**D2N2 VCSE Representative**

**Role Description**

The role of the D2N2 LEP Board is to provide strategic leadership to support and encourage economic growth in the D2N2 region. Following the excellent work of the previous representative, Sylvia Green, we are seeking to appoint a new representative from the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise Sectors to ensure that the views of civil society remain central to future LEP decision making.

The successful candidate must be a representative who is committed to champion and work for the economic prosperity of the D2N2 region. This appointment provides a unique, challenging and rewarding opportunity. You should be an experienced leader, a clear strategic thinker and an articulate speaker. The successful candidate must be passionate about supporting enterprise, skills development, social inclusion and sustainable economic growth and be clear about how the civil society role can contribute and add value.

As a board member, you will be expected to:

* Provide strong, strategic leadership, and motivate and influence key decision makers to ensure objectives are achieved.
* Support the development of the Board and the Partnership especially to build a sound knowledge of VCSE needs and opportunities.
* Gather, understand and represent the views of the VCSE sector in the D2N2 region.
* Be an advocate and champion for D2N2 to represent the LEP and promote the interests of the area at national and international levels, including working with other LEPs and to attract inward investment.
* Think creatively, resolve conflicts and build effective relationships with a wide range of stakeholders.
* Attend meetings of the LEP Board and ESIF sub groups (usually combined)
* Chair meetings of the Social Inclusion Advisory Group as required

**Time commitment**

As a Board member you can expect to spend up to 2 days pcm on LEP business. However, candidates should be aware that workload often comes in peaks and troughs and candidates may need to be flexible (within reasonable parameters) to manage such variation.

This is role is for 2 years and will then be subject to re-advertisement. Existing role holders will be eligible to re-apply.

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**Person Specification**

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| Experience required |
| At least 2 years experience working (paid or unpaid) in a senior & strategic position in the Voluntary, Community or Social Enterprise Sector |
| At least 2 years experience of partnership working (strategic and operational) |
| Governance of strategic investment funding (in particular EU funding) |
| Management and delivery of an EU funded project or programme |
| Demonstrable experience of representation and strategic influence |
| Skills and attitudes required |
| Commitment to operate in an open and accountable manner, and feedback effectively to specialist networks and the wider Third Sector across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire |
| 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 |
| Ability to balance the views of a specialist network against the needs of wider civil society across both Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire |
| A commitment to personal development |
| Knowledge required |
| An understanding of the contribution of civil society to the growth agenda and in particular how social inclusion relates to local growth |
| An understanding of European Funding and in particular the role of the EU Structural & Investment Funds |
| An understanding of national, regional and local policies relating to the growth agenda and relevant to this representative role |
| A good knowledge of the Third Sector in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, particularly within the relevant specialist networks |