

Levelling Up in Action: East Midlands Development Corporation



Introducing the East Midlands Development Corporation:

A once-in-a-lifetime chance to shift the dial of regional economic performance via a new, locally-led development body which will have the freedom to focus on a series of large-scale projects which cross council boundaries. This new model for development at pace will transform the regional economy.

What are its key projects?

- 1. Toton & Chetwynd: A super-connected Garden of Innovation** – We will provide infrastructure which unlocks the full potential of the HS2 Hub Station and develop proposals for a new sustainable community stretching from Toton to Chetwynd Barracks which provides homes, jobs and skills for a new era.
- 2. Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station: climate challenge to commercial opportunity** – a symbolic transformation of the UK's last coal-fired power station into ZERO, an international centre for the development of market-ready zero emissions technologies which drive new ways of living, working, moving and making, helping the UK hit carbon reduction targets.
- 3. East Midlands Airport: A global growth gateway** – the UK's largest airfreight gateway will be the heart of an Inland Freeport, alongside the UK's aerospace, automotive and rail engineering industries.

Our critical first step...

To kick-start progress, we need to set up an Interim Vehicle to develop plans, open up sites and build market confidence ahead of parliamentary approval. The Interim vehicle will be ready to start work from March 2021, driving initial investments totalling £235m.

...will unlock transformational growth

The programme is forecast to deliver **84,000 jobs** and add **£4.8bn a year** to the East Midlands economy in the years to come. It will create confidence in the East Midlands as a long-term investment destination and drive progress in productivity and growth across the region's communities.

The key policy agendas which EMDC addresses

Levelling-up – this ambitious vision for the future delivers jobs, business and growth accessible across the East Midlands; **Planning Reform** – the development corporation's structure and focus will overcome hurdles to progress, attract investment and drive joined-up growth; **Skills** – a new National Skills Academy at Toton will focus on the economy's future training/retraining needs; **Net carbon zero** – all developments and the ZERO Centre itself will prioritise real-world progress in reducing emissions; **Transport** – a detailed connectivity strategy means the capacity created by HS2 will open up better local and regional transport services which connect communities to growth. **Housing** – thousands of new homes fit for the future.

The partnership behind a united vision

The proposal for the Development Corporation has been brought forwards by a partnership of local authorities in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, the cities of Derby, Nottingham and Leicester, supported by businesses, universities and the Midlands Engine, Midlands Connect and local enterprise partnerships. They are working with MHCLG, BEIS, Treasury and Cabinet Office.

EMDC: Pioneering a path to progress

As it rebuilds post-Covid, the East Midlands must respond swiftly and ambitiously – but current structures make that hard. The East Midlands Development Corporation will give it the capacity to respond at scale, overcome traditional hurdles to progress, and drive the momentum which both Government and private sector need as the UK exploits new technologies for new ways of living, working and moving to unlock a new era of prosperity.

Key benefits for North West Leicestershire

The East Midlands Development Corporation is levelling up in action – an ambitious strategy to confront challenge and create opportunity by connecting more communities to the benefits of long-term growth.

It will reverse historic under-investment in areas like transport connectivity, build on the strengths of key economic assets, unlock the real-world potential of clean technologies for business and communities, and support new ways of living, working and moving.

Driven by a shared vision across councils, businesses and universities, the East Midlands Development Corporation will have the capacity to maximise the impact of investment and the scale of benefits by taking a coherent and inclusive approach to developments which cross local authority boundaries.

It will also have the vision to plan and prepare developments which position the region to fully exploit the technologies and trends which will reshape the way we live, work and move as the 21st century progresses.

Its expertise and focus will also provide the certainty required for long-term investment by both government and the private sector, raising the area's profile and attracting international investors.

By creating a comprehensive and integrated plan for the area around East Midlands Airport, it will create a series of attractive and deliverable investment propositions in North West Leicestershire:

- Retaining and enhancing the unique and special qualities of our existing communities
- A world-class green and blue environmental investment programme with R&D in climate change and zero carbon
- Sensitively located and carefully thought through co-location of mixed uses, with the potential for incorporating new homes, employment opportunities and infrastructure investment within that world-class landscape.
- Investment in major infrastructure improvements which include enhancing J24 M1; enhanced links to the A453 and A50 – including the option to dual the A453 connection to the A42
- An enhanced transport hub at East Midlands Airport connected to the East Midlands Parkway rail station and the HS2 Hub at Toton
- Enhanced rail head connection from the SEGRO Logistics Park at East Midlands Gateway to the wider rail network
- Shared benefits from the key sites in the wider East Midlands Development Corporation programme



For North West Leicestershire, the East Midlands Development Corporation will be instrumental in unlocking new opportunities critical to the area's long-term economic prosperity.

It will also drive confidence in businesses and investors that by offering clear routes to commercial progress, North West Leicestershire can be a key national destination for inward investment and sustainable economic growth.

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