

Agenda item:

Title of meeting: Culture, Leisure and Sport Decision Meeting

Subject: Interreg Funded DDAY70

Date of meeting: 10 October 2014

Report by: Head of City Development and Cultural Services

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full council decision: No

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update and inform the Cabinet Member on the progress of the Interreg funded DDAY70 project.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That officers are requested to continue to seek further external funding to support and deliver projects which enhance the core offer of City Development & Cultural Services.**

3 Background

- 3.1 DDAY70 is a European cross-border project funded by the Interreg IVA funding stream to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Normandy Landings. The commemorations are being delivered through a programme of cultural events and co-operation between the cities of Portsmouth and Caen.
- 3.2 The project is being led, administratively, by the local authority of Caen City Council who has substantial experience in leading European project and is joined by the following four partners:
- Portsmouth City Council, including the D-Day Museum
 - Mémorial de Caen, the national Museum of peace in Normandy
 - Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, a British regional orchestra
 - l'Orchestre Régional de Basse-Normandie, a French regional orchestra
- 3.3 The majority of the events that have substantiated the programme were delivered during the build up to and around the anniversary on 6 June 2014, however there

are two actions that have yet to be delivered as well as the final evaluation and reporting process.

- 3.4 Listed below are the four constituent strands and what actions have been delivered against each strand to date.

4. Public Art Installation

- 4.1 Two pieces of temporary public art have been commissioned as part of DDAY70 to commemorate the anniversary; one each in Portsmouth and Caen.
- 4.2 Deer Park Alpha and Oliver Merkin were selected as the result of a competitive tender to design and create the installation that is currently in place on the approach to the D-day Museum. The installation is called *5 Beaches* [Figure 1, Appendix A] and was unveiled on Thursday 29 May 2014 by D-Day veteran Frank Rosier, two young people from the Blackout 44 project, Councillor Terry Hall and Deputy Mayor Patrick Nicole from Caen.
- 4.3 Each stone was quarried from Caen stone and represents a strategic beach of the allied invasion of Normandy, beginning the end of the Second World War. Titled '*5 Beaches*', the installation will be decommissioned on Monday 15 September 2014 and will have a further life after the project as it is planned that it will be incorporated in the D-day Museum's D-Day 75 transformation project.
- 4.4 In Caen, the Mémorial museum took a different approach to the public art installation brief and worked with graffiti artist Jeff Aerosol to produce a vinyl fresco [Figure 2, Appendix A] that was draped across the front façade of the Mémorial museum in Caen. Both the British and French artists maintained a creative dialogue throughout the development of their ideas in an effort to learn about each other's artistic practice and how they delivered their final pieces

5. Cross-border Concerts

- 5.1 The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) and l'Orchestre Régional de Basse-Normandie (ORBN) have been working and performing together to deliver two distinct projects to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day.
- 5.2 The larger of the two elements was a series of joint performances of Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man* at poignant and commemorative venues across Normandy from 4 to 9 June 2014. The following is a list of dates and venues that the joint performances were held:
- Wednesday 4 June: Mémorial Museum, Caen [Figure 3, Appendix A]
 - Thursday 5 June: St Pierre Cathedral, Lisieux
 - Friday 6 June: Town Square, St Mere Elgise
 - Saturday 7 June: Sees Cathedral, Sees
 - Monday 9 June: City of the Sea, Cherbourg

- 5.3 The second element of the music part of the project '*Sous Les Pommiers*' or 'Under the Apple Tree' is the cross-border schools project that combines cross-border commemorative performances with participation from local school children in Portsmouth and Caen.
- 5.4 The BSO's associated songwriter and composer, Sammy Hurden, composed the moving bespoke work '*Sous Les Pommiers*' as a commemorative piece inspired by the memories of civilians and veterans that witnessed and participated in the Normandy Landings.
- 5.5 The BSO and ORBN are working with The Flying Bull Academy and have already worked together and produced a successful concert at St Marys Church, Fratton on Wednesday 26 February 2014 [Figure 4, Appendix A]. Due to the success of and interest that this part of the project generated, our original project plan has been amended and are currently preparing to take pupils from the Portsmouth school to Caen to perform with their French counterparts from Puits Picard School.
- 5.6 The participant students and teachers from Flying Bull Academy are in the process of applying for a group passport to travel to Caen on Sunday 12 October 2014 until Thursday 16 October 2014. They will be accommodated in Caen University with the students from Puits Picard School and will perform together in a series of concerts over four days. There will also be a chance for the students to visit D-day related sites and museums during the trip.

6. City Debates

- 6.1 This particular strand has been completed in terms of the deliverable events. In Portsmouth, this part of the project consisted of two free panel talks. Each talk welcomed a guest delegate from Caen to give a cross-border perspective to the debates.
- 6.2 The first debate was the *D-Day Memories Talk* at held at the Square Tower on Wednesday 7 May 2014 [Figure 5, Appendix A] and was chaired by broadcaster and presenter Paul Bunker. Five D-Day eyewitnesses, both civilian and veteran, talked to a public audience about their eyewitness memories of the Normandy invasions. Below is a list of the panellists and a brief description of the memories they shared:
- Stella Rutter, worked on the Spitfire drawings and hosted a party for the D-Day commanders at the request of General Eisenhower.
 - Frank Rosier, served as an infantryman in 2nd Battalion, The Gloucester Regiment and fought on Gold Beach.
 - Colette Marin-Catherine, enrolled as a nurse at Bayeux military hospital; her family fought for the French resistance.
 - Leslie Garrett, a gunner on HMS Diadem, one of the first battleships to reach France on D-Day.
 - Joyce Cross, lived in Gosport during the Normandy Invasions and worked in the munitions factory at Priddy's Hard.

6.3 The second talk was held at the University of Portsmouth's Eldon Building on Saturday 28 June 2014 and was billed as part of the Portsmouth Festivities programme. The theme of this panel debate was "How D-Day and the Normandy Invasions contributed to the formation of modern Europe" and was conducted by three high profile historians:

- Terry Charman, senior historian at the Imperial War Museum
- Antony Beevor, bestselling author and historian
- Stephane Grimaldi, director at Mémorial de Caen

6.4 On the other side of the channel, the Mémorial de Caen held a series of debates on the theme of "Peace and Reconciliation". Two delegates from Portsmouth were invited to voice their opinion at a debate in Caen on Tuesday 8 April 2014. Arthur Nelson, chair of the Portsmouth branch of the Royal British Legion, and Lieutenant Heighway, Officer and Lecturer at the Defence School at HMS Sultan, attended as delegates to represent Portsmouth.

7. Museum Co-operation

7.1 This strand of work was designed to take the project beyond the focus period of commemorations in June and into the short and medium term. This part of the project was designed to be steered by the outcome the D-Day Museum's application for funding to the Heritage Lottery fund for the D-Day 75 transformation project. Apart from planning discussions and the exchange of ideas, we have not delivered any actions against this strand to date.

7.2 However, as the application to the HLF has been successful, the first actions are planned for a professional exchange in October. Andrew Whitmarsh, the D-Day Museum development officer, will spend 3 days at the Mémorial de Caen to gain a better understanding of the museum's collections and organise an exhibit loan. A reciprocal visit will take place the following month when the D-Day Museum will host the Mémorial de Caen's historian and curator, Christophe Prime. This exchange will result in a temporary collaborative DDAY70 exhibition that exhibits artefacts from both museums' collections, highlighting the significant role that Portsmouth and Caen played in the liberation of Europe that began in 1944.

7.3 It is also hoped that further discussions will take place between Jane Mee, museum and collections manager, and Stéphane Grimaldi, the Mémorial de Caen's Chief Executive to share expertise that may inform the future development of the D-Day Museum.

8. Reasons for recommendations

8.1 This project has received high level of praise from the fund administrative authority for its innovative use of their resources to mark a strategically important event in the history of Europe whilst ensuring that the elements and activities all have a cross-generational element to support inter-generational learning.

8.2 With on-going pressure on local authority funding delivery of such innovative projects need to ensure they attract in external funding. From the delivery of projects such as the DDAY70 initiative the council can take a core role in establishing effective partnerships which can bid for funding in the future.

9. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

9.1 An equality impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010.

10. Legal Implications

10.1 There are no further legal comments on this report.

11. Head of Finance Comments

11.1 The total approved cost of this project is 1,089,200€ and is part of the Interreg IVA Programme. There are 5 partners delivering the D Day 70 project - PCC, Ville de Caen, Memorial Museum, Orchestre Regional de BN and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

11.2 The project has 8 activity themes to be delivered by the partners who will be working together.

11.3 The Interreg IVA Programme is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Grant claims need to be submitted for 100% of expenditure of which 50% will be reimbursed by the ERDF. The remaining 50% of costs will be PCC match funding in the form of staff costs.

A summary of the two grant claims made to date and the amount still outstanding is provided below;

Total Claims Submitted 100%	Total Claims Remaining 100%	Total PCC Cost	Claims Reimbursed by ERDF 50%	ERDF Claims Remaining 50%	Total Reimbursed by ERDF 50%
€	€	€	€	€	€
48,865	278,345	327,210	18,826	144,779	163,605

11.4 A large claim is in the process of being prepared following the D Day Commemoration event. This will be submitted in the next two weeks.

11.5 It is anticipated that the final claim will be submitted in April 2015.

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Signed by
Stephen Baily
Head of City Development and Cultural Services

Appendices:

Appendix A - Photographs referenced in the report

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport on 10 October 2014

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Signed by:
Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport