

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/3647

21 June 2021

Agneta Kabele
Planning division
Development management (5th floor - hub 2)
PO Box 64529
LONDON
SE1P 5LX

By e-mail: planningstatconsultees@southwark.gov.uk

Application: 21/AP/1856

Site: Unicorn Theatre 147 Tooley Street London Southwark SE1 2HZ

Proposal: Certificate of Lawful Development (Proposed) for the installation of solar panels on roof

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 because it is seeking development at the Unicorn Theatre.

The Unicorn is a specialist theatre with a programme targeted at children and young people. It is within a purpose-built theatre which opened in 2005 and won awards for its design. As well as supporting young people locally within Southwark the unique nature of its offer draws in audiences from a wide area, and it also tours its productions around the UK and internationally. It contributes to the diversity of London's cultural offer. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF (2019) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities of this nature, with Local Plan and London Plan policies also supporting the enhancement of cultural facilities.

This application seeks the installation of solar panels to the theatre's roof under Part 14, Class J of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. The will help reduce the theatre's energy consumption and reduce its costs. Efforts to improve sustainability and enhance the viability of the theatre to support its ongoing operation is to be

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, 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

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welcomed. The project has been supported by a grant from Theatres Trust. The plans do not appear to contravene any of the conditions prohibiting development from proceeding under this part of the GPDO.

Therefore we are supportive of a Certificate of Lawful Development being issued for these works.

Please contact us should you wish to discuss these comments further.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke".

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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