



ARC MANCHE CONFERENCE 2006

'COOPERATION IN THE CHANNEL AREA – STRATEGY TO ACTION'

"The big issues facing the world today do not always take account of territorial and administrative borders.

The need is for the relevant areas to seek suitable responses and implement policies - a modern day solution is the Arc Manche Assembly."

Tuesday 17th October
at Fontwell Park
West Sussex

Purpose

A forum to present the Arc Manche Assembly and launch the strategic vision for the Channel area produced by the Espace Manche Development Initiative project; discuss project ideas; meet potential project partners and present the future EU funding programmes 2007/2013, which might be suitable to fund projects in and around the Channel area.

Synopsis

The Arc Manche Assembly is a maritime network of French regions and English local authorities bordering and in the Channel Area. A major aim of the Assembly is to “reinforce Franco-British partnerships between regions on both sides of the Channel by delivering joint actions and projects, which could be supported by European Union policies”. The Arc Manche Assembly has actively lobbied to get Channel area issues recognized by the EU and for funding to do projects.

The “Espace Manche Development Initiative” is a INTERREG I I I B funded project that aims to foster and develop cross Channel co-operation. One of the main achievements of this project is the production of a strategic vision for the Channel area. This event will be an opportunity to present and discuss the strategic vision with decision-makers in the Channel area.

New European Funding Programmes start in 2007! Be prepared for the new funding streams by attending this event. The new cross-border programme now encompasses the whole Arc Manche area in an extended programme and there are many other European programmes that could also fund projects in the Channel area - the future Transnational Co-operation Programme, Framework Programme 7 for research and development, the future Youth Programme and Culture 2007.

Format

From Strategy...

The Conference begins with a plenary session that includes speakers presenting the Arc Manche Assembly and the strategic vision for the Channel area produced by the Espace Manche Development Initiative (EMDI) project.

To Action...

The afternoon session presents the new EU funding programmes followed by question and answer sessions. Delegates will then split into 3 workshops on specific themes relevant to the Channel area. Each workshop will be managed by a professional facilitator. The idea of the workshops is to bring together like-minded people with ideas for projects so that they can explore and develop them further.

A Project Ideas Market will run throughout the day showing past, present and future projects.

Programme

Venue: Fontwell House

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| 09:30 | Registration and Refreshments |
| 10:00 | Introduction and Opening of the Event
Brad Watson OBE, Vice President of the Arc Manche Assembly and West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Communications and External Affairs |
| 10:10 | Presentation of the Arc Manche Assembly and its Achievements
Alain Le Vern, President of the Arc Manche Assembly and Upper-Normandy Regional Council |
| 10:25 | Why a European Territorial Cooperation?
Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit Interreg, European Commission, DG Regio |

Plenary Session Part 1 - A Strategy for the Channel Area | Chairman: Alain Le Vern

- 10:40** Introduction
- 10:45** The Espace Manche Development Initiative Project
- 10:55** Discussion on the four strategic priorities in the strategic vision for the channel
- Strengthening the cohesion of the Channel area
 - Taking advantage of and reinforcing the territorial position of the Channel area in Europe
 - Ensuring sustainable development of the Channel area
 - Promoting integrated coastal zone management
- Conclusion**
- 12:00 - 13:00** **Lunch** in the Owners and Trainers Bar and an opportunity for visiting the **Ideas Project Market** and networking

Plenary Session Part 2 - From the Strategy to Action, European funding for the Channel area 2007-2013 | Chairman: Brad Watson OBE

- 13:00** Presentation of the future European Cooperation Objective
Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit Interreg, European Commission, DG Regio
- Presentation of the future cross-border cooperation programme for the Channel Area
Speaker tbc
 - Presentation of the future transnational cooperation programme North West Europe
Julia Eripret, Interreg I I B NWE Secretariat
- Question and Answer Session - 15 minutes
- 13:45** The Framework Programme 7
Vicki Brown, Department of Trade and Industry
- Question and Answer Session - 10 minutes
- 14:05** Integrated Action Programme in Lifelong Learning
Speaker tbc
- Question and Answer Session - 10 minutes
- 14:25** Youth in Action Programme
Speaker tbc
- Question and Answer Session - 10 minutes
- Conclusion**
- 14:45 - 15:00** **Refreshment break**
- 15:00** **Workshops: What Projects for the Channel area?**

Workshop 1 Economy (including Innovation, Transport and Tourism)
Held in the Main Reception Room, Fontwell House

Workshop 2 Maritime, Coastal activities and Sustainable Development (including Fisheries, Intergrated Coastal Zone Management, Maritime Safety)
Held in room adjoining the Reception Room, Fontwell House

Workshop 3 Education and Youth
Held in Owners and Trainers Bar

- 16:30** Workshops end but Project Ideas Market is open until 17:00.

Register online 1st - 30th September

All the conference documents - registration form, final programme, workshop information sheet, practical details and executive summary of the strategic vision - will be available from 1st September at <http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/arcmanche>

Target audience

Local authorities; voluntary organisations; universities and colleges; business, environmental or transport organisations; chambers of commerce; public health sector; cultural and arts groups from both sides of the Channel.

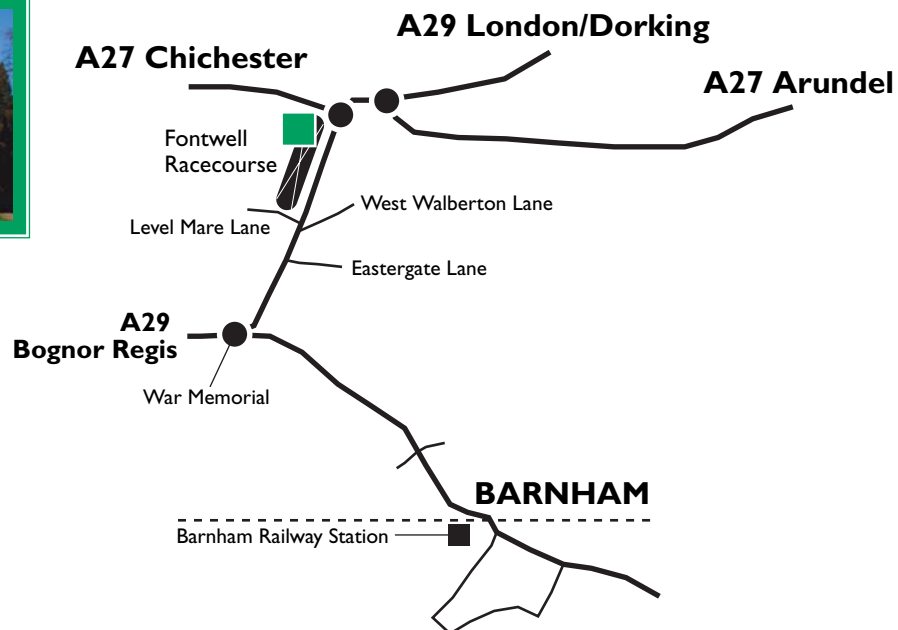
Simultaneous Interpretation

in French/English will be used in all the conference sessions including the workshops.

After the Conference

A report of the event will be available on the Arc Manche website (www.arcmanche.com) as well as a list of project ideas.

Location: Fontwell Park, West Sussex



Secrétariat Arc Manche
Région Haute-Normandie
Hôtel de Région
5, rue Robert Schuman
BP 1129
76174 Rouen cedex 1
France
Tél. 0033 (0) 235 52 56 96
Fax 0033 (0) 235 52 57 65
arc-manche@cr-haute-normandie.fr



Arc Manche Secretariat
West Sussex County Council
County Hall
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RQ
United Kingdom
Tel. 0044 (0) 1243 756695
Fax 0044 (0) 1243 777697
europe_office@westsussex.gov.uk