

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC

13 August 2019

Norman Brockie
Highland Council
Caithness House
Market Place
Wick
Caithness
KW1 4AB

By e-mail: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Application: 19/03212/FUL

Site: Lyth Arts Centre Lyth Wick KW1 4UD

Proposal: Installation of 4 Air Source Heat Pumps

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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 was not consulted on this application despite it falling within our statutory remit as described above. Please ensure the Trust is consulted regarding any future applications relating to theatres within the Council's boundary.

The application has come to our attention because it concerns development at Lyth Arts Centre which is a valued cultural facility which serves the communities around the north-east highlands. The proposal seeks to install four air source heat pumps which will facilitate the replacement of old storage heaters with a biomass boiler system. This will be more efficient which will reduce costs for the Arts Centre thus helping it improve its environmental and financial sustainability. We do not consider there will be any negative impact on the amenity of surrounding properties.

The Trust is supportive of efforts by owners and operators to improve their facilities, and awarded

Theatres Trust

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

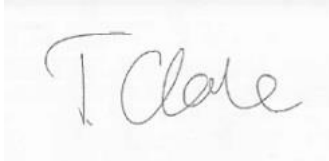
Trustees Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

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

Lyth Arts Centre a grant to undertake these works. Therefore **we recommend the granting of planning permission.**

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

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

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser