NOTES OF MEETING

Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendee</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Viv Russell (Chair)</td>
<td>Longcliffe Quarry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Westray-Chapman</td>
<td>Derbyshire County Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Twells</td>
<td>Smith Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darren Clarke</td>
<td>Medilink UK</td>
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<td>David Caddie</td>
<td>MGP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominic Stevens</td>
<td>Destination Sheffield</td>
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<td>Emma Knight Strong</td>
<td>Green Arch Consulting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Horsley</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huw Bowen</td>
<td>Chesterfield Borough Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ian Harrison</td>
<td>DIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jo Dilley</td>
<td>MPDD</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Collins</td>
<td>Professional Coaching Alliance Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Forkin</td>
<td>Marketing Derby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julian Bowrey</td>
<td>Innovate UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Barton</td>
<td>D2N2 Growth Hub</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucie Andrews</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Taft</td>
<td>MGP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Durban</td>
<td>University of Nottingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Epton</td>
<td>Centre for Management and Business Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natalie Gasson-McKinley</td>
<td>Federation of Small Businesses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Dixon</td>
<td>Nottingham City Council</td>
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<td>Warren Manning</td>
<td>University of Derby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will Morridge</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maureen Vieyra (note taker)</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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Apologies

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Pook</td>
<td>D2N2 Growth Hub</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Bee</td>
<td>Uniper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Beresford</td>
<td>East Midlands Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josephine Dexter</td>
<td>BEIS</td>
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<td>Keith Cox</td>
<td>Bloc Digital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewis Stringer</td>
<td>British Business Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Rigley</td>
<td>Lindhurst Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicola Swaney</td>
<td>Rolls Royce Plc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Hayward</td>
<td>Ask the Chameleon</td>
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<td>Rob Harding</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<td>Sajeeda Rose</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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1. **Introductions and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**
   Apologies, as listed above, were given.
   No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. **Minutes from the Last Meeting and Actions Arising**
   The minutes from the meeting in March were adopted as a true record.
   A report on the results of the Growth Hub Peer Network Pilot will be presented at the next meeting.

3. **Manufacturing Growth Programme**
   FH introduced Mark Taft (project manager), and David Caddie (regional manager) for MGP and noted the extension of the programme into the D2N2 area was welcome as part of the LEPs enhanced focus on manufacturing.
   DC spoke to his presentation on the Manufacturing Growth Programme and partners were asked to contact to MT with any enquiries.
   VR thanked DC for his presentation.

   **Comments/Questions**
   - MT agreed to send monthly reports to FH who would circulate them.
   - A representative from the MGP would be included on the new D2N2 Manufacturing Advisory Panel

   FH and WM spoke to their presentation.
   - The purpose of the dashboard is to focus attention on actions linked to the Strategy and this year’s delivery plan.
   - Information has been updated to reflect changes in Government policy and will be reviewed regularly to ensure delivery links back to evolving strategic priorities.
   - The dashboard is linked to BGIAB themes and FH will work with the themes to determine the RAG rating.
   - The presentation will be shared with the notes.
   - Some themes are already in place and reflect the need for a flexible approach. FH will look to put in place a more formalised structure whilst retaining flexibility.
   - Three dashboards have been produced that link across the 5 themes of BGIAB.

   **Comments/Questions**
   - This was a really interesting update. Good to see progress against each strategy statement and promise is really key. **Q:** Will this be qualitative or moving towards quantitative? **A:** largely qualitative and not to duplicate GH Advisory Board work.
   - **Q:** How do we, through guiding strategy, elevate the risk in the visitor economy? **A:** the dashboards need to link with other advisory boards to deliver the strategy. Any issues would be welcomed.
   - **Q:** can we redirect some of the work to the Employment Support team to mobilise support for the hospitality industry? **A:** FH to convene a group to discuss the hospitality sector issues.
These links were shared during the meeting:
https://www.d2n2ta.org/news/esfa-community-grants-fund-round-4-open-for-applications/

5. Business Growth and Innovation – Progress Update
FH referred to his report

- As part of the review, options are being considered for GH delivery post ERDF. The GH Review report is due by the end of August and will be circulated to the Growth Hub Executive Board and AB in September.
- We are keeping in contact with CLG to see if there is any funding via the national reserve to extend the GH for another 12-24 months. However, this appears increasingly unlikely.
- The Community Renewal Fund will now be delivered through local authorities and D2N2 and the Growth Hub will work closely with approved projects to ensure alignment with the business support offer.
- Help to Grow Digital is being developed (grants to support digital uptake) and further consultation on delivery is expected.
- GH core funding of £700K has now been agreed with BEIS, within which there is an element of discretionary funding, part of which has been earmarked for the Investment Readiness programme in support of the Access to Finance theme.
- Following Innovation theme group, D2N2 is working closely with Innovate UK to develop a D2N2 Innovation Week to incorporate an Innovate Local event. The likely timescale is December.
- D2N2 has now appointed Kiran Birring as Investor Development Coordinator to manage the Midlands Engine KAM programme focused on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) businesses.
- The Inward Investment Partners group will meet in June to develop a D2N2 proposition. Consideration be given to engaging with the Freeport as well as the wider offer. A residual revenue budget remains for promotion and events including potential representation at MIPIM 2022.
- An International Trade strategy is currently at draft stage. We are looking at how to link out most competitive sectors with existing and new markets. The strategy is being developed in partnership with DIT.
- The B5 group met this month and discussed the attached report from CBI regions.https://www.cbi.org.uk/articles/reviving-regions-empowering-places-to-revive-and-thrive-1/
- Low Carbon Growth Board Meeting
  - This group is looking horizontally across the board with representatives from other Boards.
  - Members include all utilities and local authorities (cities and counties), the two districts, universities, and businesses.
    - Review synergies regarding delivery
    - Pull together a series of “big-ticket” propositions for Government on green capital projects
    - Work out the different streams of Government funding into the region across all sectors and report back.
- Exploratory discussions have taken place with East Midlands cluster LEPs (Greater Lincolnshire and Leicestershire) to pull together a proposed East Midlands
manufacturing summit. Further development will be subject to the outcome of the LEP review.

- The new D2N2 Manufacturing Advisory Group endorsed at the last meeting will meet for the first time on 30th June. Martin Rigley has agreed to Chair.
- Marketing and Comms – D2N2 has continued to increase its profile from news stories and using social network platforms. The team is working with local networks in the area to determine how LEPs have affected economic growth.
- The Engagement Strategy is linked to developing work on CRM and will progress once the latter has been procured.

Comments/Questions

- It is disappointing and worrying that GH funding has 6 months left with advisors facing potential redundancy. It was agreed that options for future delivery would be advanced as part of the current review and in light of the National Growth Hub review.
- There was a desire to work together across all boundaries for the Community Renewal Fund. However, partners had found this challenging due to short timelines. Quality of business support services and the risk of proliferation were noted as areas of concern.

6. Sector Engagement – Progress Update
LA spoke to her presentation

- The Innovation asset mapping was progressing and outlined. It is proposed to have an infographic for business size, number of jobs, key challenges together with a link to project page. Sector pages were also being developed to support best practice.
- A case study development exercise is to be undertaken shortly to determine the added value of D2N2 investment. This will form an important part of the mapping and new approach to engagement.
- D2N2 is partnering a University of Ulster lead bid to the Innovate UK Smart Manufacturing Hub. Should funding be secured from the national programme, the project aims to offer a service to manufacturing SMEs to help them understand and manage their data more effectively.
- There is an ongoing area of work around future skills needed in manufacturing, looking at current supply and demand, to present to learning providers to encourage the changes that are needed.
- Work carried out in the manufacturing sector will be replicated in other sectors.

Comments/Questions

- Q: do we have the right engagement with colleges of further education re T levels? A: The Head of People and Skills chairs a group with all FE colleges in the area who are happy to collaborate. T levels are not on Local Authority agendas.
- There is a need to identify which colleges have been awarded funding and are preparing to deliver T levels.
- A number of FE colleges have bid for higher technical qualification funding.

7. D2N2 Growth Hub – Progress Update
FH reported:

- Business engagement continues to see a high level of enquiry numbers at around 1,000 per month
- The Virtual Webinar programme is really successful. As a result, the Growth Hub has extended its reach to more client businesses.
LB reported:

- The emphasis is on encouraging businesses to look at growth potential.
- Grant Expenditure will be the key focus for 2021 and also a key challenge.
- Business Investment Fund continues to receive strong levels of interest from SMEs. In February the Business Investment Fund increased the maximum grant amount from £20K to £30K. It is able to support about 12 larger applications and businesses with multiple applications. It continues to collect case studies.
- The Intermediary Network recently met and is being refreshed with a focus on reaching out to SMEs especially in relation to access to finance to support growth.
- Peer Networks – BEIS has provided funding allocation for Phase 2. There are links on the website to show what is available now.
- An allocation of £255k will deliver 17 cohorts from March 2021 to March 2022 with a focus on high growth.
- Growth Hub Review is well underway and it is hoped to provide recommendations in by end of August.

Comments/Questions

- A key word being used at the present time is “review”. Our approach is to continue operating as usual during this time of uncertainty while the different reviews are being undertaken.

VR commended the Growth Hub for the good work being undertaken to continue to support SMEs during this difficult time.

8. Inclusion

WM referred to the document that had been circulated:

- The D2N2 LEP Board has included Inclusion as part of its strategy following adoption of the framework 18 months earlier.
- There is a better understanding of the link between social inclusion and the economy.
- The D2N2 LEP Board has convened a meeting of the Chairs of the Advisory Board and inclusion reps to challenge on our performance.
- We need to consider what is it we can do as employers to promote social mobility, what we are doing that we are not promoting, and what low cost/no cost ideas we can share.

Comments/Questions

- In reference to a question asked as to why we have people leaving rural areas to go to the cities the answer is that it is job related but it is also a choice. We need to provide diversity of choice to reflect changing working patterns. It was noted that in the East Midlands, local people do not wholly understand the massive choices that exist in this region. We need to provide more information on the vast variety of jobs in manufacturing and jobs in micro businesses.
- Significant progress has been made in relation to careers advice and guidance via our Enterprise Advisor network.
- An opportunity exists to link with investment promotion agencies to raise the profile of work and career choices.
- There is a need to identify cultural or existing barriers for female or BAME workers and to identify rural businesses that may have specific issues.
9. **Any Other Business**

VR commented that, from an attendance perspective, the online meetings had been effective. However, he believed we had been missing an opportunity to meet around a table and having human interaction. He proposed every alternate meeting should be a physical meeting with a site visit in the afternoon if this was practical. Partners were asked to consider potential hosting locations and feed back to FH.

Everyone was thanked for their attendance and participation.

**ACTIONS:**
7. LA to investigate T levels and report to the next meeting
8. WM to help Marketing Derby and Marketing Nottingham to promote the availability of choice for work