Fwd: Theatres Trust - nPPF
>>> Rose Freeman 16/05/2012 16:18 >>>
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Implications for the Core Strategy from the NPPF

Thank you for your email of 4 April consulting The Theatres Trust on the implications for the Core Strategy Development Plan Document of the recent publication of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Theatres Trust is The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres. The Theatres Trust Act 1976 states that *'The Theatres Trust exists to promote the better protection of theatres.* It currently delivers statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use through the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (England) Order 2010 (DMPO), Articles 16 & 17, Schedule 5, para.(w) that requires the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre*.'

Wealden's Community Strategy 2007 has a section on Cultural Activities and Leisure. The aspirations of this section are not reflected in the Core Strategy although SPO11 recognised a shortfall in leisure facilities which was not addressed but seemed to be directed towards green infrastructure.

We suggested that Policy WCS7 was not adequate in reflecting the aspirations of the Community Strategy with regard to the provision of cultural facilities for cultural activities which relates to item 70 in the NPPF to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services that the community needs - 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 therefore consider that the Core Strategy is unsound as it does not reflect one of the 12 Core Planning Principles at item 17 of the NPPF to take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Rose Freeman
Planning Policy Officer
The Theatres Trust