

# Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/92

26 September 2018

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**Application:** 18/01465/FUL

**Site:** Single storey flat roofed extension to existing ladies toilets.

**Proposal:** West Cliff Theatre Tower Road Clacton On Sea Essex CO15 1LE.

## **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:**

Please note that Theatres Trust was not directly contacted for comment on this application as per our statutory remit as set out above. Please ensure that the Council's systems are updated and that we are consulted on applications relating to this and other theatres and theatre buildings within Tendring.

This application seeks a small extension to the theatre's Freeland Road elevation to facilitate the provision of additional female toilets.

We are supportive of efforts by theatre owners and operators to improve their facilities and meet the needs and expectations of their audiences. This proposal more than doubles existing female toilet provision, increasing from three to seven. This will significantly reduce queueing and congestion particularly at peak periods such as intervals. In turn this will improve audience flow and help the theatre maximise their income through increased sales potential.

Policy HP2 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft supports the improvement of existing community facilities, which includes cultural facilities such

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**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

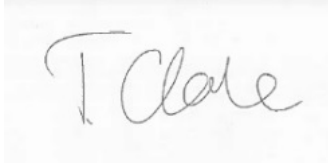
The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

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

as theatres as articulated in paragraph 4.2.1. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF (2018) also seeks decisions to plan positively for cultural buildings. The proposed extension is minor in scale, matches the existing appearance and would not detract from the theatre's character.

Therefore, we welcome this proposal **recommend the granting of planning permission.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in greater detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and a clear "Clarke".

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser