

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1922

10 April 2018

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By e-mail: planningandbuildingcontrol@liverpool.gov.uk

Application: 18A/0481, 18/L/0482 & 18L/0783

Site: Empire Theatre 11 Lime Street Liverpool L1 1JE

Proposals: To display 3 (illuminated and non-illuminated) fascia signs and replace illuminated projecting box office sign; &

To replace existing external and internal theatre wayfinding; &

To replace windows along Lord Nelson Street elevation.

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'.

Comment:

The Trust actively encourages theatre owners and operators to invest in their buildings to ensure they meet current building and safety standards and the expectations of modern audiences, staff, and performers. We also support the diversification and more effective use of theatre's assets to improve their visibility and viability.

Based on the designs provided as part of the application documentation we support the principle of new signage at the Empire to improve wayfinding, and we have no concerns regarding the details or colours proposed. We consider the proposals to compliment the

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The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

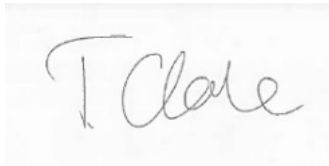
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historical architectural detailing and decorative features within the theatre. Externally, signage is an integral part of the character of theatre buildings and the proposals help enhance the streetscape and improve the theatre's visibility.

We are also supportive of the theatre's need to replace its windows along the Lord Nelson Street elevation and concur with the justification outlined in the accompanying Design & Access Statement. We also do not consider the replacement windows to be of detrimental harm to the building's appearance and character.

We therefore **recommend the granting of listed building and advertisement consent for these proposals.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'T Clarke', on a light-colored background.

Tom Clarke
National Planning Adviser