

NEET and Young People

Raising Aspiration and Making Opportunities



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D2N2's NEET and Young People programme aims to promote the sustainable integration into the labour market of young people, in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities. The programme will be delivered through two modules:

- Careers Local - that will support young people 15-19 who are at risk of becoming 'NEET' and
- Support for Young People – that will support young people aged 16-24 who have become 'NEET'.

The vision is for all young people to develop employability skills and to have access to impact measured and 'purposeful' employer interventions¹ which raise aspirations and influence them to make a positive contribution to benefit their local community. The D2N2 Vision for Employability and the Employability Framework are the foundation and strategy to all activity and support funded through the NEET and Young People ESF programmes.

Module 1: CAREERS Local Employability Programme (£1,000,000 ESF)

The D2N2 LEP has benefitted from an ESF programme, between January 2016 and July 2018, called CAREERS Local, which provides grants to D2N2 schools to support at risk of NEET young people aged 15-19 to develop enterprise and employability skills, in line with the D2N2 Employability Framework. The D2N2 LEP wants to build on the benefits of this programme and the work of the Careers and Enterprise Company to encourage more employers and employees to connect with educational institutes, young people at risk of NEET and parents to promote local career pathways, career insights and job opportunities, and which will help the young people to develop enterprise and employability skills to improve their career opportunities. Educational Institutes includes schools, specialist schools, academies, Pupil Referral Unit (Alternative Learning Centres), Virtual Schools, those Elected Home Educated (through registration with the Local Authorities) and further education colleges.

The module will support activities that deliver:

- Support to young people aged 15 - 19 who are at risk of becoming NEET to:
 - engage in tailored enterprise and employability activities to develop the personal skills and competencies valued by local employers in line with the D2N2 Employability Framework
 - discourage them from disengaging
 - raise awareness of the employment opportunities locally especially of apprenticeships including those at higher and degree level, and create pathways for young people to access the opportunities
 - access good quality work experience and 'purposeful' employer interactions, including through the SKILLS Local work experience framework
- Enhancement and / or supplements to existing local CEIAG infrastructure (such as the Careers & Enterprise Company, Enterprise Adviser Network), working with educational institutes to:

¹ Purposeful Employer Intervention – D2N2 Employability Framework (an employer involved activity provides an impact measured output for a young person in relation to careers, employability and enterprise)

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- provide support, information and advice to the educational institute and to match and support employer volunteers (Enterprise Advisers) to engage with them at a strategic and leadership level to champion employability, careers and enterprise to support young people at risk of becoming NEET
 - support the educational institute to develop Enterprise Action Plans to support employability and enterprise activity for all young people within the institution and to potentially access additional funding or incentives
 - promote simplified and co-ordinated access between educational institutes and providers to support young people to access activities with employer intervention
 - Support the transition process between educational institutes, FE, HE and work, working with local authorities to further reduce Not Known NEETs
- Provide incentives for educational institutions to provide targeted interventions to help young people develop enterprise and employability skills, to improve their career opportunities. Potential incentives could include a delegated grant to support activity.

The D2N2 area will benefit from:

- At least 2,500 young people aged 15-19 who are at risk of becoming NEET

People who will benefit from this programme are:

- Young people aged 15 – 19 who are at risk of becoming NEET where the educational institute they are registered to has an Enterprise Action Plan, signed off by an employer, and they can evidence the activity funded through this programme will produce a purposeful employer intervention. This funding is not available to individuals aged 18-19 who are accessing the DWP benefits system.

Place Based Priorities and Targeted Support

Whilst activities within this theme should be available to eligible beneficiaries across the D2N2 area, we would encourage applicants to ensure that their bids adequately address the needs and challenges of particular places or beneficiary groups as detailed below. Applicants may wish to form consortia or engage with specialist delivery partners to ensure these needs are met.

Indicative allocations across D2N2 and for educational institutes to benefit from should be based on the latest statistics at the time, such as levels of Pupil Premium, NEETs, Not Knowns and youth unemployment as they can be directly attributed to levels of educational attainment.

Module 2: Support for Young People to enter Sustainable Employment (£3,360,000 ESF)

This module will support sustainable integration into the labour market of young people, in particular those not in employment, education or training (NEET), including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities. It aims to raise the aspirations and employability of young people, create opportunities and provide support for transition into sustained employment.

The module will support activities that deliver:

- Support to young people currently NEET to:
 - progress into sustained employment and Apprenticeships through training pathways including work experience and traineeships
 - address basic skills needs in maths, English and ICT
 - develop communications and social mobility skills
 - Increase skills levels across all levels, and for those individuals with no qualifications

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- Develop “digital skills”
 - Undergo additional work experience and pre-employment training opportunities
 - use sustainable transport solutions to access opportunities
 - access self-employment support as a route out of worklessness
 - access careers opportunities and opportunities derived from other ESF funded programmes, potentially through the D2N2 Careers Portal
- Support to marginalised 16-24 year olds to re-engage with education or training.
 - A wrap-around service to provide coherent pathways to employment for individuals who are currently not progressing towards work
 - Specialist intensive support to 16-24 year olds with barriers to employment

The D2N2 area will benefit from:

- At least 8,870 young people aged 16-24 who are NEET
- 16-24 year olds participating in the most appropriate ESF programme to meet their individual needs

People who will benefit from this programme are:

- Young people aged 16 – 24 who are NEET. Individuals who are diagnostically assessed within this programme but who would benefit more from the ESF Employment programme must be referred.
- Individuals 16-19 who have accessed funding from CAREERS Local (2018-2020 programme)

Place Based Priorities and Targeted Support*

Whilst activities within this theme should be available to eligible beneficiaries across the D2N2 area, we would encourage applicants to ensure that their bids adequately address the needs and challenges of particular places or beneficiary groups as detailed below. Applicants may wish to form consortia or engage with specialist delivery partners to ensure these needs are met.

A particular focus and support to young lone parent, young women, long-term NEET, care leavers and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) to overcome the barriers they face in participating in the labour market.

Current indicative areas where evidence suggests the need to support NEETs is more prevalent include;

- Derby: (tbc)
- Derbyshire: Alfreton and Swanwick, Clowne Clay Cross, Chesterfield, Ilkeston, Buxton, Swadlincote, Woodville and Newall
- Nottingham: (tbc)
- Nottinghamshire: (tbc)

To ensure that delivery of the programme remains responsive to emerging needs and changes in the economy, local authorities will provide D2N2 LEP with periodic data at LSOA (lower super output area) level on areas of above average NEET prevalence to inform the local targeting of activity.

Contracting and funding allocation:

The programme will be procured through the ESF Managing Authority (DWP) open call process. The call will be published in **January 2018**. We will be looking for contracts to be issued from **August 2018**, with delivery commencing after this point. The ESF funding allocation to support this activity is £4,360,000 million, and is proportioned across the two themes as statement above. Applicants will need to have eligible match funding for the balance of costs which must be from a source other than the European Union. We would ask applicants to review the changes to the ESF Operational Programme 2017, which may include the ability to provide match funding from a variety of different sources. The intention is to award one contract for theme one which must cover the whole D2N2 area. For theme two the preference is for one contract across the LEP area, however if this cannot be achieved separate bids to support a specified area(s) will be acceptable should applications of sufficient quality and scale be received that in combination provide for LEP wide coverage without duplication of activities or geography. Where applicants are bidding for a specified area(s) the % of funding and targets will be divided based on the number of NEETs requiring support, based on evidence. Proposals should: deliver activities eligible for ESF; must cover the whole D2N2 area or a specified area; and be in line with the D2N2 LEP Commissioning Principles and Delivery Criteria.

This document provides the strategic intent for this programme. Full details of the bidding, contracting and confirmed criteria will be provided within the specification.

The below provides an indicative breakdown of the funding allocation and targets.

Investment Priority	1.2	
	1	2
Theme		
2018-2020 (£) ESF	£1,000,000	£3,360,000
Match funding	£1,000,000	£3,360,000
Average Allocation per Participant	£800	£1,693
Targets		
No of Participants	2,500	8,870
Men	1,370	4,860
Women	1,130	4,010
No of Unemployed		8,870
Long Term Unemployed		6,210
No of Inactive	627	2,223
Ethnic Min	218	772
Disability	262	928
Basic Skills	440	1,560
Single	99	351
Below 25	2,500	8,870

* Place Based Priorities: Local authority areas of specific need will be reviewed and updated as appropriate using the most up to date evidence-base at the time of the specification being written in readiness for procurement.

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