

Ref.: TC/987

29 January 2025

Edward Leigh
Portsmouth City Council
Civic Offices
Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
PO1 2AU

By e-mail: planningreps@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Application: 24/01532/LBC

Site: Kings Theatre Albert Road Southsea PO5 2QJ

Proposal: Repairs to west elevation

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 this application for listed building consent at King's Theatre. It seeks to carry out structural repairs to a small area of the building's west elevation.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

Facebook @theatres.trust **Instagram** @TheatresTrust

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Vicky Browning OBE, Anna Collins, James Dacre, Suba Das, Liam Evans-Ford, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Tracy Ann Oberman, Lucy Osborne, Saratha Rajeswaran, Truda Spruyt, Michèle Taylor MBE, Katie Town

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund supports the work of The Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

Theatres fit for the **future**

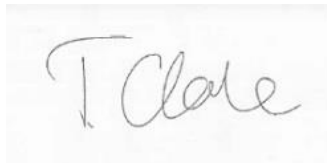
King's Theatre is a Grade II* listed heritage asset designed by the renowned theatre architect Frank Matcham. It is an important and quite complete example of Edwardian theatre and a late example of Matcham's work.

A previous survey identified some issues at upper levels in the area above the set of fire doors to the northern end of the building. After monitoring, further deterioration had occurred. Therefore action is required to address this issue.

A methodology for this work has been provided. Although it will interrupt and harm historic fabric it is demonstrably necessary for this work to be undertaken. With reference to paragraph 215 of the NPPF (2024) there is substantial public benefit in ensuring the ongoing protection and conservation of this important theatre and heritage asset.

We therefore support the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

Theatres Trust

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