize response rates.

Download from the CLG website:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/>

Local Authority trade waste reports summary

A large number of local authorities have commissioned reports into trade waste and recycling over the past few years. In this document the BREW Centre has compiled the key outcomes and actions from a number of trade waste surveys commissioned by Local Authorities.

To view go to:
www.eas.local.gov.uk/Documents/Twreports0708_com p.pdf



Information

Recycle on the Go - bins in public places

Recycle on the Go is the new drive to put accessible recycling bins in public places, developed by Defra, Recycle Now and Encams.

The following key documents are now available for local authorities to download and use, to ensure that those responsible for public places have the right tools to make recycling easy and accessible to the public. The following documents may be downloaded from the Defra website via the Recycle on the Go page:

- Voluntary Code of Practice
- Good Practice Guide
- Brand Guidelines (from Recycle Now)

NB you will need to register to access the downloadable resources

For further background on the scheme, please also see Defra's Waste Strategy Fact Sheet: "Recycling Bins in Public Places".

See web link:

<http://www.win.org.uk/WIN%20bulletin.aspx#Recycle%20on%20the%20Go>

Green Uses For Waste website

GreenUsesForWaste was formed to offer a unique reference point on environmentally friendly ways to re-use all your waste.

The concern was that there was no single UK resource for interesting features and practical advice on this subject.

Features and articles are written by professional journalists and experts who have a particular interest or a background in this area.

There is no drive to generate profit and the focus is simply on creating the highest quality information possible that is widely read.

To visit the site use the following link:

www.greenusesforwaste.co.uk/home.htm



Information

Adapting to Climate Change in England – A Framework for Action

The Government's Climate Change Adaptation Framework has been launched with links at:
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/adapt/index.htm

The Government has just launched the Adapting to Climate Change website. Which reflects a wide range of Government's work on adapting to the impacts of climate change. The website will enable those within the public, private and third sectors, and individuals to:

- Find out more about how the climate is changing and what this could mean for the UK;
- Read about what the Government is doing to prepare for the impacts of climate change, including the work of the cross-Government Adapting to Climate Change; Programme and the adaptation clauses in the Climate Change Bill;
- Find out more about information tools available to enable all to take action including case studies and the work of the UK Climate Impacts Programme.

Visit the website at www.defra.gov.uk/adaptation

Improvement Express July 08

To download the latest edition of the IDeA's Improvement Express, the IDeA's main communication tool with senior councillors and officers, click on the following link:
<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelid=8595499>

E-zine – July 08

This is the monthly e-mail service from the BREW Centre for Local Authorities. It is designed to keep members of the BREW Centre Network up to date with news and case studies of Local Authorities working to support resource efficiency in local business communities.

Download E-zine July 08 from:
http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/news_info.htm#Info



Information

Care Funding Calculator set to transform adult care purchasing

The launch of the care funding calculator on 03 July marks a major opportunity to transform the way care for people with learning disabilities is purchased.

Developed by the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships, the calculator is being offered to all English adult care departments following successful trials in over 70 councils and two primary care trusts.

For further information please contact: **Seth Brook:**
07976 109192

seth.brook@blueyonder.co.uk

Lessons from outsourcing adult social care

Over the last decade in England, local government has outsourced major parts of adult social care. A new report offers a set of 'messages' for other parts of local government on how they might manage workforce issues positively if and when they consider outsourcing.

Download additional information from the following link:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageld=8424489>

Aiming High for Disabled Children

This guidance will help local authorities and primary care trusts deliver a programme to provide short breaks for disabled children, a central component of a wider change programme for disabled children's services.

For further information please go to:

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/files/AHDC_Short_Breaks_Implementation_Guidance.pdf





Information

FREE training – Business Improvement

We've already saved a lot of time and money

You could feel the buzz...it was amazing

The trainers were great, really helpful

These are just a few of the quotes from people who have completed the **FREE Business Improvement training**, available to all local authorities in the region. The East Midlands IEP is supporting the programme to help build capacity within organisations, a vital theme of both the National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy and the Comprehensive Spending Review.

The programme has been developed in collaboration with NA Consulting, a professional training organisation, working alongside regional colleges. Participants work together in teams of 10 to carry out a short, 'real-world' **improvement project** within their authority, bringing tangible organisational benefits as well as individual development.

The training is fully funded so there is **no cost to participating authorities** other than staff time (approximately 7 days per person spread over 12-16 weeks). The training is carried out entirely in the workplace and leads to an NVQ level 2 in Business Improvement Techniques.

In the East Midlands, over 80 staff have completed the training and a further 130 are currently on the programme from: Derbyshire County Council, Northamptonshire Police, Mansfield DC, North West Leicestershire DC, Newark & Sherwood DC, Nottingham City Council, Wellingborough BC, East Northamptonshire DC, Daventry DC, Broxtowe BC and North Kesteven DC. Several other authorities are in advanced discussions, adding further momentum to the programme.

Places on the training programme are limited, given the funding allocation, so if you or your authority would like to take advantage of this offer, please contact Merlin Tinker in the first instance.

Merlin Tinker, Programme Manager at EM IEP
Telephone: 07534 266 228
Email: merlin.tinker@nottsc.gov.uk



Events

East Midlands Dementia Strategy Consultation Event

20th August 2008, 10.00am - 3.30pm at the University of Leicester, Gilbert Murray Hall, Manor Road, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 2LH

The Consultation Event aims to:

- Introduce the strategy to those who did not attend previous events
- Invite comments on the draft strategy and answers to the consultation questions
- Build on networks already in place
- Think about, and start gearing up for, implementation when the final strategy is published in the autumn

Three key themes will be included:

- Improving awareness
- Early diagnosis
- Intervention Improving Quality of Care

Each theme is accompanied by a series of consultation questions.

To book your place:

E-mail: pam.swift@eastmidlands.csip.nhs.uk

Rough guide to RIEPs, Improvement and LAAs

LACORS is holding a one day conference on **26 September 2008** at Local Government House, Smith Square, Westminster, London, SW1P 3HZ. The conference is aimed at Heads of Services who work in regulatory services.

The purpose of the conference is to advise delegates about the improvement agenda, including RIEPs, and get the message across that Regulatory Services has an important role to play in the corporate / strategic work of the council and can contribute to the delivery of LAAs.

The outcomes of this conference are for delegates to go away with a greater understanding of sector led improvement and what this entails for each authority, details of what the RIEPs are and can provide access too, including funding and examples of council's delivering their LAAs.

For further information please contact:

Ami Beeton

Tel: 0207 665 3851



Events

Climate Change

Thursday 9th October 2008,

Are you involved in the climate change agenda ?

The EM IEP has been awarded £260k to support climate change activities in the East Midlands.

Do you want to help shape the EM IEP Climate Change Programme ?

There is a workshop being held on AM Thursday 9th October to explore what the programme should focus on and develop project proposals.

If you require any further information please contact Andrew Foster e-mail andrew.foster@nottscc.gov.uk.

And if you are interested in participating please advise Lois Dale e-mail Lois.dale@nottscc.gov.uk of your intended attendance.

Contact Details and Useful Websites



East Midlands
Improvement and
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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

Procurement Connection Online Toolkit

www.procurementconnection.co.uk

East Midlands Law Share Partnership (EM LawShare)

www.emlawshare.co.uk

Postal Address

East Midlands IEP Support Team

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