

Briefing 5 – Getting Involved

Other briefings available:

1. Overview
2. Rationale and Vision
3. Accessing Business Support in the future
4. Processes for transition

More information:

The North East site:
<http://www.businesssupportnortheast.co.uk/page/index.cfm>

If you belong to an organisation that funds or commissions business support in the North East, one of the best ways to keep informed about business support simplification is to be involved in the process.

Briefing 4 outlined the process for transition and the Task and Finish Groups that have been set up to help define the product and delivery mix required in the North East. ONE has sought to ensure that every sub-region has representatives on those groups and many different local authorities have membership.

Discussion within Sub Regional Partnerships or groupings should ensure the Task and Finish Group members can consult relevant organisations in their areas but if you would like the opportunity to discuss the progress of the BSSP you can find out who within your area is involved and contact them by emailing bssp@onenortheast.co.uk

If you are involved in delivering business support and want to know more about BSSP you should be having discussions with your funder about the potential implications for your delivery. It may be that there is no impact or very minimal impact for you. You can of course also take advantage of a definitive source of information on BSSP/Solutions for Business via www.businesssupportnortheast.co.uk

BSSP Communications

One of the major tasks in the transition process is communications. It is ONE's objective to help everyone understand why BSSP is important for the region, what it means, and how it will affect delivery of publicly funded support. A number of different mechanisms have been used to communicate these messages:

- a web site has been set up to make all the relevant documentation available and to provide a regional commentary on the process
<http://www.businesssupportnortheast.co.uk/page/index.cfm>

- members of the TMB and Task and Finish Groups have been asked to disseminate information through their own networks
- regional events or meetings have been held and more will take place in future
- meetings with sub-regional partnerships and local councils have taken place and more will be scheduled
- a series of briefing notes (including this one) aimed at people not involved in the process has been produced and sent to all stakeholders

However, the website should be your first port of call to get more information about BSSP/Solutions for Business. It contains all the main reference documents, information about what is happening in the North East and links to relevant national and regional sites. The site also contains many frequently asked questions, and a range of other resources.

Should you have a new question or if you would like further information on how business support simplification impacts on you or your organisation, you can also contact the BSSP Team at One North East via bssp@onenortheast.co.uk, or on 0191 229 6607.