

The Theatres Trust
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Our Ref: VS/47
Please contact: Ms Vicky Simon

20 July 2010

For the attention of: Mr Ken Powell

Mr John Walker
Operational Director Development Planning
Westminster City Hall
64 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6QP

Dear Mr Walker,

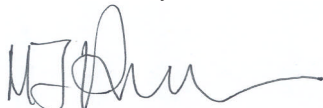
London Palladium, 7-8 Argyll Street, London, W1F 7TQ
Application Ref: 10/05161/LBC

Thank you for consulting The Theatres Trust on the above listed building application to refurbish the upper circle ladies' toilets at the *London Palladium Theatre*. The Theatres Trust **supports** the application. Please see our detailed advice below.

Remit: The Theatres Trust is The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres. The Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995, Article 10, Para (v) requires the Trust to be consulted on planning applications which include '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre.*' It was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 '*to promote the better protection of theatres.*' This applies to all theatre buildings. Our main objective is to safeguard theatre use, or the potential for such use but we also provide expert advice on design, conservation, property and planning matters to theatre operators, local authorities and official bodies.

Advice/comment: The Trust welcomes and supports the application in principle as it includes much needed improvement to the upper circle toilet provision thereby offering better comfort and amenity to theatregoers. We note that the plans are accompanied by a Design and Access Statement which states that '*Alterations to the existing building fabric will be minimal.*' Indeed much of the work will be to remove later additions of fitting-out that have no special interest, are in areas of little architectural significance or are lightweight and reversible in nature. The works are ephemeral in nature and will not adversely harm the special architectural interest or character of the listed building. Commercial theatres in London's West End need substantial improvement if they are to keep pace with public expectation and the needs of performers and producers. The requirement for modernisation and refurbishment was identified in our report, entitled *Act Now! Modernising London's West End Theatres*, which we published in October 2003. We would therefore urge you to **grant listed building consent** and attach any appropriate conditions.

Yours sincerely,



Mark J Price MRTPI, IHBC
Planning and Heritage Adviser

Protecting theatres for everyone

Director Mhora Samuel **Chairman** Rob Dickins CBE
Trustees Jason Barnes, Phil Clark, Marilyn Cutts, Venu Dhupa, Tim Foster, Penelope Keith CBE DL,
Dr Pauleen Lane CBE, Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall, Anne McReynolds, Matthew Rooke,
Chris Shepley CBE, Sam Shrouder, Ben Twist

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

