



## **Building Better Opportunities:**

### **The One East Midlands offer in the D2N2 area**

One EM is the Partnership Development Fund (PDF) provider for the D2N2 LEP area. Within our delivery contract we specified the need to:

- enable local organisations to understand the LEP's local plans and strategy;
- Better understand the requirements, risks and opportunities of ESF (and specifically the Big Lottery Fund Social Inclusion opt-in);
- Build effective and inclusive partnerships to develop bids for funding.

Our overall aim is to support the development of strong local partnerships, with credible propositions that will deliver ESF outcomes and impact. Partnerships will be supported to deliver clear outcomes and impact against the priorities identified in the D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework.

### **Delivery mechanisms**

Strategic: One EM relies on the support of a cross sector Social Inclusion Advisory Group. This group is recognised as the strategic steer for Thematic Objective 9 and is chaired by the D2N2 VCS Board Member. It includes local authorities, the LEP, VCS infrastructure and a range of provider organisations across numerous relevant disciplines. It advises on issues such as:

- Approach to engagement
- Commissioning priorities
- Communication needs and timing
- Research requirements

Communications: We have a rapidly growing interest group now receiving monthly bulletins on progress and engaged in consultation activity.

Events and activities: We have run 2 awareness generating events (Derby and Nottingham) and are offering to make presentations at other networks with a possible interest in this work. From February we will be working to identify potential lead applicants and implement an independent and

impartial process of facilitation to ensure that potential applicants are well prepared once the programme opens for applications.

Technical compliance: Once partnerships are developing (April onwards) we will deliver a programme of 6 technical workshops dealing with issues such as procurement, marketing, financial management and retaining evidence appropriate to an ESF contracted activity.

### Managing risks; realising opportunity

Through our work in the D2N2 LEP area we have already made headway in establishing key contacts, communication and networking mechanisms that will help us deliver this work. This has put us in an advantageous starting position for the delivery of the proposed project. However, we recognise that D2N2 is a complex area and that there are a number of small organisations, working at community level to address social exclusion, who should be part of future consortia/partnerships. To address this, we will be working closely with a cross-sector Advisory Group led by local infrastructure support agencies (BCVS, CAD, RAD, NCVS) who are working to support the inclusion of small VCSE organisations. In addition we will work closely with BLF, D2N2, local authorities and other stakeholders with an interest in supporting social inclusion and/or adding value.

### Summary of delivery plan:

|                                 | Awareness stage      |          |     | Facilitation Stage |                               |     | Compliance stage |     |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
|                                 | Nov                  | Dec      | Jan | Feb                | Mar                           | Apr | May              | Jun |
| <b>Communications</b>           | Monthly e: bulletins |          |     |                    |                               |     |                  |     |
|                                 |                      | Consultn |     | Consultn           |                               |     |                  |     |
| <b>Advisory group</b>           |                      |          |     |                    |                               |     |                  |     |
| <b>Awareness events</b>         | Launch x2            |          |     |                    | Provider engagement events x6 |     |                  |     |
| <b>Partnership facilitation</b> |                      |          |     |                    |                               |     |                  |     |
| <b>Technical workshops</b>      |                      |          |     |                    |                               |     |                  |     |