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**D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
BUSINESS GROWTH AND INNOVATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Date: Tuesday 22nd August 2023, 10.00 – 12.00

Venue: Teams - link in Outlook calendar invite

NOTES OF MEETING

Attendees

Tim Freeman (Chair)	Toyota Manufacturing UK
Catherine Evans	Rushcliffe Borough Council
Clinton Walker	Security Aware
David Harper	NTU
Diane Beresford	East Midlands Chamber
Emma Knight Strong	Green Arch Consulting
Fardad Amirsaeedi	Nottinghamshire County Council
Ian Cuddington	Rolls Royce
Jo Dilley	Visit Peak District & Derbyshire
John Collins	Professional Coaching Alliance Ltd
John Forkin	Marketing Derby
Julian Bowrey	Innovate UK
Katrina Crookdake	Dept for Business and Trade
Keith Cox	Bloc Digital
Lewis Stringer	British Business Bank
Lisa Barton	Nottingham City Council
Lorraine Baggs	Marketing NG
Melanie Davidson	Medilink UK
Martyn Handley	Derbyshire County Council
Mike Epton	CMBD
Natalie Gasson-McKinley	FSB
Rachel Hayward	Ask the Chameleon
Will Morlidge	D2N2 LEP
Tom Goshawk	D2N2 LEP
Fiona Baker	D2N2 LEP
Nicola Swaney	D2N2 LEP

Apologies

Ben Sumner	University of Nottingham
Dominic Stevens	Destination Chesterfield
Geoff George	Mansfield District Council
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield Borough Council
Joelle Davies	Notts County Council
Jeremy Hague	NTU
Dave Bee	Uniper
Martin Rigley	Lindhurst Engineering
Warren Manning	University of Derby

Lisa Brewer
Sandra Casey (notes)

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ACTION	LEAD
Share first draft of the business support mapping exercise at the November meeting	Lucie Andrews
Send ESIF inward investment programme summative assessment to Will	John Forkin
Future agenda items - increasing innovation investment in D2N2; and DCMS- funded Innovate creative programme progress	Tom Goshawk / SC

1. Introductions and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Tim Freeman was introduced as the new Chair of the Advisory Board. No new conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Notes from the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The notes from the May meeting were accepted as a true record, subject to change of organisation correction. All actions from the meeting are in progress or are on the agenda.

3. Subgroup updates incl. Business Support Mapping – Tom Goshawk

- Early Stage Angel Investment Fund has gone out to tender for a Fund Manager and applications will be reviewed in mid-September
- open conversations have taken place at the other sub group meetings (Manufacturing Advisory Panel, International Trade Strategy and Access to Finance) to discuss how to move those groups forward and what we want to achieve going into the potentially different political landscape, feeding informally into the devolution process
- UK REiif (UK's Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum) – following on from the successful session at the 2023 event, we'll be working with partners to deliver key messages at the 2024 event
- D2N2 colleagues are members of a number of devolution working groups, including digital connectivity, visitor economy and place marketing, and business support, growth and inward investment
- Economic Growth Fund - £2.6m capital fund received 18 applications totalling over £19m; 3 projects have been selected for funding and will be presented to the D2N2 LEP Main and Investment Boards for approval; unsuccessful projects will be signposted to partners to bring investment proposals to fruition
- undertaking business support mapping to understand what support is available with the aim to reduce duplication and increase collaboration across D2N2 to maximise funding available; the mapping will also be shared with colleagues preparing for the combined authority so that current business support offers continue to be delivered under the proposed combined authority; working with the Scale Up Institute who are mapping business support services nationally; a first

draft of the mapping report is being planned in time to be presented at the November BGIAB meeting

ACTION: Lucie Andrews to share first draft of the business support mapping exercise at the November meeting

4. Smart Manufacturing Data Hub update – Lisa Brewer

- Lisa was unable to attend and an update will be provided at the next meeting

5. D2N2 Growth Hub update – Diane Beresford

- see Diane's [presentation](#) which includes details of the current Growth Hub service/webinar sessions and other business support initiatives that East Midlands Chamber is delivering that are funded through the UK Government, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Levelling Up
- the £8m ERDF-funded Growth Hub project ended in June, and the final claim and evaluation are being completed
- core funding has been confirmed, matched by East Midlands Chamber, and the service will continue to work with local authority partners that also have business support funding, to provide a coherent service for businesses
- East Midlands Chamber have received £3.8m UK SPF to deliver the Accelerator programme in Derby, Nottinghamshire and most of Derbyshire, and is working with Nottingham City to develop a series of workshops
- the East Midlands Manufacturing Network now has local networks in all local authority areas; each group meets 6 weekly to share intelligence and has been providing invaluable data
- there was a discussion about the fragmented business support landscape and changes that may take place under a combined authority structure

6. Inward Investment Strategy - Will Morlidge

- D2N2 are developing an Inward Investment Strategy in preparation for a future combined authority and following feedback from the Department for Business and Trade and Midlands Engine to deliver a more co-ordinated approach across the East Midlands
- multiple agencies have an inward investment remit, leading to a complicated landscape for investors to navigate and impacting on inward investment in the area
- the UK Shared Prosperity Fund funding at district level has led to a fragmented offer or no offer in some districts
- working in partnership with our inward investment partners, the East Midlands Freeport and the East Midlands Development Company, the aim is to develop a coherent strategy to present to the Mayor of the Combined Authority as a priority for investment and at UK REiIF (UK's Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum) in May 2024 to improve inward investment

- the 8 year European-funded investment programme has now closed and the programme's summative assessment) provides a detailed analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the collaboration between the inward investment agencies
- during the discussion points raised were inward investment activity needs to be resourced, to consider investor's needs by working with inward investment agencies and include availability of suitable infrastructure/sites, possibly through a prospectus; Innovate UK are also looking at an investment strategy with UK universities and Julian offered to share any insights with Will
- Fardad shared [Notts Investment Framework](#) and [Visitor Economy Framework for Nottinghamshire](#); other resources contributing to evidence include <https://midlandsinnovation.org.uk/unis-trade-investment-mids-pilot->

ACTION: John Forkin to send ESIF inward investment programme summative assessment to Will

7. Devolution update – D2N2 colleagues

- there is a devolution working group for business, investment and innovation, led by Joelle Davies from Nottinghamshire County Council
- membership is limited to the upper tier authorities and D2N2 officers at the moment whilst legislation goes through parliament regarding the combined authority status; our universities have now been invited to attend the innovation working group and membership will expand for all the devolution working groups once the legislation has been passed, hopefully in November
- recent conversations with local authority colleagues indicate that they are interested in the LEP functions transferring into the Combined Authority
- there will be no LEP funding from government from April 2024; options are being discussed at the next LEP Board meeting and will include continuing until a devolution settlement is agreed with the LEP assets transferring into the combined authority; closing earlier and assets transfer over to the structure that is in place at the time; or carry on as an independent economic business

8. BGIAB Indicators – Tom Goshawk

- see [Key Economic Indicators for Business Growth & Innovation Advisory Board](#)
- these are regularly updated and can be found on our website: <https://d2n2lep.org/data-centre/>

9. Any other business

- Will raised the issue of under investment by government in innovation and would like to discuss what the region could be doing together to increase innovation investment
- DCMS- funded Innovate creative programme progress to be an agenda item at next meeting
- British Business Bank's second Business Finance Week, week commencing 6th November 2023 - <https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/finance-hub/business-finance-week/>

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- Link to the next International Trade Peer Network event 8/11/23:
<https://eu.eventscloud.com/ehome/200268693>

ACTION: future agenda items - increasing innovation investment in D2N2; and DCMS- funded Innovate creative programme progress

Meeting dates 2023
November 9th, 10.00-12.00

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