

Protecting theatres
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1863

01 September 2023

Tony Mitchell
Manchester City Council
PO Box 532
Town Hall
Manchester
M60 2LA

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

Application: 137693/LO/2023

Site: Opera House Quay Street Manchester M3 3HP

Proposal: Listed building consent for additional works to repair the render and facade of the Opera 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:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at Manchester Opera House. It relates to works to the theatre's front elevation (Key Street) and side elevation (Byrom Street).

We have already been consulted on and supported previous listed building consents,

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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one for works to repair the rendering (and rainwater goods) and another to alter the colour scheme of the rendered areas to a natural sandstone palette. We are keen to see that the building is well maintained and conserved for future generations, and welcomed the operator's investment in that regard.

It appears that following a site visit and further investigation there has been additional deterioration which requires the removal of areas of render in their entirety and a replacement to be applied, painted to match the existing colour scheme (we assume this means the replacement colour scheme if it is being taken forward).

Whilst regrettable that some original fabric will be removed, its replacement will meet current standards and there is a public benefit in that water ingress will be arrested and better stability of the rendering will improve public safety.

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".

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

Theatres Trust

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