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VCSE Representation on the D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG):

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

D2N2 is seeking expressions of interest from up to 8 VCSE partner organisations interested in playing an active role in shaping the LEPs policy and performance in relation to inclusion and equalities.

The deadline for applications is **12.00 noon on Monday 24th July 2017**.

Background

D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership is committed to the ongoing development of an inclusive growth model for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, which works better for everyone that lives here. In achieving this the LEP has worked with One East Midlands to create the Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG) to help inform policy and delivery within the LEP with a cross-cutting aim to improve outcomes for all; especially those most excluded from current economic opportunities.

SIEAG's formal role is as a strategic and advisory body to the D2N2 ESIF Programme Board and the D2N2 Board. The group provides a mechanism for relationships between D2N2 and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sectors (VCSE) and provides strategic advice and guidance on issues of social and economic inclusion, equalities and the development of inclusive and sustainable growth strategies for the D2N2 area.

Examples of work that SIEAG has been actively involved in or driven include:

- The D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework;
- 'Building Better Opportunities' in D2N2 – including priorities and procurement principles;
- Scoping for the D2N2 Community Programme;
- Creating the case for and role of the D2N2 Active Engagement Officer;
- Reviewing and providing strategic input on the economic impact of new communities in D2N2;
- Development of an inclusive growth model to underpin a revision of the Social Inclusion Framework for D2N2 and the D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan.

The group also provides vital support to VCSE representatives at Board and ESIF Sub-Committee and a means of policy coordination with local authority leads for inclusion.



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Role and candidate specification

Members of the SIEAG are expected to spend at least 3 and up to 6 days per annum on the work of SIEAG, including attendance at quarterly SIEAG meetings.

As a SIEAG member, you will be expected to:

- Research and evidence inclusion and equality issues relevant to the D2N2 LEP area.
- Contribute to the development of the D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework.
- Provide strategic advice and guidance to D2N2 on performance against inclusion and equalities objectives.
- Advise on the development and implementation of related projects and programmes e.g. the D2N2 Community Programme.
- Gather, understand and represent the views of the VCSE networks in the D2N2 region.

This role is for 2 years. Specific role requirements include:

Experience
At least 2 years experience working (paid or unpaid) in a VCSE organisation specialising in one of the priority interest themes for SIEAG (see SIEAG terms of reference for list).
Experience of partnership working (strategic and operational)
Demonstrable experience of representation and strategic influence
Skills and aptitudes
Commitment to operate in an open and accountable manner
Commitment to attend relevant meetings
Respect for views that differ from or conflict with personal viewpoint
Ability to gather, understand and represent the views of VCOs or specialist networks and offer a perspective on behalf of that group
Knowledge
Some understanding of strategic investment funding (in particular EU funding)
An understanding of the contribution of civil society to the growth agenda and in particular how social inclusion relates to local growth
In depth knowledge of inclusion and/or equalities issues and the impact on communities across D2N2 area – knowledge can be specific to a theme, area or community

For more information about the role of SIEAG and collective responsibilities of members please see the Terms of Reference.



Application Process

The deadline for applications is **12.00 noon on Monday 24th July 2017**.

Potential applicants are asked to apply in writing (or electronically) to the contacts given below with a statement (of no more than 2 sides of A4) detailing how you meet the role and candidate specification above.

Membership of a SIEAG is a representative role and therefore all applications will be assessed against:

- ability to provide effective communication into and out of SIEAG through their constituent networks;
- relevant knowledge and experience within (at least) one of the specialist themes and;
- interest and ability to work in a cross-sector environment for the purposes of policy development and analysis.

One EM will undertake the assessment of applications and reserves the right to hold interviews for potential applicants utilising a panel of VCSE peers should positions be contested. Applicants should also make provision for availability for the next SIEAG meeting to be held in September 2017.

Please note that membership of SIEAG is unremunerated.

If you have any queries about the SIEAG or the application process, please contact Rachel Quinn, Active Engagement Officer at D2N2 at Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org or 07751 124225.

Please send completed applications, by the closing date, to:

One East Midlands
Nottingham Voluntary Action Centre
7 Mansfield Road
Nottingham NG1 3FB

Or

Email to office@one-em.org.uk

Background information for candidates

D2N2 is the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. The cross-sector partnership plays a central role in deciding local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and create local jobs. D2N2 is the fifth largest of the 39 LEPs in England, covering an area with a population of more than two million people and an economic output in excess of £36 billion.

The LEP's overarching goal is to create 55,000 private-sector jobs in the D2N2 area by 2023. The vision is a more prosperous, better connected, and increasingly resilient and competitive economy.

D2N2 has a vision and strategy in place (Strategic Economic Plan) to guide its work in boosting the local economy. This strategy is currently in the process of refresh which will include an even greater emphasis on Economic Inclusion.

D2N2 is led by and governed by its Board, made up of high-profile and respected business leaders, local authority leaders and representatives of the higher education, further education and voluntary sectors from across the D2N2 area.

D2N2 has now been fully operational for almost 5 years. In that time they have brought millions of pounds of funding into Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to support businesses and economic growth. These successes include successfully accessing Growing Places funding, Regional and Local Growth Funds, managing Enterprise Zone investment and supporting a City Deal for Nottingham City.

From 2014 onwards the role of the LEP was expanded to include the strategic prioritisation of c.£250m of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). This role expanded the LEP's remit further, incorporating additional responsibilities for inclusion, skills, employability, equalities, environmental sustainability and rural growth.

In 2013 D2N2 recognised that, in order to address these broader remits effectively, the LEP's governance arrangement needed to be widened. One East Midlands has since managed the recruitment of a VCS representative and Equalities representative to the Board and ESIF Sub Committee and the operations of the SIEAG on behalf of D2N2. Support is provided from One East Midlands and the D2N2 Active Engagement Officer

For more information about LEPs please read the One EM briefing at https://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/sites/default/files/library/LEPs%20%26%20their%20role%20in%201420%20EU%20Funding%20Programme%20One%20EM%20Briefing_0.pdf#overlay-context=user

For more information about D2N2 please visit the website at www.d2n2lep.org