

Protecting theatres  
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1841

09 August 2023

Planning Services  
Leeds City Council  
Merrion House  
110 Merrion Centre  
Leeds  
LS2 8BB

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

**Application:** 23/04376/LI

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

**Proposal:** Listed Building Application for Works to dress, upper circle and royal box areas including installation of raised platforms, steps and handrails; alterations to height of resters; and replacement of existing lighting bars with new along with supporting framework.

### **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'.

### **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**Telephone** 020 7836 8591 **Email** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) **Website** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://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

**Comment:**

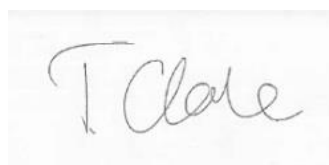
This application for listed building consent has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking to replace the lighting bars and supporting framework to the Dress Circle and Upper Circle Royal Boxes along with the installation of raised platforms, steps, handrails and alterations to the heights of resters at Leeds Grand. This is one of a number of applications which have been submitted associated with a programme of maintenance and upgrading of the theatre. The overall purpose of this proposal is to bring the theatre up to modern standards of safety and technical infrastructure.

The existing raised platforms and steps within the boxes do not meet current regulations. They will be replaced with new raised platforms providing regular step heights and handrails. Rester heights will be raised to recommended levels; we commented on an application in 2022 on a similar basis elsewhere within the auditorium. This is supported.

The other element of the proposal is to replace and upgrade existing lighting bars to support a higher loading, therefore helping the theatre to facilitate technical requirements expected by modern producers. These will utilise the existing locations of joists. Therefore the impact of this part will be minimised.

We are supportive of the granting of listed building consent for these works.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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