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D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: March 2018

Welcome to the snowy-March 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 [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.

The D2N2 Active Engagement bulletin broadens to encompass skills

Following feedback from colleagues and some recipients of this bulletin it has been suggested that the content be broadened to include more information about skills activities across D2N2. This suggestion reflects the reality that many recipients have an interest across both.

Being helpful souls at D2N2 we'll give it a go – as always your feedback on whether or not this is useful or helpful are welcomed – please get in touch via Rachel Quinn.

D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG)

The latest SIEAG meeting took place on the 28th February. The main agenda item was a facilitated workshop on embedding Inclusive Growth across D2N2 Business Planning.

Feedback from the session will be collated and fed back to the D2N2 Board as part of SIEAG's advisory function. More information will be available in the April Bulletin.

One East Midlands ITT – East Midlands Inclusion Framework and Consultation Event

One East Midlands have opened an Invitation to Tender to create an East Midlands Inclusion Framework (EMIF) on behalf of the members of One East Midlands. This work builds on the previous work of the East Midlands as a leader in social inclusion policy.

Follow this [link](#) to the tender webpage to download the tender document and view any questions submitted. Deadline for submissions is 5pm on 16th March.

ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF CONSULTATION EVENT ON THE EAST MIDLANDS INCLUSION FRAMEWORK: Tuesday 27th March 2018, 2.00-4.00pm, Nottingham. Have your input into the East Midlands Inclusion Framework at the sector consultation event taking place on Tuesday 27th March. The successful bidder will consult with all relevant stakeholders at this event. You can register your interest in the event by emailing office@one-em.org.uk.

Do you provide employment and skills advice, support or information to your local community?

RESPONSE DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MIDNIGHT on SUNDAY 4 MARCH 2018

You could be a housing association providing advice to tenants, a mental health service or a small charity providing a general drop in service where employment and skills advice is given. You could be working from a village hall, your local community centre, a school or event.

These activities could be funded by a trust or funders like Tudor Trust, Esmee Fairbairn, Children in Need, European or local authority funding. Your organisation may even be funding this from its own resources.

We are keen to find some of those smaller unfunded organisations that may be providing employment and skills advice but whatever the size of your organisation we want to hear from you!

A mapping exercise is now underway to gauge the employment and skills provision available across Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Derbyshire (D2N2 area).

This opened on 6th February 2018 and the closing date has been extended to midnight on Sunday 4 March 2018

The purpose of the mapping is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the provision available at all levels across D2N2 area.

- In Nottingham the information will be used to update information on the Nottingham Jobs Hub and the Ask Lion directory.
- In Nottinghamshire we will use the information to create a new Employment and Skills Zone on the Notts Help Yourself Directory.
- In Derbyshire the information will be used to develop a platform that will sit under Derbyshire County Council's Wellness Hubs and will be used to showcase provision on Derbyshire County Council's website.
- In Derby the information will be made public to help people who need access to employment and skills services.

If your organisation runs any employment and skills provision, whether this is core funded projects, temporary/time-limited projects or support, please could you complete the questionnaire.

The questionnaire can be found by clicking on the link below:

<https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/communications/d2n2-employment-and-skills-mapping-survey/>

Please complete a separate questionnaire for each services / project you want to tell us about.

Please forward on to any other colleagues, departments and organisations that deliver employment and skills support, advice or information for different client/cohort groups to help us to deliver a comprehensive map of services in the D2N2 area.

Great companies think alike – don't miss out on disabled people's talents

Thousands of companies are benefitting from opening their recruitment to create a more diverse workforce. But, many employers also say they want to know more about employing disabled people. Derby City Council will be celebrating World Autism Week and promoting the positive impact of employing autistic and disabled people.

Derby City Council in partnership with DWP are hosting a disability, equality and employment event. The event is at the Council House, Corporation Street, Derby on Wednesday 28 March 2018 at 9.45 am until 12.30 pm and are inviting you to join them at the event.

The event will be opened by Councillor Martin Repton, Derby City Council - Cabinet Member for Integrated Health and Care and will cover:

- what are the advantages of employing disabled people?
- how can I get help and support for my disabled employees?
- what does being a Disability Confident Employer mean?
- what if I am already doing this?

Please contact Ann Webster at ann.webster@derby.gov.uk by Monday 19 March 2018 to book your place.

D2N2 Enterprise Advisor Network - Linking Businesses to Schools

The D2N2 Enterprise Adviser Network connects schools, specialist schools and colleges, employers and education providers to create high-impact careers opportunities for young people across Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. The Network consists of 7 Enterprise Coordinators who operate across the area providing support to a team of 76 business leaders who volunteer their time to work with a local school or college providing support to the senior leadership team around careers, enterprise and employability. These business leaders are termed Enterprise Advisers and come from a wide range of businesses – 42% from businesses employing 250+ employees, 10% employing between 50 and 249 employees, and 48% employing less than 49 employees. The Network is currently supporting 93 schools and colleges, with 62 being matched to an Enterprise Adviser. The activity of the Network is providing support to inspire and prepare young people for the fast-changing world of work - raising aspiration, creating opportunities, and encouraging good quality careers and enterprise activities through purposeful employer interventions.

[We are looking for more Enterprise Advisers business leaders – please promote this opportunity to your employer networks](#)

The role of Enterprise Adviser is incredibly rewarding and doesn't take much time. As an Enterprise Adviser, you will:

- Be matched with a school in your area
- Work with a head teacher or careers team to develop a careers strategy that gives students multiple opportunities to get to know the world of work
- Share your insights about job opportunities and the key skills that local and national businesses need
- Use your network to open doors and create more work encounters for young people
- Use research to choose the most effective careers programme providers and resources
- Be supported by a trained, full-time Enterprise Coordinator
- Benefit from ongoing training, peer support from other volunteers and networking events

If you are interested in getting involved, or would like further information on working with D2N2 Enterprise Adviser Network, please contact: Liam Jackson, Enterprise Coordinator, liam.jackson@d2n2lep.org

National Apprenticeship Week 2018 - 5th-9th March

NAW 2018, co-ordinated by the National Apprenticeship Service, will be the eleventh annual celebration of apprenticeships and will be based around the theme of 'Apprenticeships Work'. It will show how apprenticeships improve the lives of apprentices and of businesses, communities and the wider economy; as a way of encouraging even more people to choose apprenticeships as a pathway to a career.

NAW has been growing in popularity every year and with the current decline in the uptake of apprenticeships it is more important than ever that we make as much noise as possible about apprenticeships in this year's NAW 2018.

Find out more [here](#).

Check out events (local and national) or add to the events [here](#).

Dozens of events will be held in the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership area next week to mark National Apprenticeship Week, including:

- Monday (March 5) - 'IT Apprenticeship Event' at Derby College's Joseph Wright Centre, Derby city centre
- Tuesday (March 6) - Nottingham-based Inspire Learning will be running an 'Apprenticeships with Inspire Learning' networking event for employers to find out more about apprenticeships at Mansfield Central Library.
- Also on Tuesday an information session for would-be apprentices will be held by Futures for Business at its careers centre at 57 Maid Marian Way, Nottingham city centre.
- On Friday (March 9) apprentices from the UK Asbestos Training Association, based at the Markham Vale Environment Centre, Markham Lane Enterprise Park, near Chesterfield – who have been working on a project to support their NVQ qualifications study – will be at an event and sharing their stories via social media for the apprenticeship scheme #worksforme

Information also available on the D2N2 News page – <http://www.d2n2lep.org/News>

The Big Assembly 2018

'The Big Assembly' is a live video stream to thousands across the UK wanting to find out more about apprenticeships and career options post 16. Brought to you during National Apprenticeship Week and on International Women's day, this second Big Assembly will attempt to beat last year's record of 10,000 people being online all at the same time for careers advice and guidance.

This year the focus is on diversity and social mobility; you'll hear from apprentices and employers who'll be sharing their stories and inviting questions from a live and virtual audience through this interactive broadcast.

Schools, young people, parents, careers advisors and employers are invited at 10.30am on 8 March 2018 to take part in this year's Big Assembly.

Registration to attend and log in for this exciting and memorable event is now open – [register](#) now and follow [@bigassembly](#) on Twitter.

New Government Careers Strategy: How Do We Fit In?

The D2N2 Enterprise Adviser Network will have a huge role to play in supporting schools with meeting the [eight Gatsby benchmarks](#) and developing careers strategy.

Find out more about the role the Careers & Enterprise Company have to play in the implementation of the new government careers strategy. [Click here!](#)

Shaping the Future of the Health & Social Care Workforce - Consultation

Health Education England has collaboratively produced Facing the Facts, Shaping the Future: a draft health and care workforce strategy for England to 2027. This is a system wide document, produced by HEE with content from NHS England, NHS Improvement, Public Health England, the Care Quality Commission, National Institute for Clinical Excellence and Department of Health. To view the strategy please [click here](#).

This strategy is out for consultation until 23d March.

Europe Direct (East Midland North) Launch event – 16th March, Nottingham

Citizens Advice Broxtowe will be launching the new Europe Direct East Midlands (North) Service that serves Nottinghamshire Derbyshire and Lincolnshire on Friday 16th March in Nottingham.

The event will bring together a panel of independent experts and improve people's understanding of what are the key areas in the UK's relationship with Europe that may change as the Brexit negotiations progress.

It is not intended to be a re-run of the referendum debate. Instead the panel will look at some specific policy areas relevant to the local area that include trading and the EU, migration and the local economy, citizenship and freedom of movement.

For more information or to book your place visit the [Eventbright page](#).

E-CLAIMS update - from Managing Authorities (DWP and MHCLG)

“For ESF, the majority of Grant Recipients have now been provided with access to E-CLAIMS. Thank you for your patience whilst we completed the necessary preparatory work. Our Contract Managers are in touch with those organisations who do not yet have access and working with you to provide access by the beginning of March.

Initial feedback has been positive, with a number of organisations already submitting claims directly through E-CLAIMS. We are however aware that some projects have experienced difficulties submitting claims. We are reviewing the cause of these issues and considering how best to keep you updated with progress. We welcome any feedback on how best to do this as well as any thoughts on the guidance produced and your experiences so far.

For ERDF our second cohort of external applicants are being brought onto the system now and are working through the claim process using our first iteration of the external applicants guide. Feedback to date has been positive, many thanks to all those involved.

Our Growth Delivery Teams are in the process of finalising plans for bringing on the remainder of our applicants and will be in touch with individual applicant organisations in due course.”

European Social Fund Project Bulletin

Have you signed up to the ESF Project Bulletin? The latest monthly communication was circulated to subscribers at the end of January and the next issue will be issued in March.

To sign up to the bulletin and to request previous issues (featuring articles on publicity and project evaluations) please send an email to: <mailto:ESF.2014-2020@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK>

HS2 Community and Environment Fund and HS2 Business & Local Economy Fund

Local communities are invited to apply to two funds to help with the disruption of Phase one of HS2 between London and the West Midlands. These funds are a Community and Environment Fund and a Business and Local Economy Fund. The funds are managed by Groundwork on behalf of HS2. Please [see here](#) for further details.

£7.6million for Nottinghamshire town centres' programme via D2N2

Funding worth £7.6million to help reinvigorate Nottinghamshire town and local centres has been agreed, via the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.

Nottinghamshire County Council's £20million 'Unlocking Growth in N2 Town Centres' Programme covers seven major projects, designed to improve and instil growth in the county's town centres.

The seven individual projects initially seeking funding via the Programme are as follows:

- Kirkby-in-Ashfield leisure centre and town centre redevelopment (Ashfield District Council)
- Re-invigorating Upper Bridge Street, Worksop (Bassetlaw District Council)
- Beeston Square Phase 2 redevelopment (Broxtowe Borough Council)
- Arnold Market/Arnold town centre scheme (Gedling Borough Council)
- Carlton Square (Gedling Borough Council)
- Mansfield Old Town Hall redevelopment (Mansfield District Council)
- Newark Buttermarket redevelopment (Newark & Sherwood District Council)

For more information read the full press release on the D2N2 website [here](#).

You are receiving this bulletin as a member of the D2N2 Active Engagement Network (formerly the One East Midlands' D2N2 Information Network). Please feel free to share this e-bulletin or any of the information in it with your members and contacts. If you are receiving this bulletin via a third party and would like to receive it direct please email office@one-em.org.uk and ask to be added.

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.