

Ref.: TC/2360

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By e-mail: DC.Consultations@drs.glasgow.gov.uk

Application: 24/00336/LBA & 24/00337/FUL

Site: The Kings Theatre 297 Bath Street Glasgow G2 4JN

Proposal: External alterations including stone cleaning, stonework repairs, roof repairs and roof replacement.

Remit:

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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:

These applications for listed building consent and planning permission have come to the attention of Theatres Trust because they are seeking to undertake repair works and external cleaning of King's Theatre's two principle elevations.

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 James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, 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

King's Theatre is a Category A listed heritage asset. It was built for the Howard & Wyndham company as a sister venue to Theatre Royal Glasgow, and was designed by renowned theatre architect Frank Matcham. It occupies a prominent site with two principal facades in Dumfriesshire red sandstone. The Bath Street elevation is symmetrical in Baroque and Art Nouveau influence, and a pavilion at either end housing the main foyer and stage access respectively. It is also richly decorated internally, with heavy mahogany doors and pink-grained marble lined walls with barrel-vaulted ceiling with statues leading to an opulent auditorium. King's is a large venue with a programme including touring West End shows, live music and prominent comedians and speakers. It is an important part of Glasgow's cultural offer.


There is no specific statement detailing the works to be carried out or highlighting particular areas of deterioration, although works of a similar nature have been undertaken at other theatres of this era elsewhere in recent years.

There is to be stone cleaning of large areas of the two principle elevations; there is discoloration visible in images of the theatre taken recently during a visit to Glasgow. Other areas are to receive a lighter wash. This is supported, although given the significance of the building it should be ensured through condition that stone cleaning is undertaken by reputable professionals with experience of historic buildings and this particular material.

There are also to be various repairs, including the filling of cracks, lime mortar surface repairs and stone indenting. This is supported, as it is to be assumed these works are necessary to help effectively maintain the building and ensure its ongoing conservation. It should be ensured that this is undertaken on a like-for-like basis.

Subject to the above conditions, we support the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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