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D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: December 2017

Season's greetings to all from D2N2 and One East Midlands in our last 2017 edition of the Active Engagement bulletin; 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.

D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG)

SIEAG meets for its final time in 2017 on 7th December. Key items for discussion include:

- The development of open call specifications for Active Inclusion and the Health & Wellbeing Programme;
- Consultation into the revision of the D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and ;
- A presentation by the newly appointed *Building Better Opportunities* Stakeholder Managers.

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

New D2N2 Technical Assistance website launched

A new website – www.d2n2ta.org has launched provided technical support and information on all matters relating to European Structural and Investment Funds in the D2N2 LEP area.

The site hosts lots of resources to support potential applicants, details of all existing funded projects and general information relating to ESF, ERDF; including contact details for all technical support staff across the D2N2 area.

We would welcome feedback on the site via Sandra.casey@d2n2lep.org.

ERDF Calls Launched: Innovation and SME Competitiveness

D2N2 LEP is anticipating that the calls to support SMEs to innovate and be more competitive and productive in today's economy will be launched in early December 2017.

The calls are expected to close by the end of January 2018.

To support organisations to understand the strategic priorities of the calls, D2N2 LEP will be hosting free workshops across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

Launch Event: Monday 11 December 2017 at the Winding Wheel Chesterfield S41 7SA; 10.00am to 2.00pm (including free networking lunch)

Further workshops will also take place on:

- Thursday 14 December 2017 at the Nottingham Mechanics NG1 4EZ
- Tuesday 9 January 2018 at the Derbyshire County Cricket Club DE21 6DA
- Thursday 11 January 2018 at the Oakham Suite, Mansfield, NG18 4AE

The workshops are designed to support organisations make good quality applications to deliver projects that support innovation and competitiveness in local small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) with a focus on promoting job creation and tackling the productivity gap specifically:

- Investments in practices and technologies to promote productivity
- Leadership and Management
- Adoption and exploitation of innovative and productive products and processes
- Support for early start up and early stage mentoring
- Support for export, trade and Foreign Direct Investment
- Scale up programmes to support small but productive firms to grow
- Enhance D2N2 Growth Hub services
- Investment readiness

To book your place, please follow this link:

https://innovation_and_sme_competitiveness_workshops.eventbrite.co.uk

D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) refresh: Consultation event for the VCS

Tuesday 12 December 2017: 10am -12.30pm: Kirkby-in-Ashfield

D2N2 published its first SEP in March 2014, setting out a vision for “a more prosperous, better connected and increasingly competitive and resilient economy”. Three years on, much has changed, both in the national and international political and economic context. With this in mind, D2N2 has commissioned a series of research and evidence studies to inform the preparation of a new SEP; taking a long term view to 2030, while acknowledging considerable medium term national policy uncertainty. This process is now at consultation stage and stakeholders are invited to contribute to the process with a view to a revised draft SEP being available by January 2018.

For more information and to book your place, follow this link: https://sep_refresh_vcse.eventbrite.co.uk

UK Industrial Strategy launched

The launch of the Government’s new [Industrial Strategy](#) on November 27 has been welcomed by the [D2N2](#) Local Enterprise Partnership – which sees many of its own current activities and ambitions reflected in the major publication.

The publication of the strategy follows a ‘green paper’ consultation on the way ahead for the UK economy, pre- and post-Brexit, earlier in 2017.

The strategy aims to create an economy that boosts productivity and earning power throughout the UK based on 5 foundations:

1. IDEAS – the world's most innovative economy
2. PEOPLE – good jobs and greater earning power for all
3. INFRASTRUCTURE – a major upgrade to the UKs infrastructure
4. BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT – the best place to start and grow a business
5. PLACES – prosperous communities across the UK

Read the D2N2 news article on the launch [here](#).

D2N2 Visitor Economy continues to grow.

The latest figures from the [Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor](#) (STEAM), show that the D2N2 area of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire added £3.7Billion to the area's economy through tourism in 2016, an increase of £114million on the previous year's figure.

As part of its long-term goal of creating 55,000 new jobs in ten years (2013-2023), D2N2 identified the visitor economy as one of its [eight key sectors](#) – industry areas with existing strengths and the potential for new business creation.

Read more about the impact of growth in this sector on the [D2N2 website](#).

Are you ready for GDPR?

The Digital Growth Programme has a series of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) awareness-raising seminars taking place from October across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. Seminars are open to all organisations. You can read more about GDPR by reading the project's latest blog at '[What does GDPR mean for SMEs?](#)'

Breakfast seminars *Getting Ready for GDPR* take place between 8am to 11am on:

- 8 December 2017: Palace Hotel Buxton, SK17 6AG
Book your place [here](#).
- 17 January 2018: Trent Lock Golf Club, NG10 2FY
Book your place [here](#).
- 23 January 2018: Park Inn, Nottingham
- 12 February 2018: Worksop Turbine Innovation Centre, S81 8AP (8.30-11.30am)
- 22 February 2018: Mansfield i-Centre, NG18 5BR
- 2 March 2018: Newark Beacon, NG24 2TN
Book your place [here](#).

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