Theatres fit for the **future**



Ref.: TC/3149

9 May 2024

Stephanie Malik Lambeth Planning PO Box 734 Winchester SO23 5DG

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

Application: 24/01125/FUL & 24/01126/LB

Site: Royal National Theatre South Bank London Lambeth SE1 9PX

Proposal: Temporary installation for the erection of a river stage with associated sound lighting/sound box, food and drink kiosks, an ice cream trike, three trader vehicles, seating, a circular tiered stage, branded hoarding, back of house food and drink storage area and attachment of festoon lightning on the northern elevation of the Royal National Theatre.

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:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on these applications for planning permission and listed building consent at the National Theatre. They seek to install a

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE Director Jon Morgan
Trustees James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

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temporary external stage and seating with associated technical and front and back of house infrastructure, kiosks for the sale of food and drinks, lighting and signage. These will be in place between early May and late September 2024.

Similar programmes have been run successfully at the National for a number of years, and likewise other events take place across the wider South Bank area. This contributes to the success and vitality of the area, drawing in large numbers of visitors and enhancing the cultural offer.

The nature of this proposal means that any harm to the setting of the theatre as a heritage asset is time limited, but in any case with reference to paragraph 208 of the NPPF we consider increasing engagement in culture and with the National Theatre constitutes a public benefit.

We are therefore supportive of 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 this representation in greater detail.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser