

**Policy and Finance Committee – 7 March 2024**

**Alexandra Theatre Project – Capital budget update**

**Purpose / Executive Summary**

This appendix provides an addendum to the main committee report and seeks approval to include additional funding within the total project budget.

This is not a request for further funding but to approve the inclusion of additional funding within the project budget.

**Background**

A budget of £12,190,396 (as part of the full £19,424,597 Levelling Up Fund grant) was approved by Policy and Finance Committee on 9 December 2021. Full Council approved acceptance of the grant on 26 January 2022.

A further £3,750,000 was approved by full council on 9 March 2023, which included provision to regain the leasehold from the previous occupier.

ADC funding of £82,000 towards a Changing Places toilet at Alexandra Theatre was approved by full council on 21 February 2024.

**Capital budget update**

A verbal report to Policy and Finance on 6 December 2023 identified that a grant of £45k from the Council's Climate Change budget had been allocated for the inclusion of solar PV panels within the Alexandra Theatre project. In order for this sum to be included as part of the project expenditure, approval is needed to increase the total budget figure.

It was also noted that the grant needed to be spent during 2023/24. Changes to the project programme mean that it is not possible to spend the funding within this timeframe.

In addition, the councils UKSPF partnership allocated £94k from the total UK Shared Prosperity Fund award, to be spent on kitchen and studio enhancements by March 2025. This sum also needs to be formally included within the full budget allocation.

The following table summarises the total project funding. It is proposed to increase the total budget figure to £16,161,686 to formally account for additional funding made available for the project.

Levelling Up Grant	12,190,396
UK Shared Prosperity Fund – kitchen and studios	94,290
Arun District Council – contribution towards project	3,750,000
Changing Places Toilet (ADC contribution):	82,000
PV panels funding (ADC contribution)	<u>45,000</u>
	<b>16,161,686</b>

**Recommendations**

To approve the total capital project budget be increased by £139k to £16,161,686 made up of:

- a) £45k for Solar PV panels from the Council's Climate Change budget, funded from revenue reserves offset by a corresponding underspend against the aforementioned budget; and
- b) £94k for kitchen and studio enhancements from the Council's UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocation – which has been approved by Arun UKSPF partnership group.