

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/3902

20 February 2023

Leeds City Council
The Leonardo Building
2 Rossington Street
Leeds
LS2 8HD

By e-mail: planning@leeds.gov.uk

Application: 23/00607/FU

Site: West Yorkshire Playhouse St Peters Street Leeds LS2 7UP

Proposal: Installation of new roof mounted ventilation

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:

This application for planning permission has come to the attention of the Trust because it is seeking development at Leeds Playhouse to provide enhanced ventilation requiring installation of new plant to its roof on the southern part of the building.

The benefits and importance of sufficient ventilation within buildings became increasingly apparent during the pandemic. We welcome that the Playhouse has sought to invest in upgrading its facilities to enhance comfort and safety within upper parts of the building as part of recent works.

The installation will consist of an air handling unit with attenuators and ductwork. Their rooftop position between the fly tower and pitched roof to the front will largely conceal this equipment from view, although there is existing servicing in this area. This will also further mitigate any impacts on residential apartments close to the site. Nonetheless the sound data within the product specification appears to show operation below guideline noise levels.

Therefore we would be supportive of the granting of planning permission.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL
T 020 7836 8591 E info@theatrestrust.org.uk W theatrestrust.org.uk

Chair Dave Moutrey **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

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

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for **everyone**



Please contact us should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'T' and a clear 'Clarke'.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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