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Draft Local Plan

Thank you for your email of 29 August consulting The Theatres Trust on the draft Local Development Plan. Your response form is a pdf and is not 'interactive' so please accept our comments below. Please include us for updates of the Plan and other consultations such as Masterplans, Planning Briefs, AAPs, CIL Schedule.

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres and a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting land on which there is a theatre. This applies to all theatre buildings, old and new, in current use, in other uses, or disused. Established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres', our main objective is to safeguard theatre use, or the potential for such use but we also provide expert advice on design, conservation, property and planning matters to theatre operators, local authorities and official bodies.

Q15 Any other comments

We support the document for Policy E3 which will protect and enhance your community facilities. Our only quibble would be that the examples of such facilities, given in para.4.28, are not satisfactory for clarity and as guidance for planning applications. We suggest this succinct all-inclusive description which would obviate the need to provide examples: *community facilities provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community.*

We also support Policy I1 for Infrastructure which includes culture and leisure facilities in para.8.2. This reflects the National Planning Policy Framework where local planning authorities are advised at item 156 that their Local Plans should set out strategic priorities to deliver the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities.

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