



Ref No: EQ779611048

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Date of executive meeting report will be going to: 10/02/2026

Officer Name: Mark Whiting

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Title of report: Regent Theatre Restoration Levy Update & Corn Exchange Proposed Levy

Report : Provides an update on the Regent Theatre refurbishment and the use of the Restoration Levy to payback the borrowing for the cost of the project.
In addition, provides options to introduce a Restoration Levy at the Corn Exchange for future projects to improve the venue and customer experience.

What evidence/data is being used to support this equality analysis? Please select all that apply.:

Service area: Vibrant Town Services

Corporate Manager: Hannah Leys

Corporate Manager email: Hannah.Leyes@ipswich.gov.uk

Links to supporting documents where available:

Please upload any supporting documents:

What is proposed?: To introduce a Restoration Levy for the Corn Exchange in the same way this was done for the Regent Theatre, the levy will be used to make improvements to the Corn Exchange such as replacing the seating, improving acoustics and bar provision.

Why are the changes being introduced?: Customer feedback has shown the the areas being focused on are what is important to our customer base, improvements in these areas will improve customer experience and potentially lead to increased sales for this venue.

What evidence is being used to support this Equality Impact Assessment, and how is it being used?: Customer feedback as the basis of improving the venues and customer experience

How will this change be implemented?: Through a series of projects designed to effectively deal with the issues raised by customers. via new seating, acoustic design and structures and access improvement to a bar a the back of the grand hall.

Age: Positive

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is a positive impact to the proposed plans for the Corn Exchange by improving accessibility, and comfort via seating and a less antiquated process for accessing bar provision

Disability: Positive

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is a positive impact to the proposed plans for the Corn Exchange by improving accessibility, and comfort via seating and a less antiquated process for accessing bar provision and via improved sound quality which we directly positively impact those with hearing impairment.

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

Race: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

Pregnancy & Maternity: Positive

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is a positive impact to the proposed plans for the Corn Exchange by improving accessibility, and comfort via seating

Religion or Belief: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

Gender Reassignment: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

Sex: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

Sexual Orientation: No impact

Please provide an explanation of this impact and actions to mitigate any adverse impact, or further promote positive impact.: There is no impact regarding this protected characteristic

I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives: I can confirm the report does meet Ipswich Borough Council's equality objectives

The report helps us to 'eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation' in the following way(s): By improving accessibility for customers and by reacting to feedback shared with us by customers

The report helps us to 'advance equality of opportunity...' in the following way(s): By improving accessibility for customers and by reacting to feedback shared with us by customers

The policy helps us to 'foster good relations...' in the following way(s): By working with accessibility groups to test the designs and impact of the proposed changes

The new provisions will be reviewed in the following way(s): Direct impact to customers following works and via follow up connection with accessibility groups, also monitoring any change in purchasing habits.
