

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/1075

29 November 2022

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**Application:** 22/07351/LBC

**Site:** Harold Pinter Theatre Panton Street London SW1Y 4DN

**Proposal:** Refurbishment of the Balcony Bar

## **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:**

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at the Harold Pinter Theatre which is a Grade II listed heritage asset. This proposal seeks to carry out refurbishment and alteration to its Balcony bar. We have been consulted on this scheme by the applicant at pre-application stage, and submitted written comments to them in support.

This bar does not function efficiently, being constrained by its small size and layout. It was originally an office and was later converted. The existing bar counter is not of significance as it is a more modern insertion, although this room contains two decorative historic radiators. These plans will see a new counter position along the rear wall with a complete refurbishment of this room. The radiators will be relocated to alternative positions within this space.

We are supportive of these works. Repositioning the bar will improve circulation and reduce congestion into and out of the bar area. With this being in effect a separate room it will be better conducive to also providing a private area/function space which will increase the theatre's flexibility and make it more attractive as a venue for producers and hirers. In turn this will

## **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**



enhance its financial sustainability. Existing panelling will be retained and the indicative decorative scheme is sensitive to the theatre's significance as a heritage asset.

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

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