

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/1029

14 June 2019

Mr. Peter D.J. Thomas  
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By e-mail: [Planning@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:Planning@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

**Applications:** 2019/00560/LBC

**Site:** Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth

**Proposal:** Proposed installation of a lift from the ground floor to the first floor and the installation of disabled access toilets on the first floor; both to increase accessibility within the site.

## Remit:

Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres and was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. The Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system and local planning authorities in Wales are required to consult the Trust on planning applications for '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre*', '*residential development within 50 metres of a theatre*' as well as for proposed theatres. The definition of theatres within the Act defines a theatre as 'any building or part of a building constructed wholly or mainly for the public performance of plays', and therefore applies to theatres, playhouses, arts centres, ciné-varieties or buildings converted for theatre use, old and new, in other uses or disused.

## Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust regarding this proposal to install a lift and disabled access toilet within the Grade II listed Paget Rooms. The Trust is supportive of this proposal.

Paget Rooms is an important community and cultural asset for Penarth and its surrounding communities. It is multi-purpose hosting a variety of events including theatre, live music, public meetings, exhibitions and other functions. Therefore efforts to make it as accessible as possible are to be welcomed. Policy MG7 of the Vale of Glamorgan Development Plan 2011-2026 favours proposals which enhance community facilities with Objective 1 seeking to provide opportunities for all through supporting improvements in local services and facilities. This

## Theatres Trust

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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, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

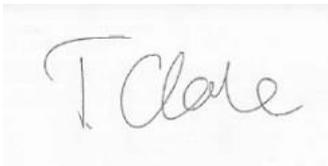
The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with the Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

proposal would also contribute towards the goals of a more equal Wales and a Wales of vibrant culture set out within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) Act 2015.

Aside from making the first floor of the building fully accessible, the installation of a new disabled WC to the first floor will allow the ground and first floors to be used independently for separate events. This will substantially improve the viability and sustainability of the Paget Rooms. We would concur with the accompanying statements which outline there would be minimal harm caused to the building's historic fabric arising from these interventions. Nonetheless, there is clear public benefit which mitigates the impact of altering these parts of the building.

We therefore **recommend the granting of listed building consent.**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser