

Annexe A

D2N2 Community Programme: Background and Scope

Background

On submission of the D2N2 ESIF strategy, in May 2014, a commitment was made by the LEP to ensure that ESIF investment across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire met the needs of very local communities as well as the economic needs of the wider area. At the time this commitment was envisaged to materialise through a mechanism known as Community Led Local Development (CLLD) and based on the operating model currently used in the Leader approach for rural investment, resources were allocated accordingly.

Subsequent guidance from ERDF and ESF Managing Authorities has indicated that CLLD may no longer be available across all areas (but targeting only those with highest indices of deprivation) and that the management structure required for CLLD project may reduce levels of local flexibility. As a result LEPs have been encouraged to consider bespoke local uses for these funds.

When the D2N2 ESIF Programme Board met in Ashbourne they agreed that;

“A group, involving representatives of local government and the voluntary and community sector, is convened to work on behalf of the Programme Board to design a bespoke D2N2 community programme.”

The group working on behalf of the Board to design the Community Programme would be led by Board member Rob Crowder.

Delivery objectives

The purpose of this work is to design a preferred option for the investment of approximately £9.4m of ESIF funds as a bespoke D2N2 Community Programme. The funds are drawn from different Thematic Objectives across both ERDF and ESF and must therefore contribute towards the objectives of both funds. The role of the working group is to:

1. Undertake consultation with a wide range of stakeholders about the opportunities for delivery and priorities to be addressed within the development of a bespoke D2N2 Community programme;
2. Gather and analyse evidence of need supporting proposals;
3. Identify potential sources of match funding;
4. Identify outputs and benefits achievable;
5. Identify potential risks and challenges to effective implementation of a Community programme;
6. Develop a (series of) costed programme proposal(s) for consideration by the D2N2 ESIF Programme Board when it meets on the 14th September 2014;

Consultees (min)

- A broad range of relevant VCS organisations
- Local Authorities – district and unitary / upper tier. Involving a range of relevant departments
- HE/FE/other learning & skills providers
- Community-level funders
- Business support services / providers
- Existing community programme deliverers
- Environmental or low carbon groups
- Employability support organisations

Issues for consideration

In developing and consulting on options and identifying a preferred model to present to the ESIF Programme Board, the Steering Group should consider and address how the proposal meets the D2N2 Delivery Principles (provided at Annexe B) and:

- **Adds value** to current 'mainstream' ESIF-funded and non-ESIF funded provision. In particular, consideration needs to be given on how ESF funds add value to planned opt-in delivery, particularly the Big Lottery Fund 'Building Better Opportunities' programme.
- **responds to local needs** across D2N2 within an overall programme that provides a reasonable degree of geographic equity in spend and outputs between D2 and N2 and between urban and rural areas
- **Can be viably delivered**, by attracting match funding, delivering outputs, being compliant with relevant ESIF funding regulations and requirements and operate within an effective performance management framework. The assumption, which may be challenged by the group on the basis of the evidence gathered, is that any programme will run for a 3 year period with the opportunity for break and review or extension by a further 3 years.
- **Can be easily accessed by communities and will attract applications**, including through the development of a support function using Technical Assistance funding and considering how the separate processes for ESF and ERDF funding can be managed.
- **Maximises the level of funding being available to provide services to beneficiaries** – optimising funding being used to fund management and administration, promoting effective and efficient collaboration and avoiding duplication.
- **Promotes social value and social innovation**, within an approach that delivers our ESIF Strategy, ESIF Core Delivery principles and excellence in equalities and environmental sustainability

Indicative Funding

The ESIF Strategy indicative commitment to a CLLD approach is as below and constitutes 5% of the total ESIF pot as per CLLD guidelines at the time. Changes to eligibility mean that spending is no longer permissible under TO7 therefore the total

		2015	2016	2017		2018	2019	2020	14-20 total
SME support	TO3		138,840	190,907	329,747	154,350	133,302	115,061	402,713
Low carbon	TO4		194,377	267,269	461,646	216,090	186,623	161,085	563,798
ERDF TOTAL			333,217	458,176	791,393	370,440	319,925	276,146	966,511
Employability	TO8	140,318	187,091	233,863	561,272	233,863	233,863	191,768	659,494
Social inclusion	TO9	600,561	800,748	1,000,935	2,402,244	1,000,935	1,000,935	820,767	2,822,637
Skills	TO10	140,318	187,091	233,863	561,272	233,863	233,863	191,768	659,494
ESF TOTAL		881,197	1,174,930	1,468,661	3,524,788	1,468,661	1,468,661	1,204,303	4,141,625
TOTAL ESF and ERDF		9,424,317							

Currently, the remainder of the funding profile detailed above is in place. However, there are a number of options to vary the profile – funds could be moved out of the Community pot into mainstream programmes or vice-versa and the overall yearly spend profile can be varied. For example the current ESIF programme is profiled for a 45% spend in the first 3 years and 55% in the following 3 years.

Outputs

In October's output 're-profiling' exercise, the following outputs were estimated.

*ERDF Indicators	Amount	ESF Indicators	Amount
Number of enterprises receiving support.	53	Total number of participants (a. + b. + c.)	1440
Number of new enterprises supported.	5	a. Number of unemployed (including long-term unemployed) participants.	549
Employment increase in supported enterprises.	23	b. Number of inactive participants.	557
Number of enterprises cooperating with research entities.	11	c. Number of employed (including self-employed) participants.	335
Infrastructure site development including green infrastructure (hectares)	2.3	Number of participants aged 15-24.	150

Output definitions have since been revisited – so Community Programme outputs would need to be recalculated. LEPs have not received any national 'performance framework' of outputs from CLG or DWP so there is still local discretion. The latest iterations of Operational Programmes should be consulted to identify the latest outputs framework for the relevant thematic objectives.