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Area Boards Team  
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To whom it may concern

## **Salisbury Playhouse: Bid for Capital Grant**

Salisbury Playhouse is undertaking a major capital project to help the organisation to become more resilient, sustainable and accessible. Wiltshire Council, as a major funder of Wiltshire's only producing professional theatre, is keen to ensure that it supports the Playhouse to develop its space in any way that it can.

The Playhouse is a well respected venue and is one of Salisbury's major arts organisations that is key to the cultural offer for both residents and visitors and contributes greatly to the local economy. Its capital plans are central to ensuring that the cultural offer is maintained and developed to meet the needs of current audience expectations and to sustain a strong business model. This coincides with the large scale re-development in Salisbury city centre which forms part of the regeneration plans identified in the Salisbury Vision.

Salisbury area board, which manages a delegated Wiltshire Council budget and runs a community grant scheme for the Salisbury area, has invited an application from the Playhouse for some elements of its capital project. In particular, the insulation of the building will enable better temperature control and subsequently a stronger year round programme. This will bring a better cultural offer providing more activities for young people and tourists in the summer months; something that will open up the organisation to new work and new audiences. The Playhouse's plans for other physical improvements to the building including automated doors, lighting, sound and IT equipment will all build the organisation's capacity to engage with new audiences and produce higher quality work.

As indicated, the Area Board wishes to support the Salisbury Playhouse in taking its plans forward and an application to the community area board grants scheme is an opportunity for the Playhouse to raise funds from other sources to help with match funds to its application to the Arts Council's small scale capital fund. It is anticipated that the application will be submitted to the March Salisbury area board.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any clarification on the above or have any other queries.

Yours sincerely

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