



**D2N2 Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Group Meeting**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019, 9.30am-12.00pm**

**Erewash CVS, Granville Avenue, Long Eaton, NG10 4HD**

**Attendees**

Jane Howson (Chair)	Autism East Midlands
Rachel Quinn	D2N2 LEP
Richard Kirkland	D2N2 LEP
Jules Sebelin	Nottingham CVS
Maria Ward	Nottinghamshire County Council
Sarah Bull	Nottingham City Council
Bev Parker	Rural Action Derbyshire
Gracie Harrison	YMCA Derbyshire
Emma Bates	St Ann's Advice Centre
Ian Newton	Enable
Andrew Redfern	Framework
Lisa Capell	The Prince's Trust
Bettina Lange	CPRE
Andria Birch	One East Midlands

Sandra Casey (minutes)                      D2N2 LEP/One East Midlands

**Apologies**

Andy Marsh	Derbyshire County Council
Michael Henry	Communities Inc
Hilary Porter	Nottinghamshire County Council
Sabina Talib	Derby City Council
Laurie Moran	One East Midlands
Colin Bradley	Groundwork Greater Nottingham
Jill Jefferies	NNRF
Catherine Burns	Bassetlaw CVS
Debbie Webster	St Ann's Advice Centre

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>VCSE pre-meeting</b>	
	<p>A closed meeting was held for VCSE SIEAG members to discuss forward relationships between the VCSE sector and D2N2. Key points from the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Government LEP review has resulted in a significant change of focus, including a shift to majority private sector Board membership.</li> <li>the Board will be capped at 20 members plus co-optees;</li> </ul>	<p><b>ACTION:</b> task &amp; finish group – JH/AB/JS/IN</p>



	<p>underpinned by 3 sub-groups – Place, People &amp; Skills, Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• there will be an inclusion representative on all the Board sub-groups and inclusion has been written into the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). It will also be written into the Local Industrial Strategy</li><li>• there is no requirement to have a VCSE representative on the Board and LEP Chair Elizabeth Fagan will not allow any substitutes to attend the Board; all Board members need to demonstrate their value to the LEP and are expected to be involved in the LEP beyond just attending Board meetings</li><li>• Jane will continue as a Board member and was on the interview panel for new private sector Board members; the private sector representatives are senior managers with substantial business knowledge and those that were unprepared for the interview were not successful</li><li>• the ESIF committee has a different structure and composition to main Board; directed by the EU code of conduct on partnership working; currently Bev Parker from Rural Action Derbyshire is a representative on the ESIF committee on a temporary basis</li><li>• LEP Chair Elizabeth Fagan has tasked the ESIF Managing Agents to ensure that social inclusion is addressed in all future ESIF applications</li><li>• following the SEP People &amp; Skills consultation event in November 2018 and the SIEAG meeting in December 2018, a proposal has been made to continue VCSE engagement via bi-annual VCSE/People &amp; Skills forums, hosted by local infrastructure organisations</li><li>• although SIEAG is a formal group, it is advisory only and has no powers; SIEAG has been successful in getting social inclusion embedded in D2N2 LEP policies and members do not want to see the momentum lost; attendance at SIEAG meetings has been inconsistent</li><li>• question about who decides the VCSE rep to the D2N2 Board when Jane's term of office ends – Jane suggested that due to significant changes in the LEP Board, it was time to present a paper to the Board on the value of the sector to the D2N2 area and why there should be a VCSE representative on the Board</li><li>• concerns were expressed about ensuring that the inclusion representative really understood inclusion and how the future VCSE reference group would be resourced</li><li>• Rachel agreed that the LEP could resource a twice yearly VCSE engagement event with VCSE infrastructure organisations managing and resourcing another two VCSE engagement events per year</li></ul>	
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	<p><b>ACTION: a task &amp; finish group was set up to write a proposal to be sent to Elizabeth Fagan (Chair) and Sajeeda Rose (CEO) on the value of the VCSE to the D2N2 area; the importance of having a VCSE representative on the D2N2 Board; how SIEAG can transfer into the new structures; how to identify, recruit and resource inclusion representatives</b></p>	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome / introductions / declarations of interest</b>	
1.1	There were no new declarations of interest.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Feedback from the VCSE pre-meeting</b>	
2.1	See notes above	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>D2N2 Board and ESIF Committee - feedback</b>	
3.1	The focus at the recent D2N2 Board meeting was the new structures including the increase in private sector representation.	
	The Terms of Reference for the Place Board are being finalised - discussions have included the prompt from Jane for an Inclusion representative. This is now being incorporated.	
3.2	Overlap areas with Sheffield City Region LEP – 3 of the 5 overlap district authorities have agreed to be part of D2N2 LEP with Chesterfield and Bassetlaw still uncommitted. Negotiations are ongoing.	
3.3	Lobbying is taking place to ensure the HS2 phase 2 programme goes ahead.	
3.4	Local Industrial Strategy – Board member Paul Harris is leading on this with Matthew Wheatley, D2N2 Growth Plan Manager. The LIS builds on the SEP and there will be a consultation on a draft LIS.	
3.5	The LIS will have five ‘pillars’ which will map across all the sub groups. The five ‘pillars’ are Ideas, People, Infrastructure, Business and Place.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Inclusion representation in D2N2 - proposal</b>	
4.1	See also draft D2N2 Inclusion Representative role description previously circulated. The LEP will have five main sub-group structures – 3 theme sub-groups – Place, People & Skills, Growth Hub Business Board, plus an Innovation Board and an Investment Board	
4.2	<p>Role description discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIEAG previously responsible for inclusion</li> <li>• will there be back fill for representatives, other representatives do not get back fill for attending meetings, potential to exclude smaller organisations, limited pool of candidates</li> <li>• Rachel has drafted terms of reference for the People &amp; Skills Board including proposed structure, function and membership – to be presented to the next Board meeting</li> </ul>	<p><b>ACTION:</b> additional feedback on the Inclusion Representative role description</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusion Rep person specification – senior person with working knowledge of delivery/strategic, preferably from a front line organisation and with experience of social inclusion</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: additional feedback on Inclusion Rep role description to Rachel</b></p>	to Rachel
4.3	<p><b>Process and timelines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it is anticipated that the sub-groups will be set up over the next 6 months</li> <li>the People &amp; Skills sub group terms of reference will be presented to the Board for approval and a Chair needs to be appointed</li> <li>the Growth Hub Board is already in operation so there will not be significant changes for this to become the Growth Hub Business Board</li> <li>proposals for the Place sub group have been discussed at the recent Board meeting and is now progressing outside of the Board</li> <li>a proposal on the process for selecting the inclusion reps needs to be agreed. Jane and one other from SIEAG to be on the interview panel</li> <li>regular meetings will be set up for the inclusion reps to discuss issues</li> </ul>	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>D2N2 update</b>	
5.1	<p><b>BBO extensions</b> – National Lottery Community Fund (formerly Big Lottery Fund) are in the process of submitting Project Change Requests to the Managing Authority (DWP) for each LEP area. The ESIF committee will be asked to make a decision on the extensions once this request has been made for D2N2 – project data is now coming through so this will be a more informed decision.</p>	
5.2	<p><b>ESIF calls – current and planned</b> Two ESFA opt-in programmes have been confirmed and will start from April 1<sup>st</sup> – Community Grants and NEET. Skills Support for the Workforce/Redundancy still in standstill (poss delay in start date). ESFA have agreed to provide data at ward and district level.</p>	
5.3	<p>ESF open calls are currently being assessed by DWP for replacement Employ Local activities up to the value of £8.1m. It is hoped that the projects will be contracted by June 2019.</p>	
5.4	<p>A schedule of open calls is being agreed with DWP for the remaining £25m ESF funding with the first wave of calls being issued in April 2019.</p>	
5.5	<p>A national Challenge/Reserve Fund is also under development and will comprise any ESIF underspends – further information expected towards the autumn. It will be a national pot and will be allocated to projects that follow proven impact and value for money models,</p>	



	particularly in areas with low ESF commitment levels.	
5.6	<b>Staffing and governance</b> Sajeeda Rose has been confirmed as the new Chief Executive. The recent D2N2 LEP away day focussed on shaping priorities for the coming year and structuring the LEP to be fit for purpose in light of a renewed strategic framework (SEP/LIS)	
5.7	<b>Strategic Economic Plan/Local Industrial Strategy</b> The Strategic Economic Plan has been completed and will be published shortly. The Local Industrial Strategy will be developed from the SEP and will form the basis of a long term (c.15yr) contract with Government.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the December 2018 meeting</b>	
6.1	The minutes of the December 2018 meeting were approved as an accurate record. Feedback on the Talent Match evaluation is that it will inform future funding programmes.	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Matters arising from the December meeting</b>	
7.1	There were no matters arising.	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
8.1	SIEAG members thanked Rachel, Richard and Sandra for their support to SIEAG.	