

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2873
Author:	Lizzi Holman
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Lizzi Holman (Job Title: Employment and Skills Strategy Manager, Email: lizzi.holman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk , Phone: 01158764610)
Subject:	Delivery Partner with Nottingham Trent University Grads for D2N2 European Social Fund proposal
Total Value:	£59,356 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>i) to proceed to full application as a Delivery Partner with Nottingham Trent Univerisity's 'Grads for D2N2' European Social Fund application</p> <p>ii) to agree the match funding for the project outlined in Appendix 1</p> <p>iii) to delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Economy to receive, administer and spend the project funding in accordance with the contract with the Department for Work and Pensions (as a delivery partner to Nottingham Trent University who will be the contract holder) and to create the necessary project posts and appoint to the post.</p>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>A decision is required to enable officers to proceed as a Delivery Partner in a Nottingham Trent University led proposal for funding under ESF Priority Axis 2: Skills for Growth, Improving the Labour Market Relevance of Education and Training Systems. The project brings together partners including Nottingham College (NCN/Central), Derby College and University of Derby to provide support to Small Businesses to increase Small and Medium Enterprises' (SME) take up of Higher and Degree Apprenticeships, to offer Graduate placements and to support Graduate retention.</p> <p>Nottingham City Council's part of the project will engage 100 SMEs across the City to provide impartial advice and workforce needs analysis. We will work with SMEs to identify how they could benefit from Apprenticeships, including Higher and Degree Apprenticeships. We will work with referral partners to engage SMEs in delivery of Apprenticeships, increasing take up with SMEs in the City.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Appendix 1_Background_briefing_GradsforD2N2_v3.docx

Other Options Considered:

Not to bid for the funding as a Delivery Partner - this would reduce our capacity to support the development of Higher and Degree Apprenticeships in Nottingham, reducing the impact we have on the development and retention of graduate talent in the City.
To bid for the funding as lead partner - NCC is leading three other bids under this ESF call for proposals, so does not have the resources to lead. There are no negative implications for funding of being a Delivery Partner rather than lead. There are benefits of being in a partnership with the Higher and Further Education institutions including sharing best practice and influencing their project delivery to meet NCC needs.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

The project will support local businesses to develop their workforce, providing training for people to increase their skills. This should help support people to remain engaged in the labour market, increasing their earnings and providing opportunities for personal development, leading to a reduced likelihood of engaging in criminal activity or civil disorder. By supporting businesses to develop and grow, the project should help strengthen the local economy, supporting businesses that help Nottingham to be a thriving city.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: An Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed once the project has been confirmed with the Project lead - Nottingham Trent University as it is a joint project and processes will be set down by NTU that will affect the EIA.

Relates to staffing:

Yes

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date: 17/07/2017

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Human Resources

Legal Advice: This report does not raise any significant legal issues but the Council should document its relationship with Nottingham Trent University to set out the basis on which the Council will receive its share of the funding as a delivery partner for the project. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 27/06/2017.

Finance Advice: The value quoted in the Delegated Decision is the total cost of the project with half financed by Nottingham City Council and half from the ESF grant. The match funding required to enable the money to be sought from ESF will be financed from the Innovation Fund Reserve and there are sufficient funds available to meet this cost.
All conditions of the ESF grant must be met and appropriate records kept and this is the responsibility of the Economic Development Service.
The post holder will be required for 15 months and therefore this will be a fixed term contract. There are no redundancy costs required or included given the time period.
Advice provided by Susan Tytherleigh (Senior Finance Manager) on 13/06/2017.

HR Advice: Any posts that are created as a result of this project will be advertised externally as per the normal recruitment methods. Ensure internal applicants with skills in the department on fixed term contracts are also aware of relevant opportunities. Advice provided by Hannah Gemmill (HR Business Partner) on 31/05/2017.

Signatures
Sam Webster (PH for Business, Education and Skills)
SIGNED and Dated: 10/07/2017
David Bishop (Deputy CE, CD for Development and Growth)
SIGNED and Dated: 10/07/2017