

# Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1746

22 October 2019

Allison Borden  
Pending Applications  
Development Planning  
City of Westminster  
PO Box 732  
Redhill, RH1 9FL

By e-mail: [southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk)

**Application:** 19/07650/FULL & 19/07651/LBC

**Site:** Savoy Theatre Savoy Court London WC2R 0ET

**Proposal:** Alteration of the height of an existing external stage door, and stitch repairs to an existing external wall.

## **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:**

This application has come to the attention of the Trust as it relates to alterations at the Savoy Theatre. We were not formally notified despite it falling within our remit as a statutory consultee.

The Savoy Theatre is a Grade II listed heritage asset; this proposal seeks to enlarge the stage door as well as undertake structural repairs to adjacent wall areas. The repair works are required as a result of recommendations from a structural report in order to stabilise the brickwork and prevent future failure. The enlargement of the stage door is to facilitate larger sets coming in and out of the theatre.

We are supportive of these proposals. The enlarging of the stage door will give the theatre greater flexibility to accept a range of shows. Ultimately this will help ensure its ongoing sustainability and viability. It will require the removal of brickwork, but the replacement doors

## **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**T** 020 7836 8591 **E** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) **W** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://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, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

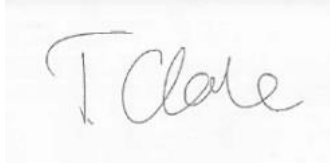
The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

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

would match the appearance and fabric of those already in place. Although this part of the theatre is original having not been damaged by fire in the early 1990s, we do not consider that the alteration would harm the character and significance of this heritage asset. The repair works are necessary to help protect the building and the safety of those who use it.

Therefore we **recommend the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

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

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser