

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Our Ref.: RA/637

29 September 2017

Tony Collins
Cambridge City Council
The Guildhall
Cambridge CB2 3QJ

Dear Mr Collins,

ADC Theatre, Park Street, Cambridge CB5 8AS

Application Ref: 17/1650/FUL

Thank you for consulting the Theatres Trust on the above application for the installation of roof top mechanical plant and an office extension at the ADC Theatre. The Trust supports the application.

Remit: The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 requiring the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

Advice: The Trust actively encourages theatre owners to upgrade their buildings to meet current building standards, and to meet the needs and expectations of audiences, staff and performers. The Trust therefore supports this application to install mechanical plant on the roof above the auditorium associated with a new ventilation system to improve the environmental conditions and audience comfort within the theatre. The roof top plant will be contained within a louvered box to address noise issues. We also support the partial infill of the undercroft area to create a larger office, though do advise the applicant that they must be satisfied the extension will not restrict the manoeuvring of sets and equipment into the rear ground floor workshop and scene dock area, though note the new undercroft access point formed by the proposed office wall is the same width as the dock door.

The proposed works will not affect the general appearance or scale of the theatre and will be readily visible from the street and is therefore unlikely to have any significant impacts on the central conservation area. The Trust recommends granting planning permission.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

Regards,

Ross Anthony
Planning Adviser

Theatres Trust

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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