

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: Approval of the Investment Plan for the Category 1 Outlier Levelling Up Cultural Fund for submission to the Department for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities.

BRIEF STATEMENT OF SUBJECT MATTER:

On 6 March 2024, the Council was informed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities that it has been provisionally awarded £5 million for investments in cultural projects.

In order to receive the funding, the Council is required to submit an Investment Plan detailing its proposed cultural projects. The deadline for submitting the investment plan is Monday 3 June 2024.

The proposed investment plan includes details of 5 projects to receive funding. These include improvements to the Palace Theatre, improvements to facilities at Arrow Valley Park, a fund to repurpose redundant and underused spaces for cultural activities, a grant programme for organisations to improve community cultural facilities, and investment in promotional tools to tell the Story of Redditch.

The initiative to increase the capacity and attractiveness of the Palace Theatre has an implication on in-year revenues amounting to £185,000. The Council will need to subsidise this pressure with the amount being clawed back via a lower management fee to Rubicon in future years taking into account the additional capacity of the theatre.

Appendix 1: Background to the Category 1 Outlier Levelling Up Cultural Funding

Appendix 2: Draft Investment Plan

DECISION:

The Executive for Finance & Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to submit the formal bid to Government by 3rd June 2024.

(Council / Executive decision)

GROUNDINGS FOR URGENCY:

In view of the extremely short timetable for submitting proposals, there is insufficient time to convene an extraordinary Executive meeting.

DECISION APPROVED BY:

(Acting) CHIEF EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FINANCE & RESOURCES
(if financial implications)

.....
**(Signature) (Sue Hanley - (CX)
(Or Deputy CEO in her absence)**

.....
(Signature) (Peter Carpenter)

Date: 31st May 2024

PROPOSED ACTION SUPPORTED <i>(amend as appropriate)</i>				
..... (Signature) (Signature) (Signature) (Signature) (Signature)
<i>(Block Capitals)</i>	<i>(Block Capitals)</i>	<i>(Block Capitals)</i>	<i>(Block Capitals)</i>	<i>(Block Capitals)</i>
MAYOR *	PF HOLDER	LEADER	LDR of the CONSERVATIVE Group	CHAIR O&S Committee
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:

Notes:

* In addition to the Executive decision above regarding the matter under consideration, the Mayor is signing to agree both that the Executive decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency. This is to ensure that the call-in procedures as set out in Part 8 of the Constitution shall not apply where an Executive decision being taken is urgent.