

## ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

### IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

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| Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives: | Priority 1 –Improve the Health and wellbeing of our communities<br>Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives<br>Priority 3 – Enable a flourishing local economy  |
| Consultation:   | The HUDS steering group (made up of representatives from HCC, HTC and EHC) reviewed the plans in July 2017.   |
| Legal:  | None  |
| Financial:  | <p>The proposals being considered include an investment in two different projects.</p> <p>The first project, with the Arts Hub, will be a £20,000 contribution to initial seed funding to be able to develop a full business case and applications for funding from bodies such as The Arts Council. A number of other contributions have already been sought by the Arts Hub from other partners and organisations to enable all of the initial preparatory work to go ahead. The £20,000 will be funded from the New Homes Bonus Priority reserve, which is an appropriate use for one-off expenditure.</p> <p>The second project, Courtyard Arts, will be a £100,000 contribution to the overall works required to realise the expansion of the building and therefore the relative expansion of services being delivered from the centre. The Council is the owner of the building and currently receives an annual lease amount of £7,000 per annum from Courtyard Arts, which will be marginally increased once the building works are complete. This contribution will be funded from the New Homes Bonus Priority. In addition, an initial £10,000 contribution has been made to allow full and detailed costings to be undertaken for the works to be carried out. This was able to be funded from within existing budgets within the Council.</p> |

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| Human Resource:                            | N/A  |
| Risk Management:                           | <p>The proposals relate to contributions to projects that are being managed by external organisations. Whilst we have no direct control over the delivery of the projects the Council is keen to ensure that close working relationships are maintained to ensure that the overall aims of creating a “cultural quarter” within Hertford can be realised.</p> <p>Strong working relationships between Courtyard Arts, The Arts Hub and Hertford Theatre are already well-developed and we need to ensure we continue to build upon these.</p> <p>Given the capital works at Courtyard Arts are to be undertaken on an asset that we own, we would want reassurance that the works are done to a suitable standard, and in light of that we have contributed £10,000 towards the cost of full and detailed plans for the works to be carried out. We will also work with Courtyard Arts to ensure appropriate inspections are undertaken, which is standard practice within a landlord/tenancy agreement.</p> |
| Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts: | <p>Improving access to cultural opportunities for residents can have a positive impact on health and wellbeing. By investing in, and developing a stronger cultural identity within Hertford, this should have a positive impact both at a local and wider level.</p> <p>Courtyard Arts and Hertford Theatre already undertake a number of outreach programmes within the community and this allows a continuation and potential expansion of these programmes in future.</p>  |