



## **D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: November 2018**

Welcome to the November 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](http://www.d2n2lep.org)

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](mailto:Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org) or tel: 07551 124225.

### **Inclusion Governance**

#### **Update from Jane Howson: VCSE representative on the D2N2 Board**

The D2N2 Board met on the 18<sup>th</sup> October; the first meeting led by our new Chair, Elizabeth Fagan. The meeting covered two substantial items for the LEP, both of which have implications for the work of D2N2 in the future.

The first is the long-awaited new draft Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) for D2N2 which received approval. The new SEP sees a shift in emphasis towards two major challenges – increasing productivity and progression towards a fuller, better skilled and more inclusive labour market. The SEP is now [live](#) on the D2N2 website with a range of consultation events taking place over the coming weeks. You can book to attend events [here](#). I would encourage all stakeholders to engage with the consultation process either via an event or through direct submission using this [link](#).

The second major update was on the LEP Review and highlights the areas in which D2N2 needs to take action in order to become compliant. There are 4 areas to be addressed:

1. Incorporation.
2. Board composition – shifting towards 2/3 business/private sector membership.
3. Accountable body – reducing from the current spread model across three organisations down to a single accountable body and;
4. Addressing issues of overlap – overlaps between LEPs are to be removed therefore negotiations with North Notts and Derbys districts are currently ongoing to resolve our overlap with Sheffield City Region.

Jane Howson



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

The next meeting of SIEAG will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Please direct any queries in relation to SIEAG activity or send any items you would like discussed at that meeting to: [rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org](mailto:rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org)

## **ESIF Programme Updates**

### **Open calls: ESF**

D2N2 currently has one ESF Open Call under Priority Axis 1.1: Access to Employment for Jobseekers and Inactive People.

This call for proposals aims to support unemployed and inactive participants into employment and self-employment and has a total call value of £8.1m ESF with stage 1 for applications closing 28<sup>th</sup> December.

There will be two Technical Assistance events supporting this call on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November (Nottingham) and 28<sup>th</sup> November (Derby). You can reserve a place [here](#).

Further information and links to the application portal can all be found on the [D2N2 TA website](#).

The next call window is early December at which further calls are likely to be released including:

- an Active Inclusion open call
- workforce elements of the Health & Wellbeing Programme (Module 1)
- D2N2 Careers

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**

As a result of exchange rate uplifts increasing the D2N2 ERDF allocation there are currently 6 open calls across all priorities with a closing date of the 24<sup>th</sup> November.

Further information for all calls is available here: <http://www.d2n2ta.org/european-structural-and-investment-funds/european-regional-development-fund/funding-calls/>

There will be 3 Technical Assistance workshops supporting these calls:



- 1<sup>st</sup> November – Derby
- 6<sup>th</sup> November – Nottingham
- 7<sup>th</sup> November – Chesterfield

You can book your place at: <http://www.d2n2ta.org/events/launch-of-the-erdf-open-calls-derby-workshop/?d=11%2f1%2f2018+9%3a30%3a00+AM>

N.B. These are likely to be the final calls for ERDF activity in D2N2

### **ESFA Opt-in calls – now closed**

The ESFA opt-in calls for co-financed ESF activity for D2N1 Youth Engagement, Skills Support for the Workforce and Redundancy and the D2N2 Community (Grants) Programme has now closed. Further details on successful projects will be shared as soon as we are able.

### **D2N2 ESF Uplift**

D2N2 ESIF Sub-Committee has now received formal notification of uplift to the D2N2 ESF allocation as a result of Foreign Exchange rate changes. Full details of the uplift can be found in this [correspondence](#) from Dr Catherine Blair, Head of European Social Fund Division, DWP.

### **ESF moves to Single-Stage Full Application process – from 29<sup>th</sup> October**

From the start of the ESF 2014-2020 Programme, the standard application process for Direct Bid Projects has involved two separate stages – an Outline Application and Full Application stage. Whilst this approach has supported complementarity with the same two-stage process operated by other European Structural and Investment Funds in England, the ESF Managing Authority has been constantly seeking ways of increasing speed and efficiency across the application and appraisal processes.

Following recent use of Single-Stage Full Application processes for isolated, specific elements of the ESF Programme – e.g. Youth Employment Initiative calls, the ESF Managing Authority has agreed to adopt this approach across the whole of the Programme for all new open calls published on or after Monday 29 October.

The use of a Single-Stage Full Application process aims to simplify access to ESF funding for applicants. It will also reduce the overall timescales from call publication to Funding Agreement, whilst continuing to ensure the quality and compliance of project proposals against the ESIF Core Selection Criteria.

Action note 029/18 [published on GOV.UK](#) on Thursday 25 October sets out more detail.



## **ESIF and BREXIT – update on contracting and delivery arrangements.**

The draft Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU published in March 2018 would mean the UK would continue to participate in EU funding programmes until they end in 2023, subject to a final negotiated agreement.

Organisations should continue delivering projects that have been agreed and apply for funding under current arrangements with confidence that the funding guarantee applies even if there is no negotiated agreement between the UK and the EU.

After 29 March 2019 if there is no deal - to provide stability for UK organisations that benefit from EU funding and to provide certainty for organisations who wish to apply for funding, the Government has guaranteed all ERDF, ESF and EU Rural Development projects that would have been funded by the EU for the full 2014-20 programme period.

## **ESF and ERDF Projects – know the landscape**

A brief reminder to all D2N2 stakeholders that details of ALL ESF and ERDF-funded projects in the D2N2 area can be found on the [www.d2n2ta.org](http://www.d2n2ta.org) our technical assistance website.

For ERDF projects – [click here](#)

For ESF projects – [click here](#)

## **Other News**

### **Autumn Budget – LEP Network summary**

LEP Network have produced a handy guide to the Autumn Budget. Download a copy [here](#).

### **East Midlands Inclusion Framework**

One East Midlands have published the full version of the East Midlands Inclusion Framework, which builds on the experience, knowledge and perspectives in the region and the third sector as expressed in several key strategic documents to form a Framework usable by all sectors to work against exclusion and poverty. Visit the [One East Midlands website](#) for a copy.



## **PHE East Midlands Summit: Co-designing for Health, Work and Inclusive Growth - Friday 9 November 2018**

### LAST CHANCE TO BOOK

Areas in the East Midlands are suffering from shocking levels of ill health, high levels of unemployment and little access to growth and opportunities. In conjunction with NHS England, Local Authorities in the East Midlands, Local Enterprise Partnerships and the Cities and Local Growth Unit, we are working towards safe, sustainable, accessible and healthy places with more and better jobs.

The summit aims to connect leaders and change makers from across the East Midlands to:

- highlight the latest evidence and research supporting the health, work and inclusive growth agenda;
- further understand the opportunities available to support delivery of the ambition by focusing on work as a determinant of health, and health as the flip side of economic prosperity;
- have an opportunity, through a series of executive round table discussions, to discuss and agree actions for taking the ambition forward, and to enable the formation of collaborations and potential funding applications in the area of health, wellbeing and economic prosperity.

Attendance is invited from local government, the NHS, local enterprise partnerships, voluntary and academic sectors.

Book your place here: [www.phe-events.org.uk/emsummit18](http://www.phe-events.org.uk/emsummit18)

### **Youth Opportunity Index – poor performance in D2N2 cities**

The second report of the Youth Commission, hosted by the Learning & Work Institute creates a **new Youth Opportunity Index**, a relative measure of education and employment outcomes for young people across England's 150 local education authorities.

Results are driven by the strength of local economies, socioeconomic factors and national policies, as well as local services. They reflect education and employment outcomes for young people living in local authority areas, rather than solely the success of those local authorities.

In D2N2 the cities of Nottingham and Derby rank poorly in the index, with Nottingham ranked as bottom of the table national.

Read the full report [here](#) or alternatively you can view the index by region or individual authority on the [learning and work website](#).



## Improving Adult Digital Skills: Consultation live

In January 2018, Anne Milton, Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills, announced the introduction of full funding for adults who need them to take basic digital skills courses from 2020.

Adults will have the opportunity to undertake improved digital courses based on new national standards setting out the digital skills people need to get on in life and work. The new entitlement will be funded through the national Adult Education Budget (AEB).

Views are invited on the Government's plans to improve basic digital skills training for adults through a [formal consultation process](#). The deadline for submissions is 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

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](mailto:office@one-em.org.uk) and ask to be added.

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