



Reference: AFE/RAs/DDay70

February 2014

**70<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY D-DAY COMMEMORATIONS (D-DAY70) – NORMANDY 2014**

2014 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Normandy Landings during the Second World War. The Royal British Legion and the Ministry of Defence have the privilege of leading the nation in paying its respects to all those who fought and died in the battle through a series of events over 5-6 June, known as “D-Day 70”.

Over the coming months, the Legion and the MOD will be working towards the commemorations, which include Memorial Services at Bayeux Cathedral and Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery amongst others. In order to plan effectively we're aiming to establish how many veterans will be travelling to Normandy in June, and we're asking all veterans and their families to get in touch and let us know. Due to the high profile nature of D-Day 70 there will be security restrictions in place in Normandy and accreditation is required for many of the events during the anniversary period, therefore we do ask them to contact us by 30<sup>th</sup> April in order for us to send you the paperwork required to enter the sites they may wish to visit.

Please may I appeal to Cobseo, in its capacity as the voice of the Service Charities, to help us connect to our veterans? We ask the Service, Veterans and Regimental Associations that if they know about their comrades planning to travel to Normandy for 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014 to please contact the Royal British Legion by email at: [dday70@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:dday70@britishlegion.org.uk) or in writing via 'D-Day 70', Haig House, 199 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1AA. We also want them to know that funding support for their veterans' trip may be secured through the Big Lottery Fund's Heroes Return 2 scheme; an application form is available on the website, [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk), or call 0845 00 00 121 (textphone 0845 602 1659 for those with hearing impairment). The communication deadline for submissions is **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014**.

We are proud to stand 'Shoulder to Shoulder with all who serve', and we are most grateful for your assistance.

*Yours sincerely,*

*James Goodwin [original signed]*

**Shoulder to shoulder with all who serve**