

Our Ref.: RA/2017\_AR (England)\_DCLG

28 April 2017

Mr Steve Quartermain  
Chief Planner  
Department for Communities and Local Government  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DU

Dear Mr Quartermain,

### **Theatres Trust Annual Return**

Please find below the details of the Theatres Trust's Annual Return for the 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 reporting period.

### **Background**

Under the provisions within the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and in accordance with Article 23 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order (DMPO) 2015, The Theatres Trust, as a statutory consultee, is required to:

- a) provide a *substantive response* to consultations on pre-planning and registered planning applications within 21 days upon receipt of the documentation forming the consultation; and
- b) submit a *report (Annual Return)* to the Secretary of State in compliance with the provisions under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the DMPO 2015.

### **Theatres Trust consultee status**

The Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres. We were established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 and The Theatres Trust (Scotland) Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. These Acts apply to all theatre buildings in Scotland, England and Wales. Our 15 trustees are appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

The Theatres Trust delivers statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (DMPO), Schedule 4, Para (x), that requires the Trust to be consulted on planning applications for 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

#### **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**T** 020 7836 8591

**F** 020 7836 3302

**E** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk)

**W** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://theatrestrust.org.uk)

**Chair** Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

**Trustees** Richard Baldwin, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, Dame Penelope Keith DL, Dara Ó Briain, Peter Roberts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

## ANNUAL RETURN

*Table 1: The number of pre-planning and registered planning application consultation requests within the reporting period received by the Theatres Trust.*

Consultation Type	England	
	Received	Responded
The number of planning application consultations received from local planning authorities	120	120
The number of pre-planning consultations received from local planning authorities	0	0
The number of pre-planning consultations received from developers/ applicants	17	17
Total	137	137

*Table 2: Timeliness of responses to registered pre-planning and planning application consultations*

	Planning applications	Pre-planning consultations	Total	%
Total number of application consultations dealt with in 21 days	117	17	134	97.8%
Total number of application consultations dealt with in an agreed extended deadline	1	0	1	0.8%
Total number of application consultations in non-compliance within 21 days or agreed deadline	2	0	2	1.4%

### Local and Neighbourhood Planning

During the reporting period, the Theatres Trust provided a substantive response to 235 local plan consultations (including SPDs, CIL and masterplans), and four neighbourhood plan consultations within the timeframes provided.

# Protecting theatres for **everyone**



## **Theatres Trust Statutory Remit**

The Theatres Trust's statutory remit in Wales was enhanced (commenced 16 March 2016) to include residential development near a theatre in order to help facilitate the development of quality residential buildings where amenity and noise issues next to a theatre could become a concern. The remit also includes 'a proposed theatre' to clarify that proposals for new theatres should also be referred to the Trust. The exact wording in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012, Schedule 4, Para (r), (as amended in 2016) requires the Trust to be consulted in relation to planning applications for development involving:

- (i) any land on which there is a theatre;
- (ii) residential development (excluding householder development) within 50 metres of a theatre (not falling within paragraph (i)); or
- (iii) a proposed theatre.

To aid the Theatres Trust to provide better protection for theatres, as per the Theatres Trust Act 1976, we request that our remit in England is expanded so that it is aligned with our statutory remit in Wales.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Anthony  
Planning Adviser

### **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**T** 020 7836 8591

**F** 020 7836 3302

**E** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk)

**W** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://theatrestrust.org.uk)

**Chair** Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

**Trustees** Richard Baldwin, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, Dame Penelope Keith DL, Dara Ó Briain, Peter Roberts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697