

BRIEFING NOTE FOR SPEAKERS & CORPORATE TRANSNATIONAL GROUP MEMBERS

- Event Title :** Altogether Better in Europe
- Date of Event :** Friday, 19th October 2012
- Venue :** County Hall, Durham :
- 10.30 - 11.30 Council Chamber (presentations)
 - 11.30 - 12.30 Durham Room (exhibition)

Context :

Durham County Council is keen to ensure that the county, and the authority, are able to gain maximum benefit from the various European funded programmes available to support European partnership (transnational) projects on a wide range of themes. The current EU programmes run from 2007 until 2013 when they will be replaced by a new set of programmes, likely to be similar to existing ones, which will run from 2014 to 2020.

In autumn 2011, a Corporate Transnational Group was established to identify, oversee and champion appropriate transnational projects and opportunities around the authority's corporate priorities. The group is chaired by Cllr Neil Foster, supported by DCC's Transnational Coordinator, and includes a tier 4 representative from each DCC service.

The group is eager to raise awareness about the opportunities available to DCC services, and has produced a pack of intranet resources and is holding the Altogether Better in Europe event on 19th October to do this.

Overall aim of event :

The aim of this event is to raise awareness with staff and elected members about transnational funding opportunities available to the authority and where they can obtain advice and support. It provides an opportunity to launch the new corporate transnational resources.

General event format :

The event is divided into two sessions:

1. formal presentations (1 hour)
2. exhibition & networking (1 hour)

Delegates have been asked to meet in the Council Chamber between 10.15 and 10.30. They will be met by a representative from the Corporate Transnational Group, and given a delegate pack containing:

- ✓ event agenda
- ✓ copy of presentations
- ✓ Transnational FAQ précis
- ✓ Summary sheet indicating which programmes might be most relevant to each DCC service
- ✓ Feedback form

Session 1 - presentations (10.30 – 11.30 a.m.)

The first hour will comprise of formal presentations in the Council Chamber (*which has been booked from 9a.m. until 1p.m. to allow time for setting up and clearing away*).

The presentations will be as follows:

| | Presentation theme/ aim | Speaker |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 10.30 (5 mins) | Welcome: Introduction to the event set within the context of the transnational group – its purpose and potential transnational benefits for County Durham | Cllr Neil Foster |
| 10.35 (10 mins) | County Durham’s relationship with the European institutions Stephen has been asked to help key DCC personnel appreciate why the authority needs to be outward looking and eager to tap into and share good practice & expertise across Europe (and how the European Commission supports this way of working) | Stephen Hughes MEP |
| 10.45 (10 mins) | <i>What is a transnational project?</i> To provide a basic overview and signpost to further transnational information, advice & support. | Dorothy Gibson, DCC Transnational Coordinator |
| 10.55 (10 mins) | <i>Example of County Durham’s success in transnational project management</i> Durham Heritage Coast case study of European projects, partnerships and accolades | Niall Benson, Durham Heritage Coast Officer |
| 11.05 (10 mins) | <i>Ensuring County Durham benefits from European partnership projects</i> An elected member to share their view on being involved in transnational projects (Eduplan & Library of my Dreams projects) | Cllr Maria Plews |
| 11.15 (10 mins) | <i>Finding partners and managing our work plan</i> Renergy (renewable energy) project to be presented as a case study | Ian Bloomfield, Principal Sustainability and Climate Change Officer RED |
| 11.25 (5 mins) | How to get involved Next immediate steps for anyone interested in learning more about transnational working/ project opportunities. | Cllr Neil Foster |

The event is due to commence at 10.30 prompt.

There is no room for slippage in the agenda. Most speakers have been allocated a 10 minute slot. It is suggested that this comprise of 8-9 minutes presentation and 1-2 minutes Q&A. **Please do not exceed your allocated time slot.**

There will be an opportunity for delegates to question and speak to Durham County Council presenters directly after the event, i.e. during the exhibition/ networking element of the event.

Session 2 – exhibition & networking (11.30 – 12.30)

An exhibition will be set up in the Durham Room to enable further information sharing and to encourage networking. The suggested exhibits are as follows:

| | Exhibit/ information | Equipment | Staffed by... |
|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | IM-CORE project display boards | Floor space | Niall Benson |
| 2 | Reenergy project related information (TBC) | 1 table | Ian Bloomfield |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Eduplan project leaflet – Library of my Dreams project DVD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 table 1 DVD player | Jeanette Stephenson |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DCC transnational group, resources & case studies – Financial implications and practicalities of managing a transnational project – Partner search advice – Leonardo work placement opportunities – Grundtvig Adult Learner Workshops catalogue & information – Transversal Study Visits catalogue & information – Youth in Action/ EVS information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 tables 5 small display boards 1 DVD player | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorothy Gibson Paul Irwin Annette Geragusian Theresa Harker Marie Moore Riana Nelson Cllr Foster |
| 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Europe Direct resources – Shrinking the Channel DVD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 tables 1 DVD player | Brian Stobie |
| 7 | European enlargement stand | Floor space near power supply | n/a |
| 8 | 10 EU energy banners | Floor space | n/a |

The Durham Room is booked from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

A buffet lunch will be available at 12 noon.

Target Audience:

The event is aimed at Durham County Council Tier 4 managers and elected members, although other members of staff who are interested in this innovative way of working are also welcome to attend.

Delegates have been asked on the booking forms to indicate their ;

- event expectations
- previous experience of working transnationally
- thoughts on how their team might be able to benefit from this way of working.

The most up to date delegate list is attached. Speakers and event organisers are asked to use it, as appropriate, to tailor their presentations and event information according to delegate need.

Event Chair :

The session will be chaired by Cllr. Neil Foster, Durham County Council's portfolio holder for economic regeneration, and chair of the Corporate Transnational Group.

Event outcomes :

It is intended that the event will lead to :

- increased interest in transnational funding opportunities
- raised awareness about transnational funding opportunities
- DCC teams further considering how their service could benefit from elements of work being undertaken in collaboration with European partners.

These will be evidenced by the :

- feedback from delegates on the event evaluation forms
- number and type of staff and elected members who contact DCC's Transnational Coordinator or Corporate Transnational Group members for advice and information
- number of people accessing the Transnational funding intranet page
- number of transnational project applications being submitted for funding

The Transnational Coordinator and Corporate Transnational Group will monitor whether event outcomes have been achieved, and will determine the most appropriate ways of taking this work forward after 19th October 2012.

ACTION NEEDED:

in advance of the event:

- 1. If you are delivering a Powerpoint presentation at the event, please email it to dorothy.gibson@durham.gov.uk no later than close of play on Friday, 12th October 2012**

on the day of the event:

- 2. All Corporate Transnational Group members and staff who will be displaying information on the day are asked to **report to the Durham Room at 9 a.m.** to assist with setting up the exhibition, reception desk and ensuring the Powerpoint presentations are correctly loaded onto the Council Chamber laptop in time for the event starting.**
- 3. **Speakers** are kindly asked to **meet in the Council Chamber at 10.15a.m.** on the day so that final checks and arrangements can be made to ensure the event starts at 10.30 prompt.**
4. At 11.30a.m., Corporate Transnational Group members to encourage delegates to retire to the Durham Room for the exhibition and networking session
5. Exhibits to be staffed from 11.30 to 12.30
6. Corporate Transnational Group members are kindly asked to assist with dismantling the exhibition directly after the event.

Many thanks for supporting the event