Priority Axis 2 (PA2): Sustainable Economic and Enterprise Activity in Disadvantaged Communities

North Derbyshire North Nottinghamshire (NDNN) PA2 Local Investment Plan

This investment plan sets out proposals for the use of targeted assistance through the East Midlands 2007-13 ERDF Programme under Priority Axis 2 (PA2), within the five PA2 eligible district areas of the former coalfield.

The local investment plan aims to reduce economic disadvantage in the North Derbyshire North Nottinghamshire (NDNN) PA2 areas.

The focus of the ERDF Priority Axis 2 funding will be to develop sustainable economic and enterprise activity to benefit residents of the most disadvantaged areas within the former coalfield districts of Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover Chesterfield and Mansfield. The programme will specifically;

- Stimulate and support new markets and enterprise opportunities;
- Build local capacity, resources and support; and
- Revive local infrastructure and environments.

Introduction

PA2 provides support and resources to localities with high levels of deprivation and low levels of economic and enterprise activity. The five eligible district areas within the NDNN area have elected to work together in the interests of maintaining a strategic approach to project activity, maximising the scope for cross-coalfields and joint working, and sharing the associated administrative and managerial tasks.

The Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC) agreed that the PA2 funds should be allocated to the identified districts on an indicative basis. The PMC has since been replaced by the Local Management Committee (LMC). The five NDNN district areas, received allocations by district area for the programme (2007 – 2013), as follows:

District	2007-2010 Total	% PA2	2011-2013 Total	% PA2
Ashfield	3,248,965	6.7	3,143,861	6.5
Bassetlaw	3,142,508	6.5	3,047,127	6.3
Bolsover	2,419,508	5.0	2,418,355	5.0
Chesterfield	2,836,039	5.9	2,708,557	5.6
Mansfield	2,813,769	5.8	2,756,924	5.7
Totals	14,460,790		14,074,824	

The allocations are to be used to fund actions under the *support for enterprise*, access to finance, access to resources and support and reviving local infrastructure and environments strands.

Local ERDF priorities and objectives

PA2 has been developed to direct resources at the region's most disadvantaged communities in order to support and develop a range of bespoke economic and enterprise activities to meet the specific identified needs of localities and target communities. The NDNN PA2 area will operate a prioritisation methodology giving additional weight to activities which are located in, or can show a clear benefit to, the most disadvantaged parts of the eligible area.

 Priority will be given to projects located in, or benefiting local people from, areas of disadvantage as defined by the Index of Multiple Deprivation, as the most suitable method to identify areas of disadvantage, as it is based on a basket of indicators including unemployment, which was one of the criteria used in the initial selection of PA2 district areas;

Individual applications for funding under PA2 in the NDNN districts must demonstrate how they will link with most deprived neighbourhoods as identified above, and contribute towards job creation.

Rationale

The NDNN district areas have a historic culture of dependency on traditional industries. They have suffered substantial job losses and continued decline in traditional manufacturing industries following the collapse of the coal mining and more recently the textile industries. These job losses occurred in an area without a strong entrepreneurial culture. Although the local economy has seen some job growth in recent years, a lack of skilled workforce, lack of entrepreneurial culture, low aspirations amongst young people, and low educational attainment, alongside growth concentrated in low-value areas, has limited the nature of this economic growth.

Moving forward, the area remains vulnerable to further job losses both as a result of its continuing dependence on lower value added business activities and its higher share of employment in public sector services (average share across the five districts 22.4%, compared to 19.5% nationally). This means that future cuts in public expenditure will have a greater proportional impact on NDNN relative to the national average.

The two largest towns in the area are Chesterfield and Mansfield followed by Bolsover and Worksop. Traditional villages and small market towns formerly dependent on the mining industry are surrounded by smaller traditional rural settlements in attractive countryside with substantial areas of woodland.

The rural economy offers potential to enhance and complement development in the larger urban areas through a range of business and recreation activities, which can be enhanced by promotion of tourist attractions such as Sherwood Forest, Bolsover Castle, Hardwick Hall and Creswell Crags and proximity to the Peak District National Park, which adjoins the northwest part of the area.

The M1 and A1 cross the area from north to south but east west journeys are more difficult, and some rural communities are still isolated. The Robin Hood line has enabled new opportunities for commuting to Nottingham and the new M1 Junction

29A has improved access into Bolsover District. The nearby Robin Hood Airport offers new air links to the area.

Enterprise Support

The local investment plan contains enterprise support actions. In all cases, potential projects will need to demonstrate that their provision is complementary to existing services provided by Business Link and other providers, and aligns to 'solutions for business' portfolio of support.

The count of births of new enterprises in 2009¹ showed the area is weak. Despite the creation of 1450 new enterprises there have been 1795 enterprise deaths in the same period, a decline in economic activity across the NDNN area. Bassetlaw had 125 greater deaths than births, compared to Ashfield with 40 more. The number of active enterprises (per 1000 of population) is also below the national average in each of the five districts, underlining the enterprise deficit that exists in the area.

The priority for the area is to build a strong entrepreneurial base for economic cohesion, to foster increased enterprise births and to develop a sustainable economy which has increased enterprise survivals.

The NDNN local investment plan therefore includes the following priorities to encourage entrepreneurship and the growth of existing businesses in the area:

- Increasing the entrepreneurial ethos of residents both young and old
- Encouraging under-represented groups to set up and sustain in business
- Increase the rate of sustainable business creation
- Assist businesses to become innovative, improve competitiveness and raise productivity with the aim of fostering business survival
- Support for social enterprises

The NDNN areas have already piloted entrepreneurial schemes through the LEGI programme, and the 'Greenhouse' network for Creative Industries has demonstrated the potential to increase productivity; assist micro-enterprise creation and survival and the growth of key sectors, in particular for the knowledge-based industries, media & creative related industries. The creative and cultural industries sector is crucial to the economic success because of their role in attracting and retaining skilled and talented investors, graduates and young people, as well as contributing to local residents' quality of life. Although tourism is not an eligible activity within the East Midlands Operational Programme, it is worth noting the tourism sector is a significant employer, with the proximity of tourist attractions such as Sherwood Forest, Bolsover Castle, Hardwick Hall and Creswell Crags supporting both jobs and enterprises, through supply chains and associated provision e.g. catering and accommodation. The knowledge-based sector was selected for support because of the quality of jobs associated with this sector and its potential to address the low-wage issues in the NDNN area. The aviation sector was selected to build on the opportunities offered by the new Robin Hood airport. The associated priority is:

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¹ Business Demography 2009, Enterprise Births, Deaths and Survivors (ONS)

• Business start-up and survival support in priority communities and sectors: knowledge-based industries, media and creative industries.

The NDNN economy is dominated by SMEs, which are vulnerable to global competition. Business survival rates² in three of the NDNN areas are lower than the East Midlands and national averages. Enterprises established in Bolsover and Bassetlaw have a 1 year survival rate higher than regional and national averages, however this falls below in years 2-5, whereas Chesterfield, Mansfield and Ashfield have a constantly lower survival rate for years 1-5.

Business survival may be assisted by diversification support and the NDNN investment plan identifies measures to promote diversification within the rural economy and within social enterprises as particular areas for support.

Farm diversification is identified within the East Midlands Rural Action Plan as a potential opportunity for employment growth, helping to sustain land-based businesses (RAP, p17), as well as having links to the climate change agenda. Social enterprise growth and sustainability can deliver social and environmental benefits as well as job growth (RES, p130).

In 2004 the estimated value of public sector contracts in the UK is between 11% and 18% of GDP (Source: Office of Fair Trading report into Assessing the impact of public sector procurement on competition, 2004). Although this amount will reduce in the light of public expenditure reductions, the NDNN PA2 group has set a local objective around procurement, which will focus on both public and business-to-business procurement opportunities, with the aim of maximising the benefit of these opportunities to the local area and assisting the survival of local enterprises:

- Promote diversification within the rural economy and within social enterprises
- Provide support for local businesses to benefit from procurement opportunities

Access to Finance

Actions relating to access to business finance, potential projects will need to demonstrate that their provision is complementary to services provided elsewhere.

Economic inclusion measures are important in increasing and sustaining economic participation rates. The NDNN focus on additional business grant support to facilitate engagement with hard-to-reach businesses is intended to help address exclusion by supporting businesses from within deprived areas. Additionally, existing business finance schemes offer grants/loans against specific eligibility criteria and set values, ERDF funding could help to reach a wider range of enterprises. The RES has identified how social enterprises can be important vehicles both for mobilising latent talent and building capacity of local areas to develop and sustain economic opportunities (p128). The priority to build capacity of local social enterprises through grant support also intends to support these social enterprises in encouraging enterprise growth within the communities they serve.

 Provision of extra, discretionary grant resources to facilitate engagement with hard to reach businesses, support the work of business advisors, support key sectors and close gaps in provision elsewhere

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² Business Demography 2009, Survival of Newly Born Enterprises (ONS)

 Build capacity within local businesses and social enterprises through grant schemes

Premises, Employment Sites and Enterprise Facilities

The NDNN economy is in a low skills – low wages equilibrium.

With respect to the qualifications indicator of skills as a percentage of the working age population, the NDNN area underperforms against both regional and national level indicators, as shown in the table below:

NVQ Qualification Level (%)	Ashfield	Bassetlaw	Bolsover	Chester- field	Mansfield	East Midlands	Great Britain
4	23.7	21.4	15.5	28.4	15.3	25.7	29.9
3	39.3	38.2	37.8	53.1	37.4	47.2	49.3
2	54.5	59.9	59.2	65.9	57.7	63.9	65.4
1	75.6	71.4	82.4	85.7	80.1	78.9	78.9
Other	13.1	7.5	6.9	4.9	5.9	8.1	8.8
No Qualifications	11.2	21	10.7	9.4	14.0	13.0	12.3

(Source: Qualifications (Jan 09 – Dec 09), ONS Annual Population Survey, NOMIS)

Within the five eligible district areas, the proportion of people of working age who have no qualifications varies between 9.4% and 21%, significantly varied around the national average of 12.3%.

Low skills levels are both a function of and a contributing factor to wage levels. Weekly rates of pay within NDNN district areas can be as much as 15% below the national average.

The main priorities for the NDNN local investment plan relating to this issue are to seek to improve both the skills levels of local residents and the number of quality job opportunities available. Skills levels may be addressed on the supply side by ESF-funded training activity; on the demand side (increasing the number of opportunities for highly skilled/qualified workers to obtain employment e.g. by raising the aspirations of employers for higher levels of skills amongst their employees; increasing the number of quality jobs in the sub-region for which higher levels of skills are required) they may be addressed through ERDF. The NDNN PA2 investment plan contains relevant actions both under this *premises* strand and the strand on *access to resources and support* below.

The NDNN area is in a good location in relation to transport links and has a relatively good land supply. The M1 corridor is an essential route for tourists and employees into the area, served by Junctions 28, 29 and 30. The development of an additional junction (J29a) at Markham Vale has also enabled better access to east, west and central parts of the area.

The A1 corridor to the east of the districts also offers strong north-south access and is underdeveloped in terms of commercial opportunities, and added to this the east coast rail line offers further opportunities to move goods and people in and out of the

area. These two provide strong linkages to the South Yorkshire economy and Robin Hood Airport. However, relatively cheap land prices lead to sites being absorbed into distribution and lower value-added manufacturing and service uses. These types of uses do not assist the NDNN area in moving away from its situation as a low-skills and low-wage economy. Therefore, a priority for this PA2 investment plan is to encourage the development of sites for <u>quality</u> employment. Work is already underway on key potential employment sites.

The experience of the NDNN area is that the market will not generally provide appropriate business accommodation speculatively. There are certain areas in which the private sector will not engage because of high risks and low returns, such as speculative office developments, especially in town centre locations; incubation space, particularly non-standard accommodation such as Neighbourhood Business Incubation facilities, serviced land for owner-occupation on freehold or long leasehold basis and small workshop provision. Three recent innovation centres in north Nottinghamshire were constructed by the public sector to meet identified gaps in supply and other recent private sector developments have required grant support e.g. Arrival Square Office Development and I-Centre Phase 2. The Northern Sub-Region Employment Land Study identifies an undersupply of quality employment sites (p28) as well as a need for incubator and graduation space. This study also notes the reluctance of developers to provide speculative developments in the area, and attributes this to comparatively low rents (p101) and property values. Providing a range of employment and enterprise premises is also intended to maximise the opportunities for business survival by ensuring that appropriate scale premises are available for all sizes of business.

These issues will be addressed through the following local priorities:

- Growth of quality employment through development of strategic sites
- Provision of a range of employment premises and enterprise facilities
- Encouraging new and existing businesses to locate to or remain in the area

Access to Resources and Support

As well as the general situation of comparatively low skills levels described above, the NDNN area experiences low levels of economic activity and high levels of benefit dependency.

The RES notes that parts of the sub-area exhibit characteristics of "acute employment deprivation" — particularly Mansfield and Bolsover (RES, p145). Estimates of 'hidden unemployment' are also high in the sub-area, where levels of incapacity benefit claimants suggest that health problems constitute a significant barrier to economic participation. Earnings are the lowest of the five sub-areas of the East Midlands. The average earnings of those whose jobs are located in the sub-area are considerably lower than the average earnings of local residents — which suggest that those workers who are more highly paid commute to work outside the NDNN.

In terms of economic activity, according to ONS figures for June 2009 – July 2010, the East Midlands regional rate of economic activity was 77.2%. In the NDNN, economic activity rates ranged between 78.1% (Bolsover) and 72.3% (Bassetlaw).

The job seeker claimant count in the PA2 districts exceeds the national and regional figures in four of the five NDNN districts: at May 2010, the proportion of the working age population in receipt of job seeker's allowance (JSA rate) was 3.8 in Chesterfield; 3.6 in Bolsover, 3.8 in Mansfield and 3.9 in Ashfield, compared to the England rate of 3.5 and the East Midlands rate of 3.3. Only Bassetlaw was below the national average at 2.8. Across all five districts this amounted to 11,480 people receiving JSA in May 2010 – an increase of 3,186 since February 2007. (Source: NOMIS, May 2010).

In addition in May 2010, 34480 residents of working age across the five PA2 districts in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire were in receipt of Incapacity Benefit / Employment Support Allowance (IB / ESA) or Severe Disablement Allowance. As a proportion of the working age population the rate of ESA / IB claimants was 10.7 in Mansfield, 10.0 in Bolsover; 9.2 in Chesterfield, 8.4 in Bassetlaw and 8.8 in Ashfield, compared to the England rate of 6.7 and the East Midlands rate of 6.3. (Source: DWP Benefit Claimants, May 2010).

The NDNN district areas contain a mix of rural and urban areas. Whilst the district areas of Mansfield, Ashfield and Chesterfield are largely urban, Bassetlaw and Bolsover contain large rural elements. Rural wage levels and relative poverty are well documented; the East Midlands Rural Action Plan describes weaker labour markets, a reliance on local, relatively low paid employment and a higher proportion of the population working in agriculture (RAP, p11). People living in rural areas face particular barriers to employment caused by distances. The NDNN PA2 investment plan therefore includes a priority to assist with connecting local people to areas of job growth through transport schemes.

With regard to addressing the issue of low skills levels more widely, the NDNN local investment plan aims to increase aspirations of employers for higher levels of skills amongst their staff. This action is also intended to complement the priority to increase the number of local jobs for which higher levels of skills are desired, through the provision of sites and premises to encourage the growth of quality jobs, as outlined in the *premises* strand above.

To address these issues, the NDNN PA2 investment plan includes the following priorities:

- Connection of local people to job growth areas; removal of barriers to employment
- Connection of "workless" and long term unemployed people to employment, including self-employment
- Community economic development activity to encourage people to engage in the local economy
- Promotion of the benefits of a highly qualified and skilled workforce to employers

Reviving Local Infrastructure and Environments

The RES notes a key challenge for the sub-region of addressing the environmental damage associated with its industrial past.

Notwithstanding the area's industrial past, there is much countryside in large parts of the sub-region. Bolsover and Bassetlaw are characterised by a largely rural environment, whereas Chesterfield, Mansfield and Ashfield are mainly urban in character. Despite the quality of the rural environment, there is still a significant amount of work to be done to enhance the existing infrastructure and build on opportunities. There are also negative perceptions from residents that need to be addressed to raise the aspirations of the PA2 area.

The area's town centres act as a focus for retail, commercial, leisure and cultural activities and on-going investment is required in these centres to secure their longer term vitality and viability. Activities will focus on the creation of distinctive urban environments which will make them more attractive as locations for business investment.

To address this issue, the NDNN PA2 investment plan contains the following priorities:

- Provision of infrastructure to support a diverse economy.
- Improve the appearance of business areas, town centres and gateways to the NDNN area with an emphasis on attractiveness for business investment.

Linkages to European programmes

The tables below demonstrate how the NDNN PA2 local priorities, as outlined above, link to the ERDF Operational Programme (OP), Priority Axis 1 and the ESF Programme:

Links to ERDF Operational Programme

OP aim	Contributing Local Priorities
Increase the size and diversity of the enterprise base	Encourage growth of entrepreneurial ethos of local residents (Action 2a-1) Schemes to encourage under-represented groups to set up in business. Increase the rate of sustainable business creation; Assist businesses to become innovative, improve competitiveness and raise productivity with the aim of fostering business survival (Action 2a-1) Support business start ups in priority sectors: knowledge-based industries; media & creative sector. (Action 2a-1) Measures to promote diversification within the rural economy and within social enterprises (Action 2a-2) Provide support for local businesses to benefit from public sector procurement opportunities (Action 2a-3)
Stimulate market demand within localities and their market linkages to other areas	Measures to promote diversification within the rural economy and within social enterprises (Action 2a-2) Provide support for local businesses to benefit from public sector procurement opportunities (Action 2a-3)
Increase the level of private sector investment in disadvantaged communities	Growth of quality employment through development of strategic sites Provision of a range of employment premises and enterprise facilities (all under Action 2a-4)

Improve access to	Encouraging new and existing businesses to remain
employment opportunities	in or locate to the area
	Connection of local people to job growth areas and removal of barriers to employment
	Connection of workless and long term unemployed people to employment, including self-employment
	Promotion of benefits of a highly qualified/skilled
	workforce to employers
	Community economic development activity
	(All under Action 2c-1)
Improve the physical (green	Provision of infrastructure to support a diverse
and built) environments and	economy
attractiveness of deprived	Improving the appearance of business areas, town
areas	centres and gateways to the NDNN with an emphasis
	on attractiveness for business investment.
	(All under Action 2d-1)

Links to ERDF PA1

ERDF Priority Axis 1	Complementarity to PA2 activities
1b Innovation support for businesses	Whilst the PA1 actions are focused on development of innovation activities within businesses, PA2 takes a more generic approach to business support with actions including start-up support, grant funds to support enterprise, and measures to promote diversification. Action 2b includes small grants in the field of Research & Development/innovation to contribute to activities to build new technologies and increase innovation in the PA2 NDNN area
1c Environment for Innovation 1c-2 & 1c-3 include support for innovation premises	The NDNN local investment plan allows for a range of business premises to be constructed and these would complement those innovation-specific premises to be supported under PA1

Links to European Social Fund (ESF)

ESF CFO LSC Plan	Contributing local priorities
Priority 1 increasing	Whilst not providing direct skills training, under action
employment, reducing	2c the local investment plan will
unemployment & inactivity	Encourage self employment as a result of
Improving employability / skills	community economic development activity, and through business coaching schemes
of economically inactive	Engage with employers to promote the benefits of
people (inc self employment)	a highly qualified/skilled workforce
Tackling barriers to work faced by disadvantaged groups	Under action 2c, the ERDF local investment plan includes supporting transport and connectivity schemes to connect people with vocational training and employment opportunities. This would address particular physical barriers to employment. Action 2c also provides for enhancements to broadband provision which could also facilitate remote access to work for people living in rural areas.

Priority 2 – developing a skilled and adaptable workforce	ERDF will add value to ESF by supporting the development of higher skilled jobs. This will be done through a focus on site and premises development for use by knowledge-based sectors, which will eventually lead to the development of higher level and managerial skills and entrepreneurship, and through promotion of the benefits of a highly qualified and
	skilled workforce to local employers

Relation to Sub-regional Strategies

The NDNN local investment plan will contribute to the following RES priorities:

Regional Economic Strategy 2006 - 2020 Priority	Fit with PA2 Investment plan
Employment, learning and skills: To move more people into better jobs in growing businesses	Growth of quality employment, to be achieved by development of strategic sites and property suitable for use by knowledge-based SMEs (Action 2a-3). Promotion of the benefits of a highly qualified/skilled workforce to employers (Action 2c). Community economic development activity which will engage local people from disadvantaged areas (Action 2c) in economic activity - could lead to engagement with learning and training opportunities delivered through other programmes, e.g. ESF
Enterprise and business support	Scope for business support services is included within the PA2 local investment plan. Encouraging entrepreneurship, business start up by under-represented groups, support for priority sectors & establishment of social enterprises (Action 2a-1). Diversification in rural businesses and social enterprises (Action 2a-2). Support for SMEs in accessing and exploiting procurement opportunities (Action 2a-3). Business grant schemes: extra grant resources for hard-to-reach businesses / key sectors; grant schemes to build capacity within local businesses / social enterprises (Action 2b)
Innovation: To develop a dynamic region founded upon innovative and knowledge focused businesses	Development of technology parks and premises to support innovation-based businesses. Follow-on space for businesses growing out of their initial premises within the existing network of innovation centres (Action 2a-4).
Transport and logistics: To improve quality of regional infrastructure to enable better connectivity within the region	Connectivity between areas of high unemployment and employment sites to help people access employment opportunities. (Action 2c)
Energy and resources: to transform the way we use resources and use and generate energy to	Use of resources will be a cross-cutting theme for the whole PA2 Investment plan and each project will need to provide information on its environmental sustainability. Projects involving construction of business premises are

ensure a sustainable economy and high quality environment	expected to be to current energy efficiency standards (Action 2a-4)
Environmental protection: to protect and enhance the region's environment through sustainable economic growth	Development of green infrastructure; public realm improvements; environmental improvements for business premises. (Action 2d). This will have impacts on recreation / leisure, biodiversity and overall socioeconomic benefit.
Land and development: to ensure the quality and supply of development land contributes towards sustainable growth of the regional economy	Development of quality employment sites (Action 2a-4)
Cohesive Communities; Economic Renewal; Economic Inclusion	Action 2c seeks to increase access to economic and employment opportunities, particularly for people from deprived neighbourhoods, long term unemployed / those experiencing worklessness. It includes: community economic development activity to encourage people to engage in the local economy; promotion of alternatives to traditional employment such as part time entrepreneurship, social enterprise and local trading schemes; action to address barriers to labour market participation e.g. transport

Sheffield City Region LEP Priority	Fit with PA2 Investment Plan
Investment and innovation in priority sectors	 Sector development programmes for: Advanced Manufacturing: SCR designated UK centre for advanced manufacturing; Creative and Digital: A collaboration centre and supporting satellite centres, an industry and academic partnership to create a digital production base, broker inward investment, and to develop specialist industry skills. Low Carbon Industry: Supply chain development to grow business and export base in materials, energy efficient products and processes for energy, nuclear, transport and construction (including retro-fit) sectors. Healthcare: Developing its medical technology and instruments sector and making the SCR a healthcare centre linking business, university, hospital and R&D activity. Other key sectors: aviation, , construction, culture, leisure and sport. Business investment to promote the City Region as a competitive location for investment and support to key employers in priority sectors, and to help manage
Enterprise and business growth	inward investment enquiries and completions. The SCR LEP will specify and help deliver business support: to firms in sectors with greatest growth potential; through devolvement of current RDA and Business

	 Link functions to the SCR LEP; through the creation of a financially sustainable business support system; and to start-ups in order to help expand and diversify our business base.
Skills and Employment	 An initial Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship programme – designed by employers, for employers will be expanded later to cover other key sectors; Joint venture partnership to be established between skills funding agencies, SCR LEP and learning providers to commission and allocate resources at SCR level; The SCR to appoint Work Programme contractors instead of old regional contracts.
Unlocking economic potential of key development areas	Key Development Sites: A focused and coordinated approach to transport, infrastructure and property regeneration interventions to bring forward main areas for development. • Don Valley and Waverley • Doncaster Sheffield Airport Growth Corridor • Sheffield City Centre • A61 Corridor to Clay Cross • Markham Vale and Meden Valley

Derby, Derbyshire Nottingham, Nottinghamshire LEP Priority	Fit with PA2 Investment Plan
Enterprise, Innovation And Sector Support	Growing enterprise and accelerating the growth of existing businesses. Linking enterprise support and the knowledge of universities, to make the most of innovation to improve productivity and business efficiency, as well as developing this approach through the strengthening of supply chains.
Inward Investment And Trade	Attracting new investment and trade into areas from within the UK and abroad will be key to rebalancing local economies, moving out of recession and is a core part of the vision. Local input is critical to meet the needs of new and existing investors.
Promotion And Tourism	Providing generic business support to the tourism sector, to maximise support for the sector associated with the area's distinctive cultural, leisure, sport and tourism offer.
Employment And Skills	Contributing to the development of business premises aimed at high-value knowledge economy sectors which will lead to enhanced employment opportunities and increased demand for skills.
Infrastructure And Planning, Including Housing	Ensuring that the benefits of sustainable economic growth are shared across our cities, towns and rural communities. Continuing to secure investment in regeneration and infrastructure projects to stimulate private sector growth.

Relation to Local Strategies

The table below summarises the fit between the NDNN local investment plan and a range of local strategies, including the local area (the local authority and Local Strategic Partnerships community plans.

		ERDF PA2 St			rand			
Strategy			2a Enterprise Support			Access to Finance	Access to Resources and Support	Reviving Local Infrastructure and Environments
		2a-1	2a-2	2a-3	2a-4	2b	2c-1	2d-1
Economic Development Strategy for Bolsover, Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire (2009-2014)	Successful Businesses: increase the level of new starts, secure a shift into innovative and higher value added activities across the existing business base, and attracting new investment to the area. Successful Places: support the sustainable growth of both urban and rural areas, , and addressing capacity constraints in the provision of business infrastructure. Successful People: develop the skills of the current and future workforce to meet the demands of an increasingly knowledge based economy, and tackling economic exclusion to bring more people back into employment. Cross-Cutting Themes • promote sustainable communities • balance the economic, social and environmental needs of places • tackle the issue of worklessness	V	V	V	√	V	V	V

Ashfield Economic Regeneration Strategy 2007- 2012	 A suitably skilled workforce, aware of local opportunities and with ambition to achieve their full potential A higher rate of sustainable business creation An improved rate of business survival and growth An attractive and advantageous place to locate diverse businesses New inward investment attracted to Ashfield Improved access to employment opportunities for all A 'Knowledge' Base economy with higher levels of business innovation 		٧	V	V	V	V	V
Ashfield and Mansfield Joint Economic masterplan	The emerging plan will provide a framework for the future economic growth of the Mansfield – Ashfield conurbation. Five priority areas have been identified: employment, skills and aspiration, business investment, enterprise and sector mix.		V	V	V	1	√	√
CHART Community Strategy	Address Employment Issues - Sub aim: Work to remove barriers to employment Provide support to unemployed people Support Business Growth - Sub aim: Support the development of sector specific initiatives to take advantage of local business potential		V	V			√	
	 Provide a range of business support services to increase the competitiveness of local companies and facilitate new business start ups Support social and community enterprises 							

	 Attract new businesses and investors - Sub aim: Undertake a range of marketing activities to attract and retain investment in the CHART area Provide a co-ordinated response to investment enquiries including the provision of an aftercare service for companies successfully locating to the area or expanding within it 				V			√
	 Boost the attractiveness and secure the long term viability of the areas town and village centre (specifically Chesterfield with regard to PA2). Develop a high quality infrastructure to support businesses and visitors - Sub aim: Provide a range of quality employment sites which are available for immediate development Support the provision of a range of premises which meet the needs of the existing business base and supports the growth of new business sectors 				V			
Bolsover Sustainable Community Strategy: 2006 - 2020	 Maintain and develop a high quality physical business infrastructure to maximise the success of local companies Address Employment Issues To develop entrepreneurial and business skills in young people Improve attainment in all key stages as defined in the local Education Action Plan, and support the most disadvantaged so they get the most out of learning, as a pathway to prosperity 	√					√	
	 Support Business Growth To develop entrepreneurial and business skills in young people To boost business support by assisting clients across the district 	√	1	V		V		
	 Attract new businesses and investors To connect people to jobs by actively encouraging local employment at major new development sites. To increase tourism growth by supporting businesses and encouraging new business development. Attracting visitors and increasing tourism growth isn't eligible for support, the focus of activity should be towards attracting new businesses. 	√	√		√	√	√	

	Develop a high quality infrastructure to support businesses and visitors To stimulate the enterprise culture by developing affordable incubation space for businesses				√	V		1
Ashfield Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2026	 Develop and Improve Aspiration, Skills and Employment for All Raise aspirations in our schools and our adult population and encourage re-training wherever possible. Identify opportunities for the future and ensure that local people have the right skills to benefit from them. It should be noted that most of this activity will be funded through ESF although enterprise coaching type projects may be supported through ERDF. 	V	√	V		√	V	√
	 Support Enterprise and Business Growth Continue Enterprise Support and develop fledgling businesses by making sure they are signposted to the right services. 	V	V	√		V	V	
	 Tackle Worklessness and Dependency Support efforts to engage those on out of work benefits and ensure that local people benefit from the job opportunities that are created locally. 	V			1		V	
	 Support Growth and Investment Work with employers and developers to ensure that Ashfield benefits from growth and investment as the economy recovers from the recession. 	1	V	V	V	V	V	V
This is Bassetlaw: Building a Confident Future.	Vision 4: A successful Local Economy A Council that supports local business encourages ambition and champions entrepreneurship. A community with low unemployment, a diverse economy and thriving high streets. A District with strong commercial links, a skilled workforce that encourages inward investment and a work ethic that promotes prosperity for all.	√	V	V	V	√	V	√
Corporate Plan 2010/13	Ambition 2: Regenerate the area and improve the environment people live in.							V
	Ambition 3: Support a vibrant local economy. Improve and develop the unique characteristics of our market towns Support our local businesses	V	1	V	V	V	V	V

	Invest in our local area and make the most of local infrastructure							
The Big Picture: Mansfield	Low Income Levels: Reduced gap between avaerage income in the Mansfield District and the rest of the East Midlands.	√	1	V	1	1		
Sustainable Community	Employment Rates: Increased number of working age people in employment.						V	
Strategy 2010- 2020	Business Growth: Increased number of business start-ups and stronger business survival rates.	V	1	1	1	V		
	Enterprise Culture: Development of the enterprise and entrepreneurship skills of local people with the aim of creating a more diverse and resilient Mansfield economy.	V						
	Employment Sites: Employment sites developed around the Sherwood Growth Zone, optimising the Mansfield/Ashfield Regeneration Route (MARR) and town centre opportunities.				V			√
	Transport Infrastructure: A new transport interchange for Mansfield and improved rail services						V	V
	Skill Levels in the Workplace: A year on year increase in avaerage skill levels in the workplace.	V						V
	Attracting and Retaining Creative and Innovative People: More graduates and entrepreneurs working in Mansfield.	1	V	1	V	1		V

Strand	Ref:	Indicative PA2 actions	Local priorities	Potential activities
2a. Enterprise Support	2a-1	Enhanced enterprise and start- up initiatives including enterprise	Increasing the entrepreneurial ethos of residents both young and old	Schemes aimed at promoting entrepreneurship among graduates. Maintenance of entrepreneurs forum for pre-start & new start businesses.
		awareness coaching, mentoring provision and initiatives to support enterprise in target communities	Encouraging under- represented groups to set up and sustain in business	Pre-start and pre-pre-start activity, especially community-delivered, accessible to hard-to-reach groups. Pre-start activity targeted for example at women, disabled, BME communities and social enterprise. Programmes to build confidence to start businesses e.g. financial forecasting to compare business income with benefits, use of financial / accounting software, peer mentoring schemes.
			Increasing the rate of sustainable business creation	Programmes which help develop business skills building on successful models such as Enterprise Coaching. Rural outreach schemes. Targeted events/workshop programmes within local communities to develop businesses.
			Business start-up and survival support in priority communities and sectors: knowledge-based industries, media and creative industries	Support for networks, mentoring schemes and supply chain advice within these sectors, building on existing networks where possible. Sector-specific outreach support to help develop businesses and improve survival rates.
			Assisting businesses to become innovative, improve competitiveness and raise productivity with the aim of fostering business survival and growth (employment).	Programmes to foster excellence and innovation in businesses, e.g. graduate recruitment schemes, innovation and knowledge transfer projects, innovation / technology counsellors. Professional service voucher schemes and initiatives to capture private sector contribution are encouraged.
			Support for social enterprises	Start up and survival support targeted specifically on social enterprises and community-run resource centres, which can be shown to complement other social enterprise support services or economic impact.

2a-2	Bespoke business support initiatives for businesses and social enterprises to develop and enter new markets	Measures to promote rural diversification Measures to promote diversification within social enterprises	Schemes to promote rural diversification by technology e.g. renewable energy, carbon reduction and connectivity. Sector support for food and drink linking to local providers. Financial healthchecks and diversification advice targeted on social enterprises and community-run resource centres.
2a-3	Developing the capacity of local businesses and social enterprises to access local procurement opportunities.	Provide support for local businesses to benefit from procurement and local supply chain opportunities	Provision of specific business advice on procurement, providing information and advice to enable local SMEs and social enterprises to successfully navigate procurement procedures and successfully tender for business. Typical advice may include guidance on how to bid, maintaining awareness of opportunities, relevant regulations, including health and safety, equal opportunities, and environmental legislation. Awareness raising actions on collaboration options, support for the local supply chain and encouragement for main contractors to sub-contract with local businesses. Provision of support actions around online trading, slanted towards support of the local supply chain and procurement.
2a-4	Creation and refurbishment of premises, employment sites and small scale enterprise facilities.	Provision of specific training infrastructure to meet the identified skills needs of businesses Growth of quality employment through development of strategic employment sites	Construction and fitting out / equipping of appropriate training facilities where this is employer-led and will directly contribute to addressing business needs and/or to the benefit of employers moving into the strategic site development as described below. Town centres / key settlements development aligned to masterplans and LDF. Site development within the framework of the RSS Northern Sub-Region, delivering priorities within the ERDF areas. This include Markham Vale and North West Bolsover, the A61 corridor (including Chesterfield Waterside, Staveley AAP), the Sherwood Growth Zone, sites adjoining the MARR, the Harworth Growth Zone, Junction 28 (including Castlewood

		Provision of a range of employment premises and enterprise facilities	development) and other sites of strategic importance (e.g. Rolls Royce site in Hucknall). Incubation networks, innovation centres, enterprise centres - potentially with links to education establishments e.g. creative / arts / media industries. Office developments in town centres; rural technology centres. Provision of new workspace; upgrades of existing workspace into higher quality employment space to improve the quality of associated jobs. Conversion of derelict or redundant buildings into new business premises. Property ladder schemes - graduation/follow-on space to support existing successful Business Incubation/Innovation Centres
		Encouraging new and existing businesses to remain in or locate to the area	Provision of inward investment support, collateral and intelligence including property search facilities, aligned to emerging national delivery. Schemes that include private sector contribution are encouraged.
2b Access to Finance	Development and provision of appropriate financial instruments / Access to finance and investor readiness support	Provision of extra grant resources to facilitate engagement with hard to reach businesses and support key sectors, and to close gaps in provision elsewhere. Build capacity within local businesses and social enterprises through grant schemes	Grants schemes to support the growth of SMEs, tied to job creation, innovation and business growth. Grant schemes targeted on deprived areas or SMEs otherwise judged as hard to reach. Grant schemes for the priority sectors of R&D/innovation, media & creative industries. Grant schemes to enable the third sector to become more enterprising, including encouraging enterprise in the communities they serve. Small grants to SMEs for purchase of capital equipment. Capacity building grants e.g. Enterprise Support Grants, small business soft loan schemes. Discretionary funds for interventions that result in job creation through outreach workers such as enterprise coaches.

2c. Access to Resources and Support	2c-1	Developing and improving access to employment opportunities, including local transport initiatives, connectivity (including ICT) and accessibility.	Connection of local people to job growth areas; removal of barriers to employment, covering both transport and ICT connectivity Connection of people to employment, including self-employment Promotion of the benefits of a highly qualified and skilled workforce to employers	Local transport initiatives, especially to areas of job growth or for people living in rural areas, designed to connect people with vocational training opportunities and employment. (Examples: Ways to Work scheme, joint ticketing, share-aride schemes, transport interchanges). ICT connectivity projects designed to promote employment and increased economic activity. Business coaching schemes to enable individuals to set up their own enterprises. Employer-focused schemes to promote the benefits of employing qualified and skilled staff, such as graduate retention / recruitment schemes.
2d. Reviving Local Infrastructure and Environments	2d-1	Rehabilitation and development of local environments to create more attractive places for communities and investors.	Provision of infrastructure to support a diverse economy Improve the appearance of business areas, town centres and gateways to the NDNN area with an emphasis on attractiveness for business investment and tourism	Developers Forums, reclamation of and infrastructure to brownfield and derelict sites; green infrastructure, green routes to work and public open space. Investment in business and public realm improvements. Business improvements should be targeted on business consortia or shared environments e.g. local business parks. Public realm investments should be consistent with local plans and partnership aspirations (as expressed e.g. by areabased partnership agreements, town centre masterplans, conservation strategies such as those informing Townscape Heritage Initiatives), and demonstrably able to act as a catalyst for both investment and entrepreneurial activity.

Apportioned District Outputs, Results and Impacts

The outputs, results and impacts expected to be generated by investment under the NDNN PA2 for 2011 - 2013 are set out below.

Outputs	Target Total	2007-10	2011-13
No of businesses assisted to improve			
performance	1,091	624	468
Public and private investment leveraged (€)	38,044,625	21,739,786	16,304,839
Sq metres of new or upgraded floorspace			
(internal premises)	5,603	3,202	2,401
No of people assisted to start a business	796	455	341
Brownfield land reclaimed or redeveloped			
(ha)	5.014	2.865	2.149

Results	Target Total	2007-10	2011-13
No of jobs created	1,829	1,045	784
No of businesses improving performance	973	556	417
GVA resulting from businesses improving performance (€)	34,800,510	19,886,006	14,914,504
No of new businesses created and new businesses attracted to the region	472	270	202

Relationship to Lisbon Jobs and Growth agenda

Code	Lisbon category	Fit with Local Investment plan
05	Advanced support services for firms and groups of firms	Support for local businesses to benefit from procurement opportunities Encouraging new and existing businesses to remain in or locate to the area
		Support for networks, mentoring schemes and supply chain advice Professional service voucher schemes
06	Assistance to SMEs for environmentally friendly products and processes	Schemes to encourage rural diversification through technology and to encourage diversification in social enterprises. Schemes to promote rural technology development e.g. renewable energy, carbon reduction
08	Other investment in firms	Provision of small grant schemes for hard to reach businesses, key sectors of R&D/innovation, media / creative, tourism, and to close gaps in other grant provision Provision of grants to build capacity in businesses and social enterprises Provision of a range of employment premises and enterprise facilities Measures to tackle crime in business areas

09	Other measures to stimulate research and innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs	Growth of quality employment through development of strategic sites Programmes to foster excellence and innovation in businesses e.g. graduate recruitment schemes, innovation & knowledge transfer projects Grant schemes for priority sector of R&D/innovation
61	Integrated projects for rural and urban regeneration (non- Lisbon)	Improve the appearance of business areas, town centres and gateways to the NDNN area with an emphasis on attractiveness for business investment and tourism Provision of infrastructure to support a diverse economy
64	Development of specific services for employment, training and support in connection with restructuring of sectors and firms, and development of systems for anticipating economic changes and future requirements in terms of jobs and skills	Provision of training infrastructure to meet the skills needs of businesses Schemes to encourage diversification in rural economy and by social enterprises Sector specific outreach business support to help develop businesses and improve survival rates Promotion to employers of the benefits of a highly qualified / skilled workforce
66	Implementing active and preventive measures on the labour market	Connection of local people to job growth areas; removal of barriers to employment, through transport and communications improvements
68	Support for self employment and business start up	Schemes to increase entrepreneurial ethos Schemes to encourage under-represented groups to establish businesses Actions to increase the rate of sustainable business creation Business start-up and survival support in sectors: knowledge industries / creative & media, aviation Start up and survival support targeted at social enterprises Community economic development activity to encourage people to engage in the local economy Start up and survival support targeted on community enterprises and resource centres

Cross Cutting Themes

Equalities:

The NDNN area has marked pockets of deprivation and some of the lowest labour participation rates in the East Midlands. Equality is therefore a concern. Government Departments such as DWP, on worklessness, and Communities and Local Government, on neighbourhood level regeneration, are the instigators of the key equality initiatives.

Addressing the economic disadvantage of the NDNN area relies partly on tackling discrimination and raising aspirations among all sectors of the community. The actions proposed under 2c to connect unemployed and workless people with employment opportunities will address these concerns.

Applicants will be required to have considered Equality and Diversity issues when designing the project and what any potential impacts in reaching the targeted beneficiaries. Each application should detail the main issues related to the identified targeted groups, highlighting how the project is designed to be as inclusive as possible and how any negative impact on project's outcomes and the beneficiaries are mitigated.

Sustainability:

Sustainable development is focused on providing a better quality of life for everyone now and for generations to come. This is achieved through considering and balancing the long-term effects of social, economic and environmental issues and impacts. (Securing the Future – UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005)

The NDNN area can already demonstrate a significant commitment to sustainability in its environmental sense as a consequence of dealing with its large inheritance of brownfield - and sometimes contaminated - industrial sites. Such projects will continue to run during the ERDF operating period e.g. development of Markham Vale site.

It is expected that projects supported under the sites and premises priorities of the investment plan will take full account of environmental impact, in terms of energy-conservation, ventilation systems, construction methods, resource efficiency and landscaping.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate in a clear and objective manner how the project will impact upon the environment, including both short and long term impacts. Indicate how during the development of the project plan, potential positive and negative impacts are identified and actions are developed to ensure that the negative impacts are minimised or avoided. There may also be opportunities for a project to impact positively on the environment.

Capital projects will provide any supporting information to identify the likely impacts on the environment arising from both the construction phase and long term operation of the scheme/building. For each phase, applicants should also identify what actions will be taken to ensure impacts are minimised, mitigated or avoided, together with actions that are likely to result in a net improvement in the environment, and where relevant, detail what BREEAM rating the proposed development is aiming to obtain.

If appropriate, applicants could also outline spatial policy areas which support this project. This could relate to regional guidance such as Regional Planning Guidance, the Regional Transport Strategy, the Regional Housing Strategy, or Sub-regional Strategies, as well as relevance to the Local Plan/Local Development Framework.

Profile of ERDF Allocations

Districts	2007	2008	2009	2010	Additional Allocation*	2007-2010 Allocation
Ashfield	719,842	734,239	748,924	763,902	282,058	3,248,965
Bassetlaw	696,056	709,977	724,177	738,660	273,638	3,142,508
Bolsover	535,960	546,679	557,613	568,765	210,491	2,419,508
Chesterfield	627,828	640,384	653,192	666,256	248,379	2,836,039
Mansfield	623,446	635,915	648,633	661,606	244,169	2,813,769
Totals	3,203,132	3,267,194	3,332,539	3,399,189	1,258,735	14,460,789

^{*} Due to exchange rate fluctuations

Districts	2011-2013 Allocation	Total Allocation
Ashfield	3,143,861	6,392,826
Bassetlaw	3,047,127	6,189,635
Bolsover	2,418,355	4,837,863
Chesterfield	2,708,557	5,544,596
Mansfield	2,756,924	5,570,693
Totals	14,074,824	28,535,613

Exchange rate risk and transition 2011-2013

The ERDF PA2 Programme funds are allocated in Euros and committed in GBP, to manage the financial risk of exchange rate fluctuations the fund will not be more than 90% allocated, reducing the Programme value by 10%

Allocation of resources for business support programme

The NDNN PA2 group intends to allocate a maximum of 20% of the 2011-13 allocations to be matched to Regional Growth Fund in support of a business support programme of activities to be submitted by the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.

Prospective sources of match funding:

- Regional Growth Fund
- Local Authority capital programmes and revenue support
- Private Sector leverage, as appropriate e.g. S106
- Local Transport Plans (for infrastructure-type and public realm projects)
- Lottery Fund

Application Processes

The NDNN local investment plan will operate through a two-stage selection process, as follows.

Stage 1: Expression of Interest

Completion of EoI provided by the ERDF Team within DCLG. Each EoI will initially be reviewed for eligibility before proceeding to full assessment using the EoI scoring framework as devised by The ERDF Team.

The eligibility check will review:

- Whether the proposal is located in or serving the eligible PA2 area
- Whether the organisation making the application is eligible to bid for ERDF
- Whether the proposal has identified potential match funding sources
- Whether the activity is consistent with the PA2 NDNN local investment plan

EoI assessment will take place by the local gateway. Assessment will be made by local gateway based only on what is written in the EoI. Local assessors will be approved by the local partnership, experienced in project assessment and selection, and without conflict of interest relating to the project(s) under assessment. The assessed projects will be placed in ranked order against the indicative allocations for each district area. Where a project spans several district areas, its costs will be apportioned between the district areas on a reasonable basis, in consultation with the applicant. The selection process will take account of the minimum quality threshold applied to all projects under the ERDF programme, as stipulated by DCLG and approved by the Local Management Committee (LMC), and the availability of funding in each district area according to the indicative allocations.

The final ranked list of projects, for each district area, will then be submitted for endorsement by the local partnership.

After formal endorsement, the list of endorsed projects will be submitted to DCLG for further development.

Stage 2 – Full application

The full application will be requested from selected projects by the NDNN PA2 partnership. Full applications will be checked to ensure they are consistent with the submitted EoI before being passed on to DCLG. The full application will then be assessed by full technical appraisal by the DCLG ERDF Appraisal Team.

Formal approval and contracts will be issued by DCLG. Ongoing responsibility for monitoring and contract compliance will also rest with DCLG. The NDNN group will retain an interest in performance by individual projects in the context of the overall management of the indicative allocations within the NDNN PA2 area.

Selection Processes

Open bidding will form the principal route to funding through the NDNN local investment plan. Commissioning will only come into play if open bidding calls do not result in full achievement of the range of activity, in which case a limited number of tenders may be sought from relevant organisations. If this action is necessary, a full justification for the identification of a select list of tenderers will be put to the NDNN executive group for approval, in the interests of fairness and transparency.

The maximum intervention rate for funding from within the NDNN PA2 allocations will not normally exceed 62.72%. A full justification should support any request for a higher intervention.

In order to be eligible for assistance through the East Midlands 2007-13 ERDF Programme, <u>all</u> projects must meet the Programme's core eligibility criteria as agreed by the LMC.

In addition, PA2 activity within the NDNN district areas will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Disadvantage: priority will be given to projects located or serving communities from within the most deprived areas as measured against the Index of Multiple Deprivation.
- Fit with local investment plan actions and rationale.
- Duplication: activities which are eligible for support under other programmes will not be supported through the NDNN local investment plan

Governance Arrangements

Day-to-day management will be undertaken by the NDNN PA2 officer group (one officer from each of the five district Councils and two County Councils), with the addition of a nominated officer from each of the PA2 area LSPs.

In addition members representing DCLG's ERDF Team will be nominated for alignment to the OP.

This group will oversee the day to day logistics of combined programme management. It will operate in an advisory capacity reporting to a separate executive group.

The overall authority relating to the NDNN PA2 will be the executive group, made up of up of a Member/Portfolio Holder from each of the five district and two county councils. This group will have delegated authority collectively to approve the local investment plan, agree the priorities for calls for activity and endorse projects. The executive group will be supported by the NDNN PA2 officer group as set out above.

Decisions will be made collectively by the district representatives on a consensual basis so that the five district area allocations can be managed collaboratively.

This structure has been developed to make the most of existing partnership arrangements and gives scope for a range of views to be represented in decision-

making. Also the co-opted member will ensure reporting back on the direction of travel to their government department.

Exploration will also take place of how the decision-making will be fed into and allow consultation with the evolving LEP structures, as well as wider partnerships with responsibility for economic development in the relevant areas (e.g. Nottinghamshire Joint Leadership Board; Derbyshire Economic Partnership).

Governance Details

Name of Lead Body/Partnership	Members of Lead Body/Partnership	
North Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire PA2 Group	What groups and local agencies are involved? District Councils (5):	
Contact Details	Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover,	
Address C/o Bolsover District Council Sherwood Lodge Bolsover S446NF	Chesterfield and Mansfield County Councils (2): Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Relevant LSPs (5). The LSPs are district-level partnership bodies with a wide range of interests represented. Co-opted member(1): DCLG (LEP),	
Email sonia.coleman@bolsover.gov.uk	Representing which District(s)	
Telephone	Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover,	
01246 242413	Chesterfield and Mansfield	

Consultation arrangements for project recommendations

What is the process for projects being recommended by the Lead Body/Partnership? Who is consulted and why?

Applications will be received either in response to publicised calls for activity or on an open call basis.

A selection panel comprised of representatives of five district councils, 2 County Councils, local strategic partnerships (which comprise representatives of the public, private and voluntary sectors) and co-opted member, will review EoIs against the stated selection criteria and produce a ranked list of projects for each district area. It is a programme requirement that each scoring pair includes at least one representative from DCLG's ERDF Team.

At the same time, consultation will take place through existing structures with responsibility for economic development in the relevant areas (e.g. Nottinghamshire Joint Leadership Board; Derbyshire Economic Partnership, the SCR and D2N2 LEP) Note: since these bodies are currently evolving, it is not yet possible to identify exactly how that consultation will take place.

Endorsement will be through the Executive Group, made up of seven nominated representatives.

Recommended projects will be invited to submit a full application for ERDF grant directly to the DCLG, who will then consider individual applications.

Contact Details management of ERDF within the NDNN eligible PA2 areas

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