



Scope of the consortium project

- Part of wider SWACL grant bid on behalf of 4 potential consortia in South West:
 - LibrariesWest, South West Peninsula, Bmth/Dorset/Poole, Eastern Group (Glouc/Swindon/Wilts)
- Aims in common:
 - Explore options for collaborative working and pilot joint working to make efficiency savings and enhance access to resources
 - Quantify costs and savings from aligning LMS
 - Develop financial modelling of consortia as stand alone or to develop a larger grouping
 - examine issues of governance
- Bmth/Dorset/Poole aims
 - To examine feasibility of collaboration initially on bibliographic services, Library Management Systems and procurement and use of e-resources



Progress on the project

Strategic

- Joint meeting of Portfolio Holders and senior stakeholders

Information gathering

- Map library service provision across 3 Authorities
- Review procurement and use of e-resources and specialist stock
- Cost and process mapping for Bibliographic services
- Feasibility of aligning Library Management Systems

Examples of activities

- Bmth music & children's library staff running Cultural Hub school sessions for Poole
- Lit Up! - Bmth & Poole literature activities with Arts and Libraries teams
- Poole branch managers visiting Bmth Libraries to learn about common issues
- Shared staff training Bmth & Poole Libraries
- Dorset advice on single staffing informed Poole work on deployment



Lessons about the project

- **Why do we want to do this?**
Determine the drivers for closer and joint working
- **Will it save money?**
Lesser savings from collaboration compared to service merger or outsourcing to partner Authority with associated staff reductions
- **Is it worth doing anyway?**
There are customer service benefits from collaboration
- **What do Elected Members think?**
Political will is as important as technical feasibility
- **Are we all on the same page?**
Authorities are coming from different directions especially savings amount and timescale, internal transformation, political structure and existing level of services
- **More questions**
 - are other partnerships across the sectors more beneficial than partnerships across Library Authorities?
 - how effective in scale is collaboration between individual Council services?

QRacking the Code

- QRCode = Quick Response Code
- Around since 1994 on cereal packets to event flyers
- 2D barcode that can be scanned with a mobile phone
- Link to websites, podcasts, blogs, videos, geographic data, download audio
- Use on most phones with a camera; install a reader app

This project

- Delivering a cultural experience whilst unlocking the potential of the phone in the pocket!
- Partnership & engagement are key themes



What we will do

- Pilot 'teaser' phase with local media - link QR codes to wide range of reader development content at Bournemouth Library
- Locally commission original content showcasing local authors, literary & arts events, works of arts and heritage sites
- Codes on libraries collections, Museum artefacts & public art works
- Existing 'Streets of Bournemouth' heritage project link to coded street signs
- Digital walk Summer 2012 & hunt during 'Arts by the Sea Festival' Oct 2012
- Working with Seafront Services for virtual visits from the beach
- Training of library staff, arts and museum staff and of volunteers using staff, students and peer support
- Digital skills sessions for public using staff, volunteers and mobile phone companies; including emails, downloading apps and internet safety

Partners

- Arts Development Team
- Libraries, Museum and heritage staff and interest groups
- Publishers and authors, writers and readers groups
- Local students from schools to University
- Volunteers of all ages
- Retail sector
- Bournemouth Tourism
- And most importantly - the public as consumers, creators and volunteers

Our thanks to Arts Council England for the opportunity and the award funding

Examples of Outcomes

Libraries' outcomes:

- New model for delivering reading experience through the phone in the pocket
- New inclusive way of promoting initiatives & services and reaching new audiences
- Libraries and arts leading on innovation
- Sharing and legacy through documented activities and potential for rollout at minimal cost

Learners' outcomes:

- Understanding and confidence in digital literacies; in particular use of smart phones and apps
- Able to access collections, information & services in an informal and exciting way
- Experience richness and diversity of arts and libraries

Examples of Outcomes

Partners' outcomes:

- Libraries and arts sectors further developing joint activities
- Organisations sharing experience and best practice
- Partners forging closer links across sectors and engaging with new groups
- Exciting new content created using QR codes
- Students sharing their technical knowledge and promoting the project to their peers
- Intergenerational involvement through volunteering and digital skills sessions
- New and enhanced staff skills in presentation, media and technology