

The Theatres Trust
22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL
T 020 7836 8591 F 020 7836 3302
info@theatrestrust.org.uk www.theatrestrust.org.uk

Our Ref.: MP/ 56 & 56a

9 August 2010

Development Management
City Development
Bristol City Council
Brunel House
St George's Road
Bristol BS1 5UY



Dear Sir/Madam,

Theatre Royal, King Street, Bristol BS1 4DZ
Application numbers: 10/02575/F and 10/02577/LA

Thank you for consulting The Theatres Trust on the above listed building and planning applications for refurbishment and recovery works to the auditorium and back of house areas, new roof plant, minor extension and a new facade to the Rachay elevation at the *Theatre Royal*, Bristol. The 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 supports the application in principle because it will provide better comfort, safety and amenity to theatregoers and the general public; and moreover, will not adversely harm the historic fabric of the building. The works adhere to CABI's '*Principles of inclusive design*' and will provide much needed and improved facilities which are essential to upgrading the building to Part M standards. The proposed works and method of adaptation have been carefully considered within the Design and Access Statement submitted with the application. Much of the works will be to remove later additions of fitting-out that have no architectural significance, are in areas of little architectural significance or are lightweight and reversible in nature. Therefore the works proposed will not adversely harm the special architectural significance or historic value of the heritage asset. Indeed, in many cases, much of the works proposed will involve reinstating missing architectural features of interest and is to be welcomed. The Theatres Trust would therefore **urge you to grant Listed Building Consent and Planning Permission.**

Yours faithfully,

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

