## Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1894

14 June 2018

Joseph Hobbs Planning and Building Control Level 6, Town Hall Extension St Peter's Square Manchester M2 5HD

By e-mail: j.hobbs@manchester.gov.uk

Application: 119087/LO/2018 & 119733/AO/2018

Site: Palace Theatre Oxford Street Manchester M1 6FT

**Proposal:** LISTED BUILDING CONSENT to replace existing internal and external theatre wayfinding signage; &

Replacement external theatre wayfinding signage including 1no. projecting sign (illuminated).

## 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:

Thank you for consulting the Theatres Trust on the above application.

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. The applicant has engaged with the Trust prior to submitting this proposal, and the need and justification for the applicant's approach is clearly set out within the documents accompanying the application.

We are generally supportive of these proposals. Externally, we have no objections. Internally, we had initially raised concern at some elements of the proposed designs during our preapplication engagement as we considered them to compromise the architectural significance and heritage of the theatre by failing to correspond with detailed historic mouldings and cornices. Having reviewed the final designs and the enhanced detail provided through the submission documents, our reservations have largely been addressed.

## Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OQL

- T 020 7836 8591
- F 020 7836 3302

Chair Tim Eyles Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, 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

In conclusion we **recommend the granting of listed building and advertisement consent** for these proposals.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

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Tom Clarke National Planning Adviser