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PEMBROKESHIRE ARTS VENUES MUSTN'T SUFFER BECAUSE OF WMC CASH CRISIS

Pembrokeshire arts venues such as the Torch Theatre musn't suffer at the expense of bailing out the Wales Millennium Centre (WMC), says Preseli Pembrokeshire AM Paul Davies.

The flagship arts centre for Wales was built in 2004 at a cost of £106 million but has run into a £13.5 million cash crisis.

Mr Davies, who is the shadow spokesman for the arts, told the Senedd: "We need assurances that while this iconic building is given the help it needs, other arts projects around Wales will not suffer as a result.

"How will any new financial package be managed in the future is another serious issue Assembly Members should know about."

He added that the statement given by Labour about the future of the centre did not contain enough detail to be useful.

"It's about time we got answers to what are very serious questions surrounding the Wales Millennium Centre.

"But the Assembly Government has shed no new light on the situation."