

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC

07 March 2022

Violet Dixon
Planning Division
Town Hall Extension
King Street
London
W6 9JU

By e-mail: planning@lbhf.gov.uk

Applications: 2022/00520/FUL

Site: Former Earls Court 2 Exhibition Centre Land, Empress Place London SW6 1TW

Proposal: Temporary use of the former 'Earls Court Exhibition Centre 2 site', for an operational period from 5th May 2022 until 16th July 2022 and for the temporary erection (not including installation and de-installation) of two event structures - a studio and theatre 'Udderbelly', with two outdoor bars, four food concessions, toilets, storage, outdoor seating areas and fencing, in conjunction with 'Underbelly' Earls Court' Event 2022

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 Theatres Trust regarding this application for temporary planning permission at the Earls Court site. The site would be utilised for Underbelly's 'London Wonderground' event, for which a similar permission was granted in 2021.

Underbelly is an established operator of temporary theatrical and live performance events. This event would be in place between May and July and will include two performance venues with respective capacities of 410 and 80 along with associated facilities and infrastructure, catering, seating areas, signage and fencing. The permission will cover an extended period beforehand and afterwards from mid-April until the end of July for installation and removal.

This event contributes to the strength and diversity of London's cultural offer, as well as enhancing provision for people within the local area. It will also help activate and make use of

Theatres Trust

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Chair Dave Moutrey **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Paul Cartwright, James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Lucy Osborne, 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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the Earls Court site whilst otherwise vacant, and benefit local businesses through uplift in visitors and footfall during the event. The applicant has set out a strategy to manage the impacts of noise to protect the amenity of nearby properties.

Therefore we welcome this proposal and support the granting of temporary planning permission.

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 style and is centered within a light grey rectangular box.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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