

Our Ref.:9066090

14 November 2017

Jacques Du Plessis
Development Management
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham
King Street
London W6 9JU

Dear Mr De Plessis,

White City Temporary Theatre, White City Place, Wood Lane, London W12

Application Ref: 2017/03837/FUL

I write regarding the above application for a temporary theatre on the site of the former BBC Media Village. The Theatres Trust has no objection to the application. Please see our advice below.

Remit: The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We champion the past, present and future of live theatre, by protecting the buildings and what goes on inside. 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 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 Theatres Trust supports this application for the temporary change of use and construction of a show venue/ theatre (Sui Generis) for a period of three years on this disused former car park to enable it to be used for cultural purposes until the site is redeveloped. The proposal includes two performance spaces with ancillary bar, front of house and back of house facilities.

The Trust is aware of the successful operation of the applicant's previous temporary theatre that was located adjacent to Kings Cross Station and was of a similar design, appearance, and construction. We are pleased that considerable attention has been given to the design and layout of the structures to ensure it is oriented away from the nearby residential areas, is constructed of durable materials, and has incorporated acoustic baffles and noise mitigation measures into the structure to minimise its impact on the surrounding area.

The site has excellent pedestrian and public transport access and the arrangement sensibly places the main entrance and foyer facing the main pedestrian route from White City Station, with external show signage in a clear and visible location. Given the potential capacity of both

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

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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

performance venues, show/ event times in each will need to be staggered to prevent overcrowding in the foyer and to ensure there are enough WCs available, but this can be easily managed from an operational point of view.

Our only concern is about access for performers and staff between the main theatre stage and the back of house dressing rooms, as this is not shown on the plans. It would be useful to clarify this to ensure there is a safe weatherproof connection. The Trust is supportive and recommends **granting planning permission** as it will ensure this unused site can contribute to the health, social and cultural well-being of the area by supporting arts and theatre activities before its redevelopment.

This advice reflects guidance in Para 70 of the National Planning Policy Framework that states planning decisions should plan positively for the development of cultural facilities to support sustainable communities.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ross Anthony', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Ross Anthony
Planning Consultant