

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs Select Committee
Date:	21 November 2013
Title:	Hampshire Commemorates: progress
Reference:	5381
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of progress with the coordination of the Hampshire Commemorates programme.

2. Contextual Information

2.1. In October 2012 the Government announced that it would be supporting a series of national commemorative events to mark four key anniversaries in 2014-18, as well as a wider commemorative programme for which over £50 million has been committed. A national advisory group has been set up by Culture Secretary, the Rt. Hon Maria Miller MP, to oversee the delivery of the national programme, which is being led by the Imperial War Museums and partners.

2.2. Hampshire County Council has committed to the delivery of a programme of commemorations in 2014 to mark both the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War and the 70th Anniversary of D-Day, in recognition of the fact that it is likely to be the last major anniversary with living links.

2.3. A part-time Coordinator has been seconded into a temporary role to support the Members Group overseeing the overall delivery of the programme and ensuring it remains appropriate to the commemoration theme. The Members Group consists of Councillor C Carter and Councillor D Simpson, appointed by the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside.

2.4. On 21 February 2013 the Full Council met to agree the budget for 2013/14. At this meeting the allocation of £100,000, to support commemorative initiatives, was approved from the Leader's Special Grants Budget,.

2.5. At his Decision Day on 31 July 2013, the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside agreed the breakdown of the £100,000 budget, to

include £50,000 for a grant scheme to support community led projects, £10,000 to support the delivery of a schools engagement programme (including 'Rock Challenge') and £40,000 reserved funding to support Hampshire County Council led projects.

- 2.6. At his Decision Day on 25 September 2013, the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside approved the framework for the 'Hampshire Commemorates: First World War and D-Day' grant scheme to support community led commemoration projects.

3. Programme Update

- 3.1. An overview of the programme of initiatives under development by Hampshire County Council and partners was provided to the Select Committee at its meeting on 10 September 2013. An additional list of initiatives, approved by the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside, to receive funding from the reserved budget is provided in Appendix 1.
- 3.2. The 'Hampshire Commemorates: First World War and D-Day' grant scheme was launched on 26 September 2013. This will provide funding up to £2,000 to support community led commemoration projects. The closing date for applications to this scheme is 1 December 2013. The Members Group will be meeting to make recommendations on the applications received, which will be taken to the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside Decision Day on 20 January 2014 for final approval.
- 3.3. A public website (www.hants.gov.uk/hampshirecommemorates) was launched on 26 September to host information about Hampshire County Council's programme of commemorations and links to key local and national websites associated with the commemorations. There is also a section offering support to communities wishing to engage in the commemorations, including funding and research advice, and a section to provide information about how schools can get involved in the commemorations.
- 3.4. As part of the schools engagement programme, the 'Hampshire Commemorates' award has been advertised to schools participating in the Rock Challenge performing arts initiative in 2014. This will provide an opportunity for schools choosing a performance based around the theme of war to be considered for the award and for funding towards the costs associated with the performance. A list of successful schools will be shared with the Select Committee in early 2014.

4. Update on Key Activities

- 4.1. The Arts and Museum Service, supported by external funding in excess of £600,000 from Arts Council England, is working in partnership with Southampton City Council and Winchester City Council to deliver two interconnected projects. One of the projects, Hampshire's Big Theme '1914', is a programme of exhibitions and events in venues across the County during 2014 to mark and commemorate the beginning of the First World War.

- 4.2. On 7 November 2013, Hampshire's Big Theme '1914' website was launched. The website will be the main source of information for arts, museums and heritage events taking place across the County in commemoration of the First World War. As more and more people are choosing to access the web through their smart phones and tablet computers, the website has been developed with this in mind; the design is 'mobile optimised' and the content aims to be engaging and easy to access whilst on the move, much like reading a magazine. In addition to showcasing related museum collections and providing trailers to the forthcoming exhibitions, the website also encourages contributions from local Hampshire people with relevant stories, photos and memorabilia to share. The web address is: www.bigtheme.org.uk/1914.

5. Networking Event

- 5.1. On 23 October 2013, the Hampshire Solent Museum Development Programme hosted a First World War Centenary Networking Event for all Hampshire Solent based arts, museums, archives, heritage organisations and universities planning events to commemorate the Centenary of the First World War.
- 5.2. The event provided an opportunity for organisations to find out what is happening to mark the commemorations on a national and local level, what resources and funding are available and how to promote events through Hampshire's Big Theme '1914' website. Facilitated sessions were also held to help put delegates in touch with others they can work with in the future.
- 5.3. The event was attended by over 100 delegates, representing 76 organisations, from large National Museums (Royal Armouries, National Museum of the Royal Navy) to Universities, Local Authorities, and small heritage groups. Feedback from the event has been hugely positive, with 96.4% of responses rating it excellent/good.

6. Budget Position

- 6.1. *Grant Scheme to support community led projects* - of the £50,000 budget no funds have yet been allocated. Allocations based on applications received by 1 December 2013 deadline will be approved at the Executive Member Decision Day on 20 January 2014. If funds remain an additional round of funding will be held.
- 6.2. *Funding to support the delivery of a schools engagement programme* - of the £10,000 budget, £8,000 has been allocated. This includes £6,000 to support the Rock Challenge programme, and £2,000 to support school engagement in Hampshire's Big Theme '1914' programme.
- 6.3. *Reserved funding to support Hampshire County Council led projects* – of the £40,000 budget approximately £37,000 has been allocated to support the projects outlined in Appendix 1.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. That the Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs Select Committee note the progress made to date.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1. No adverse impacts identified.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. No adverse impacts identified.

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? Not applicable.
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? Not applicable

Hampshire County Council led initiatives supported by reserved funding

Service	Project	Description
Adult Community Learning	Response	To engage some of the most marginalised and disadvantaged residents in learning about their own and others WWI and D-Day heritage by placing a resource such as an artefact or story with each group to explore and make a response to. Responses can be made through a creative medium such as drama, poetry, art and crafts, performing arts, or be embedded within an area of learning they are undertaking.
Adult Services	Bickerley Green Residential & Nursing Home	To create an area of remembrance in the garden of the Home, including a plaque and field of poppies. Street style party for residents and relatives to commemorate D-Day with band and memorabilia.
Adult Services	Emsworth House Care Home	Street style party event to commemorate D-Day for residents and relatives.
Adults Services	Lest we Forget - Basingstoke	Community based educational and commemorative project between Hatch Warren Junior School and Newman Court Day Centre in Basingstoke. The project will be devised by the participants, guided and directed by Proteus Theatre Company and teaching staff.
Adults Services	Commemoration Event - Fleming House Residential and Nursing Unit	Social event to enable residents and their families to commemorate WWI and D-Day. To include decorations, music and costumes of the era, information on display, and the planting of a memorial tree with plaque.
Arts and Museums	Community Commemoration	To enhance the existing Hampshire's Big Theme '1914' offer to ensure that a wider sector of the community is reached particularly those who would not traditionally go to a museum or see history as relevant to them in their everyday lives. The project will include: community days in which high streets will "go back in time"; engaging communities in art installations; research to contribute to Soldier's Journey exhibitions; tour of Hampshire built war vehicles; young people working with artists to explore design of the trench coat.
Community Support	Pack up your troubles	The project will take the form of themed events open to residents from across Hampshire. Four partner organisations will develop commemorative activities for their community using the communal singing session as a focus/ trigger. The partner organisations will be encouraged to consider D-Day and WWI in a local context to develop further activities beyond the singing session. The project will culminate in an event at Ashburton Hall.
Countryside	The New Forest Remembers D-Day at Lepe	Building on the success of past bi-annual two day events, a four day event is planned for early July 2014. This event will consist of two weekend days for the general public plus two week days for local schools.

Hampshire County Council led initiatives supported by reserved funding

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Countryside	D-Day at Manor Farm Country Park	Three days of exhibitions and activities to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day and the role that Cricket Camp at Manor Farm CP played. To include a revamp of the existing memorial, help to inform visitors about the role and importance of the camp and collate and record stories from those who lived in the camp during or after the war.
Great Hall	WWI & Great Hall Commemoration	The Great Hall was used to billet troops during WWI and a leaflet will be produced to describe this role as well as other activities including a reconstruction of billeting arrangements.
HALS	Voices of the First World War, HRO	Hampshire Archives and Local Studies will run a series of three workshops in which participants will look at using archive sources in a wide variety of ways from historical writing to creative artwork to mark the centenary of the First World War.
Hampshire Music Service	Remembering Together	'Remembering Together' is a project designed to involve children, young people and community musicians from both the county of Hampshire and Winchester's twin town of Giessen in Germany, in a piece for orchestra and choir specially commissioned to mark the county of Hampshire's commemoration of the centenary of WWI. The piece will be performed in both Winchester and Giessen in 2015 and 2016 respectively.
Hampshire Music Service	D-Day Concert	Commemorative concert at Bay House School to tell Gosport's role in D-Day. To include a matinee performance for schools in the local area and an evening ticketed performance open to all.
Libraries	D-Day Art Exhibition - Gosport DC	A lithography/collograph artist will work with community groups (older adults and young people) from both Portsmouth and Gosport to create an exhibition that links the three special collections: naval, local studies and geology.
Libraries	History Wardrobe: Costume of the First World War	History Wardrobe provides a one-woman performance using costume to tell the story of women in WWI. Performance to tour Discovery Centres and Libraries across the county.
Outdoor	ANZAC Remembrance - Tile Barn	Creation of an ANZAC trail around the site with information boards that can be displayed all year round for both visiting ANZAC guests and the school groups that reside at the Centre each year.