

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/265

01 October 2021

Mrs Nicola Tyrrell
Planning & Building Control
LH Box 5
Loxley House
Station Street
Nottingham
NG2 3NG

By e-mail: development.management@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Applications: 20/02637/LLIS1

Site: Nottingham Playhouse 6 Wellington Circus Nottingham NG1 5AL

Proposal: Interior strip out of existing non-original bar fit-out with new replacement bar and flexible creative space and external signage

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 for listed building consent has come to the attention of the Trust because it is seeking alterations at Nottingham Playhouse, specifically works to the bar and restaurant and changes to external signage reflecting the theatre's re-branding.

The bar is within a part of the building which has already been heavily altered and lost virtually all original fabric other than its concrete columns and glazing following works in the 1980s. The bar was further altered with refurbishment around fifteen years ago and has been operated by a tenant independently of the theatre. This area has now come back in-house which affords the theatre an opportunity to better utilise the space to support its activities. We welcome this as it will enhance the Playhouse's sustainability and viability as a cultural asset for the city whilst conserving the remaining architectural language, and given the dearth of original internal fabric and layout of this area we are supportive of the proposed design approach.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL
T 020 7836 8591 E info@theatrestrust.org.uk W theatrestrust.org.uk

Interim Chair Paddy Dillon Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, Paul Cartwright, 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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In conjunction with these works the bar's signage will be updated to reflect its new operation, and further external signage will be removed and replaced as the theatre has been re-branded with a new updated logo. Again we are supportive of these changes.

The Playhouse is a Grade II* listed heritage asset and a well-regarded cultural venue for Nottingham. Paragraph 93 of the NPPF (2021) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for these types of facilities. Therefore we recommend the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

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

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