

Ref.: TC/1841

13 October 2022

John Hall  
Planning Services  
Leeds City Council  
The Leonardo Building  
2 Rossington Street  
Leeds  
LS2 8HD

By e-mail: [planning@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:planning@leeds.gov.uk)

**Application:** 22/06457/LI

**Site:** Grand Theatre 46 New Briggate Leeds LS1 6NU

**Proposal:** Listed building consent for Installation of a new 33.7x4mm thick steel CHS handrail with post supports to existing balcony

**Remit:**

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 the Grand Theatre. This will see the raising of resters within the Dress Circle boxes in order to meet current safety regulations for heights of barriers and guard rails.

This will be achieved through adding new stainless steel handrails to the top of the resters to meet the recommended height of 790mm. The Heritage Statement notes they will be painted black to minimise visual impact. However we consider that brass or similar would be a more sensitive solution, thereby concurring with the comments of the Council's Conservation Officer.

The proposed material notwithstanding, these works are necessary to align with safety standards. On that basis, and because the overall decorative significance of the balcony fronts and the wider asset will be preserved should a more sensitive material be utilised, we would be supportive of the granting of listed building consent.

**Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL  
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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

Protecting theatres  
for **everyone**



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

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser

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