

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/2791

13 May 2020

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Strategic Place Planning
Aberdeen City Council
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By e-mail: pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Applications: 200487/ADV, 200488/DPP & 200489/LBC

Site: Aberdeen Arts Centre 33 King Street Aberdeen AB24 5AA

Proposals: Installation of 4 non-illuminated fascia signs and 1 non-illuminated free standing sign;

Installation of accessible platform lift and installation of signage; &

Installation of 2 no. accessible platform lifts, formation of accessible WC and installation of signage

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:

These applications for advertisement consent, planning permission and listed building consent have come to the attention of the Trust as they involve development at Aberdeen Arts Centre, specifically the installation of a platform lifts, accessible WC and new signage.

The Arts Centre is a Category A listed heritage and cultural asset operating within the former North Parish Church. It has a varied artistic programme including comedy, live music and theatre.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

T 020 7836 8591 **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, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Simon Ricketts, Truda Spruyt

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

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The addition of platform lifts will help improve accessibility through the building, and similarly we welcome the installation of a new accessible WC. We are supportive of interventions of this nature which enhance facilities for all users.

We have no objection to the signage aspect of this proposal, which largely appears to update signs which are already in place. We do not consider this to undermine the special character of the Arts Centre, neither do we consider it to raise any issues with regard to amenity and highway safety.

In conclusion **we recommend the granting of advertisement consent, planning permission and listed building consent.**

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

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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