

Ref.: TC

31 January 2024

Dale Jones  
Planning  
Worcester City Council  
The Guildhall  
High Street  
Worcester  
WR1 2EY

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

**Application:** 24/00007/LB

**Site:** Former Scala Theatre and Corn Exchange Worcester WR1 3LL

**Proposal:** Listed building consent for the proposed demolition and rebuilding of existing external escape stair to rear of Corn Exchange and rebuilding of existing Crown Passage ramp; internal alterations to the Corn Exchange to include; demolition and reconfiguration of existing walls to basement, new staircase from basement to ground and existing services upgraded throughout.

**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** James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

**Comment:**

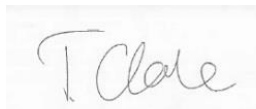
Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at the Corn Exchange to facilitate internal and external alterations associated with the change of use and link to the neighbouring Scala. We have also submitted comments on the corresponding planning permission under separate cover.

These plans will help facilitate the return to use of the Corn Exchange and neighbouring Scala, a non-designated heritage asset. The Corn Exchange will provide an all-day bar/café to supplement the arts centre function of the Scala. However there will be less link between these two elements compared to the previous iteration of this scheme.

Whilst these plans result in some alteration and loss of fabric to the Corn Exchange, we continue to consider that this is justified through the public benefits of bringing these assets back into positive use as well as helping to revitalise their wider setting of the Conservation Area.

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

Please contact us should you wish to discuss this representation further and continue to engage with us should plans be further revised.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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