

## CASE STUDY

# Networking and training helps innovative skills and employability organisation form local partnership working



Double T is taking an innovative approach to the business of driving up employment in Nottingham. Drawing on nearly 20 years of experience in the sector, Hamish and Annabel Elliott formed Double T in March 2014 applying a new approach to developing the skills and employability of long term unemployed people in the city. The first project involves the refurbishment and renewable energy retrofit of a 19th Century “Coach House” which will form the business base - as similar projects are launched across the city.

The business owners had a range of ideas and potential development routes and timing was right to complete a strategic review of the next 3 years evolution of the enterprise. The Growth Hub support, provided by Tracey Hylton Burrows, ensured the business owners were well connected with local networks and partnerships and given regular information regarding funding opportunities and training courses. Tracey also signposted the owners to other key business support functions and enabled the business to make contact and engage with a range of influential stakeholders and investors.

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*“Tracey has been an invaluable support to our business in the early stages of delivery. Her experience and knowledge of working with new and small businesses is evidenced by the quality and relevance of the information she was able to provide us with. Tracey has taken an active interest in our business and has regularly sent us through really relevant and useful information about opportunities and networks which have really helped us develop our business in the local area”. - Hamish Elliott, Double T*

## KEY POINTS

### Support Received

The business owners benefited from accessing key networks and training courses, such as the Entrepreneurs’ Boot Camp, which has helped shape their business model. They were also invited to key networks and events including a dinner with leading policy makers. They were provided with helpful information regarding access to finance etc.

### Outcome

As a result of the networks the directors made contact with several key organisations with whom they are now working in partnership with to develop and deliver their innovative services.

[info@d2n2growthhub.co.uk](mailto:info@d2n2growthhub.co.uk)

0333 006 9178

[www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk](http://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk)