

Welcome to The East of England Local Government Association

Get in touch.
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Who are we?

East of England Local Government Association harnesses the collective strength of local government to shape and serve their communities and localities.

We are committed to helping ensure that councils in the East of England have:

- fair public funding and the freedom and powers to deliver on their local priorities
- the opportunity to work together to ensure that they are better-placed to take strategic decisions, learn from each other and lobby for investment from public, private and European sources to bring about the best possible services for their communities
- the capacity to deliver quality and cost-effective services to make life better for local residents

We therefore strive to:

- be an influential advocate nationally and in Europe. We promote councils' leadership of local communities, their services and argue for the tools that they require to do their job
- be a catalyst for effective sharing between councils – of practice, knowledge, people, information and services
- Work with council to develop capacity and capability in key areas to enable them to meet emerging challenges

We are a cross-party organisation, funded by subscriptions from our member authorities and income generating services, to work on behalf of them all.

How are we structured?

The Association represents the 52 councils in the East of England. The political membership of the Association is represented by the Leader of each council, who meet in session twice a year.

Day to day political oversight is undertaken by a Management Committee of five:

- Cllr Peter Martin (Chairman, Conservative), Leader of Essex County Council
- Cllr Tony Jackson (Vice-Chairman, Conservative), Leader of East Hertfordshire District Council

- Tbc (Group Leader, Liberal Democrat)
- Cllr Roy Davis (Group Leader, Labour), Deputy Leader of Luton Borough Council
- Cllr Marco Cereste (Conservative), Leader of Peterborough Council

Caroline Tapster (Chief Executive, Hertfordshire County Council) is the Lead Local Authority Chief Executive. On site management is provided by the Head of Strategic Support and the Head of Employers' Services.

What's our offer?

The Association works across three key 'offers':

1. Campaigns and projects—Tackling the real issues which matter to councils and their residents, whether it be the level of funding coming to the East of England, civic participation, health, housing or economic development.

2. Employers' services—Providing advice, guidance, one-to-one support, consultancy & bespoke training to councils on a wide range of employment matters.

3. European representation—Enabling the people, businesses and organisations in the East of England to benefit from the European Union.

1.

The Association plays a key role in a wide range of policy issues, which are of concern to councils and their communities in the East of England.

Our major campaigns are led by networks of portfolio-holders focusing on:

- Economic Development
- Adult Services and Health
- Housing
- Transformation
- Transport
- Children's Services and Education
- Environment and Waste
- Planning
- Leisure and Culture

We also deliver a range of discreet projects, making use of additional funding opportunities, including:

Be a Councillor – a new and exciting campaign to encourage more people to stand for election as a councillor in the 2011 local elections.

Housing project – a support package as housing policy and funding goes through transition.

Strategic Migration Partnership – a UK Borders Agency funded project to support and develop the East of England migrant worker network, support agencies and projects, as well as work with asylum seekers and refugees.

Climate Change Skills Fund – a Communities and Local Government funded project looking at developing skills to address the impact of climate change.

Further information is available at www.eelga.gov.uk/campaigns-and-projects

2.

The Association provides a range of tailored Human Resources, Learning and Development and Organisational Development support to local councils and the wider public and voluntary sector. We have a team of specialists to provide the experience, knowledge and skills to meet the needs of our partners.

The services we provide include:

- Employment Help Desk
- In-depth help and advice about any employment, efficiency or improvement issue.
- Mediation
- Recruitment and Selection
- Employment Research and Publications
- Training and Conferences
- Work with Trade Unions
- Other (Investigations, Review of HR policies,
- Reviews of pay and conditions, Employment law – basic training and updates, Job evaluation training, Support to practitioners)

Further information is available at www.eelga.gov.uk/employers-services

3.

The European Team, based in Brussels, helps councils and other partners engage with Europe, signposting potential partnership opportunities, providing key information and obtaining increased access to European funding.

The role of the European Team is as follows:

- Guidance through the maze of EU institutions and legislation
- Delivering intelligence and advance warning of EU policy and funding developments
- Promoting regional businesses across the EU, and helping to forge business links throughout Europe
- Creating links through networking and partner searches with other European regions
- Endorsing the East of England amongst key decision-makers in the European institution (Commission, Parliament and Committee of the Regions)

The work of the European Team is supported by the East of England European and International Forum, involving council leaders and MEPs, and the East of England European Officers Group. Further information is available at www.east-of-england.eu