

Protecting theatres
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/544

06 July 2023

Elizabeth Ashworth
Planning Services
Bath & North East Somerset Council
Lewis House
Manvers Street
Bath
BA1 1JG

By e-mail: development_management@bathnes.gov.uk

Application: 23/01748/LBA

Site: Theatre Royal , Sawclose, City Centre, Bath, Bath And North East Somerset, BA1 1ET

Proposal: Internal alterations to expand the female toilet provision at all 4 floor levels within the main house

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 Theatres Trust because it is seeking internal alterations at the Grade II* listed Theatre Royal

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

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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Bath to facilitate increased provision of WCs. We were directly notified and consulted on a similar scheme in 2019 (application 19/03621/LBA). The theatre is described within our database entry as being, "One of the most important surviving examples of Georgian theatre architecture". Although the previous application was granted consent, the works were not taken forward due to the onset of the pandemic.

This application replicates the previous scheme. Therefore our advice remains the same as in 2019. Whilst in some instances there is loss of historic fabric, with reference to paragraph 202 of the NPPF (2021) we consider this is sufficiently mitigated through the scheme's public benefits of improving its necessary audience facilities. This principle is reflected within the previous officer's delegated report. We welcome the theatre's efforts to enhance its provision of WCs, which is a common challenge faced by historic theatres.

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 this representation in greater detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke".

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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