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D2N2 Active Engagement Bulletin: August 2018

Welcome to the August 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

After an extensive recruitment activity, the D2N2 Board were pleased to welcome [Elizabeth Fagan](#), Senior Vice-President and Managing Director of Boots, as the new LEP Chair. LEP colleagues and I met her for the first time in a formal capacity at the D2N2 annual conference on the 24th July where the handover from Peter Richardson took place. She brings a different approach and style to Peter and I look forward to working with her – personally I am also pleased to see a woman in this lead role.

Recruitment for the CEO role has, in contrast, been slower and a further round of interviews is imminent. I remain actively involved in the recruitment process and will share information as soon as I am able.

The LEP Board met in July where we had first sight of the new draft D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan. I am delighted that inclusion and inclusive growth priorities, pushed hard by SIEAG group and VCS partners more broadly, have been reflected strongly in this first draft. The document is not yet perfect but it is more strategic and, in my opinion, articulates well our major challenges. A process of consultation will take place over the autumn and I would encourage VCS colleagues to have their say. Rachel or One East Midlands will no doubt coordinate opportunities for you to do so.

Jane Howson

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;



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- 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

D2N2 Community Programme: Active Inclusion Grants Programme call REOPENED

A reminder that the deadline for applications is **20th August 2018**. Please note this is now a single stage application process only.

This call has been reopened pending clarification of issues raised in relation to defrayal that may have prejudiced against some potential applicants. Since previous updates we have since received the following positive clarification from DWP:

The MA has agreed to adopt a revised approach to Delegated Grant Schemes in the hope that this will allow greater access for the Third Sector. Barring an exception brought to my attention by D2N2, the MA had previously considered that defrayal at the lowest possible level must have occurred before a claim to the MA could be submitted. I am pleased to report that the MA has agreed to adopt a revised approach in which, subject to sufficient assurances within the management and compliance process, we would consider a delivery model in which defrayal by the Lead Accountable Body would be suitable for inclusion in a claim to the MA. Amongst other things, evidence of defrayal by the grantee would still be required as part of the verification process. Appraisers will be paying particular attention to the models proposed in a delegated grant scheme call to seek adequate assurances that the risks have been considered and suitably mitigated.

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-oc08s18p1107>

Prospective applicants who are interested in delivering the programme can contact Rachel Quinn, D2N2 Careers, Employability and Inclusion Manager at Rachel.quinn@d2n2lep.org for more information

A Technical Assistance workshop to support potential applicants took place on Thursday 5th July 2018. The post event page, including all presentations, can be viewed at on the [D2N2 TA website](#).



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Extended Guarantee

The Government has announced an extension to the guarantee on ESI Funds which will apply in the event of a no deal. This means Government will continue to sign new projects in the event of a no deal after EU exit, throughout 2019 and 2020, to the full value of the ESIF programme allocations.

For more information read the letter to ESIF committee [here](#).

GOV.UK and ESF Action Note Update

There have been changes to the following ESF Guidance Products:

- Outline Application Form and Guidance
- Full Application Form and Guidance
- CFO Full Application Form and Guidance
- ESF Dual Forecast and Submission Form – Claims 2018
- Guidance on ESF and YEI participant contact details
- ESF Cross-Cutting Themes Guidance for Sustainable Development and Equality

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

- 018/18 – The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and ESF – Issued 02 May 2018
- 019/18 - New Assessment/Scoring Procedures for Equality and Sustainable Development in ESF
- 020/18 - The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and ESF - additional advice
- 021/18 - Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) Funding
- 022/18 The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and ESF Additional guidance on collecting and processing participant data for monitoring and evaluation

Other News

Future of Local Enterprise Partnerships

The Ministerial Review of LEPs has been published. The review means further changes to LEP governance and organisational status – but the intention is to make LEPs stronger organisations. See the changes here:

[Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships](#)

D2N2 Unsuccessful in Careers Hub Bid

Despite a robust and well received bid, D2N2 have unfortunately been unsuccessful in securing a Careers Hub. D2N2 worked closely with partners across the area to prepare and submit a bid to the



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Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) – a competitive bidding process. The successful hubs were [announced](#) by the CEC earlier in July.

In response to the decision, Rachel Quinn from D2N2 said:

“D2N2 is committed to improving careers insights and education with our schools and building long term relationships between education and our local businesses for the future. This commitment remains.

We worked hard with partners to prepare and submit a credible hub bid, and despite positive feedback we were unsuccessful in this highly competitive process.

As England’s fifth largest LEP, delivering focussed activity in small areas of that geography can feel unfair. We are already working with over 100 schools across D2N2 through our Enterprise Advisor Network and relationship with the CEC. Moving forward we intend to ensure that the learning and benefits we had envisaged for participating hub schools will now be realised across all our schools over the next 2 years. We are escalating support available in Derbyshire, Derby and Nottingham and building capacity for learning and sharing what works. Thanks go to all those that got behind the bid process - D2N2 promise to progress the principles on which we based our approach to all.”

To find out more about Careers work in D2N2 visit <http://www.d2n2lep.org/skills/d2n2-enterprise-adviser-network>

Growth Hub support

The D2N2 Growth Hub is here to support your social enterprise develop and grow. We have a wealth of information and programmes of support, just a phone call or email away.

If you need to talk through how you develop your business plan, take on staff or wish to improve your energy efficiency we may be able to help. Just give the D2N2 Growth Hub a call or visit the website. All details are on the [e:postcard](#).

East Midlands Inclusion Framework Summary: Inclusion Matters - From Rhetoric to Reality

One East Midlands has published the summary *East Midlands Inclusion Framework: Inclusion Matters – From Rhetoric to Reality*.

This document is a summary of research findings and a longer report developed by One East Midlands to build on previous work of the East Midlands as a leader in social inclusion policy. It is intended to build on the experience, knowledge and perspectives in the region and sector and expressed in several key strategic documents to form a Framework usable by all sectors to work against exclusion and poverty.

The summary document is now available on the One East Midlands [website](#).



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UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy are currently running a series of discussion workshops across the country on the potential future UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Slides from the recent East Midlands roundtable can be viewed [here](#).

If you would like further details or would like to be involved in the consultation please send an email to ukspf.engagement@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

Financial Vulnerability in Nottingham

Nottingham City Council held a workshop to listen to stakeholders' views and insights to help us to better understand who in Nottingham is vulnerable to financial difficulty and the issues they face. This session will help to shape how the Council and its partners can work together to help people experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship in the City.

The notes from the feedback from the workshop and a subsequent survey are available to download [here](#). Please scroll down to the heading 'Focus on Financial Vulnerability in Nottingham Strategic Commissioning Review'

Work & Health Challenge Fund

The Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Work and Pensions has set up a [Work and Health Challenge Fund](#) to test new approaches to help people experiencing mental health and/or musculoskeletal issues stay in work. Applications for the £4.2million fund are welcome from organisations in any sector and close on 17 August 2018.

Additional link: [DWP/DHSC press release](#)

BREXIT – Latest on the EU Settlement Scheme and Action for Employers

The UK Government has taken a significant step towards enshrining the Settlement Scheme into UK law with the publication of a White Paper on 24th July 2018.

The White Paper confirms that the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill will

- be the primary means by which the rights of EU citizens will be protected in UK law;
- legislate for the time-limited implementation period; and



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- create a financial authority to manage the specific payments to be made under the financial settlement, with appropriate Parliamentary oversight.

The Government have also timed the publication of the White Paper with the release of an [Employers Toolkit](#). The Toolkit explains what the Settlement Scheme means for employers. It includes a number of resources to help employers with a practical communications plan including links, key information, videos, leaflets and posters.

For more practical information about this and other matters relating to BREXIT visit the [Europe Direct East Midlands](#) (North) website.

Building Connections Fund

Following the Prime Minister's and Minister for Sport and Civil Society's announcement to unlock £20m funding to tackle loneliness, a new £11.5 million Building Connections Fund has been set up to support projects that are able to prevent or reduce loneliness.

The fund is a partnership between Government, Big Lottery Fund and the Co-op Foundation and aims to:

- increase social connections and helping people feel more connected;
- support organisations to build on their existing work, e.g. by reaching more people, or working in a new area or with a different method or group of people;
- encourage organisations to join up with others locally;
- improve the evidence base and use learning to inform longer term policy and funding decisions

More details, including how to apply, can be found at:

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/building-connections-fund>

Wanted! A Ddeaf female consultant

Deaf-initely Women is seeking a Ddeaf female Consultant who is an experienced researcher and evaluator to evaluate the effectiveness and the impact of its project Deaf Women Matter!: Skills for Life project during 2018 - 2021.

To find out more about this contract opportunity click [here](#).

£4.48million D2N2 funding approved for North Nottinghamshire employment site

400 jobs are set to be created in a development spanning 40,000sq.m, after funding was agreed by the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).



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The Vesuvius project is a £16.5million initiative which will look to develop the former Vesuvius Brickworks site, on Sandy Lane in Worksop, North Nottinghamshire. This will create space for new and existing businesses and generate up to 400 new jobs as a result. For more information read the press release [here](#).

Sporting Capital Investment Fund

Sporting Capital is a new social investment fund that focuses on supporting the sustainable development of community sports organisations. The £3m fund is the first of its kind, and offers investment in the form of simple, repayable loans of between £50k and £150k.

The loan is ideal for an organisation that want to:

- make a difference in the community through sport, physical activity or in a sport setting or;
- grow and become more sustainable by generating more or new income

More details are available in the [attached flyer, FAQs](#) or on the website www.sportingcapital.org.uk

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