

Protecting theatres
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1863

10 July 2023

Michael Pearson
Manchester City Council
PO Box 532
Town Hall
Manchester
M60 2LA

By e-mail: michael.pearson@manchester.gov.uk

Application: 137221/LO/2023

Site: Listed Building Consent for redecoration of the Opera House facade.

Proposal: Opera House Quay Street Manchester M3 3HP

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 consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at Manchester Opera House. It seeks to carry out redecoration of the theatre's front Key Street elevation, altering the colour scheme of rendered areas to a more natural sandstone palette. This is partly in response to areas of the existing paintwork having cracked and weathered, which is visible in recent images of the building available

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

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online.

Historic analysis included within the application as well as historic images on file show that the theatre's colour scheme has evolved throughout its life. The proposed scheme will be similar to what has been present in the past. As noted by the applicant this constitutes a reversible change and we consider this scheme to be sensitive to the building's character and significance as a designated 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 in further detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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