





D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: January 2019

Happy New Year from the January edition of the D2N2 and One East Midlands Active Engagement & Skills 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 <u>policy page</u>. Information specific to D2N2 can be found <u>here</u> at One East Midlands or on the D2N2 website at <u>www.d2n2lep.org</u>

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

Inclusion Governance

Update from Jane Howson: VCSE representative on the D2N2 Board

There have been no further Board or ESIF meetings since my last update. Our next meeting will be 22^{nd} January where I expect the agenda to focus heavily on the LEP review and outstanding issues relating to our overlap with Sheffield City Region and with the designation of new Enterprise Zones. ESIF committee (usually the same day although this may change in future) is likely to focus on the strategic review of bids to recent ERDF calls. As usual please contact myself or Rachel if you have issues or concerns to raise.

I am delighted to report that the Board made the decision to appoint Sajeeda Rose, interim CEO, to the permanent CEO role at D2N2. This appointment, alongside our planned Board changes and the new Strategic Economic Plan, signal a fresh new start for D2N2 in 2019. Exciting times.

In December I reported that ESIF Sub-committee agreed to extend discussions relating to the extension of *Building Better Opportunities* projects in D2N2 by written procedures, alongside additional information. The outcome of these deliberations has meant support for the extensions subject to better ongoing information from Big Lottery Fund and evidence of progress against original targets. I expect the formal process of extension to commence via a Project Change Request to come back to the ESIF committee in the spring.

Lastly, I was unfortunately unable to attend the last meeting of SIEAG in December but the session included a discussion around future inclusion governance now that the new SEP strongly reflects inclusion as a cross cutting theme as well as a specific objective of the delivery of a more inclusive economy in D2N2 . I support the general view that this is probably better embedded across D2N2 governance at all levels with representatives supported regularly as a collective by LEP Officers. We now need to think creatively about how best to ensure regular VCS conversations with D2N2. More on this in the SIEAG report to follow.

Jane Howson

D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG)

The last meeting of SIEAG was held on 5th December 2018. Draft minutes can be viewed <u>here</u>. The agenda included a presentation from Richard Hazledine on behalf of Groundwork Greater Nottingham on the findings of the D2N2 Talent Match evaluation. Download a copy of the report at www.yasevaluation.com

The other main topic of discussion related to future inclusion governance in D2N2 and potential impact for VCSE engagement. The meeting concluded that SIEAG, in its current form, is not fit for purpose. In particular the view of the group was that inclusion governance and VCSE engagement, although closely connected, are not the same and that inclusion approaches needed to be embedded across D2N2 governance. The likely outcome of this (detail still needed) is that there will be a recruitment process to roles representing the inclusion agenda to all D2N2 governance structures and 2 annual 'big conversations' between the VCSE and D2N2; all supported with the sustained use of the regular bulletin. Please see the minutes for further information.

The next meeting of SIEAG is still to be arranged but if you would like to input or send any items for discussion please do so via rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org

ESIF Programme Updates

Open calls: ESF

D2N2 currently has one ESF Open Call:

1. Priority Axis 1.2: Careers & Employability Service for those at risk of becoming NEET in the D2N2 area

This call is for project proposals to provide a 'Careers and Employability Service', to work with senior managers in educational establishments to agree a programme of activity that delivers enhanced careers and employability support to young people aged 15-19 identified as at risk of becoming NEET.

This call for proposals aims to provide innovative ways to positively engage with those who are at risk of becoming NEET, to maximise their potential within the future workforce. The total call value is £1m ESF with a single stage application process closing 16th January 2019.

There have been two Technical Assistance events supporting this call on the 22nd November (Nottingham) and 28th November (Derby). If you missed the events but would like the material please visit our Technical Assistance website to access all documents and full details of the call specification: www.d2n2ta.org/events/past-events

We are informed by DWP, the Managing Agent for ESF, that the next call window for Open Calls will be March 2019 (likely the 18th). As such we are unlikely to see calls for the following released until that time:

- an Active Inclusion open call
- workforce elements of the Health & Wellbeing Programme (Module 1)

We will aim to keep you updated through the bulletin and email alerts to new calls. Please keep an eye on the D2N2 technical assistance website or the ESIF funding finder tool for further launch information.

http://www.d2n2ta.org/news/

https://www.gov.uk/european-structural-investment-funds

Open calls: ERDF

There are no current ERDF calls open in D2N2.

GOV.UK and ESF Action Note Updates

The following ESF Guidance and supporting documentation has been published on GOV.UK

- Revised ESF Participant Data Schema Supplementary Guidance
- Revised ESF Data Evidence Requirements Eligibility and Results guidance
- Revised ESF Outputs and Results Indicator Definitions guidance
- Revised ESF Funding Agreement example
- Revised European Social Fund England Operational Programme 2014-2020

There have been three <u>Action Notes</u>* published on GOV.UK:

- 029/18 New Single-Stage Application Process
- 028/18 Launch of the Revised ESF Operational Programme
- <u>027/18</u> Output and Result Indicator Definitions and ESF Data Evidence Requirements Guidance

Visit https://www.gov.uk/guidance/england-2014-to-2020-european-structural-and-investment-funds for new and updates.

Other News

Health Education England to launch Population Wellbeing Portal

Early in 2019 Health Education England e-Learning for Healthcare (HEEe-LfH) will launch its Population Wellbeing Portal. The Portal will be free to access by anyone who can positively impact public health and wellbeing and it will offer free access to education, training and professional development resources, helping deliver improvements in public health and prevention.

The Portal will provide a central location for numerous e-learning resources, reading material, guidance, toolkits, videos, factsheets and many more resources relating to population health.

The Portal will bring together material from multiple sources. This will include resources from HEE, Public Health England (PHE); the Academy for Public Health for London and the South East, the

Faculty of Public Health as well as many others. The Portal will link with All Our Health, PHE's framework of evidence to guide healthcare professionals in preventing illness, protecting health and promoting wellbeing.

The aims of the Portal are to:

- Centralise access to knowledge resources on public health and population health to...
 - Make it easier to find the resources needed to support the public to protect and improve their health by...
 - Equipping people to help the public to stay healthy and deal with threats to their health

If you would like to know more about the Portal, please contact population.wellbeing@e-lfh.org.uk

New North Derbyshire Enterprise Zone announced

Communities Secretary Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP has announced (3rd January 2019) the creation of a North Derbyshire Manufacturing Zone.

The £220,000 funding will support the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership to develop the Northern Derbyshire Manufacturing Zone which aims to accelerate development on 6 sites across 3 local authorities in northern Derbyshire (Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and Chesterfield). They all have a recognised manufacturing heritage and presence to enable the area to benefit from potential investment associated with the development and maintenance of HS2. The latest report for the Institute for Public Policy (IPPR) "Building Communities that Work", has been published, supported by GUAC.

For more information read the news item on the **Chesterfield website**.

EM Chamber focusses on impact of future immigration policy on EM businesses

A skills-based immigration system is expected to feature prominently at a Chamber-led roundtable discussion with the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) later this month.

Due to be introduced in 2021, the proposals include removing the cap on the number of UK work visas issued, reducing the level of acceptable qualifications and ending the requirement for employers to carry out stringent labour market tests on prospective employees. The £30,000 minimum salary stipulation for immigrant workers could be removed and recruitment exceptions could be made for jobs on the Shortage Occupation List (SOL).

For more information visit <u>East Midlands Chamber of Commerce News Page</u>

This project is part-funded by the European Social Fund as part of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme in England.