

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/589

01 August 2018

Ken Powell
Pending Applications
Development Planning
City of Westminster
PO Box 732
Redhill, RH1 9FL

By e-mail: centralplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk

Applications: 18/06714/FULL & 18/06715/LBC

Site: Queens Theatre Ltd, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W1D 6BA

Proposal: Infilling of two lightwells and internal alterations to provide additional W.C. units and associated works to maximise the number of toilets in existing spaces. [Linked to 18/06715/LBC]

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, which the Trust **supports**.

The accompanying information clearly sets out the need for additional WC facilities at the theatre, as presently there is a shortfall in provision which results in long queues particularly during intervals and inefficient flow around the building. Takings during intervals are critical for the overall sustainability and viability of theatres as is the need for audiences to have a positive theatre experience, therefore we support efforts to resolve such known challenges. More generally we welcome efforts by theatre owners and operators to improve their buildings and facilities.

This proposal would result in an additional thirty-three WCs being provided. Alongside this, there would be a general updating of the theatre's toilet facilities and the concealment of services where practical. Materials related to the infilling of existing lightwells will match those

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

T 020 7836 8591

F 020 7836 3302

E info@theatrestrust.org.uk

W theatrestrust.org.uk

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

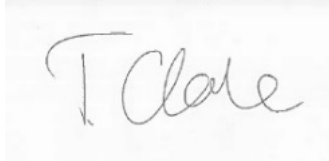
The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

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

existing.

We therefore **recommend the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "T Clarke", on a light-colored rectangular background.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser