

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/2534

05 October 2020

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By e-mail: [planningconsultation@harrogate.gov.uk](mailto:planningconsultation@harrogate.gov.uk)

**Application:** 20/03144/LB

**Site:** 3 Garrick Buildings, Harrogate Theatre Oxford Street Harrogate HG1 1QF

**Proposal:** Internal works to increase fire integrity.

## 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 for Listed Building Consent at Harrogate Theatre. The proposal seeks to carry out fire protection works.

Harrogate Theatre is a statutory Grade II listed heritage asset, opening in 1900. It is an important cultural asset for Harrogate and its surrounding communities. It consists of a main auditorium with a secondary smaller studio space. As well as professional and touring theatre it hosts and supports local and amateur groups. Venues of this nature positively contribute towards the health and cultural well-being of local people and the vitality of town centres. Paragraph 182 of the NPPF (2019) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for this type of facility.

These works are being taken because a review of the theatre's fire integrity has identified areas with deficiencies and/or a need for upgrade and refurbishment. The Heritage Statement outlines the main areas requiring intervention.

## 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, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Simon Ricketts, Jane Spiers, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

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

## Protecting theatres for **everyone**



With the theatre closed for performances until at least Spring 2021 like most around the country this provides an opportunity to undertake works without impacting on the theatre's artistic programme and the experience of its users. Works to improve the safety of the building and contribute towards its ongoing preservation are to be welcomed. The Heritage Statement outlines that the majority of work would not cause harm to the character or significance of the theatre.

Therefore we are supportive of 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, slightly slanted style.

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser

### **Theatres Trust**

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