

Item 51

Background

Cllrs will be aware that hirers of the Rose Theatre and community rooms are required to either a) Pay a room hire fee or b) do a split rate on the tickets sold for events. The Rose Theatre is heavily subsidised by the Town Council precept each year and income from rental, ticket sales and bar sales are essential.

It is becoming apparent that arrangements are being made with external groups that are actually on a 'no fee' basis or the cost of hiring tech only basis.

There are two current examples of this:

1. Vysions (Brereton and Rugeley youth organisation) have been offered the theatre space and rehearsal rooms Monday to Thursday and performance space to put on a show on the Friday. This is in league with Birmingham Rep. The hire of space cost has been offered free of charge although there is a charge for tech. It is unclear if there is any income from sale of seats for the Friday performance.
2. St Joseph's school have been offered the use of the theatre free of charge for a school event being held in summer 2023.

Cllrs are asked to make a decision on the two examples

Cllrs are asked to consider the way in which use of the theatre space is being offered to external organisations - and the precedence this could set for future works. In addition, if space is offered free of charge, from which budget will the staff costs, utilities etc come from?