

Derby City Partnership

20 March 2008

East Midlands European Regional Development Fund Competitiveness Programme

Launched on 12 March 2008, the programme aims *“to become a region of highly productive, innovative and sustainable businesses and support the most disadvantaged of our communities to realise their economic potential”*. There are two programme priorities:

Priority Axis 1 – Innovation and sustainable business practice

Priority Axis 2 – Sustainable economic and enterprise activity in disadvantaged communities

Priority Axis 2 provides support and resources to areas with high levels of deprivation and low levels of economic and enterprise activity in order to increase sustainable economic and enterprise activity. It is intended to support and develop a range of economic and enterprise activities to meet the specific identified needs of localities and target communities and will:

- increase the size and diversity of the enterprise base
- stimulate market demand within localities and their market linkages to other areas
- increase the level of private sector investment in disadvantaged communities
- improve access to employment opportunities
- improve the physical (green and built) environments and attractiveness of deprived areas.

The indicative allocation to Derby has been agreed for 2008-2010 and totals £6.06m.

Derby is invited to develop local plans to identify our ERDF investment priorities and how they fit with other plans and funding opportunities. These need to be submitted to the East Midlands Development Agency, emda, by 30 April.

We need to propose projects and spend this year to meet spend targets by the end of 2009. Partners are invited to let DCP Centre have an outline of potential ideas and projects that could contribute to the activities supported through Priority Axis 2.

If you would like to discuss any proposals or need further information please contact Alec Shelton on 01332 256238 or e-mail alec@derbycitypartnership.co.uk before 11 April 2008.