

NEWS RELEASE

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Celebrating Women's Contribution

The contribution that women have and are making to the social and economic regeneration of South Yorkshire is being celebrated at a conference in Sheffield on Thursday 10 April.

The conference is being held in the newly opened symbol of South Yorkshire's regeneration, The Source at Meadowhall. It starts at 9:30. If anybody is interested in attending this free event then call Laura Christon on 01709 763 662 to book a place.

Notes for Editors:

The Objective 1 Programme in South Yorkshire is a £1.8 billion investment programme that draws on over £700 million from the European Union's Structural Funds that are provided to help Europe's poorest areas regenerate their economies and create jobs. South Yorkshire is one of those poorest areas with fewer businesses and fewer and less well-paid jobs than other European regions.

South Yorkshire was designated as an Objective 1 area, which is the highest category of European support, at the Berlin Summit in 1999 along with Merseyside, Cornwall and the Scillies and West Wales and the Valleys. The Objective 1 Programme in South Yorkshire was launched in July 2000 and runs until the end of 2006.

To date the Programme has committed over £300 million of European money to over 300 projects in South Yorkshire. Objective 1 funds are supporting the development of new businesses, helping businesses to innovate and grow, supporting the development of skills and training, supporting social enterprises, supporting the economic development of deprived communities in South Yorkshire, helping to bring forward the development of sites and premises for increased economic activity and helping to tackle both financial and transport bottlenecks that inhibit economic growth.

Issued by

Richard Holmes
Communications Manager
Objective 1 Programme Directorate
Silkstone House
Pioneer Close
Wath Upon Dearne
ROTHERHAM S63 7JZ

Telephone: 01709 763618

Fax: 01709 763679

Email: richardholmes.goyh@go-regions.gov.uk