



**European Union**  
European Structural  
and Investment Funds

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

Welcome to the September 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.

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

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

Earlier in the summer colleagues at D2N2 ran a couple of engagement events aimed at the voluntary sector. The purpose of these events was threefold: firstly to provide an update as to progress and the current status of the work of the LEP, secondly to highlight further opportunities that exist for the sector and finally to ask for input from the sector as to how we can ensure that economic growth is as inclusive as possible and how the sector can contribute to that.

Whilst D2N2 manages European funding as well as UK growth funds our departure from the union will mean a very different role in the future. All of the indications suggest that the UK intends that there is a future for Local Enterprise Partnerships as a vehicle for growth in the regions. Obviously the landscape will change. Many of the existing programmes that support vulnerable people are due to end in 2018 and 2019. There are EU funds available but match funding is limited going forward and so there is a risk that programmes cease and available funds go unspent. Worse still vulnerable people may not get the opportunities currently on offer. If the sector can come together and find match funding there are opportunities for us to ensure that we can deliver some of these programmes going forward.

There are also opportunities for us to help to shape the future by influencing the work of the Board. I would be delighted for input from colleagues. The only way that I can effectively represent the sector is by understanding what your priorities and issues are. I can be contacted at [jane.howson@autisameastmidlands.org.uk](mailto:jane.howson@autisameastmidlands.org.uk).

#### **D2N2 Community Programme: Active Inclusion Grants Programme call OPEN**

Department for Work & Pensions announced the stage 1 call window for the D2N2 Active Inclusion Grants Programme in early August 2017. This call is for managing agent(s) to manage the grants programme across the D2N2 area. The deadline for Stage 1 applications is **27<sup>th</sup> September 2017**. Please note this is a 2-stage application process.

Full details of the call and links to additional background information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/european-structural-investment-funds/active-inclusion-in-d2n2-oco8s17p0801>

The D2N2 Community Programme will provide locally owned, innovative activity in communities across D2N2 which add social value and promote excellence in equalities and environmental sustainability.

‘Active Inclusion’ is the first module of the D2N2 Community Programme which will be delivered through a delegated Community Grant programme. This grant programme aims to promote equal opportunities, improve employability and support active participation from communities across the D2N2 area. The main beneficiaries of this programme will be those who are unemployed or inactive who require dedicated support to move closer to employment.

The Active Inclusion Community Grant programme will be available across the 4 geographic delivery areas of Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Applicants can apply to administer the Active Inclusion Community Grant in one or more delivery area and schemes will run for no more than 3 years.

It is envisaged that grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 will be available to support local community activity.

This call is published via the DWP open call process. The total ESF funding available to support this activity is **£1,500,000. ESF can support up to 50% of eligible costs. Applicants will need to have eligible match funding for the balance of costs which must be from a source other than the European Union.**

The intention is to award multiple contracts. Proposals should;

- Be for a minimum of £50,000 ESF;
- deliver activities eligible for ESF, and
- be in line with the D2N2 LEP Commissioning Principles and Delivery Criteria

Prospective applicants who are interested in delivering the programme can contact Rachel Quinn, D2N2 Active Engagement Officer at [Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org](mailto:Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org) for more information

Technical assistance workshops to support potential applicants have been held on the 30<sup>th</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> September. Post event pages, including all presentations, will be made available shortly on the D2N2 LEP website: [www.d2n2lep.org/EUFunding/ESIF-Events](http://www.d2n2lep.org/EUFunding/ESIF-Events).

### **ESF ‘Health & Wellbeing Pilot’ scoping research – call for input**

D2N2 have commissioned research to scope some health and wellbeing pilots. These could be within the areas of:

- Health, wellbeing and social care workforce supply and development
- Reducing dependency on health-related benefits and support people towards work
- Improving the overall health and wellbeing of the existing local workforce, particularly if this benefits the SME business-base

Pilots will prioritise health and wellbeing interventions with:

- potential to generate economic benefits
- that address gaps in or add value to current activities
- where match funding is available.

D2N2 would like the views of organisations with knowledge of current activities in these areas, and experience of the challenges and opportunities. D2N2 would like insight into current investment models for health and wellbeing delivery (both mainstream and third sector investment / delivery) and how this investment might be aligned with ESF to deliver and capture greater opportunities for the local economy.

For more information or to contribute to the scoping exercise please click [here](#). Deadline for responses is 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017. For more information about the potential programme and delivery objectives please click [here](#).

### **Life Chances Fund – Open for applications across all strands**

The Government Inclusive Economy Unit's [Life Chances Fund](#) remains open for Expressions of interest (EOIs) for Social Impact Bonds for all six themes including two new themes: Older People's services and Healthy Lives.

The six policy areas in which proposals are sought are:

1. Drug and Alcohol
2. Children's Services
3. Young People
4. Early Years
5. Older People
6. Healthy Lives

Expressions of Interest must be submitted by noon 15th September 2017 via the [LCF website](#) where you can find more information and guidance on the policy areas.

### **Migrants' impact on D2N2 economy revealed by new research**

Research on the economic and social impact of new migrant communities on the D2N2 area has been published. The research, commissioned by D2N2 and undertaken by S4W Ltd and Richmond Baxter Ltd, concluded that new migrant communities were:

- Vital to the economic viability of certain sectors across D2N2;
- Mostly of working age and likely to be skilled, educated and to sustain long term employment in the UK;
- Limited on their economic potential as a result of language barriers and sometimes vulnerable to exploitation and;
- Further highlight the BME employment gap in the D2N2 area.

To read the full D2N2 news release and for a link to the full report please follow this link:

<http://www.d2n2lep.org/News/migrants-impact-on-d2n2-area-economy-revealed-by-new-research>

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