



EM IEP Monthly News Bulletin

East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership

April 2009

Lights, camera, action!

Watch our new 'Improvement Journeys' video case studies (page 3)

East Midlands successfully secures funding for 2009-10 (page 2)





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East Midlands successfully secures funding for 2009-10



East Midlands
Improvement and
Efficiency Partnership

Each of the nine Regional Improvement & Efficiency Partnerships in England recently submitted their first Annual Report to central government.

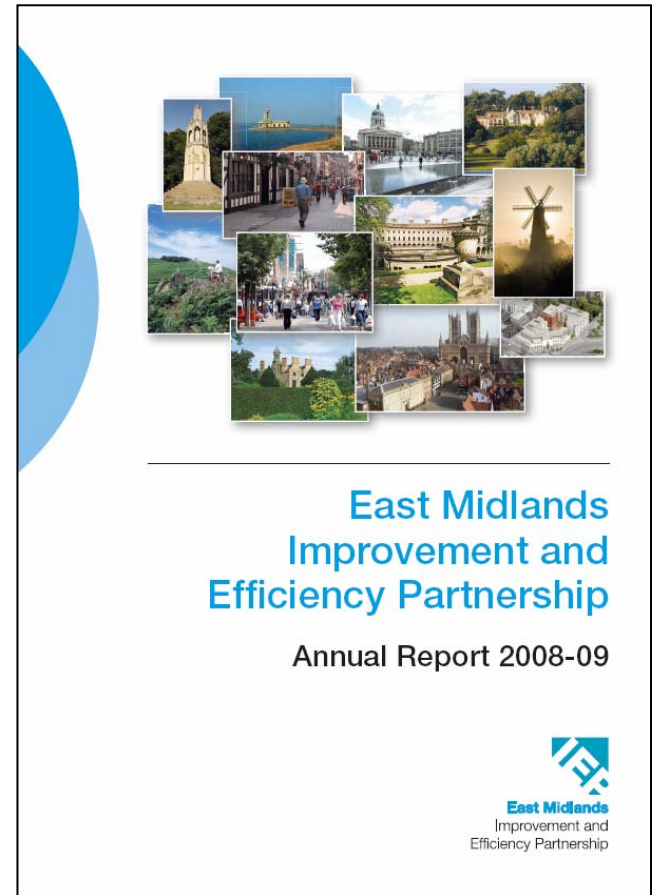
The local government Minister, John Healey said he was pleased by the progress made by RIEPs in such a short period of time, and commented that RIEPs are taking 'a fresh approach at a regional level'.

The East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP) are pleased to announce that over £7.2 million of funding has been secured for 2009-10 on the strength of the Report, which provides an overview of the progress made so far across our work programme. Indicative funding of £7.2 million for 2010-11.

Feedback revealed that regionally there are some impressive achievements and a real sense of purpose about what RIEPs can deliver in years two and three.

Read our Annual Report online today at:

http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/news_info.htm#Info



EM IEP Annual Conference 2008

Over 100 delegates from across the East Midlands travelled on a delightfully sunny day to Melton Mowbray; venue for the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership inaugural Annual Conference.

The conference was opened by Councillor Martin Hill and delegates heard from Minister Phil Hope (by video) and Councillor David Parsons, Peter Murphy from GOEM and Chris Allison, Director of EM IEP.

The conference reviewed the past year and looked ahead to what 2009-10 has in store. Delegates watched our latest video case studies showcasing examples of innovation and efficiency from across the region. The film has been posted on our website. The event was also used as an opportunity for networking and sharing good practice.

Councillor David Parsons is pictured addressing conference delegates (right).

View the presentations at:

<http://www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk/events/feedback.htm>





Lights, camera, action!

Improvement Journeys... EM IEP Video Case Studies

Have you watched our latest corporate film, aptly titled 'Improvement Journeys' showcasing regional examples of innovation and best practice?

The film was premiered at our Annual Conference and has inspired Members and officers to think about how projects, such as those featured in the film (listed right), can help make a difference to their local communities and deliver efficiency savings.

Watch the film online today at:

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

Pssst... keep any eye out for our new Shared Services video case studies available on our website from mid-May.

A Bright Idea: Dusk to Dawn Lights
Derbyshire

Finding Your Talent: Positive Activities for Young People
Leicestershire and Rutland

Dealing with Disaster: Shared Services
Lincolnshire

Thinking Smart: Reward Scheme for Carbon Management
Northamptonshire

Home Sweet Home: Choice Based Letting
Nottinghamshire

YES!: Youth Engagement Service
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service



News

The Budget 2009

Chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling made his Budget statement to the House of Commons on 22 April 2009.

Government Savings

- Tax loopholes and schemes identified which could provide £1bn of extra revenue over the next three years if closed
- An extra £9bn in efficiency savings is planned
- Public spending growth to be cut from 1.1% next year to 0.7% from 2011-2012

To find out all the latest information about this special Budget 2009 please follow the link below.

The site provides access to information from across government in one place. The page will be updated regularly as information becomes available in the days following the Budget.

Go to:

<http://www.info4local.gov.uk/content-by-topic/budget09>



Efficiency target to rise to £9 billion

The Treasury has outlined a public sector efficiency target that will rise to £9bn a year by 2013-14.

The target has been set by the Treasury's operational efficiency programme.

According to the Health Service Journal it means that between 2010-11 and 2013-14 – the last year of the next spending round – the equivalent of at least £24bn will be cut from public spending.

The £24bn includes the £5bn already outlined for 2010-11 in the November pre-Budget report, which a Treasury spokesman referred to as "£5bn to £6bn".

For the years 2011-12 to 2013-14, the report will set out the Treasury's expectation that the annual savings will be at least £5bn per year, rising to at least £9bn by 2013-14.

The Treasury believes the majority of these savings can come from back office efficiencies and collaborative procurement.

The spokesman said the efficiency programme had uncovered "huge variation" in spending on human resources and utilities such as electricity in particular.

When the efficiency programme was launched last year it included public sector property management as a possible area for savings, but those expectations have now been curtailed.

(Author: Sally Gainsbury - Health Service Journal).

Talk to EM IEP - we're here to help

The East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP) has been set up to work specifically with local authorities and fire and rescue authorities in the region to help make these efficiency savings and continue to improve services.

Visit our website to find out how we have helped support millions of pounds worth of savings in the regions, watch and read our case studies to find examples of best practice.

If you want to talk to us - contact one of the team, see last page for Support Team contact details.

Leicestershire County Council wins ‘Council of the Year’ award

Congratulations go to Leicestershire County Council who have been celebrating after being crowned ‘Council of the Year’.

The prestigious award recognises extremely high levels of excellence and innovation and was presented at a ceremony in London yesterday.

Organised by Local Government Chronicle, the awards were held on Wednesday, 25th March at the Grosvenor Hotel on Park Lane in London and were hosted by Dara O’Brian.

The awards ceremony acknowledges excellence in local government and brings together over 1,300 industry leaders to celebrate the most innovative and passionate councils in the UK. Leicestershire is the first County Council to win the award.

EMPA Intermediate Framework Contract for Design and Build Projects

Following the East Midlands Property Alliance’s (EMPA) two-stage tender progress, Wates, Kier and Willmott Dixon have been successful and have been offered the four year intermediate framework contract for design and build projects.

A formal announcement has been made.

If you have any projects which you would like to start through this contract, please contact Alan Coole in the first instance with the details.

For more information contact:

Alan Coole, Development Manager

Scape System Build

Mobile: 07824 621491

Direct line: 0115 8523 817

Email: alanc@scapebuild.co.uk

New agency for a new era in mental health

A new agency to ensure national mental health policies bring about real improvements for patients and carers will start work on 1 April, Care Services Minister Phil Hope announced.

The new agency - the National Mental Health Development Unit - will succeed the current National Institute for Mental Health in England. The change follows a review of mental health service delivery, taking into account Lord Darzi's NHS Next Stage Review and the need for more personalised services. From April, the ten strategic health authorities will oversee much of the regional and local delivery of new mental health policies, with support from the new Development Unit.

For more information go to:

<http://www.nmhdu.org.uk>

Office of the Third Sector funding for Derby, Leicester & Nottingham

The Office of the Third Sector (OTS) released the details of the Local Authority Areas who will receive support through the Real Help for Communities: Targeted Support Fund (formerly the Community Resilience Fund). Grants will be available to small, local third sector service providers who have experienced increased demand as a result of the recession - Derby, Leicester & Nottingham are three of the areas listed for support.

Further information go to:

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/090415_funding.aspx

Business Support and Comprehensive Area Assessment – Information Note

This information note aims to help Local Authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships understand how “Solutions for Business – funded by government”, the new streamlined package of public funded business support, and the Comprehensive Area Assessment will work alongside one another.

Download at: <http://www.berr.gov.uk/>

Government offers ‘Real Help’ through recession

A new website has been launched by the government which gives details of the action that is being taken all around the country to help the economy come through the recession. Visitors to the website, www.realhelpnow.gov.uk can see what’s happening in each region. There are also sections on the practical help available for people and businesses on a wide range of issues.

Equality Framework for Local Government

The new Equality Framework for Local Government was launched on 25 March. Praised by the Audit Commission as very consistent with the principles of the Comprehensive Area Assessment, the Framework is a simpler guide to equality work. Councils can measure themselves by peer challenge as either ‘developing’, ‘achieving’ or excellent’.

More information at:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=9491107>

Tackling Worklessness: A review of the contribution and role of local authorities and partnerships

The Final Report of Stephen Houghton's Tackling Worklessness Review contains the Review team's recommendations on how successful multi-agency and cross-sector local partnerships can best tackle worklessness in their communities.

Download the report at:

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



Publications

New councillor workbook – Ambitious Local Government

A new IDeA councillors' workbook has been published called, 'Ambitious Local Government: changes since the 2006 White Paper'.

This publication is designed to bring councillors up to date with all the new initiatives and legislative changes introduced in recent years to strengthen the community leadership role of local councils. It covers LAAs and local partnership working, and much more, in one single publication.

Download from the website at:

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

More Than Good Ideas: The Power of Innovation in Local Government

This joint publication, from the IDeA, the Beacon Scheme, and the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA), sets out a range of views on public sector innovation, in an effort to stimulate further thought, debate and the sharing of next practice. It demonstrates that there is an impressive amount of innovative activity across local government.

Despite the depressing state of the economy, Members and officers are ready and eager to respond to what can only be described as a daunting set of challenges.

Download from the website at:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=9524948>

Funding Opportunity

Funding available for Business Transformation training

Is your authority looking to develop skills in service redesign, or business process reengineering (BPR), or systems thinking? If you're considering short training courses in these areas, relating to Business Transformation, the EM IEP can help by meeting half of the cost.

For example, Daventry DC wanted to train 15 officers in BPR to support their transformation programme. They'd identified a two day SPRINT training course (www.sprint.gov.uk) and asked us if we could support them. We agreed to provide match funding so that Daventry paid half and we paid the other half. The training was very successful, and two more courses were run in March for other Northamptonshire authorities.

So if you're considering short training courses in this field, get in contact and we'll be able to help. Simple as that.



For further information please contact:

Merlin Tinker, Programme Manager, East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

Tel: 07534 266 228 **Email:** merlin.tinker@nottsc.gov.uk **Web:** www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

Training

FREE training – Business Improvement



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 two professional training organisations; Castle Training and NA Consulting.

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, at approximately six days per person, spread over 10-12 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 250 staff have completed the training, identifying £900k of savings, from fourteen local authorities - Derbyshire County Council, Northamptonshire Police, Mansfield DC, North West Leicestershire DC, Newark & Sherwood DC, Ashfield DC, Nottingham City Council, Wellingborough BC, East Northamptonshire DC, Daventry DC, Broxtowe BC, North Kesteven DC, Amber Valley BC and Bolsover DC. Several other authorities are in advanced discussions, adding further momentum to the programme.

PLEASE NOTE: Places on the training programme are limited, given the funding allocation.

To book your FREE place for this event contact:

Merlin Tinker, Programme Manager, East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership
Tel: 07534 266 228 **Email:** merlin.tinker@nottsc.gov.uk **Web:** www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

Free Event

The Truth about Shared Services: triumphs and tribulation

9.30 – 4pm, Wednesday, 13th May 2009 at Pera conference centre, Melton Mowbray

Shared services and partnerships are never far from the headlines, or from authorities priority list. With a wide range of speakers, this major event will showcase some of the excellent examples in the region and also cover some of the lessons learnt from national projects that have met with difficulties. Table discussions will be held about the implications of shared services and partnerships, so that directors, practitioners and Members can hear advice and share experiences directly.

By covering the different angles – organisational, legal, technical, managerial – we hope to open up the debate about shared services and partnerships, so that you're aware of the triumphs and the tribulation relating to this important topic.

Who should attend?

Directors, Service Heads, practitioners and Members involved with or considering shared services and partnerships.

Confirmed speakers include:

- High Peak/Staffordshire Moorlands Alliance
- Chesterfield, NE Derbyshire and Bolsover Shared Services
- Rushcliffe BC and Charnwood BC
- Lincolnshire Shared Services Partnership and Lincolnshire County Council
- Southwest One
- Audit Commission
- Local Government Shared Services – Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Slough
- Shoosmiths law firm



To book your FREE place for this event contact:

Lois Dale, East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

Tel: 0115 977 4921 **Email:** lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk **Web:** www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk



Free Event (HURRY - limited availability)

mietool Training

9.30am – 4.00pm 23rd June 2009

PERA Conference Centre, Melton Mowbray

What is mietool?

mietool (Measurement of Improvement and Efficiency Tool) is designed to help you:

- Develop robust business cases with confidence
- Measure the efficiency impacts of projects and to provide data for the new efficiency performance indicator
- Plan and measure the improvement value of your projects, to your authority and your community, against all 198 national Performance Indicators

This tool can be used by service and project managers to **assess costs, benefits and efficiencies** of potential projects.

It offers service and project managers a **consistent, comprehensive, and transparent** basis for identifying efficiency gains on a project by project basis.

Who should attend the training?

This training session is designed to be “hands-on” coaching support for officers developing business cases for projects, so project managers and service managers are the people who will benefit most from the training, as well as Finance managers. 103 officers from 40 local authorities in the East Midlands have already attended **mietool** training sessions.

The **outcome** of each session will be that delegates will all leave each support session adept at using **mietool** to appraise the impacts of their projects and confident about deploying the tool across a wide range of projects.

To book your FREE place for this event contact: Lois Dale, EM IEP

Tel: 0115 977 4921 Email: lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk Web: www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk

(PLEASE NOTE: there is limited availability for this course, if you put your name forward – please make every effort to attend. Any extra delegate names will be added to a waiting list.)

Free Event

LSPs and joining up around Families Tackle their needs and deliver across your LAA

10am – 1pm, Wednesday 6th May 2009, The Gateway Hotel, Nottingham. NG8 6AZ

Partner agencies are exploring different ways of working with families who may be amongst the most vulnerable and absorb a disproportionate amount of public sector resources.

This session looks at your options to deliver better outcomes for all family members and communities and get better results across a range of LAA targets. It builds on action already being taken in the region where partnerships have driven progress and demonstrated results.

This session will cover:

- Direct experience from colleagues working on different approaches
- What works and makes a difference, including examples from the East and West Midlands
- How you can get started, what to build on in your area

- How these approaches can contribute to tackling priority outcomes in your LAA and some of the key ingredients to make your approach work
- What cost savings you could make
- Finding solutions to some of the barriers

Participants will also get a guide: 'How to Implement Family-Centred approaches in delivering your LAA', which will be available on the day.

The event will be of particular interest to all partners across the LSP and who want to explore how a co-ordinated approach to family centred interventions could work in your locality – whether from police, children's services, voluntary agencies, community and adult services, skills and jobs agencies, health, housing organisations etc.

To book your FREE place for this event contact:

Lois Dale, East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership

Tel: 0115 977 4921 **Email:** lois.dale@nottsc.gov.uk **Web:** www.eastmidlandsiep.gov.uk



Free Events

Making scarce public resources go further

9.30 – 3.30pm, Wednesday 20th May 2009
Nottingham Gateway Hotel

EM IEP together with Services Ltd are holding a free seminar for Heads of Service, Directors and Members responsible for service reviews, performance management, business process improvement and the customer experience.

The seminar will introduce the 'lean' approach to public services and describe what is currently being achieved in local authorities and elsewhere. It will cover the various approaches to making public money go further and provide the basis for practical implementation.

The seminar will be led by Professor Tony Bendell, an international expert in the field of Lean Operations and Public Services.

To book your FREE place contact:
Lois Dale, EM IEP on 0115 977 4921 or email:
lois.dale@nottscc.gov.uk

Preparing for the Comprehensive Area Assessment **The Contribution of Culture and Sport**

9:30am - 3:30pm, 20 May 2009
Curve Theatre, Rutland Street, Leicester, LE1 1SB

The Cultural Improvement Partnership East Midlands presents this free event which will offer delegates practical advice and guidance on preparing for Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).

Key note addresses and practical workshops from the Audit Commission and Local Authorities will set out the potential contribution of the culture and sport sector to local public service performance and the importance of working with others to meet the needs of local communities.

To book your place(s) and register your workshop choices, please contact :

Jo Hull, CIPEM Co-ordinator
Email: joanne.hull@nottscc.gov.uk
Tel: 0115 977 3288

Free Events

East Midlands Empowerment Partnership website goes live!

Launched in December 2008, the East Midlands Empowerment Partnership has grown out of the new government White Paper 'Communities in Control, Real People, Real Power'.



The aim in the East Midlands is to set up a framework to enable the public sector, third sector and communities at a regional and local level to share and maximise existing skills, expertise, knowledge and networks. This will done through an online [directory](#), workshops and networking [events](#), case studies and resources.

Empowerment In Action Workshops

A series of **FREE** half-day workshops for anyone engaged in real, live, frontline empowerment activity within the East Midlands. Whether you are from Local Authorities, Community and Voluntary Groups or Third Sector Bodies, these events are for you.

Workshops run from 10am – 2.15pm

Empowerment In Action Workshops Young People, Special Interest, Neighbourhoods

Leicester - 24 April 2009
Raunds, Northants - 29 April 2009
Grassmore, Chesterfield - 1 May 2009

Empowerment In Action Workshops Asset Transfer, Rural Communities, Social Enterprise

Raunds, Northants - 6 May 2009
Derby - 8 May 2009
Stamford, Lincs - 12 May 2009

For more information visit the new website at: <http://www.emep.org.uk>



Events

Partnerships, Governance & Pooled Fund Arrangements

Wednesday, 3rd June, Jury's Inn, Nottingham

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), in conjunction with the new Commissioning Support Programme, is pleased to invite you to attend one of a series of regional based workshops on the practical aspects of pooling budgets under S75 of the NHS Act, use of the S10 template for Children Act Agreements and Governance for Children's Trusts.

These workshops will take you through a mix of the options and technical "how to's" on formalising partnership arrangements including S75 and S10 agreements. They will explain the application of the newly published DCSF Section 10 Children Act (2004) template, and with one or two real examples of S10/S75 partnerships. They will also provide an examination of specific governance arrangements affecting Children Trust joint working with partners.

To register for these workshops, please visit:

www.livegroup.co.uk/pooledfundworkshops

Public Sector Learning Conference - Fresh ideas for tomorrow's people

Wednesday 20th May, Central London

Learning Pool's first annual conference will explore the opportunities of this technology in the public sector as it looks to make more efficiencies and service improvements.

Public sector Learning & Development and IT managers should attend to learn about:

- An inspirational account of how technology can truly change lives, for the better
- How iPods and MP3 players have been used to deliver mobile e-learning to active frontline soldiers
- How to engage and enthuse your learners so that they are receptive to learning
- Theories and tools to embed e-learning in your organisation

The delegate fee is £100 for Learning Pool subscribers and £150 for none subscribers.

For more details and to book your place visit:

www.learningpool.com/events, call 0207 101 9383 or email emily@learningpool.com



Events

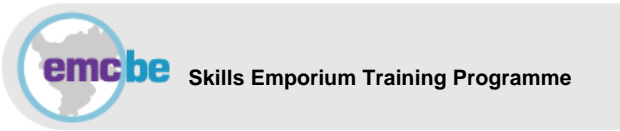
East Midlands Property Alliance

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.

29 April	Risk Management (1/2 day)
1 May & 5 June	How the Framework Works (1/2 day)
7 May	Collaboration in Construction for Construction Clients & Stakeholders
7 May	NEC3 Option C and Short Form for Construction Clients & Stakeholders
14 May	Compensation Events
19 May	Open Book Cost Management
22 May & 19 June	How the Framework Works (1/2 day)
27 May & 28 May	Collaboration in Construction (2 days)
5 May	Developing a Target Cost



All the above courses carry a small fee.
For more information email: info@emcbe.com



Contact Details and Useful Websites

Contacts

Chris Allison, Director
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Merlin Tinker, Programme Manager
tel: **07534 266 228** email: merlin.tinker@nottsc.gov.uk

Melanie Rowe, Principal Officer, Performance & Improvement
tel: **0115 977 2873** email: melanie.rowe@nottsc.gov.uk

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tel: **0115 977 4194** email: sandra.johal@nottsc.gov.uk

Anne Gayfer, Programme Manager
tel: **07554 439 131** email: anne.gayfer@nottsc.gov.uk

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 Improvement and Efficiency Partnership
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West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7LA