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D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: October 2017

Welcome to the October 2017 edition of the D2N2 LEP and One East Midlands Active Engagement bulletin on news, activities and opportunities relating to the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for the VCS and partners. This bulletin is distributed at the start of every month; providing a round-up of recent news and highlighting what's coming up.

For information on the role of LEPs and their relevance to your work please visit the One East Midlands [policy page](#). Information specific to D2N2 can be found [here](#) at One East Midlands or on the D2N2 website at www.d2n2lep.org

If you would like to contact the Active Engagement Officer at D2N2 or have items of relevance to this bulletin please contact Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org or tel: 07551 124225.

Update from Jane Howson: VCSE representative on the D2N2 Board

Over the last 2 months a number of VCS engagement events have been hosted to build dialogue between D2N2 and the sector over the future of ESF / economic programmes. The primary driver for these events has been the potential loss of national match funding and the desire to find more localised match in order to sustain support and services, especially for those most disadvantaged.

D2N2 are now actively seeking feedback on the availability of local match. Rachel will be issuing a separate bulletin to this containing the consultation details and information on how to respond. I would encourage all organisations to keep an eye out for this and also similar requests for input from local authority partners.

The focus of this months Board and SIEAG were very similar. The Strategic Economic Plan is currently being refreshed and a report commissioned into Inclusive Growth will inform plans going forward. Peter Richardson, D2N2 Chair, has written to DWP to raise concerns about the lack of match funding going forward and the potential loss in available ESF funding as a result. In support of this, SIEAG have also written to Big Lottery Fund to encourage further match funding in the form of a *Building Better Opportunities* round 2.

While this is good news there were concerns raised at SIEAG about the sustainability of programmes delivered by the voluntary sector which may have the largest impact on social inclusion. We discussed issues of both defrayal and of technical difficulties/ conflicting guidance as to what can be used as evidence to enable disadvantaged people to access programmes. This is impacting on the levels of sign up and therefore benefit to disadvantaged groups. These points were raised at the ESIF meeting.

In addition to the focus on the Strategic Economic Plan refresh, interesting presentations were given around both the Midlands Engine and HS2.

D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG)

SIEAG met on 25th September 2017 in Long Eaton to discuss:

- matters relating to the D2N2 Board, and ESIF sub-committee;
- current and future ESF call programmes;
- a summary of 'Inclusive Economies' work being undertaken with Nottingham Trent University and the RSA;
- metrics for a social inclusion 'indicator dashboard' for use by SIEAG;
- feedback from recent VCS engagement events and;
- a letter to Big Lottery Fund encouraging a *Building Better Opportunities* round 2

Minutes of the meeting will be finalised and circulated in the next bulletin. Please contact Rachel Quinn (rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org) if you have any questions or comments regarding the above.

D2N2 Community Programme: Active Inclusion Grants Programme call CLOSED

The stage 1 call window for the D2N2 Active Inclusion Grants Programme is now CLOSED. Early indications from Department for Work & Pensions (the Managing Authority) show that applications have been received and these will now be assessed in relation to the Gateway Assessment Criteria before progressing towards full strategic assessment, if appropriate.

The timeline for initial assessment is likely to take until end of November 2017. Further updates will be provided in future bulletins. D2N2 hope that applications will lead to the creation of small community grant products for use across the D2N2 area.

Further background information about this call and its objectives can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/european-structural-investment-funds/active-inclusion-in-d2n2-oco8s17p0801>

ESF 'Health & Wellbeing Pilot' scoping research – update

Calls for evidence and input into this work are now CLOSED. Thanks are extended to all organisations who submitted information into the scoping research for the D2N2 health and wellbeing pilots. D2N2 is now considering the draft findings from the research with a view to developing the strategic outline for a related future ESF call late 2017/ early 2018.

The call could cover activity in relation to:

- Health, wellbeing and social care workforce supply and development;
- Reducing dependency on health-related benefits and supporting people towards work;
- Improving the overall health and wellbeing of the existing local workforce, particularly if this benefits the SME business-base

The full scoping report, once finalised, will form the evidence base for any such future call. Please keep an eye on the D2N2 news section or future bulletins for a link to the full report once published.

ERDF Priority Axis 5 – Climate Change: Call launched

A call for projects promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management in Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire is now open.

Up to £1,500,000 of European Regional Development Funding is available to organisations wishing to deliver projects which address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management through this call.

The call is a two-stage process with stage 1 open until **Friday 10th November 2017**.

For more information and links to the full call specification visit

<http://www.d2n2lep.org/EUFunding/Calls-Guidance-and-Application-Forms>

East Midlands and East Networking and Collaboration Event – 31st October, Cambridge

Are you a health-related organisation interested in making potential links with museums in your area to explore ways of working together?

As part of the Alliance's Arts Council England funded work for 2017, training workshops aimed at the museum professionals which will support them to develop, deliver and sustain health and wellbeing provision within their organisations are taking place. The project is to encourage museums to think about setting up partnerships with health related organisations in their area and will be looking for individuals to come and attend networking days as part of the training programme. Lunch will be provided.

On this day there will be museums from: Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Cambridgeshire and Derbyshire.

This day will be delivered by the National Alliance for Museums, Health and Wellbeing which is funded by Arts Council England. Please visit the website for more details:

<https://museumsandwellbeingalliance.wordpress.com/>

To book a place use the Eventbrite link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/museums-as-spaces-for-wellbeing-networking-event-se-and-east-midlands-tickets-35176874980>

For more information about the project and details of events in other areas of the country see the project summary [here](#).

Save the date: One East Midlands annual event and AGM - Friday 1st December 2017, venue to be confirmed

Changing the Rules, Not Just Explaining the Rules!

The third sector, policy and the future of funding at local, regional and national levels including:

* The Shared Prosperity Fund (Post Brexit ESIF replacement fund) - what works according to the third sector?

- * D2N2 - Strategic Economic Plan and Social Inclusion Framework Refresh - what does this mean for the third sector?
- * Public Health, Better Data and the East Midlands Health legacy and funding landscape - where are we now?

More details to follow - event will be free to One East Midlands Members, if you're not a member, become one now by emailing Sandra Casey at office@one-em.org.uk.

DCMS launch call for evidence on benefits and barriers to full-time volunteering

DCMS has commissioned an independent Full-Time Social Action review.

This will consider what the voluntary sector, industry and, if needed, government can do to support full-time volunteering. The review will work with a variety of stakeholders to develop recommendations, including consultation with the voluntary sector, young people, employment and regulatory experts, economists and parliamentarians.

For more information or to participate visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/full-time-social-action-review-call-for-evidence>

Health & Wellbeing Fund for Social Prescribing Launched

Department of Health and Public Health England are inviting applications to set up a new social prescribing scheme or to support the expansion of an existing scheme.

Through this programme, the Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England are working with VCSE organisations to promote equality, address health inequalities and support the wellbeing of people, families and communities.

Deadline for applications is **noon on 21st November 2017**. For more information and to apply visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-wellbeing-fund-2017-to-2018-application-form>

Nesta launch funding to support scale up of Economic Inclusion projects

Nesta, as part of the Inclusive Economy Partnership, is seeking out solutions that are ready to be scaled up to help improve outcomes for people in low and middle-income households in the UK. They are looking for innovators offering services and solutions in financial inclusion and capability, mental health and the transition of young people to work. Resources, expertise and finance (up to £20k) is available to support the 'scale up'.

Potential projects can be submitted until 3rd November 2017. To find out more visit

<http://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/calling-innovators-help-people-low-middle-incomes>

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