

COMMITTEE:	CABINET	
DATE:	July 1, 2002	
SUBJECT:	The Cultural Hub Capital Project	
REPORT OF:	Director of Tourism & Leisure	
Ward(s):	Meads	
Purpose:	To seek Members approval to release Design Costs.	Hub Capital funding towards the
Contact:	Diane Bagley, Head of Sport, Recreation & Leisure, Telephone 01323 415402 or internally on extension 5402.	
Recommendations:	Cabinet is recommended to:	
	1.	authorise the Director of Finance and Corporate Services to release up to £50,000 for the Stage 1 appointment of a design team prior to capital being drawn down from our other funding partners.
	2.	authorise the appointment of a Project Manager on a 2 year Fixed Term Contract prior to revenue funding being drawn down from the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA).
1.0	<u>Background</u>	
1.1	At its meeting on 27 th April 2002 Council agreed to:	

	a.	underwrite the Hub funding gap up to a maximum of £1.5 million subject to agreed risk sharing arrangements
	b.	amend the 2002/03 capital programme and the capital strategy for 2003/04 - 2005/06
2.0	<u>Current Position</u>	
2.1	In order to move this project forward a Design Team must be appointed. A requirement of the Heritage Lottery Fund is that a detailed design is prepared by April 2003 if this timescale is not met their proposed funding of £1.92 million will have to be re-applied for.	
2.2	We now also need to appoint a Project Manager to manage our own internal project team and the design process.	
2.3	We can not draw down any funding from our external funding partners until approximately September. We need to appoint a design team to prepare the design brief for consultation during August, for the full design to be prepared in time to meet our partnership funders requirements. We must also complete full documentation for the Arts Council by September, this process needs to be managed	
3.0	<u>Financial Implications</u>	
3.1	It is proposed that up to £50,000 is released from the 2002/03 capital programme for preparation of the design brief. £200,000 has been set aside for the Hub Cultural Project in this current financial year (which it is hoped will be recouped from the fundraising campaign in future years), however, we are proposing that £50,000 of the total is released in advance of any funds released by our partner funders. In the event that the project were not to be approved by SEEDA, this £50,000 would be lost.	
3.2	It is necessary for Eastbourne Borough Council to release capital in advance of our partner funders to enable us to meet imposed timetables.	
3.3	We shall be applying for early release of Capital from the Arts Council and they have strongly indicated that our request will be treated favourably. At this stage we do not know the sum that will be available to us but it will be used to reduce our maximum contribution of £50,000.	

3.4	The appointment of a Project Manager can be funded in the short term from within our own existing earmarked revenue funding for the Hub Cultural Project prior to revenue being drawn down from SEEDA for this purpose.	
4.0	<u>Environmental Implications</u>	
4.1	The design of the proposed new building will enhance the built environment of Eastbourne.	
5.0	<u>Summary</u>	
5.1	The Cultural Hub project is now moving forward and needs the appointment of a Design Team and Project Manager to ensure that the timetables and processes for drawing down external funding are adhered to Eastbourne Borough Council has previously agreed to and identified the funding which is now requested in advance of our external funding partners releasing their funds.	
Diane Bagley Head of Sport, Recreation & Leisure		