



NEON Working Group

HEFCE NNCOs – Monitoring Returns

2014-15

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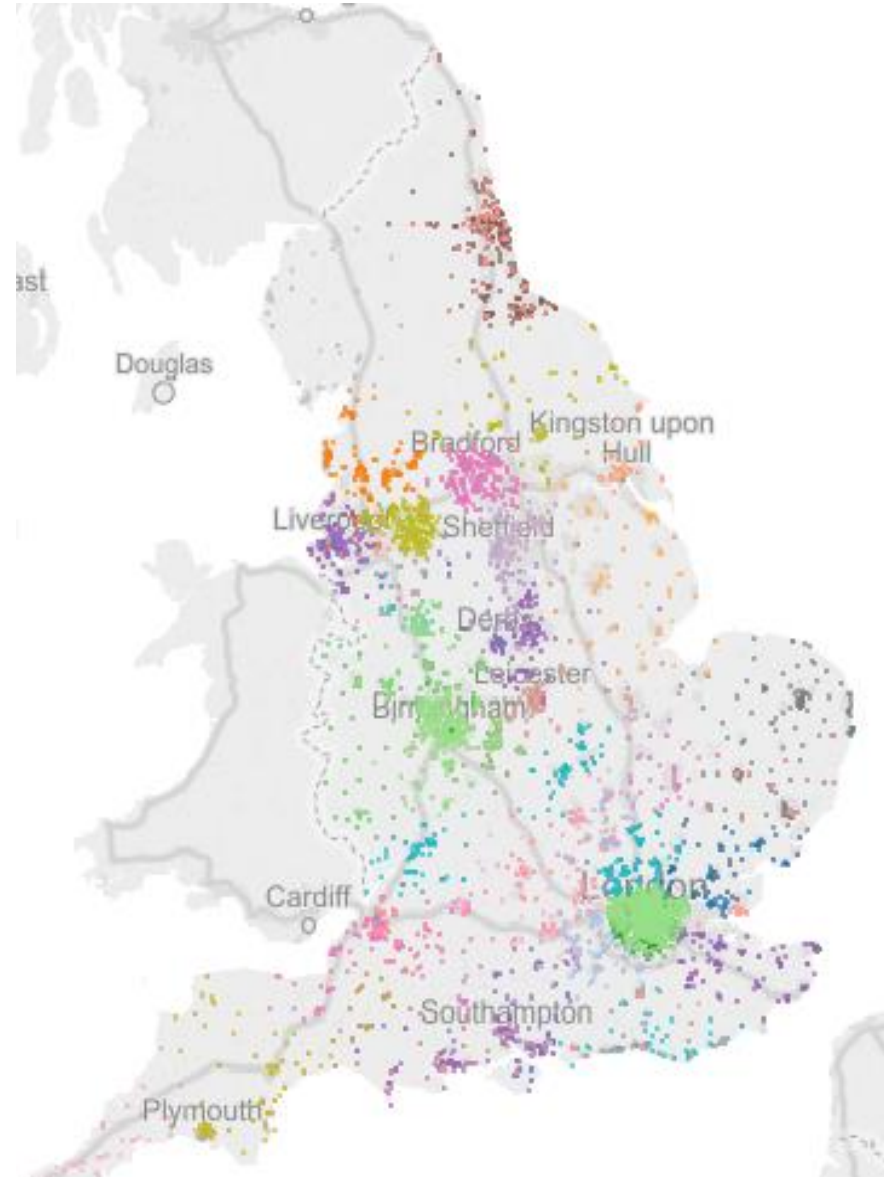
Job title: NNCO Project Manager (job-share)

Venue: Birkbeck University, London

2 September 2015

Background

- £22 million for the NNCO scheme over academic years 2014-15 and 2015-16;
- bringing together universities and further education colleges into local networks to provide coordinated outreach to schools and colleges.
- NNCO funding is split into three main categories:
 - Local networks (35 of these across the country)
 - National networks (3 of these)
 - NNCO projects, linked to specific networks (11 projects)



Use of the funding

Core funding - £120k in 2014-15 and £136k in 2015-16

Resourcing, website, technical/overheads

Institutional formula allocation

- Network membership collectively to decide use of contributions
- Different modes of operation – evaluation will describe
- Individual institutions to provide statement of assurance that the funds have been used in support of the network

Funding and investment for outreach activities

Access agreement investment and SO allocation

Monitoring and evaluation

- HEFCE is monitoring NNCOs as it is accountable for public funding – approximately £11m in the first year of NNCOs.
- Evaluation of the scheme will assess the networks value, beyond existing activity, in terms of enabling co-ordinated, efficient and effective outreach with schools and colleges.
- These are complementary activities and will enable HEFCE to secure evidence as the scheme unfolds (formative) as well as at the end (summative)



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Why?

- Providing us with background and context to your network.
- Providing assurances about the funding allocated for your network.
- Confirming that the key outputs for the NNCO are in place.
- Providing information about the work, value and challenges of your network (complementary to information being collected by evaluation team).

Monitoring 2014-15 – How?

Who	Monitoring return
Local networks	Form A– Written submission Form C – Funding assurances and partner/school information
National networks	Form B – Written submission Form C – Funding assurances and partner/school information
NNCO projects	Form D - Written submission (to include assurances of funding)

What we will monitor

- Narrative: background to your network and description of features, eg geography, population, types of schools and colleges
- Financial assurance - the financial package (income and expenditure)
 - Core funding utilised on the infrastructure
 - How formulaic contributions have been arranged and spent
 - Any funding leveraged eg LEP
- Confirmation and description of your SPoC, your website and how you work as a source of information to all schools and colleges
- What you have achieved so far
- Narrative questions about added benefits, challenges, sustainability
- Review and revise the schools list and partners so our list remains current (we will update the linking tool)

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Form A – Written submission

Each network will be asked to provide information in each section:

- Section A – contact details
- Section B – background and overview (aims of network and context of area covered by network)
- Section C – network finances (confirmation of lead institution spending, how formulaic funding has supported the aims of the network, information on underspend and whether the network has leveraged any additional funding).

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Form A – Written submission

- Section D – network features (confirming Single Point of Contact information, confirming web presence and how the network is acting as a source of information to schools and colleges).
- Section E – effectiveness of the network (the benefits delivered over and above arrangements previously in place, the added benefits of the SPoC, any challenges encountered, any arrangements for the sustainability after December 2016, engagement with LEPs and any other information that would be useful in drawing together findings of the scheme).
- Sign-off confirmation

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Form B – data submission

Each network will be asked to provide information in each section.

- Table A – Contact details (this will be pre-filled)
- Table B1 – HEFCE funded HE partners.
- Table B2 – Other partners (i.e. local council, charities, etc)
- Table B3 – Change of partners (only relevant if there has been a change.
- Table B4 – Network expenditure (up to 30 Sept 2015)
- Table B5 – Planned expenditure up to 31 December 2016
- Table C – Network coverage (schools covered by the network)
- Table D – Sign-off confirmation

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Important points to note

- Covers funding and activities up to 30 September 2015
- Any underspend this year can be carried forward.
- There are suggested word counts in the written submission (forms A, B and D) but this is a guide only – write more if you want!
- The Excel form (form C) is largely pre-filled to reduce burden on networks
- Whilst national networks are required to complete form C, questions should be answered only if relevant
- Attributing case studies in the summary report
- YouTube presentation on monitoring – available in September

When we will monitor and scheme end date

	Year one (2014-15)	Year two (2015-16)
Monitoring end date	30 September 2015	31 December 2016
Monitoring return due	Friday 30 October 2015	Friday 27 January 2017

In January 2017 we will seek financial assurance from the accounting officer of each institution that we have funded that funds have been used to support the network – SPoCs/network leads will be asked to collect assurances.



Thank you for listening

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