

Protecting theatres  
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1146

16 June 2023

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**Application:** 23/01013/LBC

**Site:** The Grand Theatre Trafford Way Doncaster DN1 1PP

**Proposal:** Listed building consent to install rainwater goods to gable

#### **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 listed building consent has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking the installation of rainwater goods at the Grand Theatre.

The Grand is a Grade II listed heritage asset and is a building on our national Theatres at Risk register. This is due to its long-term vacancy and being in a poor state of repair. We contend that it has the potential to be restored and reopened for

#### **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** 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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live performances, and to that end we have been supporting efforts by the local campaign group Friends of Doncaster Grand Theatre, the Council and the building's owner to find a way forward. A second phase viability study has recently been published which found it would be economically beneficial for Doncaster to work towards reopening but this must be a phased approach with funding and repair works needed first.

This proposal will see external alteration to install a temporary downpipe to drain rainwater which will prevent further water ingress within the building. This is because the existing downpipe has become disconnected but cannot be re-attached due to restrictions arising from the presence of asbestos.

We are supportive of this intervention. Arresting further deterioration and loss or harm to fabric must be prioritised. It is stated that once asbestos is removed the internal downpipe can be reconnected, this downpipe removed and any damage made good. This can be secured through condition.

As any harm arising from this work will not be permanent and it will contribute towards the ongoing conservation of this important heritage asset, we recommend the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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