

D2N2

Local Enterprise

Partnership Delivery Plan

2022/23 – 2023/24

Foreword

Our role as a Local Enterprise Partnership is to support the economic growth across Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Steered by our business-led Board, we work in partnership to create the conditions to attract additional investment to build a stronger economy and unlock opportunities to create future prosperity for the region.



Elizabeth Fagan CBE

Chair of D2N2 LEP


I'm delighted to introduce our Delivery Plan for 2022/23 to 2023/24

Back in December 2020 we published our Recovery and Growth Strategy. The world has continued to move on in ways we could not have predicted even so recently, with the cost of living crisis and the impact of the war in the Ukraine adding unforeseen uncertainty. One element of certainty that we do have is that the future of D2N2 is now much clearer than when I wrote my last foreword. Negotiations are ongoing for the work of D2N2 to transition to the proposed East Midlands Mayoral Combined County Authority from 2024/5. While the details on what this means for my Board and our team are still to be worked through, the future direction of travel is clear. For that reason, I have commissioned a delivery plan not on an annual basis as in previous years, but one that takes us through to the likely start date for the Combined Authority of April 2024. This enables D2N2 to set out how we intend to maintain our track record of delivery while simultaneously manage the most significant change in our history.

On delivery, I'm delighted that our Board has continued to focus on delivery, with two new funds being delivered from 2022. The first sees £6.5m from D2N2 leveraging in over £20m of funding from partners to unlock innovative new approaches to low carbon growth. The other is our Angel Investment Fund which will support SMEs who have struggled to access traditional finance. These are real markers, focusing on evidence of what works tailored to local need remains as crucial as ever.

We also continue to land that message with Government, and have secured more funding than any other LEP for our programme of Skills Bootcamps, which address crucial gaps in digital and green skills. And we continue to look to the long term, with all parts of our region now supported by one of our four Careers Hubs which are driving ever stronger results in helping our schools and colleges put in place inspiring careers education that will help our young people to make informed choices about the fantastic careers they can have in D2N2 or elsewhere.

That really confirms what I wrote last year about the value of partnership working. I'm proud to chair both the LEP Board and the D2N2 Leaders' Board, and I look forward to at least another 18 months of collaboration. This will be a year in which we can secure a truly game-changing deal that will improve the growth prospects of our businesses and the economic futures of our residents. I am determined to ensure we seize that opportunity and my team and I will do everything we can to ensure that we do.

The background features a collage of images related to industry and research. At the top, a man and a woman are working in a laboratory, with the man adjusting a piece of equipment. Below this, there is a large, modern building with a grid-like facade. At the bottom, a woman wearing a hard hat and safety glasses is looking towards the camera. The entire image has a blue and purple color scheme with a diagonal split.

Our priorities 2022/23

- 1. LEVELLING UP**
- 2. LOW CARBON**
- 3. SKILLS AND CAREERS**
- 4. BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY**
- 5. SECTOR PROMOTION**
- 6. DELIVERY EXCELLENCE**

1. Levelling Up

Support our partners to tackle inequalities in the region by identifying the most impactful opportunities to intervene and by supporting the negotiations with Government to **secure the best possible devolution** deal for our region

- a) Convene the region's business voice to ensure our Devolution Deal is rooted in the needs of our employers, and play our role in the negotiations with Government by leading on the skills and employment elements of those discussions.
- b) Continue to convene our partners to enable opportunities for evidence-based discussions on our future priorities, including chairing the D2N2 Leaders' Board and Towns Fund Group.
- c) Review our Recovery and Growth Strategy, using a refreshed evidence base, to co-design with our partners a new Levelling Up Strategy for D2N2.
- d) Provide economic, skills and labour market data, intelligence and analysis to all our partners to enable them to make sound investment decisions based on robust evidence.

2. Low Carbon

Lead and position the region to deliver **clean growth** - capitalising on our strengths, building links with government and identifying investment.

- a) Invest in innovative new low carbon technologies and processes that have the capacity for wider roll out through our Low Carbon Growth Fund, and seek further funding for our net zero project pipeline.
- b) Connect businesses to the opportunities that exist to work with the Growth Hub, universities, and other businesses to drive up adoption of low carbon practices that also support business growth.
- c) Improve the long-term skills supply for net zero by making the promotion of STEM and low carbon careers a priority in our Careers Hubs and Skills Bootcamp programmes.
- d) Work with Midlands Engine, Midlands Connect, Midlands Net Zero Hub, and the Energy Research Accelerator to build a portfolio of investable low carbon projects in our area.

3. Skills and Careers

Ensure the D2N2 labour market is supported by a skills system that balances the needs of employers, the aspirations of young people and workers and the provision in our skills system to enable long-term growth

- a) Continue to build the capacity and impact of our four Careers Hubs and our innovative SEND careers network.
- b) Lead for the region on the negotiations with Government on the skills and employability elements of devolution, ensuring the region articulates a strong case and secures the best possible deal.
- c) Develop a Digital Skills Partnership to help the region close the gap on digital skills at all levels and in most sectors.
- d) Build on our record as the most successful LEP at delivering Skills Bootcamps by broadening our offer into other key skills gaps.
- e) Continue to provide local skills analysis to our Skills Advisory Panel and support the lead LSIP partner for the region to hit the ground running by ensuring close collaboration between the LSIP and SAP.

4. Business Productivity

Continue to support **business recovery and growth** through the D2N2 Growth Hub and take advantage of new global trading opportunities to boost productivity in our key and emerging sectors.

- a) Provide high-quality support to businesses through the D2N2 Growth Hub, and identify funding opportunities to sustain and grow the Growth Hub.
- b) Deliver access to finance services to support investment readiness and growth, and launch our innovative Angel Investment Fund for SMEs.
- c) Deliver the D2N2 Investor Development Service to encourage further high-value inward investment.
- d) Build on our Trade Strategy by working with DIT and other partners to boost exporting levels from our region.
- e) Convene our local business representative groups to enable each to extend its reach and to provide a strong, independent and diverse local business voice to local and national partners.

5. Sector Promotion

Work with our partners in business, sector bodies and academia to identify our **key growth opportunities** and to focus our support where we can have maximum impact.

- a) Work with our Manufacturing Advisory Panel and neighbouring LEPs to drive the East Midlands Made Smarter campaign to support SMEs.
- b) Lead the national Smart Manufacturing Data Hub to help businesses to drive productivity through better use of data and analytics.
- c) Focus support on D2N2 tourism businesses and locations to help them to continue to recover from the long-term impact of the pandemic.
- d) Develop a more coordinated approach to innovation to maximise investment and minimise bureaucracy to stimulate awareness of the opportunities for collaboration and funding in key sectors.
- e) Work with colleagues across all sectors to ensure their skills needs, including those common across sectors, are identified and are being fed into the skill system.

6. Delivery Excellence

Ensure **effective delivery** of our programmes, ensure we are a well-run organisation and play a leading role in **shaping the future** of economic development in our area

- a) Provide robust and constructive input into bids for funding opportunities in our region such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Levelling Up Fund.
- b) Work with our local authorities to support the design of the governance and operational models underpinning the new Combined Authority, promoting learning for existing best practice.
- c) Work with our Accountable Body (Derbyshire County Council) to maintain our reputation for excellence in the monitoring and assurance of our ongoing growth programmes.
- d) Provide high quality support and guidance to our Board, its sub-groups, and our Investment Board.
- e) Delivery outstanding communications activity on behalf of our Board and our funding partners to support stronger, deeper partnerships and strong take up of opportunities to partner with us.

Funding

To meet the needs of the LEP and fully implement our governance model, a new team structure is being implemented. The structure provides support to the board and our advisory groups while remaining affordable and within budget.

Budget 2020-21 summary and 2021/22 forecast

BUDGET SUMMARY

INCOME	FORCAST 2021/22	2020/21
Central Government Basic Funding	£500,000	£500,000
Local Authority Funding*	£250,000	£250,000
Income from grants	£32,000	£178,878
Local Growth Fund		£67,427
Growth Hub	£37,000	£36,520
Growing Places Fund	£5,000	£5,448
Getting Building Fund	£45,000	£33,919
Bank interest in investments	£5,000	£52,194
TOTAL INCOME	£874,000	£1,124,387
BALANCE IN REVERSE	£898,060	£712,734
TOTAL AVAILABLE	£1,772,060	£1,837,121

*£62,500 each for Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council.

EXPENDITURE	FORCAST 2021/22	2020/21
LEP Core Staff	£746,113	£661,042
Other Expenditure	£340,607	£278,019
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£1,086,720	£939,061

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