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### **D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: April 2017**

Welcome to the April 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 in the future.

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](http://www.d2n2lep.org)

If you would like to contact the Active Engagement Officer at D2N2 or have items of relevance to this bulletin that you would like including you can contact us at [Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org](mailto:Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org) or tel: 07551 124225.

#### **D2N2 VCSE Board Representation - Vacancy**

D2N2 are sorry to announce that, as a result of leaving her current post at Rural Action Derbyshire, Sylvia Green will be stepping down as VCSE Representative to the D2N2 Board from April 2017.

A process for replacement is now underway and being managed by One East Midlands on behalf of D2N2. Information about the opportunity can be found [here](#) and a role description and person spec can be found [here](#). Applicants must apply by Midday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to be considered.

If the role is contested, interviews will be held and the appointment made by a panel of VCSE peers in line with previous practice. Anyone wishing to sit on the panel would be welcome to contact Rachel Quinn (details above) to register interest.

Both the D2N2 Board and the SIEAG extend thanks to Sylvia for her time in the role and her contribution to the LEP agenda.

#### **D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Steering Group (SIEAG)**

SIEAG met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March in Long Eaton. The meeting focussed on a review of SIEAG membership and terms of reference, consultation on the government's Industrial Strategy and feedback on the refresh of the D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework.

Draft minutes from the meeting can be found [here](#) and a copy of the response from SIEAG to the Industrial Strategy Consultation can be found [here](#). The next meeting is due to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> June and will primarily be reviewing progress on the SIF refresh. Please contact Rachel if you would like any items adding to the agenda for consideration.

## **D2N2 Social Inclusion – SIF refresh update**

The steering group set up to manage the refresh of the D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework (SIF) met earlier in February to discuss the approach and timescales. Recommendations were presented to SIEAG - the steering group is keen to see a more embedded 'Inclusive Economy' model developed which sees inclusion approaches and priorities as intrinsic to the new Strategic Economic Plan for the D2N2.

This area of work has become a major focus for the team at D2N2 and in consideration of the complex approach being pursued, support from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Economic Inclusion Unit and other local partners is currently being explored. A summary of the approach will be shared in the next bulletin. Consultation on the proposed approach is likely to commence in July 2017.

## **£63m Boost to D2N2 from Local Growth Fund**

The latest round of LGF funding has awarded £63m to the D2N2 LEP area for projects which will create local jobs, build homes and stimulate economic growth and productivity.

20 projects across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire are due to receive the funding, including local projects for the improvement of town centres and new road infrastructure to unlock new housing opportunities in Newark.

For more information and to view the full list of approved projects see the D2N2 press release at:

<http://www.d2n2lep.org/News/63million-cash-boost-for-d2n2-to-accelerate-delivery-of-jobs-and-growth>

## **Budget Statement – D2N2 Summary**

The Chancellor's budget statement took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Within the statement the Chancellor, Rt. Hon. Philip Hammond MP, paid particular reference to:

"Debt is too high ... productivity stubbornly low ... and too many young people leave school without the right skills."

David Ralph has produced a summary of the budget for the D2N2 area – view the summary [here](#).

Read the D2N2 news article for more information on local impact of the budget at:

<http://www.d2n2lep.org/News/budget-2017-provides-little-that-is-new-says-d2n2>

## **Independent Dormant Assets Commission report launched**

The independent Dormant Assets Commission was tasked with considering whether the current dormant assets scheme, which only covers bank and building society accounts, could be expanded to include other types of assets.

The [Commission's report](#) estimates there to be £1 - 2bn of additional funding potentially available for the benefit of good causes from the inclusion of additional types of asset in an expanded dormant assets scheme.

## Enabling Social Action – resources for commissioners

From November 2015 to August 2016 government collaborated with the [New Economics Foundation](#) to develop resources for commissioners and other public sector leaders to help them embed social action in commissioning. DCMS have published [resources for public sector commissioners](#) to help deliver public services. These publications provide resources, ideas and case studies on how to embed social action into existing services, develop new programmes and create the conditions for social action.

## ERSA Employability Awards 2017.

The Employment Related Services Association (ERSA), the representative body for the employment support sector, has launched [ERSA Employability Awards 2017](#). The awards, now in their fifth year, aim to celebrate and champion best practice from across the employment related services sector, highlighting the day-to-day hard work and dedication of individuals and organisations in the sector working together to help jobseekers in their journey towards, or into employment.

The ERSA Employability Awards welcomes applications from all organisations supporting jobseekers into employment or to progress in work, whether in the criminal justice system, health service, housing associations, employers, local authorities, JCP, training providers, IAG, colleges or universities. Your organisation can be from the public, charity, social enterprise or private sector.

**You do not have to be a member of ERSA, and there is no charge to apply.**

## Let's Talk Good Finance East Midlands – Nottingham, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Are you a charity, social enterprise or organisation that would like to know more about social investment, meet social investors and hear about and from other organisations that have use social investment to sustain or grow their organisation?

Following demand raised at the recent *Life Chances Fund Information Event*, Big Society Capital is working with One East Midlands and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, to bring their **Let's Talk Good Finance** events to the East Midlands. The event is in Nottingham on the afternoon of the 24th April. These events aim to demystify social investment and enable organisations to share their experiences.

This event has been developed with the aim of bringing together charities, social enterprises and organisations with social investors and intermediary bodies to network, share information and discuss latest issues relating to social finance. The event will begin with an absolute basic awareness raising about social investment, social impact bonds and other related concepts.

For more information or to book please follow this link:

<https://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=109>

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