Thank you for your email of 30 March consulting The Theatres Trust on the implications that the new National Planning Policy Framework might have on the Core Strategy DPD.

We reluctantly supported the Core Strategy but felt that policies SS4, SS6 and CSD6 were not robust enough to support the protection and enhancement of the District’s existing cultural facilities for the benefit of both residents and tourists.

To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services that the community needs, the NPPF recommends at item 70 that planning policies and decisions should plan for the use of shared space and guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities. Also to ensure that established facilities and services are retained and able to develop for the benefit of the community.

We suggest that although the District might not require further development of new cultural facilities, their existing should be valued and protected in the Core Strategy with encouragement for their enhancement, particularly when contributing to the evening economy.

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Check out your local theatre on The Theatres Trust 'Theatres database'

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