

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC

01 December 2022

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**Application:** 22/04471/LBC

**Site:** Stanley Hall South Norwood Hill South Norwood London SE25 6AB

**Proposal:** Installation of 16 no. supplementary 900w classic infrared heating panels installed at high level to the sloping soffit of the ceiling structure on each side of the assembly room. 2 no. panels shall be evenly spaced and installed between each truss bay.

## **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 Stanley Arts. It is seeking to install ceiling-mounted infrared panels to provide heating within the centre's Assembly Room.

The Assembly Room is utilised for smaller performances, rehearsals and other meetings and hires. There is a requirement for additional heating within the space in winter months until proper insulation as a longer-term project can be achieved. This is to allow the Assembly Room to remain usable and to generate income which supports Stanley Arts' wider programme. This solution will see sixteen infrared panels installed to the sloping soffit each side of the room between each truss bay.

We consider this solution would meet the stated objective. Whilst it has some negative impact on the character of the Assembly Room's roof finishes, overall we consider this to constitute less

## **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL  
T 020 7836 8591 E [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) W [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://theatrestrust.org.uk)

**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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than substantial harm. With reference to paragraph 202 of the NPPF (2021), this harm is mitigated through the reversibility of the proposal and that it generates public benefit by enabling the Assembly Room to be operable throughout the year. Details of fixings and servicing have been provided, nonetheless this can be conditioned to ensure any harm to fabric is made good upon future removal of the panels.

Therefore we are supportive of the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us 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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