

Appendix 4

Business Support

D2N2 Growth Hub:

D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is a locally owned partnership between local government and businesses to drive economic growth in the area. It covers Derby, Derbyshire (D2), Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (N2). There are 38 LEPs across the country.

Using European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) matched with local funding the LEP have established a growth hub. This is aimed to be a 'one stop shop' for business support.

The D2N2 growth hub provides a range of support including:

➤ One to One Business support

The D2N2 Growth Hub employs advisors who offer one to one business support on a wide range of topics. The number of Rushcliffe businesses supported is detailed below:

New Business Engagements broken down by number of hours below.

Rushcliffe Businesses	Up to 3 hours support	3 – 12 hours support	12+ hours support	Total
2018/19	43	20	4	67
2019/20				
Q1	36	4	0	40
Q2	18	6	0	24

This is only the level of engagement for new businesses engaged and does not include interventions for existing clients.

➤ Business Investment Fund:

- Grants available of £3,500 to £20,000
- 35% intervention rate
- Focus on improving productivity and efficiency of SMEs
- Funding 'step-changes' in a business, not business as usual.
- £2m grant pot, estimated average grant of £10,000
- Projects supported
 - Digital Technology projects, i.e. software/hardware investments
 - Consultancy projects that contribute to new ways of working
 - Kit and equipment purchases
- Applicants must have seen a Growth hub adviser

30 Expressions of interest have already been received from across D2N2

➤ D2N2 Growth Hub Events/workshops

4 events were delivered in Rushcliffe in 2018/19. The full events programme going forward is currently being developed by D2N2 Growth Hub.

D2N2 Digital Growth Programme:

Between 2017 and 2019 RBC provided funding towards the D2N2 Digital Growth Programme (DGP). This was a project part-funded by the ERDF, offering access to grant funding, one to one business support and delivered an array of awareness-raising seminars and strategic action-planning workshops across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

- In Rushcliffe 34 workshops and a Digital showcase event were held over the two year programme, 124 businesses received support and £169k in grant funding was secured.

- A case study brochure has been produced which contains the stories of 12 businesses, from a diverse range of sectors, who have taken advantage of the invaluable support provided through the programme, showcasing the benefits of digital technology and the positive impact it has had on the business.
- Support for businesses continues via D2N2 Growth Hub (the Growth Hub and DHP have now merged) who have secured funding for another 3 years and will be delivering digital support as part of the ongoing programme.

D2N2 Growth Hub events for the period April 2019 to December 2019

Activity Type	Seminar/Workshop Title	LA Delivery Area	No	ASH	BAS	BRO	GED	MAN	NSDC	NCC	RUS	AV	BOLS	CHES	DC	DD	Erewash	HP	NEDDC	South Derbyshire
Workshop	Developing Your Networking Skills and Elevator Pitch	Mansfield	17	2	3			5		2	1	1	1	1						
Workshop	Bookkeeping and Cloud Accounting	Chesterfield	13			1							1	2	1	1	3	1	3	
Workshop	Developing Your Networking Skills and Elevator Pitch	Derby City	17			2			1			1			2	5	1			5
Workshop	Get Your Pricing Right to Stay in Business	Derby City	14		1	2		1			1			1	3		2			2
Workshop	Sales workshop	Mansfield	26	1	2	1	2	3	1	4		3	2	2	4					1
Seminar	Mastering the Financial Basics for Small companies	Derbys Dales	23		1	1								2	2	17				
Workshop	Grant Funding Masterclass	Nottingham	18			1			2	9						1	4			
Seminar	Digital Seminar	High Peak	11												2	4		5		
Seminar	Digital Seminar	Rushcliffe	9						1	2	3		1				1			
Seminar	Digital Seminar	Chesterfield																		
Seminar	Digital Seminar	Derby																		
Seminar	Digital Seminar	Rushcliffe																		
Seminar	Digital Seminar	Rushcliffe	20																	
Seminar	HR - Keeping it Legal	Derby	15						3			4			6	1				
Seminar	Business Investment Fund Launch INVITATION ONLY	Nottingham	0																	
Workshop	An Introduction to Paid Advertising	Nottingham	12				4		5			1		1	1					
Seminar	How to boost productivity, performance and profit through strategic wellbeing	Mansfield	19		1		2	2			2	1		3	3	3		1	1	
Seminar	Meet the fund managers - MEIF	Derby	47																	
Workshop	Email marketing for success	Bassetlaw	9		1			2	1	2	1	1							1	
Workshop	Investment Readiness workshop	Derby	7			1				3					2		1			
Seminar	Growth Hub Information Session	Nottingham																		
Seminar	Growth Hub Information Session	Derby																		

Rushcliffe Business Partnership

Rushcliffe Business Partnership launched in 1999, is a 'not for profit' organisation part funded by Rushcliffe Borough Council. Members are generally drawn from small to medium-sized enterprises. The Partnership has more than 500 members.

The Partnership host monthly networking events in:

- West Bridgford
- Ruddington
- Keyworth

Quarterly events are also arranged which attract around 70 businesses. The two most recent events have focussed on:

- Stayahead – a European Social Funded project delivered by RBC which offered free training for businesses to upskill their employees.
- Wellbeing at work – covering both physical and mental wellbeing for all staff.

Other events and support for business:

- RBC organised a Developer Forum in Dec 2019
- A Recruiting - Future Talent event is being planned with Building Better Opportunities programme (April 2020)
- A second 'Big Business' event is being planned for Spring 2020. The theme will be clean growth and sustainability.