

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Date:	10 July 2012
Title:	Corporate Policy Reserve Funding Approvals
Reference:	4043
Report From:	Director of Corporate Resources

Contact name: Rob Carr – Deputy County Treasurer

Tel: 01962 847508

Email: rob.carr@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to approve new funding from the Corporate Policy Reserve to provide a contribution from the County Council in support of the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).
- 1.2. The report also seeks approval to provide transitional funding to Test Valley Borough Council for The Lights theatre at Andover to allow the outreach and education programme to continue.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. Since the budget was approved in February, a number of new issues have arisen that require additional funding in the current and future financial years.
- 2.2. **Funding Contribution to the Solent LEP** – The Solent LEP has an important part to play in stimulating and generating economic growth within the County and surrounding region. A dedicated salaried Director is required to help push the work of the LEP forward, to manage some of the key activities and to act as a single point of contact for the many Local Authorities and Groups involved with the Solent LEP.
- 2.3. To fund this key position maximum contributions of £50,000 from Hampshire County Council and £25,000 from the Isle of Wight Council will both be matched by the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire in the current year. The intention is that the contributions will then taper down over the next three years as other funding is received by the LEP. The exact County Council contribution for future years will be subject to further negotiation.
- 2.4. **Transitional Funding to The Lights theatre, Andover** – Test Valley Borough Council took over the running of The Lights theatre and the

County Council agreed to provide initial financial support to the theatre which is now coming to an end.

- 2.5. In order to assist the Borough Council in continuing with their outreach and education programme at the theatre, it is recommended that a further one off transitional grant of £20,000 be given in 2012/13 whilst the programme looks to become financially sustainable in the long term. This will be funded from Policy and Resources earmarked reserves.
- 2.6. This funding is subject to Hampshire County Council and Test Valley Borough Council meeting to agree a longer term cultural strategy for the Borough in order to clarify the respective roles of the two authority's in taking forward the cultural offer in the Test Valley area.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1. The contributions of up to a maximum of £50,000 to the Solent LEP over the next three years will be funded from the Corporate Policy Reserve.
- 3.2. The £20,000 transitional funding for The Lights theatre will be met from earmarked reserves carried forward from under spends in 2011/12.

4. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Executive Member for Policy and Resources:

- 4.1. Approves the funding of up to a maximum of £50,000 per year for three years to the Solent LEP.
- 4.2. Approves £20,000 transitional funding for The Lights theatre in Andover subject to the condition set out in paragraph 2.6.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

- 1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**
- 2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**
- 3. Climate Change:**
 - a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?**
 - b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?**