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D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: September 2018

Welcome to the September 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 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

As a result of changes in the Board there has been a hiatus in Board meetings with the September Board now postponed to mid October. In the meantime work within the SIEAG group continues and our next meeting (early September) will focus on Skills.

Recruitment for the CEO role continues but with no appointment made to date it is anticipated that more robust interim arrangements may need to be put in place until the permanent situation is resolved. Please keep an eye on the D2N2 News section for updates:

<http://www.d2n2lep.org/news>

D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group (SIEAG)

The next meeting of SIEAG will be held on 6th September 2018. The meeting will focus on skills with items on the agenda to include:

- SEP refresh and planning for consultation;
- Review of D2N2 Skills priorities and progress:
 - Skills mismatch report and skills LMI;
 - Careers work with schools and the Enterprise Advisor Network;
 - Life-long learning – current landscape and priorities.

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

ESIF Programme Updates

Launch of ESFA opt in calls in D2N2

The ESFA opt in calls for D2N2 are now open and the Invite to Tender (ITT) documents are can be found on Bravo here:

<https://education.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

Please note that in order to access Bravo you will need to register.

ITTs close on the 17th of September 2018 with the exception of Community Grants which closes on 19th September 2018.

The calls are for the following programmes to be delivered across D2N2:

- Priority Axis 2.1- Skills Support for the Workforce and Redundancy
- Priority Axis 1.2 – NEET in Derby, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire (excluding Nottingham City)
- Priority Axis 1.4 – Community Grants Programme

In order to support LEAD and delivery partner organisations to understand the strategic priorities of the calls, D2N2 LEP will be hosting free workshops across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

The events will be held at the following locations and dates:

- Wednesday 5th September – The Riverside Centre, Riverside Court, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8HY
- Thursday 6th September – Nottingham Mechanics, 3 North Sherwood Street, Nottingham, NG1 4EZ
- Friday 7th September – Chesterfield Football Club, Proact Stadium, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, S41 8NZ

All workshops will commence at 10am and close at 2pm.

A free networking lunch will be available at all events.

The workshops are designed to allow potential LEAD and delivery partner organisations to:

- understand current and emerging skills, youth employment and inclusion priorities in D2N2
- develop high quality applications and provide opportunities for clarification
- develop rigorous and effective delivery partnerships
- network with strategic partners and providers to further sophisticate applications

Please follow this link to view the [agenda](#).

To book your place at the Derby event 5/9/18, please follow this link: [https://d2n2 ta workshop derby050918.eventbrite.co.uk](https://d2n2_ta_workshop_derby050918.eventbrite.co.uk)

To book your place at the Nottingham event 6/9/18, please follow this link: [https://d2n2 ta workshop nottingham060918.eventbrite.co.uk](https://d2n2_ta_workshop_nottingham060918.eventbrite.co.uk)

To book your place at the Chesterfield event 7/9/18, please follow this link: [https://d2n2 ta workshop chesterfield070918.eventbrite.co.uk](https://d2n2_ta_workshop_chesterfield070918.eventbrite.co.uk)

For more information about the workshops, please contact Sandra Casey at Sandra.casey@d2n2lep.org.

For further information regarding the D2N2 ESIF programme please visit the D2N2 TA website at <http://www.d2n2ta.org> or contact Richard Kirkland D2N2 LEP at Richard.kirkland@d2n2lep.org.

ESIF Uprating Due to Changes in Exchange Rate

The Government has now confirmed that, as a result in changes to foreign exchange rate values (FOREX) the sterling allocations for both ESF and ERDF have increased.

For **ERDF** the revised rates have resulted in an increase to each Priority Axis as set out in the table below:

PA	Euros (€)	Sterling (£)
1	€ 23,383,097	£21,121,952
2	€ 6,067,210	£5,480,511
3	€ 55,689,703	£50,304,509
4	€ 27,729,841	£25,048,365
5	€ 6,341,275	£5,728,074
6	€ 6,123,022	£5,530,926
8	€ 0	£0

For **ESF** allocations to individual LEP areas and priorities have yet to be finalised. See the [Letter from Catherine Blair](#) confirming the current position. On the basis of this correspondence, LEPs expect to hear further information in early September.

List of Beneficiaries

Did you know that Government publishes a list of all approved ESF and ERDF projects on GOV.UK? This has recently been updated so to find out details of how and where ESIF funds are being used take a look at the list on the ESIF Useful [Resources Page](#) of GOV.UK.

GOV.UK and ESF Action Note Update

There have been changes to the following ESF guidance products:

- ESF dual forecast and submission form – Updated to fix some identified errors (broken formulas)
- The ESF Funding Agreement example
- ERDF and ESF Technical Assistance Project Contacts
- Claims Guidance for Grant Recipients
- Claims Guidance for CFO's
- ESF E-CLAIMS External User Guidance (Claims)

There have been two [Action Notes](#) published on GOV.UK:

- 024/18 HMG Guarantee extension
- 023/18 New and revised Claims guidance for Grant Recipients and Co-financing Organisations

Other News

BREXIT Briefing and Q&A – Derby, 27th September 2018

Do you work with people and communities who might be affected by Brexit? Do you want to find more about what it means for citizens' rights? Europe Direct (East Midlands North) can help.

This event provides a free briefing session for non-profit advice providers, community and statutory organisations in Derbyshire and the East Midlands more widely. The session will consist of an overview of Europe Direct, case-study examples of advice that we have provided, and a Brexit update.

For more information read the [agenda](#) or follow the Eventbrite link to book a place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brexit-briefing-and-qa-session-derby-tickets-48948203394?aff=es2>

OCS Launches '*Civil Society Strategy: Building a Future That Works for Everyone*'

Office for Civil Society have launched the first [Civil Society strategy](#) in 15 years

Tracey Crouch, Minister for Sport and Civil Society, unveiled the new vision, which looks at how people, places and the public, private and social sectors can be supported to contribute even more to the creation of social value - having a positive impact on society. It will help connect and empower people to improve the areas they live, as well as bringing together these different sectors to help enrich lives and build a fairer society for all.

HOLD THE DATE: East Midlands Health, Work and Inclusion Summit 9th November 2018, Nottingham

Public Health England and a range of health and economic partners (including D2N2 LEP) are working together to raise the need to work jointly on both health and employability issues.

This event focusses on the close interaction between health & wellbeing and 'good' employment and the role that both these things both play in productive local economies.

The event will take place on the 9th November at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Nottingham. The purpose of the event is summarised in the [draft flyer](#). More information to follow

UK Digital Skills Innovation Fund Launched

The 2017 UK Digital Strategy set out Government's approach to ensuring that people have the skills they need to participate fully in the digital economy and are prepared for technological change. The Strategy emphasised the need to support people to up-skill and re-skill throughout their working lives and set out the importance of enabling a more diverse digital workforce.

The purpose of the £1 million [Digital Skills Innovation Fund](#) is to pilot or scale up innovative programmes that aim to address local or regional digital challenges while supporting people from underrepresented groups and/ or disadvantaged backgrounds into digital roles. It also aims to encourage partnership working between LEPs, employers, training providers and others to identify

and act on opportunities to address local skills challenges and gaps in provision, and to identify and share good practice.

It is anticipated that the Fund will make 2 - 4 programme grants of between £200,000 to £500,000, up to a total of £1 million. Any funding awarded will only be available to be claimed in the financial year of 2018-19.

The closing date for applications to the fund is 28th October. D2N2 will be coordinating a conversation with statutory, business and third-sector partners to shape the focus of a D2N2 bid. If you would like to attend or be kept informed please contact Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org or call Rachel on 07751124225.

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